**Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Department**

**Junior Member Program**

The Junior Member Program will provide participants with the opportunity to learn about the operations within our fire company. However, applicants and junior members must be aware of the following:

**1.** The minimum age for participation is 16 and shall go up to the age of 18. On the Junior Member’s 18th birthday the Junior Firefighter will automatically become a full member.

**2.** The candidate shall, complete a standard fire company membership application, read, and follow this Junior Member Program . The candidate shall also have parental or guardian permission to participate. The parent or guardian shall sign this junior Firefighter Program form giving permission for participation and the candidate shall also sign and submit it with the regular application for membership.

**3**. Junior Members need not live in the Rhinecliff Fire District.

**4**. The membership of a Junior Member shall continue until the member’s 18th birthday unless the parent or guardian of the Junior Member terminates the membership. If a parent or guardian terminates the participation of the Junior Member, then their membership shall immediately end. **(Fire Dept. Regular Member probation period will be waived if approved by the chief officers following successful completion of the program)**

**5**. This program shall be periodically reviewed to remain current with any applicable rules or laws. This program shall also be approved by the board of fire commissioners.

**6**. All activities of Junior Members in this program shall be approved in advance by the Fire chief or his designee. **No activities may include emergency duties in connection** w**ith fire company operations or other hazardous activity**:

* Junior firefighters can respond to emergency calls for service
* **Junior Firefighters will not be authorized to use any emergency lights (Blue lights) when responding to Emergency scenes or to the fire station any time for calls for service**
* Junior firefighters are not authorized to use any type of power equipment which includes, Jaws of Life, saws, drills, generators, leaf blowers, portable air bags and any other type of equipment that uses any type of gas or electrical power source.
* Junior firefighters are only authorized to use SCBA’s when participating in Fire Company drills, overseen by SCBA qualified members.
* Junior firefighters are authorized to use SCBA’s when participating in Interior Firefighting training (Firefighter 1) and only after completing the required Fire Department physical and SCBA Fit test.
* Junior firefighters may **NOT** wear SCBA’s on any Fire Department Emergency call.
* Junior firefighters must wear full PPE at all times unless specified otherwise by any line officer , chief officer or incident commander when at emergency scenes and fire company drills
* Junior firefighters must always check in with the Officer in charge or senior member in charge at all emergency calls and drills and must be given direction to what he/she can do.
* Junior Firefighters can respond in fire department apparatus, but must give way to senior or certified members for room on the trucks.
* Junior Firefighters **must** display at all times on emergency calls and drills Junior firefighter identification

**7**. Junior Members may participate in non-hazardous drills.

**8.** Participants in this program shall not be eligible for any benefit provided by the Volunteer fireman’s benefit law.

**Guardian signature;**

By signing this Junior Membership Program form I affirm that I have read, and understand, its content and that I, as the applicant’s guardian, do give my permission for my child to participate in this program. I also acknowledge that I may terminate my child’s Junior membership for any reason and that the membership shall immediately end.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant signature;**

I acknowledge that I have read and understand this Junior Member’s limitations and expectations.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (rev 3/21)