

# CREW 2555

# CODE AND BYLAWS

(Established January 2008 by the Venturing Crew 2555 Officer's Seminar)

## I. Preamble - Venturing Code

As a Venturer, I believe that America's strength lies in our trust in God and in the courage, strength, and traditions of our people.

I will, therefore, be faithful in my religious duties and will maintain a personal sense of honor in my own life.

I will treasure my American heritage and will do all I can to preserve and enrich it.

I will recognize the dignity and worth of all humanity and will use fair play and goodwill in my daily life.

I will acquire the Venturing attitude that seeks the truth in all things and adventure on the frontiers of our changing world.

## II. Crew Bylaws

### A. Objectives

The objectives of Crew 2555 are:

- Have FUN!
- Persistence, perseverance and rigid flexibility with copious amounts of KISMIF (Keep it simple; make it fun.)
- Gain practical experience
- Give service to the community
- Develop leadership skills
- Have at least one activity per month

### B. Membership

1. Membership shall be open to all young adults of high school age who live in the surrounding area and have completed the eighth grade or are at least 14 years of age, but not yet 21.
2. No prospective member shall be disqualified because of race, color, creed, or gender.

3. All members must be registered as Venturers in the Boy Scouts of America, and agree to the crew code and bylaws.
4. If dual membership applies. Venture Crew 2555 members first priority should remain with their boy / girl scout troop.
5. Members should show maturity and Scout spirit, and show the ability to actively work for the good of the program.
6. All prospective members can attend a yearly open house.

### **C. Officers**

1. The elected officers shall be a president, two vice presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer.
2. The VP of Program, with the approval of the Advisor, shall appoint activity chairs and make other assignments as needed.
3. The duties of the officers shall be as prescribed in the *Venturer's Handbook*.
4. The normal term of office shall be for 1 year, with elections each June.
5. No member shall serve more than two successive terms in the same office.
6. The president shall appoint a nominating committee, which shall consist of three members. The committee shall interview and present a complete slate of candidates who have agreed, if elected, to serve to the best of their abilities.
7. On the night of the election, any member may present nominations from the floor. If the nomination is seconded and the candidate agrees to serve, he or she must be included on the ballot.
8. All ballots shall be secret.
9. 75% of members must be present for election to occur

### **D. Crew business**

1. Voting on all issues will be by simple majority, with the exception of changes or amendments to the bylaws, which will require a two-thirds vote of the total membership.

### **E. General meetings**

1. As established by the Crew VOS and published on the crew website.

### **F. Officers' meetings**

1. Officers' meetings will be held at least once a month, prior to and at a time and place different from the first crew meeting of that month.
2. Majority should be present!

#### **G. Website/ Communication**

1. The crew will maintain a website, which shall include all meeting dates and other information of interest to the membership.
2. The website will serve as the historical record of the crew.

#### **H. Joining Fees / Annual Dues / Activity Fees**

1. New members joining shall pay the joining fee of \$20.00, which includes BSA membership and Venture / Ranger Handbook.
2. Annual Crew Dues will be \$15 and will due (paid to the Crew) at recharter month (currently February).
3. The recharter fees / individual membership in the BSA, will be paid from these dues collected.
4. Fees for activities shall be paid in advance to the treasurer or the activity leader (and accompanied by permission slip/paperwork).
5. Money should only be exchanged at meetings with a receipt given for payment.

#### **I. Money-earning projects**

1. All money-earning projects must be approved by a majority vote of crew members.
2. All money-earning projects must be approved by the Advisor and meet Boy Scouts of America requirements.
3. Members who do not participate in a project are not entitled to any personal benefits of the funds earned.
4. Distribution of the money will be determined on individual basis by officers.

#### **J. Additional bylaws**

1. The uniform consists of the official BSA dark green Venturing shirt.
2. If the uniform is not worn, clothing worn shall be appropriate for the activity. Scout "activity" shirt recommended. (class b).
3. All policies of BSA will be followed.
4. Buddy System- 2 people of same gender or 3 of different gender together at all times.

*(Approved by YOUTH Membership of Venturing Crew 2555 on April 20, 2008.)*