

# Boys & Girls Club of Lincoln/Lancaster County Bullying & Conduct Expectations Policy

Welcome to the Boys & Girls Club! We are excited to support your high school student's growth in a respectful, safe environment. To maintain this positive atmosphere, we ask all members to agree to a set of expectations.

## **Member Agreement**

All BGC members promise to:

- Treat others with respect
- Use polite and kind words
- Respect BGC staff and Club property
- Respect others and their belongings
- Keep hands and feet to themselves
- Ask permission before leaving BGC areas
- Avoid fighting, bullying, and teasing
- Follow the before/after school schedule
- Only eat or drink in designated areas
- Resist peer pressure
- Take responsibility for their actions
- Stand up for their beliefs
- Resolve conflicts nonviolently
- Respect everyone's background, including cultural, racial, gender, and ethnic diversity
- Help others when needed
- Tell the truth
- Clean up after themselves
- Take pride in who they are

## **Unacceptable Behaviors**

While it's impossible to list every unacceptable behavior, here are examples that may lead to disciplinary action:

- Breaking the promises in the Member Agreement
- Presenting a danger to self, others, staff, or Club property
- Bringing weapons, tobacco, alcohol, or drugs to the Club
- Vandalizing Club property
- Entering restricted areas of the Club

- Disobeying rules for field trips and vehicle safety
- Stealing
- Harassing other Club members, staff, or volunteers

#### **Disciplinary Actions**

Failure by the child and/or the parent/guardian to company with BGC Rules and Regulations must be documented by staff and may result in disciplinary action. Members may be alerted with warnings or time-outs, written or verbal assignments, and/or discussions that involve the child, parent/guardian, and staff. Repeated failures to comply beyond such initial warnings may result in further disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion from the program, where the child cannot participate in the BGC program for a period of time, to be determined by BGC staff as appropriate. Two or more documented suspensions from the program may result in termination from the program, where the member may not continue to participate in the program for the duration of the year. Staff will document and consult with the parent/guardian in every instance of the child and/or the parent/guardian's violations of Rules and Regulations and disciplinary procedures taken.

#### **Bullying Policy**

The Boys & Girls Club is dedicated to a safe, respectful environment. Bullying is not tolerated in any form, whether verbal, physical, electronic, or social. Aggravated bullying, motivated by factors such as race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, appearance, or socioeconomic status, will also not be tolerated.

If an act of bullying is observed, staff or volunteers will take immediate steps to intervene and, if needed, report it to a supervisor and document the incident. The Club Director or designated staff member will inform the parent/guardian of any involved members if the issue is unresolved. Based on the situation's severity, intervention, counseling, or even referral to law enforcement may be applied.

Thank you for your support in creating a respectful, positive environment at the Boys & Girls Club! We're here to partner with you in fostering a safe, inclusive community for every member.