

**TROOP 30 HANDBOOK  
BOYS SCOUTS OF AMERICA \* SHANNON SPORTSMAN CLUB**

**TROOP HANDBOOK  
BOYS SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
SHANNON SPORTSMANS CLUB  
TROOP 30  
NORTHWEST GEORGIA COUNCIL  
COOSA DISTRICT**



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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<p><b>3 Letter from the President of the Shannon Sportsmans Club</b></p> <p><b>4 Letter from the Scoutmaster</b></p> <p><b>4 Purpose of the Boy Scouts of America</b></p> <p><b>5 Cub Scouts vs. Boy Scouts</b></p> <p><b>5 Aims of Scouting</b></p> <p><b>5 Methods of Scouting</b> Establish Clear Goals</p> <p><b>6 Organize by Patrols</b></p> <p>    Focus on the Outdoors</p> <p>    Opportunities for Success through Advancement</p> <p>    Provide a Positive Role Model</p> <p>    Foster Personal Growth</p> <p>    Encourage Leadership Development</p> <p>    The Aspects of Wearing The Scout Uniform</p> <p><b>7 Troop Organization &amp; Leadership</b></p> <p>    Chartered Organization (Sponsor)</p> <p>    Troop Committee</p> <p>    Chartered Organization Representative (CR).</p> <p>    Scoutmaster</p> <p>    Assistant Scoutmaster(s) (ASM)</p> <p><b>8 Requirements for Being an Adult Leader</b></p> <p>    <b>Troop Organization</b></p> <p>        Junior Troop Leadership Positions</p> <p>        Senior Patrol Leader (SPL):</p> <p><b>8-9 Patrol Leader:</b></p> <p><b>9 The Troop Officers</b></p> <p>    Scribe</p> <p>    Quartermaster</p> <p>    Historian</p> <p>    Librarian</p> <p>    No Confidence Votes</p> <p>    Patrol Leader' Council (PLC)</p> <p>    <b>Troop Program Planning</b></p> <p>        Annual (Long-Term) Plan.</p> <p>        Quarterly PLC Meeting.</p> <p><b>10 Troop Parents</b></p> <p>    <b>Uniform</b></p> <p><b>11 Troop Meetings</b></p> <p>    Meeting Guidelines</p> <p>    Meeting Layout</p> <p>    Opening</p> <p>    Administration</p> <p>    Instructional Period</p> <p>    Inter-patrol Activity</p> <p>    Game</p> <p>    Closing</p> <p><b>12 Patrol Meetings</b></p> <p>    Changing Patrol Membership</p> <p>    Patrol Flags</p> <p>    Dues</p> <p>    <b>Troop Activities</b> - Long-term Camping</p> <p><b>12 Troop and Patrol Camping</b></p> <p>    Day Trips</p>	<p>    Service Projects</p> <p>    Trip &amp; Project Fees</p> <p>    <b>The Adult Leader's Role in Troop Activities</b></p> <p><b>14 Geezer Patrol</b></p> <p>    <b>Buddy System</b></p> <p>    <b>Youth Protection</b> Parents Guide</p> <p>    Troop Youth Protection</p> <p>    Parents Guide</p> <p><b>15 Advancement (The Trail to Eagle Scout)</b></p> <p>    Who can sign on rank requirements?</p> <p><b>16 Rank Advancement Procedure</b></p> <p>    Scoutmaster's Conferences</p> <p>    Board of Review</p> <p><b>17 Court of Honor</b></p> <p>    <b>Religious Emblems</b></p> <p>    <b>Troop Policies</b></p> <p>        <i>Financial Policy</i></p> <p>        Weekly Dues</p> <p>        Scout Accounts (Camping and Activity)</p> <p>        Fundraising</p> <p><b>18 Financial Aid</b></p> <p>    <i>Medical Policy</i></p> <p>    Emergency Treatment</p> <p>    Medication</p> <p>    First Aid</p> <p>    Troop Health and Safety</p> <p><b>19 Medical Examinations</b></p> <p>    Policy Regarding Incendiary Devices</p> <p>    Fire Policy</p> <p><b>20 Attendance Policy</b></p> <p>    Inactive Scout</p> <p><b>21 Regarding Adult Behavior</b></p> <p>    Scout Responsibilities Regarding Behavior</p> <p>    Scout Behavior on Campouts</p> <p><b>22 Policy on Hazing</b></p> <p>    On Roughhousing</p> <p>    On Electronic Devices</p> <p>    On Alcohol, Tobacco, &amp; Drugs</p> <p>    On Knives, Axes, Saws</p> <p>    <b>Disciplinary Procedures</b></p> <p><b>23 Grievances</b></p> <p>    <b>Troop Phone &amp; Email List</b></p> <p>    <b>Troop Calendar</b></p> <p><b>23 Troop Website</b></p> <p>    <b>Lost &amp; Found</b></p> <p><b>24 Equipment</b></p> <p>    Troop Gear</p> <p>    Personal Gear</p> <p>    <i>Recommended Personal Gear</i></p> <p>    Equipping Your Scout</p> <p><b>25 Recommended Backpacking List</b></p> <p><b>26 Recommended Backpacking Food &amp; Menu</b></p> <p><b>28 Uniform Information</b></p> <p><b>29 Participant Code of Conduct</b></p>
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## **Letter from the President of the Shannon Sportsmans Club**

Dear New Scout and Parents,

The Scouts, Leaders, and Parents of Troop 30 extend a hearty welcome to your son and to you! We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to sharing the joys and challenges, which accompany participation in our dynamic program. We want to be sure that parents understand what participation means and what opportunities are available for your Scout and you, in the coming months and years. We ask that you read carefully through this manual and review it with your scout. Our goal is to help your boy develop into a young man conforming to the Boy Scout ideals of physical strength, mental awareness and moral action.

The pre-teen and teenage years are an important time in your son's life. Critical, yet sometimes subtle, choices are made that can shape the rest of his life. Boy Scouting is founded on the belief that, during this time, a boy should undergo the personal growth necessary to move from a state of almost complete dependence upon his family towards increasing self-reliance and independence. A primary vehicle for this change is the opportunity for the Scout to make responsible decisions under diverse circumstances and to experience the consequences of the decisions. We feel privileged to play a part in helping influence some of these choices.

Here are a few of the ways you can use the Scouting program to help your son to develop and grow:

- Encourage your Scout to have perfect attendance at all Troop meetings and outings. Make it clear that he has made a commitment to his Troop and Patrol - they need him!
- Be interested in your son's Scouting activities and encourage his advancement.
- Check with Troop Leaders regularly. Praise your son on each achievement.
- As he matures, have him earn the money necessary for Troop outings.
- Encourage him to pay dues regularly as part of learning the handling money and his responsibility to the Troop, payment is encouraged to be paid on a quarterly or annual basis.
- Attend all Courts of Honor.
- Show your Scout by your involvement that the program is worthy of your time by your own participation, when requested.

This Handbook has been prepared to acquaint you with the Troop 30 programs, procedures and expectations. The information is intended to answer frequently asked questions and to give you a better understanding of our Troop and BSA.

We wish your son every success in his Scouting career, and the primary purpose of the adult leadership of Troop 30 is to create and maintain an environment in which he can succeed.

Please contact any of our leaders if you have questions or concerns.

Yours in Scouting,

Andy Carroll

President, Shannon Sportsman Club,  
Charter Organization Representative,  
Troop 30 Eagle Scout

### **Letter from the Scoutmaster**

Dear Parents and Scouts,

If you ask a Scout the purpose of Scouting, he's likely to mention things like camping, earning badges, or maybe burning marshmallows over a fire. Ask a Scout Leader, however, and you will hear answers like character building, citizenship training, and fitness development. You see, while camping, badges, and other fun activities are a big part of scouting, they are not the purpose of scouting. Instead, they are methods that teach character, citizenship, and fitness.

Scouting is one of the largest and oldest international youth organizations. Scouting is immediately known and respected by people around the world. The parents and adult leaders of Troop 30 strongly believe in the character building that comes from following the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Troop 30 was originally chartered in 1932. We are one of the oldest troops in the Northwest Council and have had many Eagle Scouts in Troop 30. How does a Boy Scout Troop stay going since 1931? The answer is simple, Great boys, Great Community, and Great Parent Participation. We strongly believe in parent participation in Scouting activities. Parents are key to the success of Scouting and the success of Troop 30. Your excitement and involvement will rub off on your son. Through Scouting, and with your guidance, your son will learn to prioritize and balance the things he WANTS to do, things he SHOULD do, and things he MUST do—an important life skill.

Scouts get out of Troop 30 what they put into it. Leaders try to keep the "outing" in Scouting by offering activities of all kinds. We ask our Scouts to lead the Troop as much as possible, and that includes planning activities, weekly meetings, and the required preparation.

Developing self-confidence, self-reliance and leadership are key goals of the Scouting program. We hope this manual will be useful to you. Please read it with your Scout along with the first pages of the Scout Handbook. As you read this handbook, remember that Scouting is a long term learning process. Don't let all the information in this handbook overwhelm you and your son. Being a new Scout family is exciting but can be confusing, even frustrating at times. Get to know the other parents and our leaders. If you have questions, now or at any time in the future, talk to us, call us, or email us. Also, remember that parents are always welcome at our meetings or on our trips.

Sincerely,

Max McAdams

Scoutmaster, Troop 30, Shannon, Ga.

### **PURPOSE OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

It is the purpose of the Boy Scouts of America to provide for boys an effective program designed to build desirable qualities of character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop in them personal fitness, thus to help in the development of American citizens who:

- Have a high degree of self-reliance evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.
- Are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit.
- Have personal and stable values firmly based on religious concepts.
- Have the desire and the skills to help others.
- Understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental system.
- Are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand America's role in the World.
- Have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people.
- Are prepared to fulfill the varied responsibilities of participating in and giving leadership to American society and in the forums of the world.

The Boy Scouts of America accomplishes its purpose by making its program available in partnership with existing groups having compatible goals, including religious, educational, civic, fraternal, business, labor, and governmental bodies.

## **Cub Scouts vs. Boy Scouts**

Probably the biggest difference between Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts that you will see is that of the leader scout relationship. In Cub Scouts the leaders set up the program. Activities and advancement were lead by the Den Leader. In Boy Scouts the program is boy led with leader guidance. Activities and advancement opportunity are made available to the boys but they participate and advance at their own pace. As you read through this manual it should become apparent that the Boy Scouting program is intended to develop positive values, leadership, and citizenship skills to the boys by getting them involved in the process.

## **Aims of Scouting**

The Boy Scout program works toward three aims. The first is growth in moral strength and character. We define this as what the boy is himself: his personal qualities, his values, and his outlook. A second aim is participative citizenship. Used broadly, citizenship means the boy's relationship to others. He comes to learn of his obligations to other people, to the society in which he lives and to the government that presides over that society. The third aim of the Boy Scout program is development of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual fitness. Fitness includes the body (well tuned and healthy), the mind (able to think clearly and solve problems), the emotions (courage, self-control and self-respect), and the spirit (relationship with God and respect for all His creations).

## **Methods of Scouting**

### **Establish Clear Goals (Ideal)**

The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan and the Outdoor Code. The Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high and as he reaches for them he develops control over what he becomes. The **Scout Motto** is "BE PREPARED". A scout prepares for whatever comes his way by learning all he can. He keeps himself strong, healthy, and ready to meet the challenges of life. The **Scout Slogan** is "DO A GOOD TURN DAILY". Good turns are helpful acts of kindness done quietly, without boasting, and without expecting reward or pay. Doing at least one GOOD TURN every day is a normal part of a Scout's life.

#### **The Scout Law:**

A Scout is:  
Trustworthy  
Loyal  
Helpful  
Friendly  
Courteous  
Kind  
Obedient  
Cheerful  
Thrifty  
Brave  
Clean and  
Reverent.

