Use of Electronic Devices

Our modern society is driven by technology that seems to be ever present in our lives: from social media, to smart phones, personal computers, to other tablet type devices, it’s all around. Organization members and leaders have an obligation to be aware of any electronic imaging and or recording device(s) present during OSG sanctioned events. It is inappropriate for anyone to use such devices to record sound or images during any activity in areas where there is an expectation of privacy, such as restrooms, portable outdoor restrooms, showers, inside tents, and other areas where normal privacy would be observed.

If a scout or their family insist on the scout being “connected” electronically, it’s best for a leader to either (a) collect and occasionally monitor the scout’s devices (for incoming parent messages) and/or (b) collect devices and allow scouts to contact their family on a prearranged schedule. Better yet, many groups adopt a policy of not allowing digital devices on campouts or at activities. Leaders can inform parents that in keeping with traditional scouting values, technological items should not be left at home, with adults able to notify parents in case of an emergency.

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