BHCFL Participation Policy



The guidelines within our Participation Policy will help you to understand the expectations of being a part of this group. These guidelines are also enacted to ensure the safety of all our members. The BHCFL Board of Directors reserves the right to change policies and procedures without notice.

All families should read the guidelines thoroughly before joining BHCFL. Understanding how we function and what your responsibilities will be can help you determine if BHCFL is the right fit for you and your family. Your signature on this Participation Policy form indicates that you and your family have read, understand, and will abide by these policies and procedures. Your membership indicates your commitment to participate in activities with BHCFL for the year.

1. Participation.

We are thrilled that you have decided to join our homeschool support group! It is always exciting for us to welcome new families to our tribe. BHCFL is not just another homeschool group - we are a village. Our desire is that we walk this homeschool journey together, offering encouragement, support, and friendship to each other along the way.

In order to join and be an official member of Black Homeschoolers of Central Florida, Inc., and participate in activities, a person must legally homeschool at least one child and/or have at least one pre-school child they anticipate homeschooling. In order to participate in any BHCFL, Inc. activities, registration and membership in the group is a requirement. You must also submit a cleared background check and have a screening interview before your membership is official. This is for the safety of our youth and their families.

Registration is \$200 per family for the year. This is a non-refundable fee collected at the time of enrollment. It covers administrative costs associated with processing your application and registering you in our program. Annual Membership Dues are \$600 per family and grants your family full access to all membership benefits for the entire year. Your dues cover a wide range of services, resources, programs, and activities offered by our organization, but it does not cover any fees related with classes, field trips and events. Dues are also non-refundable.

Your membership begins June 1st to May 1st. Our renewal period starts on May 1st every year until May 31st. Group information such as calendars, member information, etc., is not to be shared with anyone outside of the current membership. The information contained in the BHCFL Calendar, and Band App, is solely for the use of BHCFL members and for the purpose of fostering the community within BHCFL. The safety of our children is our highest priority!

In order to remain a member you must be active in the group! A high level of parent participation is expected by all BHCFL members. BHCFL is led by an incredible group of dedicated, hard-working, and passionate parents. Official Members are expected to actively participate in our village by building up, supporting, and enriching BHCFL with their gifts and talents. Volunteering is truly a cooperative effort in that every family shares some level of responsibility to ensure the success of our events and activities. There will be multiple opportunities throughout the year for member families to engage in service together. Attendance at these events is highly recommended to enhance your family's experience of community with BHCFL.

We provide lots of opportunities for our families to connect throughout the year with numerous activities during each month. Members, at a minimum, should be participating in the group activities and some of our main events. If you haven't participated in any group activities for 2 consecutive months, your membership will be canceled; considered null and void. Once your membership is canceled, if you would like to rejoin the group, you will have to re-apply, go before the membership panel,

and pay the enrollment fee again. An active member writes in and engages in conversation with the other group members, joins in on field trips, classes, events, and/or community service, or serves on a committee. It is important to note that our focus is on community building and not on classes.

VERY IMPORTANT! Arrive to events, field trips, workshops, or classes on time out of respect for other families, facilitators, and businesses/ organizations serving BHCFL.

Classes, field trips, and events are for BHCFL members and their families only. If you would like to bring a non-group member to one of our classes or events, you must obtain prior approval from one of the BHCFL Board Members. If you bring non-members without prior approval and they have not paid a membership fee, that is grounds for your removal in the group. On occasion we will invite other groups to participate in field trips or events.

Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco Products, and Firearms are strictly prohibited at any BHCFL events.

2. LIABILITY.

Each family is responsible for their own insurance coverage and each family is required to read and sign a Travel and Liability Form and turn into the BHCFL Enrollment Coordinator.

3. Communication.

Our website page is a general overview of our organization.

- For Members, our Band App is the main avenue of communication for ALL events & other information pertinent to members of BHCFL.
- It is expected that members will **regularly** (at least weekly) check the calendar. It is the members' responsibility to stay updated on all BHCFL activities, events, meetings, and deadlines, etc.
- Be sure to follow BHCFL on our social media accounts for fun updates and photos!

4. Solicitation Policy.

Usage of the member directory for the purpose of solicitation is a violation of privacy and is strictly prohibited.

5. Dress Code & Code of Conduct.

Parents and children should wear appropriate modest clothing. While we recognize that modesty can mean something different to each family, we feel that it is important to establish a commonly agreed-upon standard definition to be followed by all BHCFL participants.

- · All students must cover their underwear; pants must not sag
- No halters, exposed midriffs
- Women's and girls' tops must not reveal cleavage (or other private areas) or undergarments, even when bending over
- One piece or two piece swimsuits that cover the belly are allowed during our swim events. No two piece bikinis with the belly exposed are allowed by parents or students.

Class/FieldTrip/event participants and leaders are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and positive manner as representatives of Black Homeschoolers of Central Florida, Inc. As a member of BHCFL, you are expected to conduct yourself in a manner that will bring honor to you, your family, your community, and to BHCFL.

Speak and act in a responsible, courteous, and respectful way. Inappropriate language and behavior is prohibited. Harassment, threats or bullying of any type is prohibited. Disruptive or violent behaviors that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and our organization's ability to educate its students in a safe environment is strictly prohibited. Act responsibly to maintain a safe environment for all participants. Possession or use of tobacco, e-cigarettes or vaping devices, alcohol, or illegal drugs is prohibited. Possession or use of weapons or other dangerous objects is prohibited. Weapons are defined to include, but are not limited to, guns, knives and incendiary or explosive devices of any kind.

Failure to abide by the Code of Conduct could result in a loss of privileges during a BHCFL event and in the future; including but not limited to suspension or termination of BHCFL membership.

6. Disciplinary Procedures.

First Violation

Documented Warning and review of Code of Conduct expectations

Second Violation

- · Immediate removal from BHCFL event
- Board members complete a Violation Report
- Board members will notify parents of violation and actions to be taken

7. Payments(or Refunds) for Events, Field Trips, and Activities

For the purpose of payment or refund for BHCFL-planned events, memberplanned events, and field trips, it is asked that all participants abide by these rules.

- Payment is due immediately upon sign-up for an event, field trip or activity to reserve your spot. If the invoice is not paid upon sign-up, your placement for the event is not secured & your name will be deleted.
- Paypal, Stripe, and Square payments are the accepted form of payment for all sign-ups to instantly secure your spot. You may also pay in cash.
- Full refunds will only be offered to families if the field trip or event was canceled by BHCFL.
- Partial refunds MAY be given (less Paypal fees) only if another family can use the tickets, such as in the case of a waiting list. In the case where no other families are available to use the tickets, refunds may not be issued.
- If you need to cancel your tickets for any reason, you are welcome to sell or give your tickets to another BHCFL family by advertising using our App forum. Please notify the event organizer of the family change in a timely manner.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. I hereby acknowledge that I have read all of the provisions above and fully understand the terms and conditions expressed therein and agree to be bound by such terms and conditions of the BHCFL Participation Policy.

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