#### **The Scout Oath:**

On my honor I will do my best  
  
To do my duty to God and  
my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
  
To help other people at all  
times;  
  
To keep myself physically  
strong,  
mentally awake, and morally  
straight.

#### **The Outdoor Code:**

As an American I will do my  
best to  
Be clean in my outdoor  
manners  
  
Be careful with fire  
  
Be considerate in the  
outdoors  
  
Be conservation minded.

## ***Methods of Scouting Continued***

### **Organize by Patrols**

The Patrol Method gives Scouts an experience in group living and participative citizenship. It places a certain amount of responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept it. The Patrol Method allows Scouts to act in small groups where they can easily relate to one another. These small groups determine the Troop activities through their elected representative.

### **Focus on the Outdoors**

The Boy Scout program is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoors that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with each other. It is here that skills and activities practiced at Troop Meetings come alive with purpose. Being closer to nature helps Scouts gain appreciation for God's handiwork and mankind's place in it. It teaches them to be good stewards of their world. The outdoors is a laboratory for Scouts to learn ecology, practice conservation of nature's resources and develop self-sufficiency.

### **Create Opportunities for Success through Advancement**

Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and the steps to overcome them throughout the advancement program. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he overcomes each challenge. The Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which help him gain self-respect and self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle) help a boy grow in self-reliance and the ability to help others.

### **Provide a Positive Role Model**

A boy learns from the example of his adult leaders. In his quest for personal growth, every boy needs contact with adults he can copy. The Scoutmaster and his assistants provide the positive role model supported by the Boy Scout program.

### **Foster Personal Growth**

As Scouts plan their activities and make progress toward their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. There is probably no device so successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn. The religious emblems program is also a large part of the personal growth method. Frequent personal conferences with his Scoutmaster and Patrol Advisor help each Scout to determine his growth toward Scouting's Aim.

### **Encourage Leadership Development**

The Boy Scout program encourages the boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership role of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.

### **Wearing The Scout Uniform**

The Boy Scouts of America has always been a uniformed body. There are many reasons for this. One reason stands out above all the rest. We wear the uniform because it is a means of identifying ourselves openly with the principles to which we are committed-character development, citizenship training, and physical and mental fitness.

The fact that youth and adult members of Scouting wear a uniform doesn't mean that we're all alike. We come from different ethnic and racial backgrounds. We have our own religious beliefs and political views. We are each individuals with our own family traditions and loyalties. So the uniform is not intended to hide our individuality. But it is a way we give each other strength and support. It is a bond that ties us together in spite of our differences. It is a way of making visible our commitment to a belief in God, loyalty to country, and to helping other people.

The Scouting movement is built on positive values. As we wear the uniform, we are openly identifying ourselves with those values where everyone can see us. We stand together, not alone, in encouraging others to live by those same principles. Boys and adults alike should take pride in belonging to such a movement and wear the uniform as it is intended.

## **Troop Organization & Leadership**

### **Chartered Organization (Sponsor)**

The Chartered Organization for Troop 30 is the Shannon Sportsmans Club. The Chartered Organization is responsible for providing a safe meeting place, and ensuring through careful monitoring and screening that there is adequate, trained leadership that model and teach the principles of scouting.

### **Troop Committee**

The Troop Committee consists of parents or other adults, 18 or over, interested in Scouting. Parents should be representatives of boys in all age groups within the Troop to provide continuity of the Committee as members depart. The Troop Committee is organized as follows:

**Chairman :** General responsibilities are: Maintain contact with Committee members; Chair quarterly Committee meetings; Call additional meetings as necessary.

The following members, serving as subcommittee chairs with each subcommittee encouraged to have additional members, if required or desired, to assist in the performance of the assigned responsibilities.

**Membership and Recruiting:** Cub Scout Pack/Webelos coordination, School 'Roundup' participation, general recruiting efforts.

**Treasurer:** Financial records; Audit team; Budget plan.

**Fund Raisers:** Coordinate fund raising activities for the troop.

**Camping:** Obtain permits and coordinate the outdoor activities.

**Training:** Encourage, promote, and conduct training for adults and Scouts as necessary.

**Equipment:** Procurement and maintenance of troop equipment.

**Advancement:** Monitor individual Scout advancement; conduct Boards of Review; supervise Courts of Honor; obtain and maintain supply of advancement materials; oversee currency of Troop ScoutBook.

### **Chartered Organization Representative (CR).**

Appointed by the chartered organization, the CR is a member of the chartered organization and serves as liaison between the Troop and the chartered organization. The CR is a voting member of the Troop Committee, and the Chartered Organization's voting representative to the district and council.

### **Scoutmaster**

1. Follows the guidelines established by the Boy Scouts of America and the troop committee to achieve the aims of Scouting for the membership of Troop 30. Uses the proven methods presented in the Scouting literature to direct the program of the troop. Conducts all activities under qualified leadership, safe conditions, and the policies of the chartered organization and the Boy Scouts of America.
2. Trains and guides boy leaders. Meets with the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) for training and coordination and planning of troop activities. Conducts workshops and training sessions to instruct the youth leadership in the proper methods of running their troop.
3. Attends all troop functions, troop committee meetings, and district events or have a qualified substitute present. Keeps the troop Committee Chairman, and the Troop Committee advised of all troop activities and policies.
4. Conducts Scoutmaster's conferences for all rank advancement.
5. Effectively delegates responsibilities and duties to other adults and groups so they have a real part in troop operations. Sees that effective lines of communications are open between the Committee, the Scoutmaster's Staff, the PLC, the Scouts and the parents.
6. Insures that a continuous recruiting effort goes on to maintain or increase the membership of the troop.
7. Makes sure that all Scouts are registered and are entered in the troop records and assigned to a patrol.
8. Enforces the prompt payment of dues and fees.

### **Assistant Scoutmaster(s) (ASM)**

Any number of Assistant Scoutmasters can be a part of the Troop, as required/desired by the Scoutmaster and Troop Committee. Assistant Scoutmasters are at least 18 years of age, and are registered with the Boy Scouts of America and complete leadership training(including Scoutmaster Specific and ITOLS). Assistant Scoutmasters are assigned program tasks by the Scoutmaster and provide guidance to the junior leadership. These duties could include maintaining :

advancement records of the Scouts, organizing activities and proper adult supervision, encouraging and assisting new Scouts in learning the program and making advancements, and attending scout functions. They may also be assigned as patrol advisers to assist the patrols. He or she also provides the "required two deep leadership".

***Troop Organization & Leadership continued***  
**REQUIREMENTS FOR BEING AN ADULT LEADER**

To become an adult leader in Troop 30: the adult must complete a Boy Scouts of America adult registration form, pay the yearly registration fee, and present a certificate of completion for BSA Youth Protection. This form is to be turned in to the troop committee chairman or the Scoutmaster.

All adult leaders are subject to the approval of the Troop committee, Shannon Sportsmans Club (the troop's sponsor) and the BSA Northwest Council Executive. All references will be checked. The Adult wishing to be in Troop 30 leadership must be involved with Troop activities for at least 3 months as a probationary period and complete all online, council and Troop 30 training.

**Troop Youth Organization**

The Troop is organized into as many Patrols as required. Each Patrol consists of a Patrol Leader and no less than four Scouts nor more than ten Scouts, consistent with the abilities of the Scouts in a Patrol to manage themselves and their activities. All scouts are separated into patrols by the SM upon registration with the Troop.

**Youth Troop Leadership Positions:**

Scouts have many opportunities over the years to be in a leadership position. Troop 30 is a "boy led" troop, which means that the scouts have supervised leadership and lead and run all trips and meetings. In order for a scout to become independent he must be able to work with and lead a team of peers, without undue interference from adults. The leadership positions and descriptions are:

**Senior Patrol Leader (SPL):**

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is the official head of all junior leadership. He is the elected leader of the Troop. He must be at least First Class Rank and in good standing with the Troop. Term of office is 6 months. With the assistance of the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters, he leads and runs all trips and meetings. He also manages the troop in every detail. A general list of duties are:

1. Participates in junior leader training.
2. Plans troop meetings with Patrol Leaders' Council, plan campouts with Patrol Leaders' Council and Scoutmaster, and plan Patrol Leaders' Council meetings.
3. Leads troop meetings, courts of honor, campouts, Patrol Leaders' Council meetings and other troop outings.
4. Appoints Assistant Senior Patrol Leader & Troop officers, with the advice & consent of the Scoutmaster.
5. Assists the Scoutmaster with Junior Leader Training.
6. Keeps Patrol Leaders and Scoutmaster informed.
7. Shares leadership opportunities with others.
8. Conducts the program planning conference.
9. Understands the needs of the troop.
10. Prepares Patrol leaders to take part in all troop activities.
11. Develops scout spirit and patrol competition.
12. Directs other troop leaders to make sure the troop runs well.
13. Expected to attend 85% of all troop meetings, Patrol Leaders' Council meetings, outings, and service projects. If attendance is low, or if there are three (3) unexcused absences in a row, scout can be removed from office.
14. Sets the Example: Earn Advancements. Live by the Scout Oath and Law. Wear the uniform correctly.

**Patrol Leader:**

The patrol leader is the elected leader of the patrol. He represents his patrol on the patrol leaders' council. Reports to the senior patrol leader. Term of office is 3 months. General job description & expectations are:

1. Participates in junior leader training.
2. Plans patrol meetings and activities.
3. Leads patrol meetings and activities.
4. Keeps patrol members informed.
5. Shares leadership by giving each patrol member a job and replace dropouts.
6. Appoints the Assistant Patrol Leader.
7. Instructs patrol members in scout craft skills.
8. Represents the patrol at the program planning conference and the patrol leaders council meetings.
9. Understands the needs of the patrol.



***Patrol Leader continued***

10. Prepares patrol to take part in all troop activities.
11. Develops patrol spirit and control.
12. Works with other troop leaders to ensure that the troop runs well.
13. Knows what patrol members and other leaders are capable of.
14. Ensures that every patrol member advances at least one rank and earn at least one merit badge, outside of Summer Camp, prior to the end of the Scouting year.
15. Ensures that Patrol holds a minimum of three patrol activities during the Scouting year which can include Patrol hikes, Patrol merit badges, attend Town meetings, etc.
16. Expected to attend 85% of all troop meetings, Patrol Leaders' Council meetings, outings, and service projects. If attendance is low, or if there are three (3) unexcused absences in a row, scout can be removed from office.
17. Sets the example: Earn advancement-Live by the Scout Oath and Law-Wear the uniform correctly.

**The Troop Officers**

These may be appointed by the Senior Patrol Leader with the concurrence of the Patrol Leader's Council and the approval of the Scoutmaster, or may be elected by the whole troop. Positions consist of the following: Quartermaster, Scribe, Librarian, Historian, Cheer Master (other offices as seen fit by PLC).

**Scribe**

Keeps a log of Patrol Leaders' Council meetings, attendance and dues payments.

**Quartermaster**

Keeps and checks out troop equipment. Sees that it is returned in good condition or repaired. Helps in acquisition of new equipment.

**Historian**

Keeps scrapbooks and display keepsakes. Takes pictures of events and collects newspaper articles. Keeps a journal of all Scouting Events.

**No Confidence Votes**

Voting to remove a leader is a very serious process and should only be done in the most serious situations. If at any time the Scouts do not believe their SPL is fulfilling the requirements of his position, a majority of the Patrol Leaders may consult with the Scoutmaster and, with his approval, take a no-confidence vote in the Troop. The Scoutmaster will approve the no-confidence vote only after he is satisfied that all other chances for compromises are attempted by the PLC. Patrol members may follow the same procedure with their Patrol Leader, but must approach the SPL with their concerns, and the SPL, with the approval of the Scoutmaster, will approve the no-confidence vote, again only after all possible compromises are explored. If the majority passes a no-confidence vote, the election process for the position in question will begin immediately. **The SM may remove an officer from position, if he feels that the officer in question is derelict in his duties.** The SPL may, after consultation with the Scoutmaster, recommend that a Scout be replaced in a leadership position. This applies to all Troop leadership positions except Patrol Leader. Only the members of a Patrol may ask the SPL and Scoutmaster to allow a new Patrol Leader vote.

**Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC)**

The patrol leaders' council is made up of the senior patrol leader, who presides over the meetings; the assistant senior patrol leader, all patrol leaders, and other troop leadership. The patrol leaders' council plans the yearly troop program at the bi annual troop program planning conference and fine tunes Troop future activities during it quarterly meetings. Voting Members are: SPL, ASPL, and PL.

**Troop Program Planning:**

The Troop that succeeds, plans exactly where it is going and how it's going to get there. The planning process follows the procedures established in the "Scoutmaster Handbook".

**Annual (Long-Term) Plan.**

Long term planning meetings with the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) are held twice a year, in the spring and the fall, to plan the next 6 months meetings and campouts, in detail; and to plan the Campouts between 6 and 12 months away. These plans are presented to the Troop Committee by the SPL for approval and planning support.

**Quarterly Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) Meeting.**

Each month the PLC will meet to plan in detail the program for the coming months. The Patrol Leaders' Council may make variations from the plan for special activities, if approved by the Scoutmaster.

## **Troop Parents**

The role of parents within Troop 30's successful operation cannot be understated. It is vital that Troop 30 have an active parental support, in order to maintain and improve the quality of our Troop. Parents are expected to be supportive of the Troop's efforts to provide the atmosphere Scouts need to learn and excel. Parental support does not consist of driving your son to a Troop meeting and picking up. Good parental support consists of:

1. Encouraging your son to attend all Troop activities and prepare for them.
2. Assisting your Scout in obtaining a uniform and basic equipment.
3. Encouraging your son in his Scout advancement. Help him to prepare for merit badge sessions and Boards of Review.
4. Taking an active interest in his Scouting activities.  
Sharing with the adult leaders any important information about your son that could affect his participation (i.e.-medical problems, school problems, personal problems etc)
5. Working through the exercise in "How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse" in the front of the Boy Scout Handbook. You should do this soon after your boy has joined the Troop.
6. Supporting the fundraising projects. This is how we earn money for Troop equipment and activities. It also is an opportunity for Scouts to individually earn money toward those activities.
7. Attending parent meetings, courts of honor and other family activities.
8. Staying informed concerning upcoming activities.
9. Assisting the Troop organization by:
  - Becoming a Troop 30 Registered Leader
  - Helping with transportation
  - Helping with food at a Court of Honor (COH)
  - Helping your Scout if he is responsible for purchasing food for his patrol.
  - Asking the Scoutmaster how you can help with Troop activities. If he did not need your help this time, ask again.
  - Become a Merit Badge Counselor for the Troop in an area you are proficient in by vocation or avocation. There are over 130 merit badges, yet some have no counselors.
10. Parents are welcome to attend our weekly Troop meetings.

\*Our goal is to have every parent involved in some aspect of the Troop. If you need help finding your niche, give the Scoutmaster or SPL a call!

Parents are expected to:

1. Read their son's Scout's handbook and understand the purpose and methods of Scouting.
2. Actively follow their Scout's progress (or lack thereof) and offer encouragement and a push when needed.
3. Show support to both the individual Scout and the Troop by attending all Troop Courts of Honor. Assist, as requested, in all Troop fundraisers and other such activities. All such assistance lowers the cost of the program we offer to the Scouts and, therefore, lowers each family's cash outlay for their Scout(s).
4. Be aware of the Troop program and annual calendar.
5. See that the scout attends each meeting in uniform with scout handbook, notebook, and a pencil.

## **Uniform**

1. Scouting is a uniformed program. (Please let leadership know if this is a problem. Don't let a uniform problem stop your scout from coming to a meeting. See financial aid section if applicable). Each scout is required to have and wear, within a reasonable amount of time after joining the Troop the following uniform items:
  - a. Tan scout shirt with appropriate insignia and patches.
  - b. Scout belt and buckle **are not mandatory**.
  - c. Green Scout pants and or Shorts. Official BSA Pants **are not mandatory**. Please no basketball or athletic shorts with field uniform. If blue jeans are worn they should not have holes.
2. Uniform and insignia shall be worn in accordance with the "Insignia Guide" (located in the Scout Handbook).
- 3.\*Each scout is required to wear his uniform to all scheduled activities or outings (This may be changed at the discretion of the SM). Field Uniforms are required for Thursday Troop Meetings (tucked in and presentable); Field Uniforms for court of honor and board of reviews; and Activity Uniform. Changes of clothing may be prescribed to accommodate activities which might damage the uniform.

## **Troop Meetings**

Troop meetings are Thursday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the Shannon Park Scout Cabin. *If a scout is not able to attend a meeting, it is his responsibility to contact his patrol leader to notify him and to obtain all missed information.* Meetings are held during inclement weather and will take place unless cancelled. All Scouts are to come to every meeting on time, in full uniform and with their handbook. Meetings are used to teach the Scouting skills required for our outings. All Scouts are encouraged to attend at least 75% of the troop meetings. Attendance below 50% will make advancement tough.

### **Meeting Guidelines:**

1. Troop meetings will be planned and run by the Senior Patrol Leader under the supervision of the Scoutmaster
2. Interference with the meeting by the adults is kept to an absolute minimum. This ensures that the program remains "boy run and boy done" and maximizes each boy's Scouting experience, both as a member and as a leader. Any Adult Leaders and/ or Parents wishing to have discussions should step out of the main meeting room as not to increase the ambient noise level of the room and distract the boys from the program. Any Sibling must be quiet & supervised by a parent if present during a Troop meeting.
3. Scouts must be in full Class A uniform unless excused.
4. Scout must have his handbook, a notebook, and a pencil. A three ring notebook is highly recommended for collection of the many handouts (upcoming activity planners, calendars, etc.)
5. Be at troop meetings on time unless excused. Leave on time. No lingering.
6. Must be in patrol areas (no running around or fighting) .
7. Adhere to troop meeting agenda which must have prior Senior Patrol Leader approval.
8. Troop meeting outlines are made weeks in advance at the PLC, and finalized one week in advance.
9. Senior Patrol Leader is the one conducting the meeting. No one interrupts.
10. If a scout is not able to attend a meeting, it is his responsibility to contact his patrol leader for any missed or needed information.

### **Troop Meeting Layout**

#### **Opening**

All Scout meetings begin with a flag ceremony: Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath, and Scout Law. Ceremonies are held indoors if weather is bad.

#### **Administration**

The Senior Patrol Leader invites adults to make any announcements they have. The adults respect that this is a scout meeting, and should keep their announcements brief and to the point. Many announcements can be made by the SPL, and do not require adult involvement. Troop roster and collection of dues by Scribe. Patrol meetings are held, plan campout menus, duties, shopping, cooking, patrol flags, etc.

#### **Instructional Period**

An instructional period is held to teach the topic for the evening. The topic will most often relate to an upcoming event, such as a campout, camporee, hike, etc., but can cover other interesting topics as opportunity presents. The topic is usually taught by a knowledgeable boy, such as Patrol Leader, Leadership member, etc. Occasionally, an adult leader will teach a special topic. Sometimes, topics are taught separately in Patrols.

#### **Inter-patrol Activity**

An inter-patrol activity is held to support the evening's instruction (knot tying relay, first aid emergency, backpacking Kim's game, etc.). When possible, this is a patrol competition event.

#### **Game**

If there is sufficient time remaining, an outdoor game may be played, such as Capture the Flag, Volleyball, basketball, etc. Games played are approved by the Scoutmaster. All Scouts have an equal opportunity to play. Safety and fairness is always considered. An appropriate game is played indoors in bad weather.

## ***Troop Meeting Layout continued***

### **Patrol Meetings**

Each Patrol will be given the opportunity to meet for a short time at Troop meetings. In addition, the Patrol can hold at least one meeting or activities outside of the Troop each month. These can be hikes (with Adult Supervision), advancement activities, after-school planning sessions or service projects. The Patrol Leader is responsible for these meetings. These activities must not conflict with scheduled Troop activities. Any Patrol campouts must have prior approval of the SM.

### **Changing patrol membership**

Scouts are encouraged to stay in the same patrol for the duration of their Scouting career. Such allegiance greatly contributes to the success and vitality of a patrol. If however a Scout becomes dissatisfied in being a member of his particular patrol and wishes to transfer to another patrol, he may do so only after a conference with the Scoutmaster, the approval of the patrol leaders' council and the troop committee. The Scout must also be accepted by the patrol to which he wishes to transfer. Sometimes patrols are reorganized due to changing membership, participation, etc. In fact, this occurs regularly for campouts when a patrol may have only several members participating.

### **Patrol flags**

Each patrol is required to design and make a patrol flag that will be carried on all troop and patrol events. Adult assistance is certainly permissible and encouraged.

### **Dues**

Dues are \$1.25 per meeting or \$5.00 a month. The annual total is \$55 and may be received with a single or quarterly payment. This money helps pay for advancement cost: pins, badges, plaques, equipment, etc. If the scout is behind in dues in any amount, *the scout may not go on troop activities, campouts, or be awarded advancement ranks or badges.*

## **Troop Activities**

### **Long-term Camping**

Each year Scouts have the opportunity to attend Summer Camp. Dates and camps vary each year according to availability of leaders and the boys' interests. Compared to non-Scout camps, these camps are very inexpensive and are a highlight of the Scouting Program. Boys who attend Long-term Camp generally remain in scouting longer and achieve higher rank than those who do not. We would like the entire Troop to attend, so that each Scout can complete rank advancement requirements, earn merit badges, and most of all, to be together and HAVE FUN!

Don't let your scout not attend Summer Camp because of financial needs. Contact the Scoutmaster if there is a problem. Also, most scouts are able to earn the entire amount for camps through fundraisers. (See financial aid section, if applicable)

### **Troop and Patrol Camping**

Ideally, the Troop tries to camp at least once each month. Realistically, we have to contend with stormy weather, excessive heat, hunting season and scheduling conflicts. The more parents who are willing to participate in camping, the more options we are able to offer our Scouts. Also, Troop 30 is not a **fair weather troop** (Which means trips are not canceled due to weather unless extremely severe).

Campouts are usually from about 6:30 p.m. on Friday through approximately 12:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Parents and leaders (at the discretion of the leadership) provide transportation. Troop 30 encourages carpooling. We have found that it is easier on parents if they share the burden of transportation.

If an evening meal on Friday night is not planned, the Scout should eat dinner prior to arriving or bring dinner with him. The cost of each trip depends on activity and the cost of food. Any fees or cost required must be paid two weeks prior to the activity.

On select campouts, each patrol cooks their meals as a group. Each patrol is responsible for developing its own menu and assign shopping responsibilities. (**Parents Note:** Though shopping is the responsibility of the scout, parents are encouraged to help. However, they are not encouraged to take over completely only act as an advisor. Also, menus are not to be changed or altered, for any reason, except with majority approval of all patrol members or by permission of the SM) All menus must be approved by the SPL and then the ASM or SM. It is very important that your Scout notify the Patrol Leader as early as possible if he cancels out of a trip so that the menu plan and purchases can be adjusted.

### ***Troop and Patrol Camping continued***

On most other campouts each scout is responsible for his own food and gear for the trip. The Scout is responsible to pay camping fees on the dates specified. Late payments will not be accepted, except with advance arrangements with the SM. The Scouts are discouraged from bringing electronic devices (except with prior approval from the SPL and SM). Any inappropriate materials is not allowed. (If you are not sure that something is inappropriate: **DO NOT BRING IT!**) Extra food or snacks are discouraged in tents. (This discourages wild animals and insects). While most camping is by the Troop, each Patrol may camp separately as long as BSA guidelines are followed. Scouts are encouraged to set tents in patrol area and share a patrol fire. All Patrol campouts must have the prior approval of the Scoutmaster. After a campout, Scouts may need to take equipment home for additional cleaning, repairing and/or airing out. Equipment should then be returned to the Quartermaster by the next Troop Meeting in good, clean condition. Intentional destruction of equipment or destruction by negligent behavior must be replaced by the patrol. Please, take care of all equipment owned by Troop 30. Equipment cost money and must be replaced if in ill repair. \*Talk to the Troop leadership if your son has medical or special dietary needs.

