



CIVIL AIR PATROL United States Air Force Auxiliary

CADET ENCAMPMENT PROGRAM

C1 Honor Agreement

Briefing for the Cadet Commander

Context: Encampment fully commences only when each cadet signs the Honor Agreement. This session is a prelude to the overall encampment program. It communicates the overall vision for the encampment program, previews some of the exciting activities, and establishes the norms of behavior by presenting them as challenges to be accepted. The Honor Agreement is an invitation, and as such this exercise teaches that attitude and effort are important keys to success. As the encampment progresses, leaders can refocus cadets' efforts by referring back to the challenge the cadets accepted in signing the Honor Agreement.

Overall Goal: The goal of activity C1 Honor Agreement is for every cadet to understand the norms listed in the agreement and then to pledge to abide by them. Students in particular will reaffirm that they understand what encampment entails and they will pledge to pursue those challenges with all they've got.

Learning Objectives: By completing the four learning objectives below, cadets will naturally fulfill this session's overall goal. By the end of this session, each cadet will be able to

1. Describe the major challenges cadets will encounter in the encampment program.
2. Describe some of the specific activities planned for the encampment program. (ie: major tours, notable speakers, cool activities, etc.)
3. Identify the multiple forms of support available to cadets as they work through encampment's challenges. (ie: wingmen, flight staff, training officers, chaplains, medical service officers, etc.)
4. Demonstrate their commitment to encampment's challenges by signing an Honor Agreement.

Instructor / Facilitator: The encampment cadet commander should lead this activity, perhaps with support from other members of the cadet cadre.

Senior Support: Item 2.d in the content outline below will require some advance coordination with the senior staff.

Cadets & Contracts: Note that any contract signed by a minor is voidable. For this reason, among others, the Honor Agreement is not called a contract. Rather, it is presented to cadets in recognition of their status as young adults (not children), and therefore takes the form of an Honor Agreement. While a minor cannot enter into a *legal* contract, cadets can demonstrate a degree of autonomy by making a personal pledge, even though that pledge is not legally binding. Put simply, the Honor Agreement is a teaching tool.

Suggested Duration: 15 min

Format & Content Outline: Cadets begin this session with their Cadet Encampment Handbook and a pencil or pen at the ready. The session should be organized in two parts. Part 1 is an informational briefing. Part 2 takes the form of a pledge, with cadets orally responding to each challenge issued by the cadet commander.

Part 1: What we will accomplish together. (ref: *Encampment Cadet Handbook*, pp. 2-3)

- A. Encampment challenges you to:
 - 1. develop leadership skills
 - 2. learn about aviation, space, and technology
 - 3. commit to a habit of regular exercise
 - 4. live the Core Values

- B. Encampment is an incredible opportunity:
Briefly describe some of the major tours, special activities, and general awesomeness planned for your location.

- C. Graduation requirements
 - 1. Participate in 80% or more of the encampment
(can't leave early and still graduate, except for a hardship)
 - 2. Adhere to the Core Values (more on that in Part 2 below)
 - 3. Complete all academic assignments to the satisfaction of the encampment staff
 - 4. Specific CAP benefits due encampment graduates:
 - a. earn the encampment ribbon
 - b. fulfill a prerequisite of the Mitchell Award
 - c. become eligible to apply for National Cadet Special Activities
 - d. become eligible to apply for service on the encampment cadet cadre next year

- D. The cadet cadre and senior staff want to support you (you'll meet these individuals later)
 - 1. Turn first to a fellow cadet / wingman / element leader if you need assistance
 - 2. Flight sergeant and flight commander
 - 3. Training officer: cadets can go straight to this adult at any time
 - 4. Chaplain: cadets can go straight to this adult at any time

Part 2: What we expect of you

*command all cadets to stand at attention, and then place them at parade rest
direct cadets to turn to page 7 in their handbook*

- A. Read aloud the first half of the Honor Agreement ("I, Cadet Curry . . ." to the first spot for initials.)
Have cadets insert their name in the space provided.

- B. For each of the six items requiring the cadets' initials, slightly rephrase each so that they read as questions.
(ie: "Do you pledge to consistently display a high level . . .")
 - 1. Read each question aloud in a challenging, authoritative voice.
 - 2. Expect the cadets to loudly reply, "Yes, Sir / Ma'am!"
 - 3. Pause and direct them to initial if they agree.

- C. Finally, rephrase the Honor Agreement's final section into the form of a question and pose it to the cadets aloud. (ie: "Do you accept encampment's challenges...")
Cadets will reply, "Yes sir / ma'am."

- D. To grant cadets a legitimate "out" from encampment, add, "If you do not accept these challenges, now is the time to step forward and return home."
 - 1. *Someone on the senior staff should be prepared to receive and later counsel cadets who (initially) decline to sign the agreement.*
 - 2. *Direct the cadets to sign their agreements.*
 - 3. *Conclude with some kind of motivational yell and dismiss the cadets to their flights.*