

# **PERSONNEL POLICIES**

**FOR**

**SEASONAL STAFF**

**(PAID AND VOLUNTEER)**

**The Colts Youth Organization**

**2300 Twin Valley Drive  
Dubuque, IA 52003**

**Approved by The Colts Board of Directors March 16, 2002**

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*The personnel policies contained herein were adopted by the Board of Directors of the Colts Youth Organization and supersede previous policies.*

*They are intended to provide the basis for reasonable and consistent treatment of staff.*



## HUMAN RESOURCES PHILOSOPHY

### **Policy**

The Board of Directors for the Colts Youth Organization employs an Executive Director who carries the accountability to the Board through the President for the management of the operations of the Colts. The Executive Director is responsible for the hiring, supervision, and release of all operational staff members and for directing their work. Equitable administration and interpretation of personnel policies are the responsibilities of the Executive Director. Staff members are expected to abide by the personnel policies of the Colts Youth Organization.

Staff members of the Colts are employed to contribute managerial and specialist expertise, continuity, and support to the delivery of program to members, primarily through volunteers. The Colts organization is appreciative of the substantial contribution of staff to its well-being and, in turn, seeks to make employment rewarding, both professionally and personally.

The Colts Youth Organization is committed to a work environment in which relationships are characterized by dignity, honesty, courtesy, respect, and equitable treatment, and in which there are opportunities for participation, challenge, broadening experiences, and advancement. The Colts also are committed to a work environment in which employees receive support, recognition, and appreciation for jobs well done. Through the formulation and equitable administration of its personnel policies and practices, the Colts seek to reflect this commitment.

**Implementation** These policies apply to temporary/seasonal employees and volunteers.

Full time and regular part time employees are covered by a separate employed staff employee manual.

## CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYMENT AT WILL

**Policy** Employment is a relationship that exists as long as both the Colts Youth Organization and the employee determine the relationship is in their respective best interests. Employees are free to resign at any time for any reason; however, proper advance notice is requested. Similarly, the Colts Youth Organization is free to determine at any time that continued employment of any employee is not in its best interest and to discharge that employee.

The issuance of this manual and the policies contained herein do not constitute an employment contract. The policies are subject to change at the discretion of the Colts Youth Organization Board of Directors.

(see Separation of Employment)

### BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY AND PROCESS

**Rationale** The Colts Organization relies on volunteers, employees, and independent contractors to support its educational programs. With our need to protect our students, the Colts will complete criminal background checks on these individuals.

**Policy** Each volunteer, employee, and independent contractor who will have regular, direct contact for more than one consecutive 24-hour period, or who intends to sleep in the same general area as the corps membership, and all members of the Colts Board of Directors or any affiliate Boards, shall be subject to a background investigation annually.

**Implementation** Colts shall use an independent entity to process the investigation.

To protect the confidentiality of the volunteer, employees or independent contractor, the information gathered shall be sent to the Executive Director, or reviewed online at OneSource.com.

The Executive Director shall have all rights to reject, allow or limit a volunteer, employee or independent contractor's participation with the Colts organization based on the information obtained from the background investigation.



A volunteer, employee or independent contractor who has had their participation rejected or limited by the Executive Director may appeal the decision to the Board of Directors. As part of the appeal, both parties will be allowed to present their case at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

The Colts organization recognizes that, at times, the screening process cannot be completed before the volunteer, employee or independent contractor is needed. In such cases the screening will still occur and the volunteer, employee or independent contractor will be allowed to participate at the discretion of the Executive Director as described above.

The Colts Organization will encourage all individuals who might be willing to volunteer or contract for a 24-hour period or more to complete the background check form in advance of their volunteerism or work.

Individuals who volunteer or work on an annual basis shall be subject to a background investigation annually.

The Colts organization will keep the background information on file for at least 2 years.

Costs associated with the background check will be borne by the Colts Youth Organization.