**Day Trips:** If camping has been canceled, **Plan B** will go into effect. Possible options are museums, amusement parks, state parks, and historical areas. The choice belongs to the Scouts as long as it is practical, affordable, safe, and provided we have enough adult coverage.

**Service Projects:** Troop 30 participates in many Service Projects, which include but are not limited to park clean-ups, conservation projects and assisting other non-profit groups in their efforts. The participation of all Scouts in these projects is expected and strongly advised. These projects reinforce one of the main goals of Scouting, to foster strong participative citizenship.

What many boys' approach with trepidation and reluctance, most often turns into an enjoyable, team building experience that they look back on with a real sense of pride and accomplishment.

**Trip & Project Fees:** Most Trips and some projects cost money. Prices range from \$10 to \$1000. Fees only cover food and trip essentials; extra spending money is not included. Fund raisers are held to cover costs. If there is a financial concern don't let that stop your Scout, talk to the Scoutmaster or other Adult Leadership if a problem arises.

### **Leaving a Weekend Troop Activity Early:**

Scouts who must leave a weekend Troop activity early must do so by Saturday Night, if applicable, with pre-trip approval from the SPL and Scoutmaster. Early dismissals on Sunday morning have proved problematic and unfair to other members of patrols and ultimately affecting whole troop operation during the Sunday exit of an activity.

\*Please be on time to pick up your Scout(s). The adults must wait until all Scouts have been picked up.

### **The Adult Leader's Role in Troop Activities**

The following is a list of guidelines for parents participating in Troop events. Many of the rules are established by the Boy Scouts of America. Some are Troop 30 rules that have evolved over time. Please remember one of our goals is to teach independence and self-reliance. Boys are also to learn leadership skills – that means boys will be leading boys. Not everything will be perfect. Failure is a great learning tool. We promise that all boys will be treated fairly and with respect. Hopefully, everyone will have fun and learn a lot in the process.

1. Older Scouts will be leading the activities. Look to the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters, who are the supervisors, for instruction and guidance.
2. The rule of two-deep adult leadership always apply, (only exception being the case of Parent/Child).
3. While on a campout, your primary role is that of a Troop leader. You are not to do the activities (set up tents, wash dishes, etc.) for the boys. They may need some instructions, but they must learn the task themselves – **DO NOT DO IT FOR THEM**. Any registered leader adult on a troop campout is automatically part of the Geezer Patrol (see more about the Geezer Patrol in the next section)
4. Strive to be an excellent role model for all boys.
5. No drinking, smoking, or profanity.
6. Treat all boys equally.
7. Do not show favoritism to your son, nor should you be overly hard on your boy.
8. Instruct and supervise when needed or asked. The Scoutmaster should define your role for the weekend.
9. Parents should not assist their son or their son's patrol in cooking meals or setting up camping equipment at any time. We are there for supervision and safety. Experience is a strong school.
10. Eat with the leaders.

### ***The Adult Leader's Role in Troop Activities continued***

11.Sleep in Geezer patrol area. This allows your son more interaction with his fellow scouts & provides for independence.12.Safety is a primary concern and everyone's responsibility.13.Participate in driving and14.Have fun!

### **Geezer Patrol**

Troop 30 prides itself on being a truly "boy led troop." Are the boys expert leaders? Of course not. For many, this is their very first opportunity to lead. They will make mistakes. There will be poor decisions made. There will be delays in making decisions. This is to be expected and respected. This is all part of the learning process. Our outings could be much better led, if the adults would make the decisions. Things would go smoother and be more efficient. However, the boys would not only lose the opportunity to learn leadership, they would also lose interest and the troop would become nothing more than a group of adults who go camping together.

The Geezer Patrol is a patrol formed for Adult Leaders of Troop 30. To the extent possible, the Geezers act just like one of the boy patrols. We have our own patrol flag. We have our own patrol yell. We take part in inter-patrol competitions. We plan our own menus. We purchase our own food. We cook our own meals. We have our own duty roster. During flag ceremonies, you will line up in formation with the rest of the Geezer Patrol. We have our own patrol camping area. Etc. We are a demonstration patrol that provides an example of leadership, cooperation and efficiency to the boy patrols. Along the way, we have to make and break camp, cook our food, clean our camp and ourselves and safely travel to our next destination. Any adult who accompanies Troop 30 on any overnight outing is required to have current B.S.A. Youth Protection Training and be registered with the Troop. Our Boy Scout insurance policy does NOT cover non-registered adults. Please be sure to have your liability and medical coverage information with you.

### **Buddy System**

Pairing two boys for Scout activities is called the "Buddy System." All Troop and Patrol activities are structured this way for safety. At no time is a Scout allowed to "solo", especially during outside activities. With an uneven number of boys, a three-person buddy group must be used. Each Scout is responsible for keeping track of his Buddy at all times. He may not swap his Buddy without the knowledge and consent of the Senior Patrol Leader.

Adult leaders are also required to comply with "Two-Deep Leadership" policy of BSA. A minimum of two adults is required for camps, hikes, meetings, etc. This policy protects leaders as well as the boys. Except for a parent and his or her son, Boy and Adult buddy combinations are not allowed. This complies with BSA Rules and Regulations.

### ***Frequent questions about this policy:***

If 5 scouts from one patrol attend a campout what are the sleeping arrangements?

The scouts use 3 tents. In tent #1, two scouts sleep and store their gear. In tent #2, three scouts sleep. In tent #3, the three scouts store their gear.

*Can I go for a walk by myself?*

NO, while on troop outings you are to be with a buddy at all times, this includes trips to the restroom.

### **Youth Protection**

Child abuse is a major problem affecting our society. The Boy Scouts of America has declared child abuse as unacceptable and receives special attention by those involved in the Scouting program. The BSA has developed a five-point plan to combat child abuse and to improve the environment in which young people live. The key elements of this plan include the following points:

- Educating Scouting volunteers, parents and the Scouts themselves to aid in the detection and prevention of child abuse.
- Establishing a leader selection process to prevent individuals with a history of child abuse from entering BSA leadership.
- Establishing policies that minimize the opportunities for child abuse to occur in the program of the BSA.
- Encourage Scouts to report improper behavior in order to identify offenders quickly.
- Swiftly deal with alleged offenders.

### **Parents Guide**

The Boy Scouts of America has developed materials for use in the Scouting program that provide essential information to both the Scout and the parents. It is a detachable booklet found in the front of the Boy Scout Handbook and is entitled. "How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide". Please take the time to read this booklet and discuss it with your son.

## Advancement (The Trail to Eagle Scout)

Advancement from Scout to Eagle is an important part of the scouting experience and is completely explained in the Scout Handbook. Opportunities for completing advancement requirements will be provided to the scouts; it is the Scout's responsibility to take advantage of those opportunities. While Advancement is important and all scouts are encouraged to work toward advancement it is not required to be a scout. No Scout will be forced or coerced in to advancing. The troop has four basic rules about advancement.

1. A scout may be tested on rank requirements by his Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster, a troop committee member, his patrol leader, or another junior leader, provided that the boy leader has already earned the rank the Scout is aiming for. The Scoutmaster maintains a list of those qualified to give tests and to pass candidates. The Scout's merit badge counselor teaches and tests on the requirements for merit badges. Troop 30 strongly suggests that parents who are registered leaders and siblings who are also members of the troop not sign rank requirements or act as a merit badge counselor for their own family members. Troop members who sign off a family member's rank requirements or merit badge requirements are asked to have these items initialed by another adult troop member.

2. Merit Badge Counselors must be approved by the Scoutmaster and Troop Committee Chairman prior to any work being completed on the merit badge. The Advancement Chairman reserves the right to disallow any advancement or merit badge signed-off by an unapproved individual.

Listed below are the steps to follow to earn a merit badge

- a. After looking over the list of merit badges and finding one that interests you, obtain a blue merit badge card from the Adult Leadership. Fill in your name, address, and the name of the badge. Ask the Scoutmaster or one of the Assistant Scoutmasters to sign the card before you begin working. These leaders can give you the names of registered merit badge counselors with whom you can work.
- b. Contact the merit badge counselor and tell him/her that you want to earn the merit badge. The counselor may want to set up an appointment to explain what he/she expects and to help you get started. Note: *You must have another person with you at each meeting with the merit badge counselor. This person can be another Scout, or your parent.*
- c. Read the merit badge pamphlet on the subject. When you know what is expected, start working on the requirements. You can ask your counselor to help you learn things you need to know or do.
- d. When you are ready, call the counselor and make an appointment to review your work. When you go, take along the things you have made to meet the requirements. If they are too big to move, take pictures or a note from an adult who can tell what you have done. The counselor will ask you to show and discuss each requirement to make sure you have done everything required. Once the counselor is satisfied that you have completed the requirements, he/she will sign your blue card and keep the counselor's portion of the card. Be sure to hang on tight to this card: if you lose it, you may have to start the badge over unless the counselor is willing and able to vouch for what you already completed.
- e. Take the card back to the Scoutmaster or designated Assistant Scoutmaster and have him sign it. Keep the part of the blue card that says "Applicant's Record" and give the "Troop Record" section to the Advancement Chairman. You will receive your merit badge at the next Court of Honor.
- f. Scouts may also decide to work on Merit Badges on their own. All individual work must have verification of completion. Check with Leadership for individual worksheets to help keep track of your progress.

**Note regarding merit badge requirements:** *You are expected to meet the requirements as they are stated – no more and no less. You are expected to do exactly what is stated in the requirements. If it says "show and demonstrate," that is what you must do. Just telling about it isn't enough. The same thing holds true for such words as "make," "list," "in the field," "collect," "identify," and "label."*

*There are many Merit Badges that is completed as a Troop. Check with Troop Leadership to make sure what merit badges will be worked on as a Troop in the near future.*

3. Boys will be encouraged to advance but will not be pushed to advance. Troop leaders are responsible for providing advancement opportunities but are not responsible for ensuring a scout advances in rank.

4. Even though Troop 30 maintains records of each scout's advancement, it is each scout's responsibility to maintain written proof of his advancement. Scout Handbooks provide places to have requirements signed-off and the scout will be given a signed card for each merit badge or rank advancement. Possession of a patch is not considered proof. Eagle rank will not be granted without documented proof that all requirements have been completed.

### ***Advancement (The Trail to Eagle Scout) continued***

#### **Who can sign on rank requirements?**

Rank Advancement can be signed off by those individuals indicated above.

#### **Rank Advancement Procedure**

The procedure for rank advancement is quite simple and will be used for all rank advancements except Eagle, which is governed by the procedures outlined by our District, Council, and the Boy Scouts of America. All other ranks will follow the steps below.

