

Scouts BSA

Troop 496

South Florida Council
Panther District

Welcome New Scouts and Parents!



Dear Scouts and Parents:

Welcome! We are glad you have considered our Troop. Scouting is one of the oldest and largest organizations around. It is also immediately known and respected throughout the world. Troop 496 and its leaders believe strongly in the character building that comes from following the Scout Oath and Law. The youth that get the most out of Scouting are those whose parents are visible and active. Parents play a key role in the success of Scouting; you help motivate your Scout and provide moral support, and help with Troop activities. Your excitement and involvement will rub off on your child.

Scouts get out of Troop 496 what they put into it. Leaders try to keep the “outing” in Scouting by offering plenty of activities of all kinds. We ask you, our Scouts, to lead the Troop as much as possible. That includes work planning and preparing for campouts, and weekly meetings. As Scouts learn and grow with us, their responsibilities will increase. Developing self-reliance, self-confidence, and leadership are key goals of the Scouting program. We hope this information will be useful to you. Please read it together, along with the first pages of the Scouting Handbook. The exiting transition from Webelos to Scouts BSA, or entering BSA for the first time, can be confusing. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask one of our leaders.

Activities

Troop 496 has many events and activities. Every two weeks, our Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) meets with our adult leaders to plan fun and interesting activities. These may include:

- Summer camp
- High adventure trips (older Scouts)
- Troop camp-outs
- Hikes and other one-day activities
- District Camporees

Troop website: thetroop496.com

As this website is still being developed, please let us know of any bugs, omissions, or suggestions you have. Thank you in advance!

Adult Leadership

Parents are encouraged to show support for their Scout as an adult leader with the Troop. Many hands make light work. The more adult involvement with the Troop, the better program we can provide for our Scouts.

Before a parent joins the Scouts on an outing, it is important to remember that Scouts is a Scout-lead run program, not an adult program. ***The Scout-run Troop is one of the most basic and important principles of the Scouting program.*** If a parent participates in an activity, it is very important that he or she does his or her best to be **adult Scout leaders, not parents**. In order for the Scout program to succeed, the Scouts have to be free to make decisions, succeed, fail, and learn by running their own Troop. Failure is sometimes the best teacher, and success is a reward for both the Scouts and the adults that guide them. Parents should not be offended if the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster ask them not to make suggestions or to not help in certain situations, and should not worry when the Youth Scout Leader appears to be leading the Scouts to make a bad decision. Adult leaders are there to guide and maintain safety, and we will never allow a Scout to make a mistake that would compromise their safety. Being a Scout leader is not easy in any capacity and becomes even harder when your own child is involved. Rest assured that the adult leaders want parents to participate in all aspects of the Troop, and they will do anything they can to make the experience fun and rewarding.

Having trained leaders is one of the requirements for the Troop to earn the Journey to Excellence Award (JTE). All adult leaders serving an active role with the Troop must make arrangements for the BSA training class appropriate for their position. This training is offered several times a year through Council and helps to ensure that everyone involved in the Troop's leadership understands the goals of Scouting. Most of the required training courses are available online via MyScouting.org.

All adults that wish to participate in any capacity with any Scouting activity must first complete the Youth Protection Training (YPT) program online. Youth safety is our first priority, and there can be no exceptions to this rule. Completion of the course certificate is good for a two-year period. Adult leadership is **always** two-deep, which means two adults must be with the Scouts at all times. No Scout should ever be in the company of an adult without being in sight of others, or without having another adult or Scout in attendance. Adults may transport a Scout from one location to another without another adult in the vehicle as long as there are at least two Scouts in the vehicle. If at least two adults cannot accompany Scouts on a trip, the trip will be canceled.

Parental Commitments

Scouting is a family affair. No Scout is expected to travel the "Trail to Eagle" by himself. Parents should encourage their son to work on advancement and take full advantage of the Scouting program. Parents are invited to all Troop meetings and especially Courts of Honor, usually held three times a year.

Advancement through First Class may be signed off by designated Senior Scouts, Troop Guides, or the Scoutmaster and their assistants. Above First Class, advancement may only be signed off by the Scoutmaster and their assistants. Merit Badges must be signed off by the registered Merit Badge counselors. A parent may not be the counselor for his or her own son unless it is in a Merit Badge group setting and has prior approval from the Scoutmaster. When a Scout is ready to begin a Merit Badge, the first step is to ask the Scoutmaster for permission to start working on the badge. The Scoutmaster will then sign off in Scoutbook and/or give the Scout a "blue card".

