

East Tennessee District NYI Guidelines

A. Age Requirements

The age requirements for the East Tennessee District NYI are as follows:

1. Must be in the 6th grade and 11 years of age by September 1st to participate in the following:
 - a. Bible Quizzing
 - b. Nazarene EXPLOSION
 - c. TNT @ TNU
 - d. Fall Retreat
2. The following exceptions *may* apply.
 - a. Youth Camp
 - If there are two camps - Middle High Youth Camp (6th-8th grades) and Senior High Youth Camp (9th-12th grades). For those who have just completed 5th grade and are going into 6th grade they can choose between Children's Camp and Middle High Youth Camp. Same goes for those who have just completed 8th grade and are going into 9th grade. They can choose between Middle High Youth Camp and Senior High Youth Camp.
 - b. IMPACT Ministries
 - Must be entering 9th – 12th grade to apply.
 - c. Age limits for all District sponsored Mission Trips will be set per event by the East Tennessee District NYI Council.

B. Personal Appearance

The East Tennessee District NYI affirms that the appearance of youth has a positive correlation with the development of self-discipline and spiritual maturity. Christian simplicity and modesty are biblical standards relevant to our church, culture, and youth. Common sense and personal discretion are essential in matters of dress. Therefore at all district NYI events the following **will be** observed:

1. Threadbare jeans with holes above the knees are not permitted.
2. Shorts that are mid thigh length may be worn to all events unless otherwise noted.
3. For women mini-skirts, tight fitting jeans, halter-tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps, bare midriffs, braless look, and any attire that shows cleavage or midriff is inappropriate and should not be worn. No two-piece bathing suits will be allowed.
4. For men shirts must be worn at all times not revealing the chest or stomach, no speedos.
5. The wearing of any item of clothing or hats bearing the emblems or verbal messages which conflict with the moral standards of The Church of the Nazarene is not acceptable.
6. Any exceptions to the above guidelines must have the approval of the District NYI Council, District Superintendent, and the District Advisory Board.

C. Display of Affection

All young people must use Christian judgment and good taste in all forms of display of affection. Any misuse causes embarrassment to others, reflects upon personal character, and infringes on the rights of others. With this in mind during all district NYI events handholding **only** is allowed.

D. Other Standards

The East Tennessee District NYI seeks to develop young people with responsible personal behavior and self control who have a sensitivity to the rights and needs of others. Compliance with the following standards will be normative for the East Tennessee Nazarene youth.

1. No alcohol and illegal or dangerous drugs are allowed in possession or use.
2. Spray paint, paint ball guns, or paint balls are prohibited.
3. Firearms, fireworks, or explosives are prohibited.
4. Vulgar, foul, or profane language will not be tolerated.
5. All uses of tobacco products are prohibited.
6. Pornographic materials that consist of literature, videos/DVD's, or pictures will not be tolerated.
7. Disruptive behavior, which poses a threat to the well being of another person, will not be tolerated.
8. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. All adults are to be respected at all times (*as well as youth*). Any instructions or directions given by adults are to be heeded, whether they are from your local church or not.
9. Any electronic device (*IPOD, DVD player, CD player, Gameboy, etc.*) is **ONLY** allowed during specified time (*i.e. free time*). **NOTE: Explicit material IS subject to confiscation. The district NYI is not responsible for theft or damage.**
10. During district NYI events no participant should leave the designated area, activity, or property without knowledge and permission from a local youth leader and the event coordinator **if necessary** (*i.e. camps, FIRE*). Once an event, activity, or property is left without proper permission remittance may not be granted and fees are subject to forfeiture.
11. Sponsors, counselors, or chaperones that **serve** at any district NYI event must be district licensed (*by the East Tennessee Church of the Nazarene*) or submit 3 written references for approval of the District NYI Executive Council.
 - a. Because we work with young people we must be careful that certain precautions are taken to insure their safety and well being. Final approval for eligibility for any sponsor, counselor, or chaperone is subject to the approval of local pastors, event coordinators and/or District NYI Executive Council.

THESE GUIDELINES ARE TO BE FOLLOWED DURING ALL DISTRICT NYI EVENTS. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE GUIDELINES MAY RESULT IN THE FOLLOWING:

1. Search and Seizure – We reserve the right to search personal property and seize any questionable or non-compliant items with reasonable suspicion. These items, if found, **may not be returned**.
2. Personal counsel.
3. Call to Pastor and/or Guardian.
4. Exclusion (*sent home*) from the remainder of the event at the cost of the participant.
5. Elimination or exclusion from future district events.