1. Each Scout is responsible for completing all of the requirements for his rank as noted in the Boy Scout Handbook. When a requirement is completed, the Scout should ask the leader in charge of the activity to sign and date his book immediately.
2. Once all of the requirements for a rank are signed off, the Scout will take his book to the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or Advancement Committee Member who will verify that all requirements are completed. If the Adult Leader feels the Scout is prepared, he will instruct the Scout to request a conference with the Scoutmaster.
3. The Scoutmaster Conference will usually take place at a troop meeting, patrol meeting, weekend camp-out, or camp. For this conference, the Scout must bring his handbook and be in his Field Uniform. The Scoutmaster will ask questions related to the requirements of the rank to which the Scout wishes to advance. Each Scout should study and review the material before this conference. If the Scoutmaster is unavailable or has many conferences, designated Assistant Scoutmasters may conduct the Scoutmaster Conference. If the Scoutmaster feels the Scout has accomplished the skills for rank advancement, he will sign the appropriate page in the Scout's handbook.
4. Once the Scoutmaster signs the Scout's handbook, the Scout will then ask the Advancement Committee Member to schedule a Board of Review. The Advancement Committee Member will check the Scout's advancement history in the Troop's records to verify that all required merit badges for each rank have been earned. The Scout will then be notified of the date for his Board of Review, or if he has requirements to complete before a Board of Review is convened. For a Board of Review, the Scout must bring his handbook and should be in full Field Uniform. This review will not retest the Scout. The purpose is to evaluate the Scout's experiences, to find out how our troop is doing from the Scout's perspective, help the Scout to realize his accomplishments, and encourage him to continue to advance in rank. Upon confirmation of advancement, each member of the Board of Review will sign the Scout's handbook and a Board of Review form.
5. The Board of Review forms will be returned to the Advancement Committee Member to be entered into the Troop's records and recorded at the Scout Council Office. For rank advancements for Scout, Tenderfoot and 2nd Class, the Scout will receive his advancement badge as soon as possible within 30 days of completion of his Board of Review. Formal recognition of these advancements will then be made at the next Court of Honor. For rank advancements for 1st Class, Life, Star and Eagle / Palms, the Scout will receive his advancement badge at the next Court of Honor.

#### **Scoutmaster's Conferences**

This is a one-on-one meeting with the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. The purpose of the Scoutmaster's Conference is to provide the Scout with the opportunity to demonstrate his knowledge of the skills required for rank advancement. The conference must be requested by the Scout, but will be held at the convenience of the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. Scouts are expected to appear in full Field Uniform for the Scoutmaster Conference.

#### **Board of Review**

Scouts are expected to appear in full dress uniform for the Board of Review.

The Board of Review interview is conducted by three adults of the Troop Committee after the Scout has successfully completed the Scoutmaster's Conference. The Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters will not sit on the Board of Review.

The questions are intended to be more general in nature, regarding the Scout's individual experiences and suggestions regarding the Troop. As a rule, Boards of Review for higher rank advancements take slightly longer, as it is expected that the Scout is more capable of expressing his views.

The Scout is notified within minutes of the completion of his Board of Review as to whether he has successfully earned his rank.



### ***Advancement (The Trail to Eagle Scout) continued***

#### **Court of Honor**

A Court of Honor is a special troop meeting where all family members are invited. The meeting is held for the purpose of providing extra recognition to those scouts that have earned rank advancement, merit badges or other accomplishments.

The whole family is encouraged to attend, even if a scout has not earned any special recognition, because the meetings are also used to discuss the troop's accomplishments and future activities.

#### **Religious Emblems**

A Scout is expected to be faithful in his religious duties and respect the convictions of others. The Scout Law says "A Scout is Reverent." In addition, there are religious emblem programs in which a Scout, under the direction of his pastor, priest or other religious leader, can earn a special religious award of his particular faith. Upon completion, he is awarded a medal to be worn on his uniform for special occasions, such as Courts of Honor. A knot is worn on the uniform to indicate he has earned the medal, when he is not actually wearing the medal. Religious emblem and the Arrow of Light, which the boy earns as a Webelos Cub Scout, are very important.

### **Troop Policies**

#### ***Financial Policy***

##### **Weekly Dues**

1. Allow the Scout to learn responsibility, helps train his memory and when old enough, allows him to earn his own dues money.
2. There is equal financial participation in the Troop by all boys
3. The dues are a source of funds to replace or acquire equipment used by the boys. Yearly re-registration costs are due in November for Council Recharter.

Dues of \$1.25 are assessed weekly and paid to the Troop Scribe. Dues must be current for the Scout to participate in Troop activities such as camping and advancement (i.e., Court of Honor). Dues are encouraged to be paid weekly by the individual scout as to help reinforce the use and handling of money (a Scout is Thrifty...), paying his own way, and supporting the Troop. All activity fees must be received two weeks prior to the outing, unless otherwise specified.

##### **Scout Accounts (Camping and Activity Fees)**

Each Scout has his own individual Scout Account. This account operates as the Scout's own "bank account" that he can put money in (through his fundraising efforts and direct deposit) to be used to pay for his camping and activity fees. The status of each individual Scout's finances is available from the PLC. A percentage (determined in advance by the Troop Committee) of most fund-raising profits related to the Scout's direct effort will be placed into the Scout Account of those Scouts participating in the fundraiser. The Scout can also make deposits to his Scout Account through the Troop Scribe to be recorded and given to the Troop Treasurer to be deposited. Expenses related to Scouting can be paid out of his Scout account. Examples of these types of expenses include:

Campout related fees, Winter camp, Transportation expenses, Camporee fees  
Summer camp, Scouting equipment purchases, High adventure trips

This list is not all-inclusive. If you have any questions, please ask your Scout leaders for advice.

When a boy leaves the Troop or is inactive for 12 months or more, any money remaining in his Scout account reverts to the Troop's operating fund. There are two exceptions to this policy:

1. If a boy transfers to another Troop, we will send the money to the new Troop, after written request.
2. If a boy has a brother who's also in the Troop, the money can be transferred to his brother's account. (Accounts are only transferred to an immediate family member. Exceptions can only be made by the Scoutmaster or Committee Chairman).
3. If a Scout continues with the Troop as an adult leader he may continue to use his account.

##### **Fundraising**

Camping and outdoor experiences can be safely enjoyed with a minimum of equipment and some ingenuity, yet there are some expenses that have to be met. The Troop bank account forms the reserve of funds to support Troop activities. Fundraising activities are available to the Scouts to provide an opportunity to earn money toward summer camp, monthly campouts, personal equipment (i.e. backpacks, sleeping bags, uniforms.) Fundraising is not, however, a primary focus of the Troop. The Scouts establish the plans for each year's activities and the Troop account exists to support these plans.

### ***Fundraising continued***

Troop Leadership will schedule several fundraisers a year. The funds for each activity will be divided between scouts and troop, depending on the fundraiser. The Troop earnings raised through these efforts help pay for camping equipment, badges, pins, transportation expenses, program materials, mailings and copying costs. All money earning projects will comply with BSA policy. **No Scout will be allowed to apply for financial aid if he does not participate in fundraising activities.**

### **Financial Aid**

Troop 30 offers financial aid, as needed, because no boy should miss out on the Scouting experience due to financial difficulties. In order to qualify for financial assistance the parent of the scout must contact the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or Charter Organization Representative, (whoever they feel most comfortable approaching.) The Scout, also must participate in all fundraisers. Lastly, a Troop Work Program is available to qualifying Scouts. In order to qualify the parent of the scout must contact the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or the Work Program Committee Member.

### ***Medical Policy***

#### **Emergency Treatment**

1. All Scouts and Scout leaders are required to have a Consent to Treat form to be kept on file by Troop 30 in event of medical emergencies. These forms will be updated annually.
2. In case of a medical emergency, the parents will be notified immediately.
3. In event parents cannot be reached, the injured person will be treated, as deemed necessary, by the leadership of the event.
4. Every Scout must have a current physical on file with the Troop . Adults over 40 must have a full physical form every year and on file with the Troop. All persons attending function must also have medical on file with the Troop.

#### **Medication**

The Boy Scouts of America recognizes that many Scouts and adult leaders take prescription medication to alleviate the symptoms of any number of legitimate acute or chronic conditions. The possession and use of legally prescribed medications is acceptable within the guidelines of this policy.

1. During Troop activities, each Scout must bear the responsibility for maintaining and administering any prescription medication. (Exceptions are made for drugs deemed hazardous by the leadership).
2. The Scout must provide adult BSA leaders with written authorization and instructions, signed by a parent or guardian, for any medication (prescription or otherwise) carried by the Scout.
3. All medications must be carried in the original container. In the case of prescription medication, a legible label showing the name of the medication, the prescribing physician and prescription number must be affixed to the container.
4. The Scout should carry only a quantity of medication sufficient to last the duration of the BSA sponsored activity. Please do not send full prescription.
5. Upon receipt of written authorization and instruction, adult BSA leaders may agree to assist the Scout in remembering to take the authorized medication at the proper times), but will not accept any responsibility for insuring that he does so.

(If the parent or guardian cannot accept these guidelines, he or she has the opportunity to accompany the Scout on the activity to insure that the medication is properly administered).

6. Pill Organizers: S-M-T-W-T-F-S compartment boxes seem sensible but are generally not allowed (when allowed, they require a note from the Doctor regarding the contents for that trip). Keep it simple; leave the pills/medication in the pharmacy container or original store packaging and send only the quantity needed.

#### **First Aid**

Minor first aid will be administered by the Troop Medic. All major medical needs will be administered by the highest qualified medical personnel present. All medical and first aid issues are documented, a copy will be given to the Parents of the Scout or Scouts involved.

#### **Troop Health and Safety**

In the interest of the safety, as well as the enjoyment and successful learning experience of the Scouting program, common sense and good conduct is required at all times.

The following special rules should be noted:

- NO** tree or fence climbing without specific leader permission
- NO** participating in waterfront activities without proper supervision
- NO** throwing of any objects except as part of an organized activity

### ***Troop Health and Safety continued***

**NO** use of cutting tools (ax, knife, etc.) without successful completion of Totin' Chip and Training, respectively. This rule applies to adults, as well as, Scouts.

**NO** flame in tents

The health of the Scouts is very important to us as well. In order to attend activities and outings greater than 72 hours in length as a Troop we require a completed Class A,B,&C medical form to be filled out for every Scout. It must be updated every year (the same forms required by Boy Scouts of America for camping at council camps). A Class A and B medical form will be kept on file for trips under 72 hours.

### **Medical Examinations**

Current policy of the Boy Scouts of America identifies three levels of medical evaluation. The health of the Scouts is very important to us as well. The required level depends upon the activities in which the Scout participates:

**Level A & B** -Covers most activities of less than 72 hours duration (weekend camping, etc.). Requires a health form statement to be completed by a parent along with a release for treatment form. These documents remain in effect as long as the boy is a registered member of the Troop.

**Level A,B,&C** - This is the physical exam that is required for participants in any event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours. Part C is to be completed and signed by a certified and licensed health-care provider—physician (MD or DO), nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. These forms are very important especially if the event will take the unit more than 30 minutes away from an emergency vehicle, accessible roadway, or when the program requires it, such as backpacking trips.

**Note:** We **WILL NOT** take a scout camping or on an outing away from our meeting place unless the appropriate medical certification and the release for treatment statement are on file.

### **Policy Regarding Incendiary Devices**

Campfires are an integral part of the camping experience for most Boy Scouts, so much so that an entire chapter of the Boy Scout Manual is devoted to the subject, but fire safety is one area which we cannot take for granted.

1. Troop 30 Scouts can not carry, on his person, any incendiary device, including paper or wooden matches, butane lighters (e.g. BIC lighters) or liquid fueled lighters (e.g. Zippo) without a Fire'em Chit. After completing training and receiving a Fire'em Chit, a scout may carry matches or butane lighters (e.g. BIC lighters) may be carried on backpacking trips, with SM approval. Any violating of training with fire safety will not be tolerated.

2. Scouts will use the buddy system when preparing and starting a fire for any purpose. A Fire must never be left unattended.

3. For high-adventure activities involving backpacking, individual patrols may petition, in writing, the Troop 30 Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster for permission to deviate from this policy. The request must list all incendiary devices to be carried by the patrol, the individual responsible for it and a plan for maintaining security of the devices. Prior to granting an exception to this policy, the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster must be satisfied that every individual involved in the activity has demonstrated good fire safety during previous Troop 30 outings and that adequate plans have been made to insure fire safety. Fireworks are not allowed at any scouting event.

