

# Junior American Boer Goat Association

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## Code of Conduct and Consequences of Misbehavior

**\*To provide a fun, healthy and safe learning environment for youth involved in activities and events sponsored by JABGA and/or ABGA.**

**\*The personal behavior of each participant is important to the success of all JABGA and/or ABGA events.**

**\*Each participant to these events must accept their responsibility to represent themselves, their club, their county, JABGA and ABGA with dignity and pride.**

Revised 02/07



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**Violators May Expect:** To have the opportunity to explain actions to the professional staff in charge. Behavior that is disruptive to the event will be documented and a letter describing such will be sent to the ABGA Board of Directors, Youth Committee, JABGA Board of Directors and parents/guardians of those involved.

### **Minor Offenses**

1. Not in room at designated time.
2. Habitually late to program activities.
3. Public display of affection and/or contact.
4. Not respecting the rights and privacy of those rooming with or attending an activity.

### **Intermediate Offenses**

1. Not sleeping/staying in the as- signed location for the total length assigned.
2. Inappropriate teasing, name-calling, shoving and taunting.
3. Not possessing good manners and using language that is offensive to others.

### **Major Offenses**

1. Lying or untruthfulness to chaperones, leaders, event organizers or others in attendance.
2. Cheating
3. Sexual Harassment
4. Sexual Contact
5. Smoking or use of Tobacco Products.
6. The use of alcohol or drugs.
7. Carrying an unauthorized weapon.
8. Theft
9. Threatening another person with a weapon or bodily harm.

## **Consequences**

For every offense JABGA member will receive a reprimand.

For every offense the violator shall write letters of apology to the appropriate people.

### **Major Offenses**

1. Automatic removal from event/activity and/or sending a participant home at the parents/guardians expense.
2. Two major offenses during any JABGA year is automatic suspension of membership in JABGA for the remainder of the year, along with the possibilities of facing criminal charges, pending offense. In addition, JABGA members may be asked to resign from any leadership roles held or monetary awards or scholarships from the JABGA and/or ABGA.

### **Intermediate Offenses**

1. One or two violations is grounds for removal from the event/activity and/or sending a participant home at the parents/guardians expense.
2. Three violations during one calendar year is grounds for the JABGA member to not be allowed in any county, district, or state activities for the remainder of the year. In addition, JABGA members may be asked to resign from any leadership roles held or monetary awards or scholarships from the JABGA and/or ABGA.

### **Minor Offenses**

1. Consistent discipline problems requiring more than two reprimands is grounds for sending a JABGA member home at the parents/guardians expense.
2. Habitual discipline problems requiring more than four reprimands during one calendar year is grounds for the JABGA member to not be allowed in any county, district, or state activities for the remainder of the JABGA year. In addition, JABGA member may be asked to resign from all JABGA offices or leadership roles held or monetary awards or scholarships from the JABGA and/or ABGA.



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**Mood - Altering Substances:** The legal age for the consumption of alcohol, purchase and possession of alcohol is 21 in the United States. Controlled substances such as cocaine, marijuana, heroin, LSD, etc., are illegal to consume, purchase, or possess in the United States, regardless of age. Participation in a JABGA event or activity (including to and from an event) will include agreement by all participants to abide by these laws and the guidelines set forth by the JABGA.

Use and/or possession of alcohol and/or illegal controlled substances: If a participant is found to be using or in possession of either alcohol or illegal substances, the law enforcement authorities will be contacted. This activity is illegal and punishable under criminal sanctions. The parents/guardians will also be contacted and arrangements will be made to send the participant home. The individual will not be eligible to continue participation in the activity or event.

Use of tobacco and/or mood-altering substances: The purchase, possession or consumption of tobacco, which includes cigarettes, cigars and chewing or smokeless tobacco, will not be permitted at a JABGA event or activity. Mood- altering substances, defined as any substance which is used to create an altered state of consciousness by the user, will not be permitted. Examples of these substances include, but are not limited to, glue, paint, nail polish and prescription drugs.

**Disruptive and/or Inappropriate Behavior:** This behavior is defined as verbal or physical actions by an individual or individuals which causes intentional and forcible disruption in the activity or involvement of the group. Behavior which singles out an individual or individuals for unwanted and inappropriate teasing, name- calling, shoving and taunting shall be defined as disruptive. Behavior which intentionally prevents others from participation in the group activity shall be defined as disruptive. Inappropriate behavior shall include, but not limited to, abusive or profane language, clothing which is offensive to others (logos, artwork that degrades others) or is inappropriate for the occasion (clothes too tight, too open or not covering parts of the body adequately), rude or destructive actions, littering and disobeying requests by adults in charge.

**Overnight Activities:** Participants in JABGA activities and/or events are expected to abide by stated curfews and sleep/stay in the assigned location for the total length assigned. Volunteers attending overnight activities shall be designated to obtain a general background check.

**Personal Safety:** Personal Safety is defined as the ability of an individual to feel safe from verbal and physical abuse, from the threat of physical injury, or from unwelcome actions, remarks, or interactions from others. Some of these actions occur without violence or physical injury, but can leave the targeted individual unwelcome, unsafe or unprotected. If the impact of the incident makes the individual feel his/her personal safety is in jeopardy, then action shall be taken to rectify the situation.

Verbal Abuse: Verbal abuse shall be defined as any spoken or written use of language in an abusive, threatening, profane or obscene manner which degrades an individual or individuals because of their race, religion, ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation or physical or mental handicaps.

Violence: Violence is defined as the use of physical force against another with the intent to injure, abuse, destroy or intimidate. Acts of violence can include, but are not limited to, pushing or shoving someone with the intent of causing physical injury, forcing someone to do something against their will, creating an environment in which another person feels for their safety, or damaging the property of others (including clothing, personal items, equipment and facilities).



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### **Personal Safety [cont'd]**

Use and/or possession of weapons: Weapons are defined as instruments or items used for offensive or defensive action, which are capable of causing bodily harm or death. Examples of weapons include, but are not limited to, guns, knives, clubs, metal knuckles, throwing stars, explosives, stun guns, ammunition or mace. While the use and/or possession of firearms are generally considered inappropriate, there are situations where firearms may be used in a legitimate way for an activity or at an event. If listed items are not registered with the appropriate adults prior to the event/activity, it will be considered a weapon.

**Participant Use of Vehicles:** While use of a vehicle to attend an event or participate in an event may be necessary, use of any vehicle for personal reasons while participating in a JABGA event or activity is inappropriate unless arrangements and agreements have been made between the individual or individuals and the adult(s) in charge, prior to use of the vehicle. Verbal or written permission from parents or legal guardians will be required before an agreement can be made between the youth and adult(s) in charge of the event. The duration of the trip, reason for the trip and estimated time of return should be documented after an agreement has been reached.

**Sexual Behavior:** Guidelines for appropriate sexual behavior of all individuals, youth and adults, help foster the integrity of JABGA and all individuals involved in JABGA and/or ABGA sponsored events. Guidelines are aimed toward self-control, healthy responsibility, respect for self and others and conduct which maintains the safety of all individual(s). Inappropriate sexual behavior shall include, but not limited to, the following three major areas of concern.

Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome verbal and/or physical advance, unwelcome and/or coerced requests for sexual favors, or unwanted and/or unwelcome sexual physical contact.

Sexual Contact: Sexual contact which occurs between a minor and adult is illegal and will be dealt with under the laws which protect minors.

Public Display of Affection and/or Contact: Public display of affection/contact involving individuals participating in a JABGA and/or ABGA sponsored event is inappropriate.

**Event-Specific Additions:** While the above expectations apply to all JABGA programs, there may be additional rules, procedures and policies relating to specific JABGA events/activities that will also apply to those events.



## Code of Conduct and Consequences of Misbehavior

### Course of Action I

Event managers responsible for JABGA events and activities are encouraged to communicate to JABGA participants and adult chaperones prior to the event, a standard of acceptable behavior. Standards of behavior and consequences should be reviewed with participants as part of the initial orientation.

1. Event Manager obtains all of the relevant facts.
2. Brief the on-site adult responsible for the youth delegate (JABGA faculty member or volunteer).
3. If not on-site, but available via phone, brief the JABGA faculty member responsible.
4. Review consequences of misbehavior. The following steps should be taken when sending a JABGA member home:
  - a. JABGA faculty member contacts parents.
  - b. Parents advised that child is being sent home by safest, most direct means, and that parents are responsible for the cost.
  - c. Event manager decides if parents should be given the option of picking up the child.
  - d. JABGA faculty member collects money from parents to pay transportation charges.
  - e. Follow-up correspondence from event's manager to appropriate JABGA faculty member, child and parent for documentation.
  - f. For all reprimands, a Summary Letter will be completed and mailed to the JABGA member, parent, ABGA Board of Directors, Youth Committee and JABGA Board of Directors.

### Course of Action II

Procedure for sponsors, event staff and volunteers to act upon in an emergency or situation of a participant where an adult(s) of the same-party or third-party is involved

1. In a same-party scenario, immediately contact the organization's attorney.
2. In a third-party scenario, immediately contact the manager where the event is being held. If the incident is serious, authorities shall be contacted.



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Youth participating in or attending a local, county, regional, state and national JABGA event are required to conduct themselves according to the JABGA Code of Conduct.

Parents and legal guardians attending or participating in JABGA youth development programs are also requested to conduct themselves according to the JABGA Code of Conduct and assist and support youth in their efforts to adhere to the code. Volunteers attending overnight activities shall be designated to obtain a general background check.

### JABGA Code of Conduct Summary

Participants will:

1. Accept responsibility for representing themselves, their club, their county, JABGA and ABGA with dignity and pride.
2. Be punctual for scheduled activities, participate fully in planned activities, and exhibit good sportsman- ship.
3. Refrain from leaving the location of the event during the course of the event.
4. Refrain from the use of and/or possession of alcoholic beverages and illegal controlled substances at all times.
5. Refrain from the use of an/or possession of tobacco and mood-altering substances at all times.
6. Refrain from disruptive and/or inappropriate behavior and clothing.
7. Recognize the rights of others with respect to noise, language and conduct to avoid intimidating others physically and/or emotionally.
8. Respect the property of others, including clothing, personal items, equipment and facilities.
9. Refrain from the use of and/or possession of any weapon(s).
10. Refrain from the use of vehicles for personal reasons while participating in JABGA events/activities.
11. Refrain from sexually inappropriate behavior.
12. Abide by additional rules, procedures and policies relating to specific activities or events established for that program.

In addition to the above items, participants in JABGA overnight activities will:

1. Sleep in designated areas.
2. Be in the designated sleeping area by the stated curfew hour and stay for the balance of the night.

My legal guardian and I have read, discussed, accept, and will abide by the full JABGA Code of Conduct as referenced above. We also understand that infraction(s) of the Code may cause loss of privileges during the event, participation in the event to be terminated, or if sufficiently serious, termination of membership in the JABGA. We also understand that being sent home at my parents/guardians expense, forfeiture of premiums or awards may also result. We agree to accept the appropriate and logical consequences of my actions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print Participant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date