

Code of Conduct and Guidelines for Pathfinder/Adventurer Volunteers Acknowledgement

Because I want the best environment for our children and youth to grow up in, it is important that those working with children have guidelines for conduct in order to protect both themselves and those under their care. As a ministry volunteer, I want parents and others to feel comfortable and confident with me.

My Commitment to Volunteer Ministry: I will,

1. Provide appropriate adult supervision at all times for the children for whom I am responsible
2. Have at least one other adult, at least eighteen (18) years or older, to help with supervision of children. If I find myself in a situation where I am the only adult present, under no circumstances will I allow myself to be alone with one child (“the two person rule”). This protects the child as well as protecting the adult from possible allegations.
3. Ask a child’s permission before touching him/her anywhere, even when responding to an injury or problem. This is especially true for any areas that would normally be covered by a T-shirt or shorts. (If an injury is within this area, make sure another adult works with you as care is provided.)
4. Refrain from physical and verbal attacks and corporal punishment, which are inappropriate behaviors and should never be used as discipline. “Time outs” or “sit-in-that-chair” may be helpful discipline methods to use with children.
5. Affirm children with proper touching by keeping hugs brief and “shoulder to shoulder.” I will keep my hands “at” (not below) the shoulder level. I will refrain from any kind of kiss including kisses on the cheek or forehead. For small children who like to sit on laps, I will encourage them to sit next to me.
6. Providing extra care when taking small children to the restroom, I will take another adult along, or leave the door open.
7. Be aware of conducting activities in rooms that do not have an interior viewing area, or I will leave the door open during the activity to allow easy observation by others.
8. Cooperate with the volunteer screening process which includes completing Shield the Vulnerable and background check as often as is required by the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. Additionally I will cooperate in answering any questions the church and/or Kentucky-Tennessee Conference may have regarding my suitability to work with minors.
9. Follow all State and Federal laws regarding mandatory reporting requirement. In addition to any legally required reporting, I agree that if I become aware of any behavior of another individual which seems abusive or inappropriate towards children I am supervising, I will report that behavior to the church pastor, elder, or directly to the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Youth Director.
10. Cooperate with church leadership in conducting children and youth ministries by being a volunteer who is a loving, kind, firm, and always a thoroughly professional person. Working with children and youth is not only a privilege; it is also a serious responsibility that must be approached with utmost care.
11. Be supportive and cooperative with my leaders in the Pathfinder/Adventurer ministry and the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.
12. Participate in orientation and training as conducted by the church.

My signature below indicates I will comply and act in good faith with this Code of Conduct and Guidelines for the welfare of the people involved. I understand this document is valid for as long as I continuously serve as a Pathfinder/Adventurer ministry volunteer with my local church. If at any time I feel I can no longer comply with this code I will immediately inform the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Youth Department. A copy of this form shall be considered valid and shall serve the same purpose as the original.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Witness: _____ Date: _____

Section 1 Date of Record

Church Name _____

Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____ Email _____
Street/P.O. Box City State Zip

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Pathfinder club name _____ Adventurer club name _____

How many years of service have you completed (NOT including this year)? _____.

Section II Health History

Do you now have or have you had any injury/sickness that might limit your involvement in Pathfinder or Adventurer Club activities? Yes No If yes, how would it hinder? _____
 _____.

Section III References (List three references –NO family members and NO club members, please.)

1. Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____
2. Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____
3. Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____

Section IV Experience

List experience (Adventurers, Scouting, Sabbath School, etc) that might qualify you for Pathfinder/Adventurer leadership.

Position/Type of Work	Church/Organization	Date of Service
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

Please include Part 1 and Part 2 when submitting this application to your church board and to the KYTN Conference. This form will not be processed without both Parts.

_____ Date: _____
 Local Pathfinder/Adventurer Leader Signature

Date Voted by the church board: _____

___Recommended ___Not Recommended ___Recommended w/conditions noted*
 Conditions: _____

_____ Date: _____
 Church Board Chairman Signature

_____ Date: _____
 Conference Youth Director Signature

The three (3) above signatures must be signed BEFORE person can be working with church children.

Section I - Moral Conduct

Have you ever been accused, charged, convicted, or disciplined (including any pretrial intervention) for any unlawful sexual conduct, child abuse, and/or child sexual abuse, or obtained counseling in connection with any matter involving child abuse or sexual conduct? ****Yes** _____ **NO** _____

**** IF YES**, please provide the following information and documentation:

Date: _____ City of incident: _____

Type of Conduct: _____

Explanation: _____

! Legal documentation to clear or back-up above explanation.

! Documentation from a professional as to your suitability to serve as a volunteer staff.

Section II - Statement of Accuracy/Release

All information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge. I authorize investigation of all statements contained in this application form & hereby authorize personal references or agency/church leadership to consult in detail with whom the local entity may refer, to give any & all information regarding employment or scholastic standing together with any other information, personal, or otherwise, that may or may not be on their records. I further authorize agency/church leadership to conduct a criminal conviction records investigation, as may be required by the law of this state. I release from liability this agency/organization & its duly authorized representatives for all actions performed in good faith in the evaluation of this application & background. I also hold harmless all individuals /organizations who provide information to this agency in good faith & without malice for furnishing the information requested. I understand this is strictly a "volunteer" position, and I will receive no remuneration for services & time volunteered. A copy of this form shall be considered valid and shall serve the same purpose as the original.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____
Street/P.O. Box City State Zip

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Witness: _____ **Date:** _____

Please send this form to: KY-TN Conference
Youth Department
P.O. Box 1088
Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1088

This will be placed in a confidential file.