

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT YOUTH ACTIVITY CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ADULTS

PREFACE:

Among the goals of the youth activity are the following:

1. To provide a memorable, enjoyable, educational experience for young singers, generally aged 13-18, with emphasis on close harmony (barbershop) singing.
2. To make certain each youth, during each activity, has multiple opportunities both to hear the barbershop style sung well, and to sing the style.
3. To provide the youth with the best instruction in good vocal technique, and coaching in the areas which distinguish barbershop from other a cappella styles.
4. To encourage young singers to embrace singing in all its aspects, including recreational and vocational, and to encourage them to enjoy singing the rest of their lives.
5. To encourage young singers to consider the Barbershop Harmony Society, Sweet Adelines, and Harmony Incorporated when they consider singing as a hobby in the future.
6. To include an appropriate opportunity for the youth to perform for an enthusiastic audience.

Toward these ends, the following Code of Conduct has been developed for faculty, supervisors and chaperones (hereafter referred to as "counselors") at the activity.† We recognize that youth are greatly influenced by what they see counselors do and say. The responsibility for these "Barbershoppers of the Future" is awesome, but well worth the effort to perpetuate our style of singing.

Counselor Code of Conduct

1. Counselors will conduct themselves in a manner, which at all times conveys a proper and wholesome image of the barbershop hobby.
2. Counselors will refrain from participating in any manner during the activity, which is prohibited to youth, such as smoking or drinking, whether or not in the presence of the youth.
3. Counselors will refrain from participating in any behavior which might be interpreted as flirting by youth.
4. Counselors will avoid engaging in practice among themselves, which might convey to youth the impression that inappropriate relationships exist among counselors.
5. Counselors have a responsibility to bring calm to the activity after lights-out in the evening. † Chaperones should be in the cabins with campers and not gathered for singing or partying among themselves or with the campers.
6. If the event is coed, special care should be taken to assure that no unauthorized "behind the scenes" mixing of boys and girls takes place. If overnight accommodations are involved, male counselors should not be in female student quarters, nor should female counselors be in male student quarters.
7. Counselors should dress conservatively at all times. BHS-related identity shirts are encouraged. Other T-shirts and full cover tops are appropriate. † No counselor, either male or female, should dress in a fashion, which might detract the attention of the youth away from their musical focus. Sleepwear is not appropriate for use during activities in public areas, or between genders.
8. Counselors should refrain from singing songs or telling stories in questionable taste, in keeping with the wholesome, family-oriented nature of our hobby.
9. Counselors should strive to be inclusive in their recreational singing during the activity; this means including, in some part the youth in woodshedding, tag-singing, and/or gang singing. This should include the "not-so-gifted" singers, as well as more accomplished vocalists. Recognizing that tag singing or woodshedding with other counselors is one of the most enjoyable parts of the activity for counselors, this does not intend to restrict the singing of tags by counselors, but to encourage them to include campers in such activity to some extent.
10. Counselors should make every effort to set a good example by being on time for scheduled events, and by actively supporting those events. Counselors are encouraged to stay with their youth during events.
11. Avoid singing in areas where our sound might not be appreciated, such as outside late at night. Avoid providing an opportunity for unappreciative listeners to criticize.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO THIS _____ day of _____, 20_____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Activity Director: _____