**Adverse Action** Subject to extenuating or mitigating circumstances and a Criteria majority vote of the Board of Directors:

A felony conviction of any violent crime, or a misdemeanor conviction for a violent crime within the past 10 years will disqualify an applicant.

Felony or misdemeanor convictions of any sex-based crime will disqualify an applicant.

Felony conviction of any non-violent crime within the past 10 years will generally disqualify an applicant.

Misdemeanor conviction of a non-violent crime within the past 5 years will generally disqualify an applicant.

The Executive Director on a case-by-case basis shall evaluate any reported convictions that fall outside the scope of the categories identified above.

## EMPLOYEE AND VOLUNTEER OBLIGATIONS

**Policy** Employees of the Colts Youth Organization are expected to meet the following obligations of employment:

A member of the Colts staff may not serve concurrently in any capacity with any other drum and bugle corps without written permission from the Colts Executive Director.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

**Policy** A conflict of interest exists when the interests of any staff member or any member of their family or any party, group, or organization in which the staff member is actively involved may be seen as competing with the interests or concerns of the Colts Youth Organization.

Staff members or any member of their family, acting individually, on behalf of any group, organization or business to which they have allegiance or obligation should not utilize their position at the Colts Youth Organization for personal, professional, political, or monetary gain.

Staff members shall not perform for personal gain services for any Colts Board Member, supplier, or customer of the Colts Youth Organization as employee, consultant, or any other capacity, which provides compensation, without full disclosure to the board of directors.

Staff members should not use for personal advantage or for the advantage of any private business or other business organizations confidential information or material acquired in the discharge of their duties (such as rosters, mailing lists, telephone directories, and the like).

Neither staff members nor any member of their family should accept any gift, entertainment, services, loans, or promises of future benefits from any person who personally or whose employer might benefit or appear to benefit because of the staff member's connection to the Colts Youth Organization. Staff members are expected to work out for themselves the most gracious methods of declining gifts and entertainment.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

The Colts Youth Organization expressly reserves and protects its rights to the confidentiality of all its confidential information, including, but not limited to, its employees, schedules, show designs and music, financial information, contracts, agreements, all internal memorandum and this document.

- Only the Executive Director and the President of the Board of Directors are authorized to make information pertaining to the Colts public
- The Executive Director and the Executive Committee will review all breaches of confidentiality
- Breach of this confidentiality will be cause for step #2 of the work standards discipline protocol
- Confidentiality is a condition of employment
- This confidentiality agreement shall be binding and continue for 6 months after termination of employment for any reason

## PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

### **Policy**

Consistent with the Colts' committed to a work environment characterized by dignity, honesty, courtesy, respect, and equitable treatment, the Colts have certain expectations of its staff:

- to dress in appropriate attire for the situation and to maintain a good general appearance at all times
- to maintain the confidentiality of all information (except employment dates) to which a staff member may have access and clarify with the Executive Director the appropriateness of sharing specific information
- to maintain good business etiquette in any interaction on the telephone or in person
- to follow the principle that the workplace is a place for work and refrain from inappropriate activities such as defacing the Colts' property, use of the Colts' resources for unrelated business or personal reasons, and excessive use of the telephone or other resources for personal reasons

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

### **Policy**

The Colts prohibit the use of alcoholic beverages by on-duty personnel and volunteers. All on-duty personnel and volunteers will be clearly identified.

All drivers of Colts vehicles will follow Department of Transportation requirements as written in section 382 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

The Colts expect that discretion be used in the use of alcoholic beverages during off-duty hours.

The Colts strictly prohibit possession of, or use of, illegal drugs at any time.

**Implementation** Violation of the Colts' policy regarding substance abuse will result in immediate disciplinary action up to and including immediate termination of employment without notice.

The Colts may make reasonable accommodations to the needs of any employee who is participating in or has successfully completed a supervised drug rehabilitation or alcoholism recovery program and is no longer engaging in the illegal use/abuse of drugs or abuse of alcohol. Nevertheless, any employee for whom such an accommodation is made is expected at all times to continue to satisfy the job requirements.