### **Fire Policy**

1. All camp/state park rules concerning fires supersede the fire policy of Troop 30
2. In addition to these Troop 30 policy items, all BSA rules concerning fires, found in the Boy Scout Handbook, are still in effect (See chapter 4 entitled "Campfires and Camping Stoves" pages 248-255.)
3. All allowed campfires must be built within a fire ring - either provided at the campsite or with rocks
4. Build fires only where they are appropriate.
5. All ground cover within six (6) feet of the fire ring must be removed before any fire is begun. No burnable fuel (Firewood, tent, backpacks, etc), within (10) ten feet of the fire ring is allowed.
6. A filled water bucket or a filled dirt/sand bucket must be near the campfire.
7. All fires must be started without liquid fuel.
8. Charcoal lighter fluid or any other flammable liquid is **NEVER** to be used on an open flame.
9. Adult supervision is required when chemical fuels are used for lighting and cooking.
10. Refueling of stoves and lanterns is never to be done near an open flame.
11. No aerosol cans are to be sprayed into fires or flames.

### ***Fire Policy continued***

12. Only Scouts who have direct permission from SM or ASM may carry either matches and/or fuel filled lighters to campsites (for proper use only). Proper use of matches or fuel lighters include:

- lighting of campfires
- whipping the ends of a nylon rope
- lighting of camp stoves
- sterilizing needles or knives for first aid activity
- lighting of camp lanterns
- All other emergency purposes.

Any other use requires permission from the SM or ASM in charge of the camp.

13. Fires or open flames of any sort are not permitted in tents. In areas outside of the campsite, in groups of scouts participating in activities not normally associated with the need for fire, during play or fun activities, in traveling vehicles, or in any other dangerous condition.

14. Scouts are **NOT** to play with fire. This policy is general in nature, however it includes in part:

- any removal of burning wood or coals from the campfire
- building torches
- Flicking of matches
- Jumping over fires

15. Fireworks are prohibited from all Scout activities.

16. No foods, plastics, glass, or metals, are to be put in a fire.

17. When cooking over open fires, extreme care is to be taken to prevent bodily injury.

18. A burning fire or lighted stove is to **NEVER** be left unattended.

19. When finished using a fire, make sure it is cold out.

20. Leave a clean fire ring, or remove all evidence of any fire.

### **Attendance Policy**

1. Scouts to advance need - 50% at meetings and 50% on outings. Less than 50% is unacceptable.

2. Conflicts with schooling, sports, and Scouting are understood and are excused. However, if a Scout fails to meet the Scout Attendance percentages set forward above, for unexcused reasons, he will be considered inactive for that time period. Tenure for Rank advancement will not accumulate when a Scout is inactive, nor will the Scoutmaster sign off on the youth's Troop Participation. A special exception may be made for prolonged or chronic illness.

3. SPL, ASPL, and PL are expected to attend 85% of the Troop Meetings and 85% of the outings as a normal guide. If they cannot do this, another should be elected to fill the leadership position. These are essential positions and the heart of the Troop.

4. Scouts holding the position of QM, Scribe, Jr. Asst. SM, Troop Guide are expected to attend 60% of Troop Meetings and outings at a minimum.

5. For High Adventure outing and regular outings, if space is limited, priority is given to active Scouts first.

### **Inactive Scout**

An Inactive Scout is defined as follows: Scout is registered in the Troop but cannot participate in Troop activities for a stated period of time. This scout is not a discipline problem.

A scout will be considered for placement on the Inactive List by the PLC for one of the following reasons:

- Missing four consecutive Troop Meetings.
- Missing three consecutive monthly campouts
- Falling behind in dues by \$8.00 or more

When considering action for one of the above, the PLC will discuss the issue under the guidance of the Scoutmaster. The PLC has four courses of action:

- No action - matter dismissed
- Place scout on the Inactive List for one to three months with automatic reinstatement
- Place scout on the Inactive List for one to three months with mandatory appearance before the PLC for reinstatement
- Place scout on six months probation

(Scouts placed on the Inactive List for the above reasons will be contacted by their Patrol Leaders following the PLC decision.) Scouts may also be declared inactive by the Scoutmaster, or they may request voluntary placement on the Inactive List due to outside commitments (e.g., school sports, band, etc.).

### ***Inactive Scout continued***

Placement on the Inactive List will be for a period of time not less than one month and not to exceed three months. Scouts requesting voluntary placement on the Inactive List must do so in writing using the Inactive Status Request Form (available from the Scoutmaster). Eagle Scouts are exempt from items above.

All inactive scouts must pay back dues upon resuming an active status. Exceptions are those scouts who voluntarily requested placement on the inactive list for personal reasons. Any scout who is inactive or suspended cannot attend weekly Troop Meetings, monthly campouts, Patrol Meetings, or any special events including Eagle Projects, Courts of Honor, etc.

### **Policy Regarding Nonregistered Individuals, Webelos, and Venture Scouts**

Nonregistered adults or youth are not allowed to attend Troop 30 outings without approval from troop committee. Webelos Scouts are allowed to attend selected outing with prior approval from the troop committee. Visiting BSA Registered Venture Scouts and visiting BSA Registered Adults are allowed to attend selected troop outing with prior approval from the troop committee.

### **Policy Regarding Adult Behavior**

All adults working with the troop are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and professional manner. Adults are expected to lead by example; Scouts are influenced by the adult behavior around them. Adult behavior problems will be dealt with by the troop committee and all other concerned adults in a professional and timely manner. Adults should be ever mindful that Boy Scouts is a boy-run, adult supervised organization.

### **Policy on Scout Responsibilities Regarding Behavior**

- All members of the BSA are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Physical violence or threats of violence, hazing, bullying, theft, verbal insults, and drugs and alcohol have no place in the Scouting program, and any Scout who exhibits such behavior may have his membership in the Scout unit revoked.
- If confronted by threats of violence or other forms of bullying from another youth member (or members), a Scout should seek help from an adult leader in his unit and from his parents.

### **Policy for Scout Behavior on Campouts**

1. Follow directions of leaders.
2. While hiking:
  - a. Stay together
  - b. Use buddy system
  - c. Stay in line
  - d. Do not run ahead
3. At camp site:
  - a. Do your duties
  - b. Never leave camp site alone
  - c. Always let an adult know where you are going
  - d. Help set up camp site
  - e. Help take down camp site
4. Chain of Command:
  - a. Scoutmaster
  - b. Assistant Scout Master
  - c. Senior Patrol Leader
  - d. Patrol Leader
  - e. Scout

If a scout does not do his assigned duties he will: **First offense**-clean up camp site **Second offense**: miss out on fun activity, **Third offense**: be suspended from the next or multiple camp outs.

If a scout endangers his life or the life of another scout or has unacceptable behavior, he will be sent home **immediately**. The scout will have to call his parents and have his parents come to the camp site to pick him up. (In some instances this could be a great distance).

If a scout deliberately disobeys the Scoutmaster or commits an offense that causes a serious problem for the Scoutmaster or another boy, the Scoutmaster can and will call the parents to come pick up that scout **immediately** from whatever location as necessary. A disciplinary hearing will be held before the scout is allowed to resume regular scouting activities.

### **Policy on Hazing**

Troop 30 does not condone any form of hazing, initiation, bullying, ridicule, or inappropriate teasing. A Scout who is guilty of hazing another Scout will have his unit membership revoked. The Troop considers activities such as running a gauntlet, spanking machine, belt line, or any similar action intended to initiate or punish a Scout or group or class of Scouts as hazing. If the Scoutmaster has any doubts or questions about whether a specific activity or incident is hazing, he will consult with other adult leaders to determine if hazing is involved.

### **Policy on Roughhousing (Horseplay)**

Whenever Scout Leaders or Adult Leaders see roughhousing occur it is their duty to step in and either tone down or stop the activity. Parents, particularly those who serve as monitors at Troop meetings, are also responsible for pointing out any roughhousing they observe to the nearest Adult Leader so that the Adult Leader may take appropriate action. Games played at meetings sometimes involve physical activity and, if allowed to get out of hand, may result in unintended consequences. It is therefore imperative that Adult Leaders and parents closely monitor the activities and take appropriate action when needed. We want our Scouts to have fun and have it in a safe environment.

### **Policy on Electronic Devices**

Radios, tape players, phones or other electronic devices should not be brought on or used during camping trips. Cell Phones are discouraged on activities. This will permit maximum use of available time for Scouting activities. Items of this nature which are brought along on camping trips will be confiscated by the Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmasters if they cause issues and may be returned at the end of the trip. Exceptions are made for transportation to summer camp, but earphones are required in order to not disrupt other scouts. Other exceptions with prior approval from the SPL & SM. Adults and or Scouts maybe issued 2 way walkie-talkies and/or GPS.

### **Policy on Alcohol, Tobacco, & Drugs**

The use of any of these items is inconsistent with the aims of Scouting and use will not be permitted. Any scout using or participating in the use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs will be brought before the Scoutmaster and the troop committee for appropriate action. Parents will be informed and asked to participate in disciplinary action. Adults are to refrain from the use of tobacco, while in the presence of scouts. Alcohol and Drug use will not be tolerated by Adults.

### **Policy on Knives, Axes, Saws**

No Scout will be allowed to carry a hand ax or hatchet. Axes and Saws are to be used by those Scouts who have earned the BSA Totin'-Chit Card and then only for a task that requires the use of an ax or saw. The Troop will provide any qualified Scout the use of the Troop ax or saw. In order for a Scout in Troop 30 to use a knife, saw, ax, or hatchet, it is necessary for him to attend a "Totin' Chip" class. This is a class in the safe use of wood tools, including a pocketknife. Once the "Totin' Chip" is obtained, the boy may use these tools. If a boy does not follow the safe use rules, he will lose a corner of the card for each infraction. If all four corners are lost, the boy no longer has the privilege, and must take the class again. Severe cases of unsafe use will result in immediate loss of privileges.

## **Disciplinary Procedures**

Scouts not meeting minimal attendance requirements may face counseling and/or disciplinary action. Scouts not exhibiting proper behavior are subject to disciplinary action. Scouts not adhering to Troop Policies are subject to disciplinary action. These scouts may be placed on the Inactive List or face suspension from the Troop. The Scout oath and laws are the corner stones for good behavior. Each Scout learns the oath and 12 points of the law when he joins. He is expected to practice them throughout his Scouting experience. Occasionally, the adult leaders may need to remind your son of these principles. Disruptive behavior by a Scout will be dealt with in the following progressive manner):

•**SPL or PL Duties** - Minor infractions will result in the SPL assigning extra duties, with approval of SM or ASM, to the Scout or the PL will assign extra duties with SPL approval.

•**SPL Counseling** - The SPL will verbally counsel the misbehaving Scout to correct the behavior

•**SM Counseling** - If the SPL or PL is unsuccessful in correcting disruptive behavior, the SM or ASM will counsel the Scout.

•**Suspension** – If the Scout's disruptive behavior continues. Suspension is a disciplinary action. A scout may be suspended for breaking Troop rules, being disruptive at meetings/campouts, or for exhibiting conduct contradictory to the Scout Law. Guidelines for suspension are as follows:

**SPL:** may suspend a scout for one meeting

### ***Disciplinary Procedures continued***

**ASM:** may suspend a scout for up to one month

**PLC:** may suspend a scout for up to three months

**SM:** may suspend a scout indefinitely. A Suspended Scout is defined as follows: Scout is not behaving at the meetings/campouts and is suspended from normal Troop activities for a stated period of time. In order for a suspended scout to return to the Troop, he must meet in conference with the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster, the person who suspended him, and one of his parents. If the suspension was handed down by the PLC, the scout and his parent must come to a PLC Meeting. A suspended scout must also pay back dues before resuming an active status with the Troop. (Also Suspensions must be approved by SM)

•**Parental Notification** – If all disciplinary attempts fail, the Scoutmaster will seek assistance from the Scout's parent to correct the disruptive behavior. \*If the Scout's misbehavior continues on a campout, Parental Notification may mean the parents must come and pick-up their Scout (possibly a long distance from home).

