

## Youth Protection Policy for Euroventure

The International Baptist Convention is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of youth and expects all adults at camp to share this commitment and understand that the child's welfare is our primary concern. Any child at camp should feel safe and protected from any form of abuse which, in this policy, means any kind of neglect, non-accidental physical injury, sexual exploitation or emotional ill-treatment. At Euroventure, we care about the protection of all campers and leaders, and we wish to provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment that promotes the spiritual development of each child.

For the protection of everyone, we have adopted the following policy in order to safeguard youth while at camp. For the purpose of clarification, a "camper" is a registered participant between the ages of 12-18. A "leader" is a registered adult aged 19 or older. The Euroventure team and leaders will take all reasonable measures to protect each camper.

### **Mandatory Reading of this Document**

During the registration process, all leaders must check the box that they have read and agree to these standards.

### **Pre-camp Training**

All leaders must attend a pre-camp training online meeting, which includes training on the protection of all campers during the week of Euroventure. Several meeting options are given, and leaders must attend at least one meeting.

### **Reference Letters and Background Checks**

Due to the nature of an international camp, where campers and leaders come from many different countries, each of which has their own standard of police certificates and background checks, we require that all leaders provide a reference letter from the pastor of their sending church. For those leaders who are part of the U.S. college team which comes on a yearly basis, both a reference check and background check are mandatory, which is handled by our U.S. team coordinator.

### **2:1 Ratio**

In order to protect the campers that come to Euroventure, we have a zero-tolerance policy for campers to be alone with adult leaders. We expect leaders to obey the following policy: The ratio of leader to camper can never be 1:1 in a private environment.

- If a leader takes a group of campers out of camp for choice recreation time, the group must always consist of more than 1 camper.
- If a camper needs to speak about something personal, we will respect the right to audio privacy but not visual privacy; therefore, the camper and leader must speak in an area where they are seen and not heard.
- Campers that need to be escorted back to camp property from the meeting area should be escorted back to camp with two adults.
- Campers and medical personnel in a 1:1 ratio may not be together in a closed room.



### **Safety of Campers while outside Camp Grounds**

As camp is located in the Swiss Alps in a picturesque tourist village, it is desired that campers and leaders should be allowed outside of camp grounds to enjoy the local surroundings. During specified times, campers are permitted to leave camp with leaders accompanying them to various activities. To facilitate this process, campers and leaders sign out of camp detailing where they will be going, and upon return, campers and leaders must sign in again. No camper is permitted to be outside camp grounds without a leader. For those hiking in the mountains, the leader will notify the camp about the route they are taking and will stick to this plan. It is required that at least one adult going hiking has a working mobile telephone.

Because our morning and evening gatherings are outside of the camp grounds where we are staying, there is a need during these times to leave the camp grounds and walk to our meeting area. Campers and leaders should travel together during these times and respect the 2:1 ratio as mentioned above. Please note, these rules apply at all times during camp.

### **Medical Personnel at Camp**

The Euroventure Team provides a camp nurse during the week. The camp nurse is there to help with basic illnesses and other needs on a first-aid basis only. For serious illness or medical emergencies, campers and leaders will be sent to local doctors and hospitals for care.

### **Reporting of Abuse or Suspected Abuse**

All abuse reports will be taken seriously. It may also be the case that at camp, campers may report past abuse (meaning not occurring at camp). When a leader learns of alleged or suspected abuse, the leader will fill out a form detailing what has been spoken or witnessed. This form will then go to the Camp Director, who will in turn pass this on to the Euroventure Team, who will all read and discuss the next steps that need to be taken. On the form, the team will then fill out the action steps that have been taken. This form will then be sent to the General Secretary of the IBC for their review and advice.

### **Camp Director and Euroventure Team**

The authority of the camp rests upon the Camp Director and the Euroventure Team during the week of camp. Any leaders or campers that have questions or need help or assistance during the week should approach one of the team members. Any disputes between campers or between leaders shall be mediated by the Euroventure Team, as needed.

For further questions and clarification, please write to [youthteam@ibc-churches.org](mailto:youthteam@ibc-churches.org).