The Executive Director or designee is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this policy.

## ABSENTEEISM/LATENESS

**Policy** The efficient operation of the Colts requires punctual and regular attendance for all scheduled work hours. The Colts therefore expect all employees to report to work on time when scheduled.

**Implementation** If, for any reason, an employee is prevented from reporting to work on any scheduled workday or is unable to report to work on time, the employee must notify their supervisor as soon as possible prior to the start of the employee's scheduled work hours. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination, depending on the circumstances. In the event of an absence of more than one day, the employee must notify their supervisor at the beginning of each day of absence unless the employee's supervisor expressly allows less frequent notification.

Ordinarily, any loss of time by non-exempt employees due to lateness or absence results in loss of pay for the time not worked, unless the period of absence is covered under one of the Colts' paid leave policies. Lateness or absence will be excused without charge to paid leave or loss of pay only in unusual circumstances at the supervisor's discretion with the concurrence of the Executive Director. Loss of time for less than a day by exempt employees will not result in loss of pay. Loss of time in excess of one day for exempt employees may result in loss of pay unless covered by one of the Colts paid leave policies.

When employees are unable to report for work, they are to notify their supervisor by telephone as soon as possible (within 30 minutes of starting time). If the supervisor is unavailable, the next level of management should be called. Depending upon circumstances, an employee who fails to report in will be considered as having resigned from their position.

In the event of a period of absence due to illness or injury, a physician's statement is required for an absence of more than five consecutive days or, at the discretion of the supervisor, when an accumulation of absences seems to establish a pattern or show an abuse of sick leave. This statement must describe the nature of the illness or injury and its anticipated duration. Upon the employee's return to work, a separate physician's statement is required, authorizing the employee's return to work. The Colts may request appropriate verification of the circumstances surrounding any use of paid sick leave and may require an employee to be examined by a medical professional of its own choosing.

Attendance and lateness are considered in the evaluation of job performance. Excessive or habitual instances of absenteeism and/or lateness will result in progressive disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

## EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### EMPLOYMENT

#### **Policy**

The Colts will employ qualified individuals to fill job vacancies on the basis of their experience, ability, and aptitude. Whenever possible, vacancies will be filled from within the Colts by promotion or transfer of qualified staff members.

When a candidate is identified and references are checked for hire, the proposed salary is forwarded to the Executive Director. The Executive Director will review and approve all salary offers to ensure that internal equity is maintained.

All offers of employment to successful candidates can only be tendered by the Executive Director.

### EEO/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

#### **Policy**

There shall be no discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship, age, disability, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or marital status.

In addition, to ensure full equality of opportunity in all operations and activities of the Colts, every staff member employed in the Colts shall be selected under fair employment procedures that provide equal employment opportunities to all people. There shall be special effort to make reasonable accommodations for physical and mental limitations of employees and applicants consistent with performance of essential job functions and the effective operations of the business.

## ACCESS TO PERSONNEL RECORDS

**Policy** Current staff members have access to their employee record file. They also have the right of prior consent regarding information released to external sources, except for release of information required by law.

**Implementation** Current staff members are permitted to review their employment records with the following general exceptions:

- reference information obtained with the promise of confidentiality;
- information that would violate the privacy of others if released.

Supervisory staff may have access to personnel files for only those employees under their direct supervision.

Requests for records of an employee being considered for promotion or transfer are made available, in whole or in part, at the discretion of the Executive Director.

Requests to review employee record files should be made in writing, in advance, to the Executive Director, who will schedule an appropriate time. Employee records may not be removed from the file, nor may documents be added, except by authorized staff.

If after review of a record, copies of documents are required, assigned staff will make appropriate copies.

## FORMAL PROBLEM RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

**Policy** The Colts maintains an open door policy regarding employee concerns. Most complaints and concerns can be resolved when they are brought to the attention of the employee through informal, supervisory conferences and communications. When an employee and their immediate supervisor are unable to resolve a concern through informal efforts, the formal

problem resolution procedure may be initiated by the employee without fear of jeopardizing their employment status. Once initiated the procedure may be terminated at any time by the employee.

