

Troop 3 Electronics (Including Phones) Policy

Summary

- All Scouts should fill out and sign a contract for the Electronics Policy For Troop Meetings.
- No Scout may use their electronic devices without getting approval through their patrol leader from the Senior Patrol during a Troop Meeting.
- Scouts caught using their electronics without approval at a Troop Meeting will have them confiscated until the end of the meeting. The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and Scoutmaster may collect electronic devices for a specific meeting for those devices to be returned at the end of that meeting.
- Scouts in a leadership position (permanent or acting) who are 14 years or older with the appropriate Cyber Chip award and who have filled out and signed a contract for the Electronics Policy for Overnight Events may carry their electronics on Overnight Events of less than 72 hours. Scouts who joined Troop 3 in 2017 or earlier are exempted from the age limitation.
- Scouts are not allowed to carry their electronics with them on Overnight Events of less than 72 hours unless the SPL and Scoutmaster decide that it is in a particular Scout's interest to have it.
- On Overnight Events that last greater than or equal to 72 hours, Scouts 12 years of age and younger may not **carry** electronic devices.
- Scouts cannot use their electronic devices after "lights out," which is generally defined from 11pm to 5am unless otherwise specified by the SPL and Scoutmaster. The SPL and Scoutmaster may create a electronic usage schedule for a specific event.
- Scouts may use their electronic devices during car rides to and from Overnight Events.
- Any Scout who use their electronics incorrectly, will be subject to having their electronics confiscated after one warning.

Anywhere there is reference to a Scout leadership position, the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster may appoint a Scout as "acting" in that position temporarily, and the policy will apply to that Scout in that role temporarily.

During Meetings:

Once the contract has been completely filled out, Scouts may carry their electronics on them during the meeting but may not use them once the meeting has started unless given approval. However, the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and Scoutmaster may collect electronic devices at a specific meeting and Scouts may collect their devices at the end of that meeting. The patrol leader must get approval from the SPL or an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL) to allow any member of their patrol to use their electronics,

including the patrol leader. Electronics may only be used during the meeting for Scout purposes, ex. Looking up info for backpacking, meal ideas, communicate to patrol members who could not attend the meeting, etc.

The SPL has a duty to take an electronic device from any Scout who uses their electronics without permission or uses it inappropriately, without warning, where the device will be placed aside until the end of the meeting. If the Scout protests, the Scoutmaster, or an Assistant Scoutmaster, will be informed and they will be asked to hold on to the electronics until the end of the meeting. Repeated offenses will lead to parent-Scoutmaster discussions and action by the committee if necessary. Electronics may be used before the meeting is called to order and after Scouts have been dismissed. However, while the meeting occurs (between “troop attention” at the opening flags and “troop dismissed”) electronics must be out of sight unless the Senior Patrol has allowed the use by a specific Scout. If the Scout has their electronics taken once, they will not be allowed to bring it again.

All contracts will be kept on file with the Scoutmaster.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

During Overnight Events:

In order for a Scout to be able to carry their electronics on them during an overnight event of less than 72 hours, for example a camp out, they must meet **all** of the following qualifications along with having the contract filled out prior to the event.

1. 14 years old or older (Scouts who joined Troop 3 in 2017 or earlier are exempted from the age limitation)
2. Must be in a troop leader position, or appointed to an acting leader position for the duration of the event. Examples include Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Scribe, Librarian, Quarter Master, Troop Guide or Historian.
3. Must have completed the Cyber Chip award (Needed for Scout and Star rank)

The SPL and Scoutmaster may decide that is in the best interest of the troop for a specific Scout who may not meet the qualifications to have their electronics on them during an event. That Scout must have the Cyber Chip completed.

In order for a Scout to be able to carry their electronics on them during an overnight event greater than or equal to 72 hours, they must have completed their Cyber Chip award and must not be 12 years old or younger.

All Scouts may use their electronics on car rides to and from overnight events, but upon arrival of the destination, the drivers or leaders may ask each individual Scout to hand over their electronics, except for the Scouts that may carry them. Scouts may ask the drivers or leaders for their electronic devices for time limited use if the SPL and Scoutmaster have determined it may be used for a specified time or schedule. The Troop, drivers and leaders assume no liability for the electronic devices collected in their possession.

Scouts who are able to use their electronics must use them appropriately. Scouts should only use them for emergency situations, communication with other Scouts and to look up information as a supplement to an instruction.

Scouts may not use social media while on Overnight Events less than 72 hours. Gaming is also banned while on all Overnight Events. Additionally, Scouts may not use their electronics once it is "lights out," which is generally defined from 11pm to 5am unless otherwise specified by the SPL and Scoutmaster. The SPL and Scoutmaster may also limit use of electronics during a specific schedule for an event.