•**Expulsion from Troop** - If Parental Notification fails, District office will be notified and the SM will expel the scout from the troop, for no less than six months and no more than one year. After which time, the former scout may reapply for registration with Troop 30 and must be accepted only by majority vote of PLC. Any scout who is inactive or suspended cannot attend weekly Troop Meetings, monthly campouts, Patrol Meetings, or any special events including Eagle Projects, Courts of Honor, etc.

**Note:** All disciplinary measures will be administered with complete fairness and without prejudice. It is also highly recommended that all family members, within the Troop, allow discipline to be measure out by another junior or adult leader. This will ensure for a fair and more enjoyable scouting experience, for both parties.

## **Grievances**

Use of the chain-of-command within both the youth and adult leadership is encouraged whenever possible. For minor grievances, Scouts should first talk with their Patrol Leader, who may take the matter up with the Senior Patrol Leader. The Senior Patrol leader, in turn may utilize the Patrol Leaders' Council and/or the Scoutmaster as resource to settle disputes or resolve issues. Similarly, Assistant Scoutmasters are encouraged to bring issues to the Scoutmaster's attention for resolution. The Scoutmaster may utilize the Committee Chairman or any member of the Troop Committee, as necessary.

For major grievances, disputes, and infractions of the "Code of Conduct", the Scout may go to any adult leader directly for resolution. Parents who perceive inequities or any infractions of the "Code of Conduct", or wish to discuss any issue, are encouraged to speak with the Senior Patrol Leader and/or an Adult Leader to resolve any concerns.

## **Troop Phone & Email List**

The Scoutmaster supervises the SPL in maintaining this list. It is important that this information is accurate, specifically in emergency situations. Please notify the Troop of any changes in your address, phone numbers and email addresses. Scouts may obtain a roster by talking with the SM or ASM.

## **TROOP CALENDAR**

The Adult and youth leadership plans the Troop Calendar one year in advance, so that you may be notified of upcoming events. Dates of upcoming events will be published on the Troop website. Scouts will also be given notices at Troop meetings. There is no excuse for not knowing about an activity or announcement. Part of the learning process in Scouts is to make the boys themselves responsible for keeping track of events. It is your Scout's responsibility to notify you of deadlines for money due, campouts, food shopping, menu planning, meeting dates, Patrol Leaders' Council meetings, Courts of Honor, etc.

## **Troop Website**

Troop 30 owns and operates a troop website located at: [www.scoutspark.com](http://www.scoutspark.com). All Troop information and forms are on this site. Any parent or scout wishing to add articles must see the ASM in charge of the website.

## **Lost & Found**

It is vital that all clothing and personal gear be labeled. Use an engraver for metal items. Ink washes off. Before packing for a trip, all items should be spread out and checked for markings. This cannot be overemphasized and is especially important for parts of the uniform and hats because they all look exactly alike. Lost and found items cannot be returned if the owner cannot be identified. Many go unclaimed.

### **Equipment**

There are two categories of equipment used by the Scouts. There is Troop Gear and personal gear .

#### **Troop Gear**

The troop maintains an inventory of equipment of a general issue nature, e.g., tents, dining flies, Dutch ovens, stoves, lanterns, axes, shovels and water buckets. The Quartermaster is responsible for issuing this equipment to Patrol Leaders who in turn may assign the gear to individual Scouts in their patrols. All equipment issued shall be returned to the Quartermaster upon demand for inventory or at the end of the Scouting year. The patrol is issued a dining fly, poles, a patrol box with stove, lantern, grill, griddle, cook kit, utensils and wash buckets. The Patrol Leader is responsible for ensuring that this equipment is properly used and maintained. All equipment will be inspected prior to return. Damages will be billed to the individual Scout responsible. In addition, careless behavior with the equipment may result in the Patrol/individual being banned from using certain equipment for a period of time to be determined by the SM, QM, or QM advisor.

Scouts are responsible for the proper loading and stowage of Troop equipment at the beginning and end of each campout. Scouts are not dismissed from campouts until the Troop gear is properly loaded in the trailer and the Scoutmaster (or ASM in charge) has given permission for dismissal to the SPL (or ASPL).

**All scouts are required to attend the Thursday Meeting, following camp, in order to help unload Troop equipment and ensure its proper storage!!!**

Any Scout who misses the unloading meeting, without a valid reason, will not be allowed to attend the next campout.

#### **Personal Gear**

Personal Gear relates to any gear not issued by the Troop Quartermaster or not owned by the Troop. All personal Gear should be labeled in some form or fashion, so as to not have gear confused. There is a vast amount of personal gear that your Scout can use and obtain, a majority of which is unnecessary and highly overpriced. We have fashioned a list for you to go by, on the following page.

### **Recommended Personal Gear**

#### **Equipping Your Scout for Scouting**

One of the more enlightening experiences of Scout parenthood is the first trip to the outdoor store to acquire boots, pack, sleeping bag, and other bits and pieces believed necessary for your boy's survival on his first campout. The price tags you encountered will leave a lasting memory. Fortunately, it is not necessary to buy everything at once, and in fact it is not wise to do so. We recommend you borrow or rent some large cost items before you purchase them. Your Scout should do the research (the web, magazines) and talk to older Scouts. If he is active in the purchase decision, he will have more respect for and pride in his equipment. Please talk to the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters or an experienced camper before purchasing equipment. Your son will **NOT** need a tent. Some Scouts have individual or 2 man backpacking tents but not everyone needs one. Talk to the adult Troop Leaders if you have questions or 'need' an item.

***Troop 30 has some equipment that may be issued out to active scouts if absolutely needed, such as tents, flashlights, cook kits, backpacks, sleeping bags, compasses, etc. Troop 30 does encourage every scout to eventually acquire their own camping equipment.***

Check Chapter 8 of the Scout Handbook and the internet for inexpensive alternatives.

**Required for all meetings:** Class A Uniform (unless specified by SM), **Boy Scout Handbook**, Notebook and pencil (for notes and Handouts)

#### **Required for camping/outdoor activities:**

Class A uniform (Depending on activity), Troop 30 T-shirt (Class B Shirts also depending on activity)  
Lightweight hiking boots & Lightweight rain poncho, Flashlight with extra batteries (the smaller and lighter the better), Compass, Whistle, Pocketknife - lock blade, 2 1/2" blade (non-locking blades and buck knives are not allowed), **Water bottle or canteen and Personal first-aid kit**  
Personal mess kit and eating utensils (required for hiking trips), Sleeping Bag



**TROOP 30 HANDBOOK**  
**BOYS SCOUTS OF AMERICA \* SHANNON SPORTSMAN CLUB**

<b>Troop 30- 3 day Cold Weather Backpacking Checklist</b>	
<b>Backpack with hip belt , Coat</b>	Check out Web for -Cold Weather Camping tips
<b>Clothing</b>	Extra shoes/flipflops(Very Light,For in camp only)
Change of Socks(wool works better than cotton)	<b>Cleanup Kit</b>
Change of underwear,1set Long Jons	Bar Soap( very small)*
Sleep Pants & t-shirt (nylon if possible)	Toothbrush short handle*
Rain gear(poncho,rain suit,or Garbage bag)	Toothpaste in Small container*
Pack Cover(can use Thick Garbage Bag)	Small Towel & Wash Rag
Hiking pants (Non Blue Jeans Preferred)	<i>(light &amp; easy to dry type ...shamwow)</i>
Gloves(light Pair of Cheap Work Gloves)	Deodorant in Small container*
<b>Sleeping Gear</b>	Toilet Paper Personal amount (in a ziplock bag)*
Tent,Fly & Stakes (split bet ween buddies)or Hammock&Tarp	Baby Powder Personal amount *
<b>Sleeping Bag</b>	<b>Survival</b>
Sleeping Pad (\$7 blue foam cut to cover head to knees*)	First-Aid Kit (In ziplock bag)*
<b>Cooking Gear</b>	Moleskin
Food (reduced package & compact + Menu)*	Compass
Food - Personal snacks(Jerky,Corp,Etc.)*	Whistle
Cook kit (pot, Pot holder ,etc),Buddy stove Part	Rope or Cord
Spork or Long Tea Spoon ,Dish Soap*	<b>Optional</b>
Water instant mixes (Lemonade,Tea,Grape,Energy)	Hiking Stick
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Light Jacket(nylon,Windbreaker)-optional
Pocketknife	<i>(as light as possible for camp to let boots dry )</i>
<b>Water Bottle or Canteen</b>	Hat
Fire kit(bic lighter , Fire Starters ,Matches ,Dryer Lint)	Cold weather Vest
<b>Flashlight</b> Small (headlamp ) w/extra batteries	Mesh laundry bag(put clothes in for pillow)
Toboggan & Watch	Menu Planner
Emergency Contact Phone Number	
Signed Permission Form & Trip Info (Arrive & Depart)	* "in Small container" or * denotes repacking from original store bought packaging
<b>A Dozen Handy Packing Tips:</b>	
1) Rain gear, first-aid kit, sweater,	10) Plan Meals & repackage to way less&ease of access
2) clean socks, and lunch under main flap	11) Remember <b>C O L D</b> :
3) Map, water bottle,and snacks in outside pockets.	<b>C</b> Clean - dirty clothes loose their loft and get you cold.
4) Stay hydrated. It's easy to get dehydrated in the winter. Eat and drink plenty of carbs	<b>O</b> Overheat - never get sweaty, strip off layers to stay warm but no too hot.
5) Small frequently used items in pants pockets (knife, compass, matches, moleskin)	<b>L</b> Layers - Dress in synthetic layers for easy temperature control.
6) Check out Scoutstream.org-	<b>D</b> Dry - wet clothes (and sleeping bags) also loose their insulation.
7) Each Scout must Have a Tent Buddy , No one man tents unless preapproved. (only Hammock Campers are single sleep arrangements)	12) COTTON is Not Good! If Possible, Do not bring cotton. Staying dry is the key to staying warm. Air is an excellent insulator and by wearing several layers of clothes you will keep warm.
8) For stability, keep center of gravity low by placing heavy items at bottom of pack.Pad the front of pack's interior with clothing for cushioning against back.Clothing should be divided into large ziplock bags.	Remember the 3 W's of layering -Wicking inside layer, Warmth middle layer(s) and Wind/Water outer layer. Wicking should be a polypropylene material as long underwear and also sock liner. Warmth layer(s)should be fleece or wool. The Wind/Water layer could be Gore-Tex or at least 60/40 nylon if possible.
Pack Weight should be no more than 20% of Scouts Weight!!	Pack Ahead of Time...Not at the Last Minute!
	If YOU Pack Your Own Pack,You Will Know
	What and Where it is!!!!