**Implementation** All regular employees will have access to the formal problem resolution procedure. The number of steps in the procedure available to an employee depends upon their position within the Colts structure. Staff members reporting directly to the Executive Director will have a two-step process.

Since the Executive Director serves at the pleasure of the board, this procedure is inapplicable to such position.

**Step 1 (For all staff).** The employee sends a written statement to their supervisor immediately after the occurrence of the event giving rise to the complaint. As soon as possible, the supervisor will meet with the employee to discuss the employee's concerns. The supervisor will send a written response to the employee as soon as possible following the meeting with an explanation of the decision.

If the employee does not receive a response or if the employee is not satisfied, the employee may proceed to Step 2.

**Step 2A (For staff who do not report directly to the Executive Director).** As soon as possible after receiving the response to Step 1 or failing to receive a response in a timely manner, the employee will send a written notice to the Executive Director. The notice will indicate the employee's desire to continue the problem resolution procedure and must include documentation from prior applicable steps. As soon as possible, following receipt, the Executive Director will meet with the employee and the immediate supervisor. Further review of the facts may be undertaken to resolve the complaint or concern. A written decision will be provided to the employee as soon as possible after the meeting. No further appeal will be available.

Reliance upon the formal problem resolution procedure does not prevent an employee from seeking to resolve the problem by more informal means at any time during the formal procedure.

**Step 2B (For employees who report directly to the Executive Director).** As soon as possible after receiving the response to Step 1 or failing to receive a response in a timely manner, the employee will send a written notice to the President of the Board of Directors. The notice will indicate the employee's desire to continue the problem resolution



procedure and must include documentation from prior applicable steps.

The next step involves an appeal to the Colts Board of Directors Executive Committee. The employee, the Executive Director, and the Colts Board of Directors Executive Committee will meet as soon as possible. Further review of the facts may be undertaken to resolve the grievance.

The President of the Board of Directors will provide a written decision and inform the employee and the Executive Director of the decision.

No further appeal will be available.

Reliance upon the formal problem resolution procedure does not prevent an employee from seeking to resolve the problem by more informal means at any time during the formal procedure.

## DISCIPLINARY PROTOCOL

### **Policy**

All employees are expected to meet the Colts' standards of work performance, cooperation, punctuality, attendance, and personal conduct and to follow the policies and procedures of the Colts.

When work performance does not meet the Colts' standards, employees will be given a reasonable opportunity, appropriate to the circumstances, to correct the problem. However, in certain grievous instances immediate termination of employment may occur.

### REASONS FOR INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION

The Colts will initiate the release of an employee only after full consideration and documentation of all factors involved. The Colts will use a progressive discipline protocol whenever possible.

Reasons for the Colts to initiate disciplinary protocol will usually fall into one or more of the following categories (this list is not all-inclusive):

- unsatisfactory work performance
- failure to satisfy the conditions of employment
- unsatisfactory or habitual absence or lateness
- violation of the Colts personnel policies
- failure to perform the essential duties of a position

### **Implementation**

If work performance, behavior, attendance, and/or productivity of an employee fall below the appropriate work standards, the employee should normally receive sufficient time to correct and sustain work performance.

Progressive discipline ensures the employee is advised of the problematic performance or behavior and is given sufficient time for correction. At each stage of the process, the supervisor should:

- identify the problematic behavior or performance;
- inform the employee of performance expectations;
- inform the employee of the consequences of not correcting performance deficiencies, i.e., further discipline.

The progressive disciplinary process is as follows. However, depending upon the seriousness of the offense, discipline up to and including immediate termination may be initiated at any appropriate step.

### **Step 1. Verbal Counseling**

When a performance problem is first identified, or inappropriate behavior is displayed, it should be brought to the attention of the employee as soon as possible. Informal discussion between the supervisor and the employee is often sufficient to prompt voluntary corrective action on their part.