If a Scout is using their electronics incorrectly, they will subject to the following consequences.

1st Offense- If the Scout is using their electronics when they should not be, they will get a warning from the SPL to put it away. Scouts only get one warning per overnight event. If the Scout is using it inappropriately (eg. use of social media, watching movies/videos, or viewing something inappropriate) the electronics will be taken by the SPL, who will hand it to the Scoutmaster.

2nd Offense (at the same event as the 1st Offense) - The Scout will have their electronics taken by the SPL, who will hand it to the Scoutmaster, who will return it to the Scout's parents upon return from the trip.

The committee will be informed if the infraction is severe, and will determine if further action will be taken. If a Scout has their electronics taken by a Scoutmaster at 2 separate overnight events, their electronic privileges will be revoked.

If a Scout who is not allowed to carry their electronics is caught having it during the event, the Scoutmaster will immediately take it and return it to the parents of the Scout upon arrival from the event.

"Lock-Ins":

During overnight Troop sponsored lock-ins, all Scouts are allowed to bring and use their electronics. All rules on the incorrect/inappropriate use of electronics do still apply. More details will be given closer to the troop lock-in.

All contracts will be kept on file with the Scoutmaster.

The contracts must be re-signed when a major change occurs to the Electronics Policy.

Troop 3 Meeting Electronics Policy Contract

ANY SCOUT WHO WISHES TO USE THEIR ELECTRONICS AT A MEETING MUST HAVE THIS CONTRACT SIGNED BY THE SCOUT, THE PARENT, AND THE SCOUTMASTER

By signing this contract, I agree to the terms and conditions below in being able to carry my electronics during a meeting and understand the consequences if I break the policy:

- I have read and agree to the terms and conditions of the Troop 3 Electronics Policy
- I understand that it is up to the Patrol Leader's and Senior Patrol Leader's (acting or elected) discretion of whether or not my reason justifies the ability for me to use my phone during the meeting.
- I understand that the Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster have the right to take my electronics if it is determined that it was being used when it was not allowed or it was used for a purpose other than the one that was approved. If I disagree with the decision, I may ask the Senior Patrol Leader and/or the Scoutmaster to have a discussion after the meeting.
- I agree that I will only use my electronics for the purpose approved by the Senior Patrol.
- I will not hold the Troop, leader or driver responsible for the condition of my electronics when returned to me.
- Additionally, I agree to allow the Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader to look through my electronics' history if it is known that I have used my electronic inappropriately.

Scout's Name (Print): _____

Scout's Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Scoutmaster Signature: _____

Date Approved: _____

If revoked, signature of Scoutmaster with reasoning of revocation is required in the box below for reference.

<u>Reasoning for Revocation:</u>	

<u>Signature of Scoutmaster:</u>	<u>Date:</u>

Troop 3 Overnight Event Electronics Policy Contract

ALL SCOUTS WHO HAVE BEEN APPROVED TO USE THEIR ELECTRONICS ON A CAMPOUT MUST HAVE THIS CONTRACT SIGNED BY THE SCOUT, THE PARENT, AND THE SCOUTMASTER PRIOR TO THE CAMPOUT.

THIS CONTRACT MUST BE SIGNED ANNUALLY OR WHEN A SCOUT MEETS THE QUALIFICATIONS ON THE ELECTRONICS POLICY.

By signing this contract, I agree to the terms and conditions below in being able to carry my electronics during an overnight event and understand the consequences if I break the policy:

- I have read and agreed to all the terms and conditions listed in the Troop 3 Electronics Policy
- I understand that it is up to the Senior Patrol Leader's (acting or elected) discretion of whether or not my reason for having my electronic out was justified.
- I agree that I will only use my electronics out of necessity or to enhance the overnight event. I will not use my electronics to be a distraction or have my electronics use become a problem during the event.
- I understand that the Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster have the right to take my electronics if it is determined that it was being used when it was not allowed or it was used inappropriately. If I disagree with the decision, I may ask the SPL and the Scoutmaster to have a discussion after the event.
- I agree that I will only use my electronics for the purpose approved by the Senior Patrol Leader.
- Additionally, I agree to allow the Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader to look through my electronics history if it is known that I have used my electronics inappropriately.

Scout's Name (Print): _____ Rank: _____

Scout's Signature: _____ Date of Cyber Chip: _____

Scout's Cell Phone Number: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Scoutmaster Signature: _____ Date Approved: _____

If revoked, signature of Scoutmaster with reasoning of revocation is required in the box below for reference.

<u>Reasoning for Revocation:</u>	

<u>Signature of Scoutmaster:</u>	<u>Date:</u>
_____	_____