

The Tahoe Trampers is a voluntary recreational hiking and social group. To participate as a Trampler in good standing, each member must observe the following for your safety and enjoyment.

Tahoe Trampers Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Complete and maintain a release of liability acknowledgement.
2. Pay annual household dues.
3. Observe the following trail etiquette:
 - a. Hike between the hike leader and sweep.
 - b. Yield the right-of-way to uphill hikers and bikers, step to the downhill side of the trail if possible.
 - c. Leave it there - removal of plants, historical or geological items is unethical and almost always illegal.
 - d. Take it with you - pack out everything.
 - e. Use cell phones for business and emergency calls only - step off the trail.
4. Match your hiking abilities with your hike choice - choose wisely. Choose moderate or strenuous hikes only if you are capable of successfully accomplishing the hike.
5. Support and follow the hike leader's guidelines - Trampler hikes are a group rather than an individual activity. Note that the hike leader has the final say about how the hike proceeds. Stay with and keep in sight of the rest of the group. If you fall behind, blow your whistle.
6. Keep a copy of the hike leader's mobile number with you in case of an emergency. Mobile numbers for all hike leaders are provided each year at the beginning of the season. Additionally, the weekly hike form lists the mobile numbers for the leaders of that week.
7. To limit the size of our hiking groups, we do not encourage members to invite guests. With prior notification to the hike leader, out-of-town house guests (who live 50 or more miles distant from the greater Lake Tahoe area) and family house guests may infrequently be invited to join our hikes. All guests must provide a signed guest liability waiver on or before the day of the hike.
8. A weekly email is distributed to all Trampers and available at our website, www.tahoetrampers.com, providing the details for that week's hikes, difficulty, meeting times, etc. All hikers should assemble 10-15 minutes prior to departure time for hikes and carpool assignments at Preston Field in Incline Village. At the end of the hike, keep car pools intact, unless you make alternative arrangements with the hike leader in advance.
9. Contact hike leaders in advance with specific hike questions. Trampers not gathering in Incline Village but meeting at the trailhead should advise the hike leader of their plans before the day of the hike.
10. Hike leaders will split large groups (over 12) into two waves, assuming there are adequate leaders available.
11. Dedicate the day to hiking - please, no afternoon appointments. Hikes are typically followed by a tailgate gathering. If a scheduling conflict is unavoidable, please choose a hike that meets your timing needs. Note: a weekly hike email is sent to all Trampers explaining the location, difficulty and duration of all hikes.

12. If you must stop or turn around for any reason, please contact the hike leader. They will assign someone to either stay with you or return with you. No one is allowed to return on their own.
13. Be responsible for your own safety. Carry adequate water, food, first aid, medications, an "In Case of Emergency" form and whistle in your backpack. The hike leader is not responsible for each Trampler's safety.
14. No food or trash left on the trails. No dogs, alcohol, or tobacco products during a hike.

Tahoe Trampler Policies:

1. The club's membership is limited to 170 "Households." A household includes up to two people living at the same address, typically member spouses or members and their significant other. Memberships are not transferrable.
2. New members will be admitted each year on a first applied, first admitted basis when the membership drops below 170.
3. New members must be residents of North Lake Tahoe (Incline Village to Tahoe City) or Truckee. There is no residence requirement for existing members.
4. Because of the club's limited size, guests are not invited to our dinner parties, picnics or on our overnight trips.
5. The Tahoe Trampler Roster is confidential and may be used for Trampler business purposes only.
6. Club email distributions to the Trampler membership are restricted to Trampler specific matters and are at the discretion of the club's President.
7. We encourage each household to participate in a minimum of six (6) hikes per season barring injury or illness.

Hike Leader Duties and Responsibilities:

Tahoe Trampler hike leaders are critical to the success and enjoyment of our hikes. We typically conduct over 70 hikes a season. We also ask for two hike leaders per hike to provide backup and sweep support. To keep the size of our weekly hikes small and to limit the number of hikes each leader needs to lead, we encourage every member to consider leading a few hikes a year. The duties of hike leaders include the following:

1. Coordinate pre-hike announcements and planning.
2. Organize and document car pools.
3. Prepare directions to the trailhead.
4. Full knowledge of the trail—this usually requires scouting the planned hike a week or two prior to the Trampler hike.
5. Leadership on the trail – hike pace, water breaks, picnic sites, etc. Provide leader's mobile number and appoint a sweep. Note: Hike leader has the final say on all matters concerning the hike.
6. Safety leadership - While each Trampler is responsible for his/her own safety, the hike leader should emphasize hike safety, consider carrying a comprehensive first aid kit and consider updating his/her first aid skills.

7. If for some reason a hiker needs to stop or return, the hike leader will assign someone to stay with or return with that person. No hiker is to be left or return alone.
8. Complete the hike leader's report including mileage, elevation gain, number of participants and unusual trail conditions.
9. Contribute to hike schedule planning and new hike/activity proposals.
10. In the event a person who previously agreed to lead a hike finds he/she cannot do it, that hike leader should make every effort to secure a substitute hike leader.