

Appendix B – Program Rules and Conditions of Exchange

As a Youth Exchange Student sponsored by Rotary District 5950/5960 Youth Exchange, you must agree to the following rules and conditions of exchange.

A. Strict Rules and Conditions of Exchange - Violations will result in your immediate return home.

- 1. Laws of the Host Country** - If found guilty of violation of any law, you can expect no assistance from the sponsors or your native country, and will be returned home as soon as you are released by authorities.
- 2. Drugs** - You are not allowed to possess or use illegal drugs. Medicine prescribed by a physician is allowed.
- 3. Driving** - You are not permitted to drive a motor vehicle of any kind. This includes cars, boats, tractors, mopeds, snowmobiles, or any other type of motorized vehicle.
- 4. Drinking** - The illegal drinking of alcoholic beverages is expressly forbidden. If you are of legal age should refrain. If the host family offers you an alcoholic drink, it is permissible to accept it under their supervision in their home.
- 5. Theft** - Stealing is prohibited. There are no exceptions.
- 6. Travel** - Unauthorized travel is not allowed. You must follow the travel rules of the Host District. (Also see Section B, numbers 8 and 9 below.)
- 7. Insurance** - You must be covered by a health and life insurance policy agreeable to the Hosting District.
- 8. School attendance** - You must attend school regularly and make an honest attempt to succeed.
- 9. Airline tickets** - You must travel with a round-trip ticket. When returning home, you must travel by the most direct route with no side trips, visits, or unnecessary layovers.

B. Common Sense Rules and Conditions of Exchange — Violations will result in a district review and restrictions. Severe/Consistent disregard for these rules will result in being returned home.

- 1. Smoking** - Smoking is discouraged. If you state in your application that you do not smoke, you will be held to that position throughout your year. Your acceptance and host family placement is based on your signed statement. Under no circumstances are you to smoke in your Host Family's bedrooms.
- 2. Host Family** - Become an integral part of the Host Family, assuming duties and responsibilities normal for a student of your age and other children in the family. Respect your host's wishes.
- 3. Language** - Effort to learn the language of your host country will be appreciated by teachers, host parents, Rotary club members and others you meet in the community. It will go a long way in your gaining acceptance in the community, and of those who will become lifelong friends.
- 4. Meetings** - Attend Rotary-sponsored events and host family events. You should show an interest in host family and Rotary activities to which you are invited. Be willing to volunteer. Do not wait to be asked. Lack of interest on your part is detrimental to your exchange and can have a negative impact on future exchanges.

5. School and Community - Your attendance will be required at some Rotary sponsored events, including orientations, the Rotary District Conference, and some host club meetings. Become involved in your school and community activities. Plan your recreation and spare time activities around your school and community friends. Do not spend all your time with the other exchange students.

6. Friends - Choose friends in the community carefully. Ask for and heed the advice of host families, counselors and school personnel in choosing friends.

7. Travel - Travel is permitted with host parents or for Rotary club or district functions authorized by the hosting Rotary Club or District with proper adult chaperones. You may not travel alone or accompanied only by other students. If you are offered an opportunity to go on a trip or to an event, make sure you understand any costs you must pay and your responsibilities before you go. All other travel must be approved by the Host District, Host Club, Host Family and your own parents/legal guardians in writing, exempting Rotary of responsibility and liability.

8. Health - You must show proof of proper immunization.

9. Money - You should have sufficient financial support to assure your well being during the exchange year. Your hosting district will require a contingency fund of \$400 for *emergency situations*, which must be replenished by your parents/guardians as it is depleted. These funds must be turned given to your Host Rotary Club representative upon your arrival. Obtain a receipt indicating to whom the funds were given, the amount of funds, and where the funds will be deposited. Unused funds at the end of the exchange will be returned to you.

Do not borrow money. Pay any bills you incur promptly. Ask permission to use the family telephone, keep track of long distance calls and reimburse your host family each month for the calls you make.

10. Early return - Any costs associated with an early return home shall be the responsibility of your natural or adoptive parents/legal guardians. A student may be sent home early if he or she breaks any of the rules listed, or exhibits an attitude not compatible with Rotary's Youth Exchange Program, or behaves in any way that undermines the principles of the Youth Exchange Program.

11. District authority - You will be under the Hosting District's authority while you are an exchange student. Parents/guardians must avoid authorizing any extra activities directly to their son/daughter. The Host Club and Host District Youth Exchange Officers must authorize such activities. If you have relatives in the host country or region, they will have no authority over you while you are in the program.

12. Parent visiting - Visits by your parents/guardians/siblings while you are in the program may only take place with the host club and host family's consent. Friends may not visit, as this would place undue responsibility on the host club/district for your (and their) safety.

13. Dating - Make many friends but have no serious romantic attachments, long-term relationships, or sexual involvement.

14. Diet/physical restrictions - If you have dietary or physical restrictions, the Youth Exchange Chair must be informed.