

Troop 26 Email Consent Form

The local Boy Scout council distributed some information in September of 2002 that discourages the use of email in communication between adults and scouts. As far as we can tell the National Council has not prohibited this medium of communication and in fact has a place for the scouts email address on the membership application. The scoutmasters and troop committee has discussed this matter at length and have also sought the advice of Terry Aiken, Immaculate Heart of Mary's Youth Protection trainer and contact. We decided that we would handle the matter by obtaining the parent's permission for communication via e-mail. The following are guidelines we will follow:

1. Obtain parents permission to use their scouts email address. Give them the option at that time to be included in all correspondence to that scout.
2. All emails initially originated by a scouter should also include all the appropriate leaders at that level. For example SM to SPL should also include ASPL since he needs to know as well. The other scoutmaster members (ASMs and CC) should also be cc: as they have a need to know as well.
3. Replies to e-mails from scouts should be cc: to scoutmaster members as a minimum and to other Boy Scouts in leadership roles as appropriate.
4. No e-mails or replies from scouters to just one scout.
5. Scout e-mail addresses must not be published in any written document. Use of group mail addresses are encouraged. (We have the ability with our web site to create an email address like splcorps@ihmscouts.com that will automatically forward an email to everyone in a list - this also protects the email addresses as only the addressee shows up in the email header information and only one or two people need to know the real address of the scout).
6. Should an email from a scout come to a leader that brings up a personal issue (such as they are being abused) the scouter should reply but also cc: a designated person (in our case the Youth Minister). The scouts should know in advance that this would occur.

Please note: We recognize that younger scouts may not utilize email much, if at all. The vast majority of communication utilizing email will be with the boy leaders.

_____ (Initials) I give permission for the scouters associated with BSA Scout Troop 26 to communicate with my son _____ via email utilizing the guidelines as shown above. The email address that should be used is:

_____ (Initials) I would also like to be copied on all email correspondence with my scout as per the above guidelines. The email address to send copies to is (leave initials and email blank if you do not want to be copied):

Signature of Parent

Date

Comments: