

Youth Advisor Acknowledgment Form

I, _____,
a volunteer in the AIS Youth Program, have read and understand the AIS Youth Protection Policy Guidelines.

In summary, my understanding of the AIS Youth Protection Policy Guidelines is as follows:

- Abuse is defined as verbal and sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and inappropriate sexual verbalization.
- Youth is defined by the AIS is any person under the age of 19 years.
- Adults and youth leaders need to be mindful that an affectionate (“harmless”) gesture toward a youth could be construed as inappropriate by the youth or by the youth’s parent.
- Compliments about the youth’s accomplishments and good behavior are safer than those comments related to appearance.
- There is no place within the scope and work of the organization for adults or youth leaders to engage in sexual touching of a participant or sexual relationships with participants, whether mutually agreed to or not.
- Two appointed adult volunteers are required for all programs, events, and activities.
- If personal discussions are needed, the discussions should be conducted in an area that is in unobstructed view of other adults and youth.
- When transporting youth, if two adults cannot be present in the vehicle, the alternative minimum required is one adult and two or more youth members.
- The AIS youth member is the responsibility of the AIS volunteer in charge of a meeting or event until a parent/guardian or responsible adult designated by the parent/guardian arrives.
- There must be separate sleeping facilities for each gender.
- When separate shower and restroom facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use must be scheduled and posted.
- Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults must protect their own privacy in similar situations.
- AIS Youth Advisors assume the primary responsibility for reporting abuse as may arise within the Youth Program.
- It is required by AIS that Youth Advisors report sexual abuse to local child protective services or cognizant law enforcement authorities.
- No person may impede or inhibit the reporting duties. In addition, no person making such a report will be subject to any sanction for making the report. Any person who violates the rights of an individual to report may be guilty of an infraction punishable by fine.
- Reports of abuse are confidential. If some concerned party requests information, the inquiry shall be redirected to the agency that is investigating the report.
- Any person reporting a known or suspected instance of abuse shall not incur civil or criminal liability as a result of any report authorized herein, unless it can be proven that a false report was made and the person knew that the report was false or was made with reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the report.
- AIS policy prohibits the posting on the Internet of photos of youth identified in any way, such as by name, region, or club affiliation. The publication of photos of youth, identified or not, is permitted in AIS and related publications whose distribution is limited primarily to AIS members.

I hereby agree to be bound by the AIS Youth Protection Policy Guidelines in the performance of my volunteer youth services and will comply with the reporting procedures.

Signature of Volunteer in AIS Youth Program

Date