



## Parks and Recreation

### Jr. Guard Behavior Agreement

For the Junior Lifeguard Program to be successful, participants must exhibit behavior that is respectful of staff, other participants, equipment, and facilities. Group activities are vital to the success and safety of the program. A participant that is disruptive to group activities and disrespectful to instructors diminishes the enjoyment and education of the other participants.

The intent to correct behavior is to instruct participants how to achieve compliance with acceptable behavior norms.

Please review the following expectations with your Jr. Guard participant:

- Arrive and pick up on time
- Respect Instructors, staff and volunteers
- Respect other participants: pushing, shoving, hitting, or name-calling is not tolerated
- Respect the environment, wildlife, facility, equipment and other people's property.
- Cooperate with others.
- Practice good sportsmanship.
- Follow all safety rules and instructions.
- Listen quietly to directions/announcements.
- **Participate daily in regular program activities.**

The progressive steps of corrective behavior are as follows:

1. When a minor discipline situation occurs, the participant will be counseled about the situation and given an explanation of what behavior change is expected.
2. If a subsequent incident occurs, the participant will be asked to take a **"TIME OUT"** or **"TAKE A LAP."** A time out is a period of two to five minutes that the participant spends quietly reflecting on the incident. A **"TAKE A LAP "** is a supervised swim or run of reasonable distance. After the **"TIME OUT"** or **"TAKE A LAP"** the participant is allowed to rejoin in the group activity.
3. When a participant has a series of **"TIME OUT'S"** or **"TAKE A LAP'S"** in the same day or a series of discipline situations over several days, the lead instructor will inform the participant's parent or guardian about the situation.
4. When a participant continually disregards the instructors or shows little or no improvement with steps 1 through 3, the participant will be suspended for one or two day(s). The parent or guardian of the participant will be informed that the participant has been suspended. There are no prorated refunds of fees.
5. If participant's behavior has not improved after suspension, the parent or guardian will be notified that the participant is suspended from the remainder of the program without refund or credit, for days missed.

Major first time incidents may progress a participant directly to step 4 or step 5 of the above procedures. Major incidents would include:

- Leaving the program without authorization.
- Use of profanity and/or aggressive, confrontational or argumentative behavior
- Fighting with another participant or other person
- Unlawful or non-consensual touching of another person
- Flashing gang signs or inappropriate poses during photos/videos
- Stealing the property of another
- Vandalism of equipment or facilities
- Throwing items at participants, wildlife, or property.
- Other conduct or poses which brings disrespect on the Jr. Guard program or the City of Santa Cruz.

Agreeing to the terms and conditions of the Program Activity Waiver, acknowledges that parents and participants agree to abide by the Jr. Guard Behavior Agreement.