The supervisor must make and retain for the employee's personal files a record of this interview that summarizes the issues discussed and the date of the meeting.

### **Step 2. Written Warning**

If informal discussion with the employee does not result in corrective action, the Executive Director will prepare a written warning. This formal memorandum highlights the prior counseling session and the subsequent work performance problem(s) leading to this warning.

This written warning on work performance should be addressed to the employee with copies to the President of the Board of Directors. It should include all of the information required by the progressive disciplinary process, as outlined in the work standards. This written warning will be signed by the employee and the Executive Director and placed in the employee's permanent file.

### **Step 3. Suspension/Probation**

Like step #2, this step consists of a written document that details the conflict or infraction and resolution expected by the Colts. It also contains a statement that continuation of the disputed behavior or actions is grounds for dismissal. This document is to be presented to the employee in a formal meeting with the Executive Director and either the President of the Board of Directors or designee.

At this step, an up to 3 day suspension without pay may be imposed, followed by a probationary period. Further infractions during this probationary period are grounds for immediate dismissal. This written warning and suspension are to be documented and signed by the employee and placed in the employee's permanent file.

#### **Step 4. Termination**

If the employee's work performance continues to deteriorate or an acceptable performance level is not achieved, the Executive Director, or a personnel committee if such exists, shall prepare and deliver to the employee a memorandum summarizing all previous corrective actions and the specific problem(s) that warranted the termination action.

Immediately after any disciplinary action, the Executive Director and/or the President of the Board of Directors is to document the proceedings, clearly identify the level of discipline invoked and place the documentation into the employee's personnel record. The Executive Director is to inform the personnel committee chair or the President of the Board of Directors of the reason for the disciplinary action as soon as possible.

Note – This protocol does not apply to infractions that are defined in this document as "Immediate Dismissal without Notice."

## **IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL WITHOUT NOTICE**

Certain types of misconduct may be so serious as to subject employees to immediate dismissal without notice. The following are examples of such types of misconduct (this list is not all-inclusive):

- possession or use of illegal drugs while participating with the Colts in any setting
- illegal possession of a weapon while participating with the Colts in any setting.
- violation of the Colts Child Abuse Policy
- violation of the Colts Harassment and Related Misconduct or Sexual Harassment/Misconduct policies
- discrimination against anyone associated with the Colts because of race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship, age, disability, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or marital status
- willful damage to the Colts' property or the personal property of another staff member
- threatening, intimidating, or coercing anyone involved in any capacity with the Colts
- insubordination or refusal to perform duties assigned

- unauthorized possession or use of intoxicants
- being unable to perform because of being under the influence of intoxicants while on the job
- theft, pilfering, fraud, or other forms of dishonesty, including falsifying the Colts' records such as those pertaining to time, attendance, or finances
- gross negligence of duty
- absence without cause or without authorization
- failure to comply with the absenteeism/lateness policy
- disorderly conduct or fighting while representing the Colts
- malicious gossip or derogatory attacks concerning anyone associated with the Colts
- fraudulent statements on an employment application
- soliciting or accepting gratuities
- other forms of immoral, unethical, or grossly improper conduct whether during working hours or non-working hours if it may materially affect the reputation and integrity of the Colts.

## SEPARATION OF EMPLOYMENT

### Policy

Separation of employment may be initiated by either the Colts or the employee at any time. Separations initiated by the Colts are classified as involuntary terminations and separations initiated by the employee are classified as voluntary. Except for termination for cause, advance notification is appropriate for both Colts and staff-initiated separations.

Notification periods for both Colts and staff-initiated separations are:

Executive Director	eight weeks
Exempt staff	six weeks
Non-exempt staff	four weeks
Hourly staff	two weeks
Seasonal staff	one week
All staff members separated during probation	one week

### Implementation

The Executive Director will record the reason for termination and the length of notice given at the time of separation. Employees who fail to give proper notification at separation will be ineligible for rehire.

