

## **SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT FOR TROOP 1128 HIGH ADVENTURE TRIPS**

Safety of participants is the necessary ingredient for any Troop 1128 high adventure activity. Each trip will have a senior, experienced/trained adult leader in charge of the trip. The entire group of participants may be assigned to smaller crews, and each such crew will also have an adult advisor (preferably experienced).

The overall leader is responsible for trip planning to include determining potential risks associated with the trip and developing a mitigation/preparation plan to deal with anticipated risks. That plan should cover required preparation for all participants. Individual preparation requirements should cover necessary skill development, conditioning, and equipment. Requirements for crew training and equipment should be developed. A schedule of group/crew training and preparation activities will be published in a timely manner as part of the mitigation plan.

Crew advisors should participate in developing the risk threats and mitigation plan, but the final responsibility lies with the trip leader. It is up to the trip leader to determine the level of group and personal risk he is willing to assume in carrying out the trip. No leader is expected to assume more risk than he is comfortable with or feels is prudent.

After consultation with the Scoutmaster, the trip leader will submit the mitigation plan to the Troop Committee for final approval. Every trip applicant and parents of a scout applicant will receive a copy of this document and the mitigation plan, and must sign a document signifying receipt of these documents and the necessity of meeting the requirements of the plan in order to become a participant. Meeting the requirements of the mitigation plan are necessary to be a participant, but the Committee or Scoutmaster may assign additional requirements relating to such items as participation in troop fundraising, the "be active in your troop and patrol" requirement established by the troop, and scout spirit. Such additional requirements cannot override or supersede the safety requirements.

It is up to the trip leader to determine if every participant (both scout and adult) is qualified to make the trip with respect to requirements for safety and risk mitigation. Crew advisors may assist in making the determination of eligibility for members of their crew. Preparation requirements must be demonstrated to the trip leader or crew advisor. No individual who is not the trip leader or a crew advisor can make a self-assessment or parental assessment of readiness.

Failure to meet safety and risk mitigation preparation will be cause for an individual to be removed from the trip as a participant and may result in a loss of any funds paid.

This policy is effective for Troop 1128 High Adventure trips beginning summer 2015.

Approved by Troop Committee May 2014