If a parent has a special skill or training, it is highly encouraged for them to serve as a Merit Badge counselor for interested Scouts. There are over 135 different Merit Badges available, however, parents should not sign off their Scout's requirements. Have another leader to review and sign.

Of course, there is always room for anyone who wants to take a more active role in working with the Scouts to plan their program. Council training programs are held several times a year, and everyone is encouraged to take advantage of them. All of the Troop 496 leaders have taken various training courses. For the Scouts, **Junior Leadership Training (JLT) is offered at least once a year at no cost through the Troop. National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is also offered through the South Florida Council for a fee. Scouts wishing to hold a position of leadership must take one of these courses to be eligible for a leadership position.**

The Troop Committee oversees the Troop, helps plan activities, approves our calendar, and forms the Board of Review for each Scout's rank advancement. Our Troop also needs parents to help counsel Merit Badges, assist with special events, and drive to activities. Many of our best ideas have come from parents who just spoke up. Because the Scouts run the Troop, "helping" is usually just "watching." Your help makes the difference. National BSA rules require at least two adults at every meeting or activity. Some activities require adults with special training.

Events must be canceled if a sufficient number of leaders are not available.

Youth Leadership

A major goal of Scouting is to develop leadership skills in our youth. Youth leaders are elected by their peers to help run the Troop. The highest positioned youth leader is the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL). The SPL runs the Troop activities, with the Scoutmaster's help, following a plan made at a PLC meeting.

Parents of new Scouts have the tendency to lead the Scouts, as was the case in Cub Scouts. In Scouts BSA, the parents do not run the meetings, the Youth Leaders do. Parents, please try to curb your instincts: don't do something for your Scout that he can do for himself. Sometimes the best education is to fail and start again. The lessons learned will not be forgotten, and the Scout will develop self-reliance. Unless it is an immediate safety concern, please try to not interfere with the youth leaders.

Meetings

Troop 496 meetings start every Friday night at 7:30 and end at 8:30. They are typically held at St. Mark Catholic Church, except for school holidays and summer months. If we are unable to meet at our usual meeting place, an announcement will be sent out with a substitute venue (often Brian Piccolo County park or Wolf Lake Park). Once Scouts arrive, they are expected to remain at the meeting unless the leaders are told of a special situation prior to the meeting. Occasionally, the meeting may be held at another location due to a special event. Scouts and parents will be told in advance.

Patrol Method

Our Troop is organized into patrols of six to ten Scouts, each with an elected Patrol Leader. The Patrol Leaders and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader(s) have a key role in helping the SPL and adult leaders accomplish the goals of the Troop. New Scouts work with an adult assistant Scoutmaster and/or Troop guide, to learn the required skills. This working together is called the "patrol method" and is a cornerstone of successful Scouting.

Advancement

Advancement is the way that you grow as a Scout, and become eligible for Troop leadership positions and other honors. You start as a "Scout" and progress to "Eagle" in the following order: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second-Class, First Class, Star, Life, and then Eagle.

Advancement is how you become eligible for Troop leadership positions, participation in NYLT, high adventure camping trips, and honors such as election to the Order of the Arrow.

Merit Badges

Although you start with no rank, you can progress to First Class rank within one year. To do this, you will work with other first-year Scouts, and with specific youth and adult leaders. Bring your Scout handbook to **every** meeting and activity. This is very important so progress can be promptly recorded.

Once you reach first class, Merit Badges become the main advancement tool. These can be worked on at any time. There are over 135 Merit Badges to choose from. Many Merit Badges (like pets, athletics, theater and citizenship) may be worked on at school or at home. You may work independently on Merit Badges that interest you and receive credit for that work. Leaders may help you by allowing time to work on badges during meetings.

Camping offers many opportunities for advancement and Merit Badges as well. You must get the Scoutmaster's permission and a blue card before starting to work on that badge. This allows the leader to follow up while you work with a specific, approved counselor who has experience in the subject.

Communications

The following section often proves to be the weakest link for a Troop. Parents, please note that for the majority of the Scouts in the Troop, important information will be sent out via email, text, or WhatsApp. Please share this information with your son so he is “in the loop”. Through Scoutbook.com, there is a way to add your son’s phone number and/or email so that he can receive Troop messages directly.

