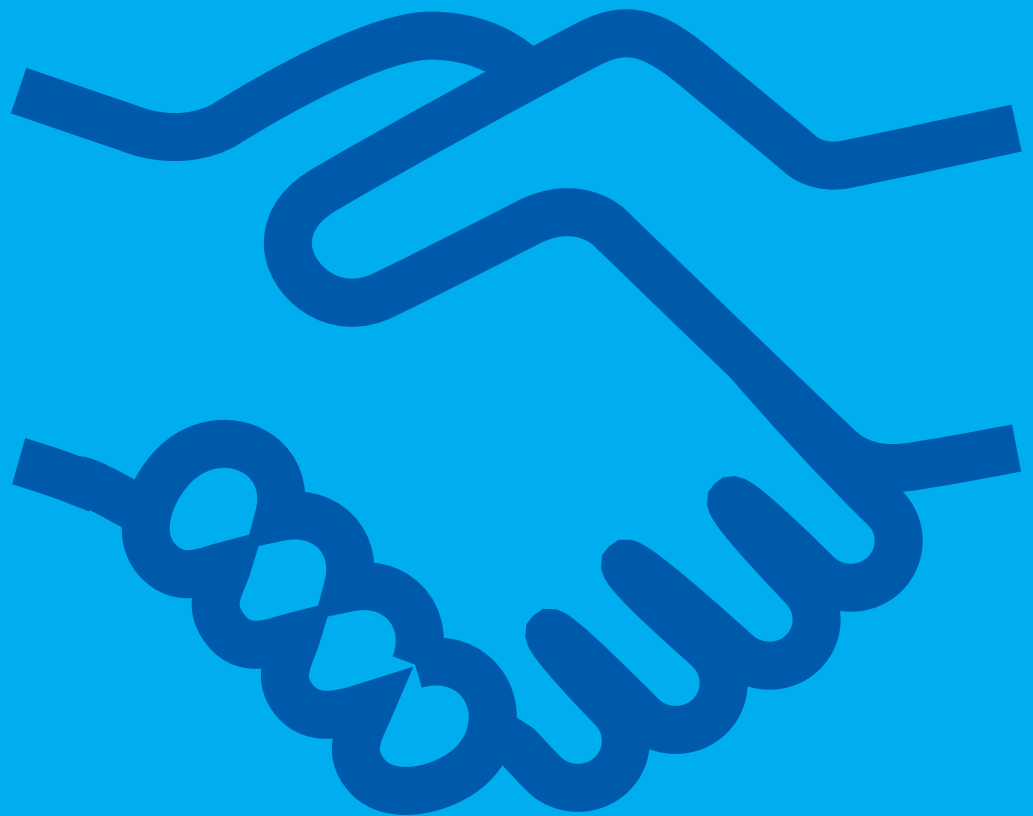


Tool: Dos and don'ts for setting group rules, and sample rules



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Do



Include all adolescents

- ✓ Remind adolescents to develop rules that ensure that all adolescents have a chance to participate and benefit equally from activities; Remind them to consider identity issues such as ethnicity, gender, religion and language

- ✓ Encourage adolescents to discuss how they will welcome new members to the Circle



Reach out to adolescents

- ✓ Prompt adolescents to consider how some actions or practices could make their Circles less welcoming to some adolescents than others – For example, opening a session with a prayer or recitation from one religious faith may make adolescents from other religions, or those who do not practice a religion, feel less welcome; and -playing a physical game without adaptation might make adolescents with a mobility-related disability feel less welcome

Don't

- ✗ Agree to a rule that will allow adolescents to insult, dominate or bully anyone, or exclude other adolescents (including members of the Circle and

Sample rules for new Circles: Starting Our Circle or Knowing Ourselves

In our Circle we always:

- ▶ Try to come on time and stay for the whole session
- ▶ Try to pay attention and participate in activities
- ▶ Help anyone who arrives late to participate
- ▶ Speak one at a time, and listen actively when someone else is speaking
- ▶ Use body language and words to show kindness and respect, especially when someone is sharing ideas, a project, a performance, or anything else
- ▶ Encourage each other to try new things, especially things we aren't good at yet
- ▶ Talk and do activities with everyone in the Circle, even people we don't know or who are different from us
- ▶ Have the right not to speak or not to do something if we don't want to
- ▶ Talk with the Circle (if we feel comfortable) or the facilitator (if we need more support) if there is something that we don't like about our time in the Circle, and try to think of ways to make it better

In our Circle we never:

- ▶ Interrupt or distract each other from the activities
- ▶ Interrupt someone who is speaking, or keep others from speaking by talking too long
- ▶ Use body language or words that are insulting, disrespectful or mean, especially when someone is sharing ideas, something they made, or a performance
- ▶ Discourage each other from trying something new or practicing something they aren't good at yet
- ▶ Refuse to work with someone else in our Circle or act as if we don't want to work with them

Tool: Dos and don'ts for setting group rules, and sample rules

Sample rules for advanced Circles: Connecting or Taking Action

In our Circle we always:

- ▶ Come to every session if possible – When we can't come to a session we let others in the Circle know why we aren't there, and that they can still work on activities and projects without us. Try to pay attention and participate in activities
- ▶ Participate actively and positively in our activities and projects
- ▶ Share our ideas and opinions openly and respectfully
- ▶ Support and encourage others to share their ideas openly and respectfully
- ▶ Are willing to work on different kinds of projects and activities, including things that are not our own idea and/or tasks that we don't like – We take turns with different types of roles and tasks
- ▶ Speak and behave in ways that are kind, respectful and encouraging to everyone in the Circle
- ▶ Work together and try to find a solution if we disagree or have different ideas

- ▶ Speak with each other if something is bothering us, and try to find a solution – If we are not comfortable speaking with the whole group, we talk with the facilitator in private
- ▶ Keep private or personal things about other Circle members confidential, especially if they or the facilitator asks us to
- ▶ Plan, work together and choose project ideas in a fair and equal way that reflects and includes everyone's ideas

In our Circle we never:

- ▶ Speak or behave in a way that is unkind, disrespectful, discouraging or unwelcoming to anyone
- ▶ Share anything we learn or hear about another Circle member with other people outside the Circle if it is private or personal, especially if they or the facilitator asks us to respect their confidentiality
- ▶ Keep silent about our feelings if there is something happening in our Circle that we do not like or agree with