



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

OUR ONGOING COMMITMENT TO KEEPING SCOUTS SAFE

The BSA has some of the strongest expert-informed barriers to abuse found in any youth-serving organization.

- Extensive, mandatory youth protection training for all volunteers and employees, with separate modules for youth and adults, that must be renewed every two years;
- Partnership with the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center Foundation to educate and empower youth through the new "Protect Yourself Rules" videos. Through animated videos developed specifically for younger audiences, this program helps address abuse prevention and intervention in an approachable way by educating children to understand and recognize abuse and to empower them to get help any time they are made to feel uncomfortable;
- A leadership policy that requires at least two youth-protection trained adults be present with youth at all times during Scouting activities and bans one-on-one situations where adults would have any interaction alone with children – either in person, online, or via phone or text;
- A BSA team dedicated to addressing concerns raised about any individual in Scouting. The team is responsible for removing and banning individuals from Scouting, as well as reporting them to law enforcement when necessary;
- A thorough screening process for new adult leaders and staff including criminal background checks with leaders and staff undergoing renewed background checks every five years;
- The Volunteer Screening Database – a tool the CDC recommends for all youth-serving organizations – which prohibits known or suspected abusers from registering for Scouting programs;
- A ban on the use of recording devices/cell phones near bathrooms and shower houses;
- The prompt mandatory reporting of any allegation or suspicion of abuse to law enforcement; and
- A 24/7 helpline (1-844-Scouts1) and email (Scouts1st@Scouting.org) for assistance reporting any suspected abuse or inappropriate behavior.

For more information, visit www.Scouting.org/youth-safety