Scoutbook has proven to be an excellent tool to inform you about virtually all aspects of Scouting.

WhatsApp has several groups set up within it for Troop 496 adult leaders and others.

Much of our communication will take place via email. Depending on the nature of the message, the email will be followed up by a phone call. It is worth taking a moment to remember that email is not a replacement for direct conversation: either in person or by phone. If an email is sent and not acknowledged, it should be assumed it was never received. If a Scout sends important information through email, follow up to make sure it was received. “I sent you an email” will never excuse a Scout who has missed a deadline or not fulfilling some other important responsibility. Your son’s direct line of communication will be with their Patrol Leader. If the Patrol Leader does not have the information needed, the Scout must then go through the chain of command and contact the ASPL and then, if necessary, the SPL.

Uniform Requirements

The Scouts BSA is a uniformed organization. The Scout uniform is an outward sign of identification with the Scouting program and should be worn with pride. The uniform makes our Troop visible as a force for good, and creates a positive image in our community. It gives the Scout an opportunity to practice being neat, take pride in his appearance, display his awards and badges, and feel a part of a group.

Our policy is that the volunteers and unit members are expected to be in complete uniform, as much as financially possible, during unit meetings and activities. The Scout uniform is the **only place** where official insignia that you or your son has received, earned or are entitled to wear is to be displayed. The uniform instills pride in ownership and membership in the Troop. During Scouting activities, it is easier to recognize who is “in our Troop” or other Troops, even from a distance. Finally, wearing the uniform reminds Scouts of their obligation to uphold Scouting ideals and to serve others.

The Class A Uniform consists of the following items:

- BSA short or long-sleeved khaki Scout shirt with appropriate patches and insignia properly affixed
- Scout shorts and/or Scout long pants
- Scout socks
- BSA green web belt with Scout buckle or Scout leather belts (unless pants are self-belted)
- Slide and neckerchief (neckerchief is red with a black border and black inscribed BSA/fleur-de-lis Scout handbook)
- Scout hat (optional)

Scouts should be prepared for a uniform inspection at any time.

If Scouts are in class A uniform, they may not wear any hats except Scouting hats. This includes Troop hats, camp hats or OA hats. Only the official BSA hat should be worn to a Court of Honor. Class A uniform is required for admittance to a Troop meeting, unless otherwise revised. It is expected of your son to be in his uniform for Scouting just as well that he needs to be in his uniform for other activities such as baseball, karate, etc.

Class B uniform replaces the Class A shirt. It is a red t-shirt displaying our number. Scouts should wear their class B t-shirt under their class A shirt to Troop meetings. Often after the opening pledge and class A uniform inspection, the Troop will break down into the class B uniform for the evening’s activities.

Wearing the Uniform

The Class A uniform is required to be worn:

- Courts of Honor
- Traveling to and from events
- Troop meetings and functions, unless otherwise advised (Merit Badge sash is not required at general meetings)
- Boards of Review
- District, Council and National Scouting events
- Scoutmaster conferences, depending on location
- Other events specified by the Scoutmaster

For more formal occasions, the Scout may add their Merit Badge sash and religious medals.

For members of the Order of the Arrow (OA), the OA sash is to be worn at OA functions and other functions that render away service such as elections, camp promotion, or OA tap outs. OA sash is not the same as Merit Badge sash, nor is it to be one folded over the Scout belt.

Wearing of military clothing, camouflage and imitation of the United States Military uniforms at any Scouting activity is a violation of national BSA policy.

A Scout is expected to wear their uniform with the shirt buttoned and tucked in. Brass on brass will be enforced.

The following additional rules apply to clothing worn at campouts or other events where a class A uniform is not required:

- Clothing items including headgear that display or advertise drugs, illegal controlled substances, alcohol, tobacco, suggestive wording, profanity, gangs or advocate violence are never permitted.
- Grooming or attire, which disrupts Scouting activities, are not appropriate and therefore are prohibited.

Knives

Scouts must pass specific requirements before they can work with knives, axes, and saws. In order to use woodworking tools, including a personal pocketknife, he must earn the Totin' Chip by demonstrating knowledge of the safety precautions that are important when using wood tools.

Sheathed knives, those with fixed blades that do not fold, are not to be used at any time during Troop activities. Small pocketknives, multi-bladed camp tools, or single-blade knives (that lock open and fold the into the handle) are acceptable. When in doubt, consult a Scoutmaster before purchasing a new knife.

