

# *YOUTH CODE OF CONDUCT*

Welcome to the Diocesan Youth Convention! We are happy that you decided to be here! Remember you represent the Church, your diocese, your parish, your parents and yourselves, and we know you will represent them well during your time at convention. You are a witness for the Church to hotel staff, other guests and all who observe our gathering. We trust you will display maturity, responsible leadership and character, for which youth of the Diocese of Beaumont are well known.

## ***Guidelines:***

1. Participants **must attend** all convention activities. **Name badges must be worn and easily visible** at all times.
2. **Parish Adult Chaperones** are responsible for the actions of the members of their group. Each parish accepts full responsibility for any damage or theft caused by members of their group while attending the convention.
3. Adult leaders in each parish are to help enforce the code of behavior and to set an example for their youth. Adult leaders from any group, as well as convention and hotel security, are expected to help enforce the code with youth from any group and help deal with violations. Please give them your respect and cooperation.
4. Chaperones are expected to be leaders and examples to younger delegates. Therefore, **all** participants should refrain from drinking alcohol. The purchase, possession or consumption of **beer, wine or other alcoholic beverages** by minors and the possession or use of **illegal drugs** by any individual will not be tolerated. Failure to observe these rules will mean immediate dismissal from the convention. Individuals may also be subject to a fine or arrest. Diocesan guidelines also prohibit smoking by minors at diocesan events, including convention.
5. **Socializing prior to curfew** should be done in the public areas of the hotel. Remember to keep noise levels down in the sleeping areas, especially later in the evenings. This guarantees the right to privacy and quiet times for fellow convention participants and other guests in the hotel.
6. Objects dropped from or thrown in any area of the hotel present a danger of injury to others. Such behavior or any act of vandalism or other inappropriate actions or language reflect poorly on our entire group and will not be tolerated.
7. **No visiting** is permitted in hotel rooms occupied by members of the opposite sex.
8. All participants will be in their hotel rooms by **curfew** on each night of the convention. Each parish should plan to gather each evening for prayer or meeting time before participants return to their rooms for curfew. Advisors will check rooms each evening. Once on guest-room floors and in guest rooms, noise should be kept to a minimum. Consequences should be expected if noise complaints are received. Group leaders and the convention director will be informed by hotel security of noise complaints.
9. Dress for convention should be appropriate to the activity and **in good taste**. While judgement in this may vary, parish advisors are asked to use good judgement when making decisions about questionable apparel. The staff of the Office of Youth Ministry reserves the right to final decisions in the matter.
10. There should be no need for **sleeping room changes**. However, if a need arises, the participant should check with his/her adult youth minister, **not the hotel**. The youth minister will discuss a change with hotel staff.
11. All convention sessions and activities will start on time. For some sessions, doors will be closed and admission denied after the session begins. To prevent being excluded and to avoid being a distraction to others, be on time.
12. Do not make local or long-distance calls from guest room telephones. Make room-to-room calls only to guest rooms whose occupants are known to you.

## ***For Your Safety:***

1. Participants may not leave the hotel unless accompanied by a parent or chaperone. The adult responsible for the group must be notified of any such departure of a participant from the convention.
2. Hotel rooms should not be left open or unlocked at **any** time. Doors should not be opened to anyone unless the person is identified and known.

(continued on back)

## ***Diocese of Beaumont Youth Convention DRESS CODE:***

(Adapted from West Brook H.S. & Port Neches-Groves H.S. dress codes)

1. All participants at convention are expected to arrive to convention functions **IN COMPLIANCE** with dress code policy. Our attempt is to encourage participants to dress in a manner that gives glory to God and represents our diocese and the Catholic Church in the proper way.

2. The overall appearance of a student WILL NOT be inappropriate, disruptive, or present a safety concern as deemed by the Office of Youth Ministry and representatives.
3. Convention ID's must be worn on a lanyard around the neck at all times during convention. Lost or defaced ID's must be replaced at a cost of \$5.
4. **Pants must be worn during all convention sessions, but shorts are acceptable during free time only.** Pants must be worn at the waistline. NO HOLES IN PANTS OR JEANS. Dresses that are cut low in the front are not to be worn.
5. Halter tops, cropped tops revealing midriff, backless tops, racer-back tops, plunging necklines, sheer or other styles or fabrics that reveal undergarments or too much skin will not be permitted. ALL TOPS WORN BY FEMALES MUST HAVE SHOULDER STRAPS THAT ARE AT LEAST 3 MIDDLE FINGERS WIDE.
6. Undergarments showing at any time are inappropriate. Pajamas or undergarments worn as an outer garment will not be permitted. Leggings, tights, or jeggings may only be worn with an over garment (top, dress, shorts) of appropriate length of longer than the fingertips when relaxed arms are extended by the student's side.
7. NO alcohol, weapon-styled (look alike), drug-related, gang/cult related jewelry will be permitted. NO pocket chains, spiked and/or studded jewelry will be permitted.

In the event of questionable clothing, the Office of Youth Ministry reserves the right to final decisions in the matter.

Youth Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature (if youth is under 18) \_\_\_\_\_