Staff members who wish to terminate their employment must submit written notification to the Executive Director in accordance with the prescribed notification periods above.

Employees who voluntarily resign their employment are not eligible to receive severance pay. An employee may continue to work during the notification period.



## COMPENSATION

### **Policy**

It is the policy of the Colts Youth Organization to provide a sound compensation program that will assist in attracting, motivating, and retaining qualified staff.

### **Implementation**

The Colts ensures the achievement of its compensation objectives through the processes indicated below:

The Colts will establish a salary program that assigns each position to a particular salary range that is representative of prevailing rates in the marketplace.

The Colts' salary policy will be reviewed and approved by the Colts Board of Directors periodically, upon recommendation of a personnel committee or other work group duly appointed by the Colts Board of Directors.

In addition to the Colts' periodic adjustment of salary ranges resulting from prevailing salary studies and other influential considerations, the Colts are committed to the principle of compensatory recognition of employees who demonstrate meritorious performance in the achievement of Colts goals.

This is accomplished through an annual Appraisal System. All employees receive written performance reviews on an annual basis, except new employees. New employees receive written performance reviews at the end of their probationary period (six months from their date of employment). All appraisals will be done annually between September 1 and October 15 and will be placed in the employee's permanent file.

The Executive Director shall perform the annual Appraisal for all regular and seasonal employees and the President of the Board of Directors will perform the annual Appraisal of the Executive Director. The annual Appraisal of the Executive Director will include formal and informal input from varied facets of the organization.

Merit increases in pay are based on the achievement of performance goals and standards in relation to the accountabilities of the position description and the organization's objectives. Merit increase guidelines will be determined by the Colts Board of Directors and will provide a range of selection as to percentage increase based on performance reviews and relative to the employee's salary range.

## PERSONAL CONDUCT

The Colts Youth Organization is committed to an environment in which relationships are characterized by dignity, honesty, courtesy, respect, and equitable treatment. This includes a commitment to create and maintain a positive organizational culture and climate which:

- is welcoming of difference and diversity and is based on inclusivity;
- encourages members, staff, and volunteers to disclose and discuss incidents of bullying or harassment in a non-threatening environment
- promotes respectful relationships across the entire organization; and
- is free from any form or threat of harassment.

### HARASSMENT AND RELATED MISCONDUCT

**Rationale** Harassment is incompatible with the values, traditions, and purposes of the Colts Youth Organization.

**Policy** The Colts expressly prohibit harassment of any kind under any and all circumstances. Harassment includes but is not limited to the following types of related misconduct:

- abuse
- bullying
- hazing
- hostility
- sexual harassment

All people involved with the Colts including staff, volunteers, and members are responsible for helping to avoid and eliminate harassment and misconduct.

The Colts will exclude from affiliation with, or dismiss from the Colts, any volunteer or staff member whose name currently appears on any public offender registry.

### Definitions

Abuse

An act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm or which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation. Neglect is a form of abuse and includes, but is not limited to, failure to provide adequate safety measures, care, and supervision.

The Colts Youth Organization [Child Abuse Policy](#) contains additional, specific guidance related to abuse of members under the age of 18.

Bullying

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior, whether threatened or real, towards or against any individual or group, particularly involving a real or perceived imbalance of power. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying may be verbal, social, or physical in nature and includes actions, words, gestures, symbols, or intimidation of any kind. It is designed to intimidate, embarrass, coerce, or shame an individual or group.

Harassment

Any unwanted and uninvited conduct which creates an unpleasant or hostile environment. Harassment may include, but is not limited to conduct, comments, or display that is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, demeaning, belittling, malicious, degrading or otherwise causes offense, injury or potential injury, discomfort, personal humiliation or embarrassment to a person or group of persons.

Hazing

Any conduct that subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

Hostility

Hostility includes, but is not limited to physical violence, intimidation, stalking, coercion, threats, and talking or joking about hostility whether in person, verbal, or through other written or electronic communication.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and it includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such is made either directly or indirectly a term or condition of employment or participation;
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment or participation decisions which affects an employee, volunteer or member;
- Such conduct has the purpose or the effect of unreasonably interfering with an employee's, volunteer's or member's routine performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or learning environment.

