



Boy Scouts of America Troop 42 – New Fairfield Controlled Substances Policy

The official policy of the Boy Scouts of America in reference to the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol by any participant is outlined in the *Guide to Safe Scouting* and reads as follows:

“The Boy Scouts of America prohibits the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America, or at any activity involving participation of youth members.”¹

Controlled Substances shall be defined as:

- a) Any substance that is deemed illegal by federal, state, or local laws
- b) Any medication that is used in means that are other than directed by a physician, medical personnel, or the directions on the label of the product.
- c) Any prescription medication that is not prescribed by a physician for that specific person for current use by that person.
- d) Any substance that is used in a method other than it was intended to be used. Examples such as sniffing glue or paint, huffing or any other method of getting “high” or artificially altering one’s mental state.
- e) Alcohol shall be defined as any malted or distilled product that has any trace of alcohol in the contents. This includes commercially manufactured and/ or home brewed products.

This policy will be followed in all Troop 42 activities whether or not it involves the attendance of youth (e.g., Troop Committee meetings). Any scout, adult (adult leader or parent) or non-scout youth participating in a scouting event found to be in possession of or suspected to be under the influence of any item deemed to be in this category shall face immediate disciplinary actions from the Troop. These actions may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Immediate removal of the member from the activity. In the case of a youth, a parent or guardian will be contacted and instructed to come and remove the Scout from the activity immediately. In the event of an adult, the adult will be instructed to leave the activity and will be responsible for contacting someone to come pick them up if they are the under the influence.
 - a. If the parent or guardian or the adult refuses to remove their scout or themselves, respectively, from the activity, the scout will be turned over to the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the area where the incident occurred. A parent or guardian will be notified by the Troop leadership and provided with a phone number and the location of the agency where their son is being held. If an adult refuses to leave or proper transportation cannot be obtained, the local law enforcement agency will be asked to remove the adult from the activity.

¹ BSA’s *Guide to Safe Scouting*; October 2015: Page 29



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2. Where the situation warrants, (as determined by the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster in charge of the event) local law enforcement will be called and the offending member turned over to them.
3. Possible dismissal from the Troop upon referral to and review by a *Disciplinary Board of Review*.
 - a. Any event of this nature shall be referred to the Scoutmaster and/or Troop Committee for further action.
 - b. The Disciplinary Board of Review can be assembled at the request of the Scoutmaster or the Troop Committee Chair.
 - i. A Disciplinary Board of Review is a three-member board consisting of one Assistant Scoutmaster recommended by the Scoutmaster and two Troop Committee members recommended by the Troop Committee Chair.
 - ii. The Board has the option of Probation, Suspension or Dismissal/Expulsion.
 - iii. Probation terms and conditions (for a violation minor in severity) are supervised by the Scoutmaster or designated Assistant Scoutmaster.
 - iv. Suspension from the Troop for 30 days or more (depending on the severity of the violation and the safety hazard caused). The 30-day suspension will include not being allowed to attend the next Troop weekend outing.
 - v. If a Dismissal/Expulsion from the Troop is recommended by the Disciplinary Board of Re-view, then the Troop Committee must vote and a simple majority must approve this course of action.
 1. Any member who is dismissed from the Troop by the Disciplinary Board of Review shall be reported to the Council Scout Executive.

If there is any dispute about whether an event or product falls under these guidelines, then it shall be the decision of the “Key Three” (Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chair and the Charter Organization Representative), to determine what actions need to be taken on a case-by-case basis. Their decision will be final.