



**West Houston Chapters  
Quick Fact Sheet  
Friendswood, Katy, Memorial**

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DISTRIBUTE.**

**Annual Year**

January - December

Membership is official upon receipt of the Annual Dues by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Late Annual Dues are accepted, with a late fee of \$25, until February 29<sup>th</sup>.

Membership is closed to returning members March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Class Meeting Schedule:**

Jan/Feb

April/May

June or July

Sept/Oct

**All Hands on Deck Meeting Schedule:**

April

August – City Wide

November

**No Meetings**

July, December

*Boys - Please remember to wear your ACL t-shirt/polo when you are performing your community service as you are representing ACL.*

**Membership**

ACL's culture is to be "all inclusive" and members are accepting on a first responder's basis. Membership is official upon receipt of the annual dues each year.

Class Membership is closed to new members at the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade, or when the Class reaches 50 boys, whichever comes first. The Class membership is "locked" for the duration of high school.

*Note: This ACL policy was created by the Class of 2010 Officers.*

**Annual requirements:**

**Boys:**

1. Attend a minimum of 4 of the 7 Class meetings each year.
2. Attend 3 "All Hands on Deck" meetings. (April, August and November)

3. 15 hours community service - through ACL approved charities and activities.

**Moms:**

1. Attend the 3 "All Hands on Deck" meetings
2. 6 hours community service - through ACL approved charities and activities.

**ACL Graduation Requirements:**

Prior to rejoining the member's final year in ACL, a review of the annual requirements over the entire time of membership is performed, to identify if there is a "good faith effort" to honor the annual membership requirements above. Those that qualify to graduate through are invited to rejoin their final year and will receive an ACL Recommendation Letter.

Those that fail to honor the annual requirements are not able to rejoin their final year, but can request a "Verification of Service Hours" letter.

**Community Service:**

An ACL Charity Ambassador will post volunteer opportunities on ACL's Member Portal for your review. You will sign up on line and then record your hours online after the event.

**Integrity of Reporting:** Charity Ambassadors will have final "approval" authority of submitted hours prior to them being part of the official ACL record.

**Quality Control:** At each monthly Class meetings the boys can check their service hours and meeting attendance records on the Class sign in sheet. Notify the Ambassador right away if there are any discrepancies. Presidents do not record/change/correct hours so notify the Charity Ambassador of any discrepancies.

**Double-dipping of Hours**

To further ACL's goal of "not being in competition with other interests and organizations" ACL accepts hour credits with the following guidelines:

- If another organization or school requires volunteer work
  - Examples are:
    - National and Jr. Honor Society
    - Schools
    - Boy Scouts
    - NCL – only work at Charities shared with ACL
- Moms can "double dip" hours up to 3 a year...report to Charity Ambassador
- Boys can "double dip" up to 5 hours a year...report to Ambassador

**Charities:**

ACL develops long-term, in-depth relationships with our approved Charities. A volunteer ACL mom is the designated Charity Ambassador. If you have a 'new' Charity you would like ACL to consider – have your son tell his Class about it at a monthly meeting and the Class President or VP will contact the City Manager for approval.

Members that bring a new Charity to ACL have 1<sup>st</sup> right of refusal for Ambassador but does not have to be the Ambassador.

If no one volunteers to be the Charity Ambassador for a Charity, that Charity will be dropped as a reflection of the current membership's lack of interest.

### **Characteristics of an Approved ACL Charity**

ACL's goal is to develop long-term, in-depth relationships with our Charities so our members can come to understand their goals and business practices. We look for charities that share the ACL culture of being "all-Inclusive".

### **Profile of an Approved Charity:**

- Be an incorporated non-profit or 501 3(c).
- Have the opportunity for multiple volunteer opportunities.
- Be age appropriate for ACL Membership...hands on work is preferable as the boys enjoy "tangible work".
- Share the ACL culture of being "all-Inclusive".

*Example: If a religious group has a food bank that is available to the whole community, regardless of denomination, we can help them.*

### **Profile of a Non-Approved Charity:**

- Charities that work with adults/children with drug/alcohol problems or children that have run away from home. We let the professionals handle them!
- Religious Organizations that only provide their services to their membership/denomination.
- Charities that require/request/demand monetary investment by our members or rely upon fundraisers/collections/drives by our members.
  - Our only exception to date is CAP.
- One off events
  - Our only exception to date is Lemonade Day.

### **Activities that do not meet ACL requirements:**

- Fundraising, collections or drives...we want to bifurcate money from service work.
- Mission work and vocational bible study...these tend to benefit just 1 domination/members and therefore do not reflect ACL's culture of being all-inclusive. While admirable, it will not qualify as an ACL credit.
- Service work at a non-approved Charity