

SIERRA CLUB Inner City Outings (ICO)

CODE OF ETHICS

(All Volunteers and Guests must read and sign this document)

1. Smoking or use of tobacco products in the presence of youth during ICO outings is prohibited.
2. Using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs during ICO outings will not be tolerated. Using or possessing any weapons (firearms, knives, etc.) during ICO outings is prohibited.
3. Volunteers and Guests¹ will not abuse (verbally, physically and/or sexually) youth and other adult participants in any way. Suspected abuse must be reported as outlined in the ICO Outing Leader Training (OLT) 101, as well as in the Child Abuse Recognition and Prevention (CARP) training module.
4. Volunteers and Guests will conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner, exhibit good sportsmanship, and provide positive role models for all youth. Volunteers and Guests must treat children of all ages, religions, and cultures with respect and consideration.
5. Volunteers and Guests must use positive techniques of guidance, including positive reinforcement and encouragement rather than competition, comparison, or criticism. Volunteers and Guests shall abstain from humiliating or frightening discipline techniques.
6. Volunteers and Guests are responsible for adhering to the guidelines for executing an outing as outlined in the Baltimore ICO Bylaws. Under no circumstance, except extreme emergency, may any Volunteer be alone with a youth participant. Volunteers and Guests will refrain from intimate displays of affection towards others in the presence of children, parents, or other volunteers.
7. Volunteers and Guests must be free of physical and psychological conditions which might adversely affect children's health, including fever or other contagious conditions.
8. Volunteers and Guests will accept supervision and support from ICO Staff, ICO Certified Leaders, and Agency Staff.

I have read both the above statement and ICO policies (all contained in the ICO OLT 101 and CARP training modules) concerning personal interaction, behavior and discipline, child abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, sexual harassment, discrimination, and conflict resolution, and agree to their terms. I understand that any violation of this statement may result in my termination as an ICO Volunteer.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness's Signature: _____ Date: _____

¹ Definitions of Baltimore ICO (BICO) Guest, Volunteer, and Certified Leader are given in the BICO Bylaws, which can be found at <http://ico.sierraclub.org/baltimore/resources.html>.