

Troop 101 Portable Electronics Policy (Proposal)

It is the policy of Troop 101 that **NO PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE ALLOWED TO BE BROUGHT TO ANY TROOP 101 EVENT.** For outings, this applies from departure until return. This includes but is not limited to I-Pods, Mp3 players, Walkmans, Game boys, Cell phones, and any hand held radio. Exceptions are the use of cell phones and/or hand held radios by the scoutmasters for emergency communications purposes. Digital cameras and GPS are also exceptions but parents are reminded that Troop is not responsible for loss or damage to these items.

Portable electronic devices are contrary to the scouting philosophy of learning to live with and in the outdoors. A scout that is using an electronic device instead of doing scouting related tasks or interacting with his fellow scouts loses out on the scouting experience. Scouts being called, calling people, texting, or using electronic devices during drives, classes, activities, and meetings, cause the scoutmasters to stop dealing with the troop as a whole and expend time to deal with a scout that is busy using something that is totally unnecessary on an outing and diminishing the experience for others. These distractions to the scoutmasters can also result in a hazardous lack of attention to the surroundings, resulting in injury to a scout. These are some of the key reasons for the no electronic policy. This has been the policy of Troop 101 for many years.

Infractions to this policy will result in immediate confiscation of the device that will only be returned to scout's parents at the soonest opportunity they have to retrieve it.

Any exceptions to this policy will be noted on the outing permission slip.