**Troop 30 has some equipment that may be issued out to active scouts if absolutely needed, such as tents, flashlights, cook kits, backpacks, sleeping bags, compasses, etc. Troop 30 does encourage every scout to eventually acquire their own camping equipment.**

<b>Meal Planning</b>	
Menu planning and a properly balanced diet become crucial in cold weather camping. Unfortunately, it is sometimes difficult to do. Who wants to cook and clean a full course dinner or grand slam breakfast in zero degree weather? Most important to realize is that you will require a greater calorie intake in cold weather. In addition to increased activity, increasing your metabolism is a good way to increase your warmth. A proper diet should be high in carbohydrates and protein. Many of the menus have already been planned. However, we would recommend sending some snacks along. Rather than bringing cookies and chips, replace them with cheese and crackers, granola bars, and trail mixes. Ultimately it is important to have a high calorie diet that is high in protein and carbohydrates.	
<b>Troop 30 Backpack Menu Planning Sheet</b>	
<b>Friday Night</b>	<b>Tips:</b>
	Foil Cookery is a great way to cook real food on the trail.
	Many can be prepared and frozen before you go.
<b>Breakfast</b>	An affordable alternative to dehydrated foods.
	Take care transporting frozen hobo meals in your pack ,
<b>Lunch</b>	if put it in the wrong place ,the surrounding stuff can get wet.
	Your imagination is the only limitation to what you can eat!
	Use two layers of lightweight, or one layer of heavy duty
<b>Dinner</b>	aluminum foil . Foil should be large enough to go around
	food and allow for crimping the edges in a tight seal.
	This will keep the juices and steam in. Use heavy foil 3X
	the width of the food. Fold over and roll up the leading
<b>Breakfast</b>	edges. Remember to make it easy to open when hot to
	check for desired temp. Then roll sides for a steam proof seal.
<b>Trail Snacks</b>	
	Save yourself a lot of hassle in camp (and possibly
	running out of something), by measuring
	out and packaging individual meals in plastic bags.
<b>GROCERY LIST</b>	Get rid of the cardboard. Add labels with
1. _____	cooking instructions. Squeeze tubes or widemouth
2. _____	bottles of various sizes are good for
3. _____	portioning out exact amounts of syrup, peanut butter,
	and the like. It's wise to doublebag powdered foods,
	such as potato flakes or bulk hot cocoa.
4. _____	
	<b>Gorp</b>
5. _____	GORP stands for "Good Old Raisins and Peanuts", and in its
6. _____	simplest form that's what it is. There are many Premixed
	store bought versions. The recipe is simple, mix raisins &
7. _____	peanuts together. Sometimes M&M's are added, but keep
	them to a minimum. For a fun variation trying adding
	almonds ,sunflower seeds ,dehydrated apples or
	bananas slices.
8. _____	
	<b>Notes:</b>
9. _____	
10. _____	
11. _____	
12. _____	
13. _____	
14. _____	

### ***Recommended Backpacking Meal Planning***

There are basically two kinds of backpacking food. You could get freeze dried Backpacking meals or MREs, in tremendous delicious varieties but at tremendous prices. Or, you can get inexpensive food (also with a wide variety of tasty choices) at your local grocery store this is most often the best way to go.

Backpacking food is lightweight, tasty, calorie packed and quick cooking. However, each meal type is different lunch is usually heavier, more bulky, high energy, and no-cook. Cooked dinners are typically dehydrated so they are lighter. I've found that good backpacking food for breakfasts consists of about half no-cook and half quick cook. Don't forget to bring liquid flavorings (hot cocoa, etc).

Food can easily account for 1/4 or more of the bulk and 1/4 or more of the weight of your pack. A very good general estimate for food quantities is 1 1/2 to 2 pounds per person per day. Save yourself a lot of hassle in camp (and possibly running out of something), by measuring out and packaging individual meals in plastic bags. Get rid of the cardboard. Add labels with cooking instructions. Squeeze tubes or wide mouth bottles of various sizes are good for portioning out exact amounts of syrup, peanut butter, and the like. It's wise to double bag powdered foods, such as potato flakes or bulk hot cocoa.

A flexible meal organization system that works is to put all dinners into one bag, all breakfasts into one bag and all lunches into one bag. This way, you can match the meal to the situation; for example, deciding on the fly, when to use no-cook versus cooked breakfasts, instead of rummaging through sacks labeled by "day".

Backpacking takes an amazing amount of energy. Backpacking food needs to supply your body with roughly 2,500 to 5,000 calories a day, the lower figure for easy summer hiking, the higher figure for cold weather, intense mountaineering. The middle ground, 3000 to 4000 calories, is right in line with the 1 1/2 to 2 pounds of food guideline. Good backpacking food for quick, short term energy are carbohydrates, starches, and sugars such as breads, cereals, pasta, crackers and the like. You also need long term energy, provided by proteins and fats, such as canned meat, cheeses, dried eggs, dried milk, cheddar cheese, chocolate and nuts.

#### **Breakfast Backpacking Foods**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| · MaltOMeal or Wheat Germ or Cereal and powdered milk(add raisins for more bulk) | option on stove, lots of fuel, syrup in small container)     |
| · Rice (add raisins and dried milk)  | · Powered eggs   |
| · Granola (with dried milk)  | · Pre-cooked eggs and Sausage Frozen and wrapped in tin foil |
| · Fruit cocktail (small cans)  | · Pita Bread in Tin Foil                                     |
| · Pancakes (need small pan, spatula, low heat                                    |  |

#### **Lunch Backpacking Foods** (many of these items are great for quick no cook breakfasts)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| · Bagels (cream cheese)  | · Wheat Thins and/or Pringles                        |
| · Pita bread   | · Cheeses (string cheese, blocks of mozzarella, etc) |
| · Granola bars   | · Tuna (sold in pouches now)                         |
| · Candy bars   | · Lunch meat   |
| · Dried fruit  | · Lunchables   |
| · GORP (nuts, M&M's raisins, yogurt peanuts, crackers, dried fruit, etc) |  |
| · Crackers   |  |

#### **Dinner Backpacking Foods**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| · Cup O Soup, Cup Noodles  | · Ramen Noodles with (Tuna, Chicken, Steak, Beef Jerky, even use peanut butter) |
| · Lipton Rice or Noodles   | · Spaghetti with dried veggies  |
| · Instant vegetable soup   | (use 6ozcan of tomato paste to make sauce)                                      |
| · Potatoes and gravy   | · Burritos(tortillas, refried beans, cheese, peppers, salsa, onions             |
| (3-5 Minute gravy mix)   | · 5 Minute Rice   |
| · Instant mashed potatoes and peas   | · Stove top stuffing· Summer sausage  |
| · Frozen hobos   |   |
| (steak, chicken, hamburger, potatoes, onion, peppers, frozen cut vegetables, .etc) |   |

**TROOP 30 HANDBOOK**  
**BOYS SCOUTS OF AMERICA \* SHANNON SPORTSMAN CLUB**

***Recommended Backpacking Meal Planning Continued***

Foil Cookery is a great way to cook real food on the trail. Many can be prepared and frozen before you go. Foil Cookery is definitely an affordable alternative to dehydrated foods. Take care transporting frozen hobo meals in your pack, because if put in the wrong place they will make the surrounding stuff wet. Your imagination is the only limitation to what you can eat in the boondocks! Use two layers of lightweight, or one layer of heavy duty aluminum foil. Foil should be large enough to go around food and allow for crimping the edges in a tight seal. This will keep the juices and steam in. Use heavy foil three times the width of the food. Fold over and roll up the leading edges. Then roll sides for a steam proof seal. Wrap so checking food when hot is easy to open and close. *Note: Cheese does not do well in foil cooking.*

**Liquids & Extras**

- hot cocoa (add marshmallows)
- powdered lemonade or Crystal Lite
- Apple, Aluminum foil, brown sugar and a dash of cinnamon (Baked apple)
- Cold Brew(Lipton)tea bags/sugar packets
- Trail mix & Jerky

***Don't forget the Golden Rules of Cooking***

1. Wash your Hands      2.Be Safe      3.Clean Up

***Useful Notes:***

*Planning your menu is very important to having a successful trip.  
Sometimes it's a good idea to try some food Prep and cooking at home to work out how it will work on the trail.*

**UNIFORM INFORMATION**

**Full Field Uniform**

Worn at the Scoutmaster Conference, Boards of Review, Troop Court of Honor, Eagle Court of Honor, Parades, and all Troop meetings unless designated by the Scoutmaster.

Official Boy Scout tan shirt

Green Shoulder Loops (not each color on either side)

Official Boy Scout pants or shorts (recommended-pants similar in color and style may be substituted)

Official Boy Scout belt

Official Boy Scout socks, green (recommended similar in color and style may be substituted but not required)

Merit Badge Sash (after a Scout has earned five badges) or OA Sash

Medals Scouts have earned in Boy Scouting

Patches: Council Strip, Patrol Patch etc.

**Activity Uniform (Troop T-shirt)**

Worn at camp, on service projects, or as directed by Scoutmaster.

Troop 30 T-shirt or other Boy Scout T-shirt

Regular pants / shorts (jeans or green pants)

**NOTE:** Everything should be labeled with the Scouts name! Troop 30 discourages the wearing of any anti-social clothing (i.e.-shirts with foul language, distasteful groups)

Troop 30 has a small inventory of used Boy Scout uniforms. You may select from these items for your use. You are encouraged to donate your son's uniform to our supply as he outgrows it.

## **Participant Code of Conduct and Troop Policy Agreement of Troop 30**

### **Statement of Understanding**

All youth and adults participants are selected to represent Troop 30 and the Boy Scouts of America based on their qualifications in character, camping skills, physical and personal fitness and leadership qualities. Therefore, all youth participants and their guardians are asked to sign the code of conduct and statement of understanding as a condition of participation, with the further understanding that serious misconduct or infraction of established rules may result in expulsion, at the participant's expense. Ultimately we want each participant to be responsible for his or her own behavior, and only when deemed necessary will the procedure be invoked to send a participant home.

**All youth and adult participants are expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct as follows:**

1. The units adult leadership (scoutmaster and assistants) are responsible for the supervision of its membership in respect to maintaining discipline, security, and code of conduct. Neither the unit leader nor the trip director will be responsible for loss, breakage, or theft of my personal items. I will label all my personal items and check items of value at the direction of the leaders. Theft is grounds for expulsion.
2. The Scout Oath and Law will be my guide.
3. I will set a good example by keeping myself neatly dressed and presentable. The scout uniform is the only acceptable dress at specific times.
4. I will attend all scheduled programs and participate as required in cooperation with other unit members and the leadership.
5. In consideration of other unit participants, I agree to follow bedtime and other schedules of the unit, or as otherwise directed by leadership.
6. I will be responsible for keeping my tent and personal gear labeled, clean and neat. I will adhere to all recycling policies and regulations. I will do my share to prevent littering at all times.
7. I understand that the purchase, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs by any youth and adult members is prohibited. This standard shall apply to all participants, both youth and adult leaders.
8. Serious and / or repetitive behavior violations by youth and adults may result in expulsion or serious disciplinary action or loss of privileges.
9. I understand that gambling in any form is prohibited.
10. I understand that possession or detonation of fireworks is prohibited.
11. I will demonstrate respect for unit and camp property and be personally responsible for any loss, breakage, or vandalism of any property as a result of my actions.
12. While participating in all activities, I will obey the safety rules and instructions of all staff leaders and supervisors.
13. All firearms remain in the possession of the adults designed as instructors and will be handles in accordance with federal and state laws.
14. Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters will be guided by the Scout Oath and Scout Law and will obey all local, state and federal laws.
15. Scoutmasters and Assistants must receive Youth Protection Training and follow the guidelines therein.
16. Hazing has no place in Scouting. Nor does running the gauntlet, belt line or similar physical punishment. Leaders and older youth will prevent all youth from being initiated into the troop by hazing activity.
17. Adult leaders and youth leaders must instruct youth to avoid confrontation with groups, demonstrators, or hecklers and must assume a passive reaction to name calling from individuals or groups. Units will be removed from the area of potential conflict immediately.
18. Serious violation of code and policy may result in expulsion from the campout at the participants own expense. All decisions will be final.

I certify, by my signature, that I have read the Participant Code of Conduct and the Troop Handbook. Furthermore, I agree to abide by the conditions in the Code of Conduct as a participant in the Troop activities which apply, herein, and I agree to and understand all statements made in the Troop 30 Handbook.

**Signatures of:**

Participant\_\_\_\_\_

Scoutmaster\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

## The logo for BSA Troop 30, Shannon, GA, is a black and white graphic. On the left, a large, stylized eagle with its wings spread is the central element. The eagle's chest is covered by a shield with vertical stripes and stars. Surrounding the eagle are numerous circular and oval medallions, each containing a different BSA symbol, including a compass, a knot, a fleur-de-lis, a cross, and a dollar sign. Above the eagle, a silhouette of a person is shown climbing a rope. To the right of the eagle, a line of seven scouts is depicted in silhouette, walking from left to right. They are wearing hats and carrying backpacks, with some holding walking sticks. Below the scouts, the text "BSA TROOP 30" is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath this, "SHANNON, GA" is written in a slightly smaller, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom right, "CHARTERED 1931" is written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a white background.



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