**Implementation**

Any person who feels they have been the victim of or a witness to harassment or misconduct, by anyone within the organization, or who becomes aware of any incident that is or may be a violation of this policy, must promptly report the alleged incident to either the Tour Director, Corps Director, Executive Director, or the President of the Board of Directors. Reports may also be sent to [whistleblower@colts.org](mailto:whistleblower@colts.org) or submitted anonymously using the [Colts Whistleblower form](#) online.

The Corps Director, Executive Director, and/or President, as appropriate, will ensure that a prompt review of the circumstances occurs and that appropriate measures are taken to resolve or correct the situation in an expeditious manner.

If a person is determined to have violated this policy, immediate and appropriate action will be taken, up to and including termination of employment, dismissal, and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities, as needed.

Failure to report, supervisory inaction, or retaliation against anyone who has reported a possible or actual violation of this policy may be cause for action up to and including termination of employment or dismissal from the Colts organization.

## CHILD ABUSE POLICY

**Rationale** Child abuse and neglect are unlawful acts. The Colts Youth Organization is committed to an environment that is free of child abuse and neglect.

**Policy** The Colts expressly prohibit child abuse or neglect of any kind.

The Colts will exclude from affiliation with, or dismiss from the Colts, any volunteer or staff member who has been the subject of a confirmed incident of child abuse or neglect. The Colts Youth Organization, at the discretion of the Executive Director, reserves the right to restrict participation, exclude from affiliation with, or dismiss from the Colts any individuals suspected of abuse.

**Definition** The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), amended by the CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010, defines child abuse and neglect as, at a minimum:

- Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation; or
- An act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

Further, the term sexual abuse includes:

- the employment, use, persuasion, inducement, enticement, or coercion of any child to engage in, or assist any other person to engage in, any sexually explicit conduct or simulation of such conduct for the purpose of producing a visual depiction of such conduct; or

- the rape, and in cases of caretaker or inter-familial relationships, statutory rape, molestation, prostitution, or other form of sexual exploitation of children, or incest with children

The Colts Youth Organization defines a “child” as any person under the age of 18.

**Implementation** Possible child abuse will be reported to either the Tour Director, Corps Director, Executive Director, or the President of the Board of Directors. Reports may also be sent to [whistleblower@colts.org](mailto:whistleblower@colts.org) or submitted anonymously using the [Colts Whistleblower form](#) online.

The Corps Director, Executive Director, and/or President, as appropriate, will ensure that a prompt review of the circumstances occurs and that appropriate measures are taken to resolve or correct the situation in an expeditious manner.

If a person is determined to have violated this policy, immediate and appropriate action will be taken, up to and including termination of employment or dismissal from the organization. The incident will be reported to law enforcement authorities and/or the Department of Child Services in the jurisdiction where the incident occurred.

Failure to report, supervisory inaction, or retaliation against anyone who has reported a possible or actual violation of this policy may be cause for action up to and including termination of employment or dismissal from the Colts organization.

## STAFF AND MEMBER RELATIONS

**Rationale:** Staff and volunteers should be aware that their position of authority can and may create an inappropriate and unbalanced relationship in personal interaction with members.

**Policy:** The Colts expressly prohibit inappropriate relationships between staff or volunteers and members.

**Implementation:** If a staff member or volunteer becomes involved in an inappropriate relationship with a corps member, they will be dismissed immediately.



# CERTIFICATION FOR 2023

By my signature below, I hereby certify that I have received a copy of the Personnel Policies for Seasonal Staff for the Colts Youth Organization (as adopted by the Board of Directors in March 2002 and amended September 2007, May 2017, and April 2018).

I agree to familiarize myself with the contents of this manual and to comply with all policies and procedures as set forth.

I understand that this manual does not constitute or imply a contract of employment.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_