The whittling chip, if earned when the Scout was a Cub Scout, does not carry over to Scouts. He must not use any knife, ax or saw until he earns the Totin' Chip.

The requirements for these awards are listed in the Scouting handbook, and the Scout should review them as soon as possible after joining the Troop. After a Scout demonstrates his knowledge and satisfies the Scoutmaster or a Scout designated by the Scoutmaster that he has mastered the required skills, he will be issued a Totin' Chip card signed by the Scoutmaster. The card must be in the Scout's possession at all times so that he can prove he have mastered the appropriate skills.

If a Scout is observed disregarding the safety rules for fire or wood tools, he may be asked to present his card, and one or more corners may be cut off. If a Scout loses all four corners of any card, he must again demonstrate that he understands the rules and regulations before he will be issued another card. Throwing a knife at any time will result in disciplinary action up to possible expulsion from the Troop. Only a Scoutmaster or their designee may sign or cut corners from a Scout's Totin' Chip card.

Behavior

Scouts are expected to live their lives in compliance with the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

There will be no throwing rocks, sticks, or any objects that may cause harm or personal injury.

A Scout is clean in thought, word, and deed. Vulgarity or profanity is not acceptable Scout behavior and will not be tolerated.

Verbal or physical bullying of any Scout will not be tolerated. Fighting and hazing are not permitted; this is not considered Scout– like conduct.

Each Scout will respect leadership at all times. The SPL and the adult leaders will be addressed with their proper title (Mr., Ms., Mrs.) before using their name. Any Scout that refuses to cooperate with either youth or adult leaders at any Troop function can be sent home (parents will be called to pick the Scout up). The Scout will not be disrespectful. Scouts refusing to conduct themselves in accordance with the Scout Oath and Scout Law will be subject to disciplinary action.

Destruction of Troop, patrol, or personal property will not be tolerated. At the Scoutmaster’s discretion, repairs or replacement will be at the Scouts or parents/guardians own expense. All Troop equipment will be maintained properly including all tents, lanterns, utensils, dishes, pots, pans etc.

The youth leaders of the Troop will recommend Scouts who are repeatedly involved in discipline issues to the Scoutmaster. The following procedures will be followed:

Incident #1: Verbal warning from youth/adult leadership

Incident #2: Conference with the Scoutmaster

Incident #3: Scoutmaster conference with the Scout’s parents

Incident #4: Membership termination with the Troop

If at any time, any Scout (or his parents) does not feel safe on any Troop activity, he should immediately bring the matter to the attention of the adult leaders in charge.

It should be noted that since its inception in April 1996, this Troop has taken great pride in the fact that serious conflicts and poor behavior have been virtually nonexistent. Throughout our history, there has been a special sense of camaraderie with all the Scouts of this Troop.

Troop Calendar Development

Before September 1st of each year, the Troop will schedule and execute a planning conference. At the annual planning conference, the Troop calendar for the next 12 months will be created by the PLC with the guidance of the Scoutmaster. The plan for the next 12 months will be comprehensively detailed.

Prior to the conference, the Patrol Leaders will get input from their patrols about activities or outings they are interested in. The Patrol Leaders will then bring those ideas to the conference for consideration, and the PLC will determine the Troops schedule for the coming year. After the PLC has determined the year's calendar, it is submitted to the Troop committee for final approval. The purpose for committee review is to ensure that the calendar provides a quality program that meets the goals of the Troop and supports Scouting ideals. Care must be taken to make sure the plans made by the Scouts during the planning conference are not superseded. After the committee approves the plan, it will be distributed to all the Scouts.

The calendar will be reviewed by the PLC periodically to make any needed updates for modifications.

The Scouts should remember that the yearly planning conference is their chance to decide what their program is going to be like. During the conference, it is the Scouts that decide what will be done for the following year. It is the Scouts who have the responsibility to come up with ideas for activities and plan to make sure they are doing exciting, memorable events. This is the best chance for the Scouts to take control of their program and make it what they want it to be.

Dues and Fees

Dues

Dues are used to pay for advancement and equipment upgrades/maintenance. Other fees will be to cover fuel and entrance expenses that the Troop will have for individual outdoor events. As this is a Scout-run Troop, food expenses will be dealt with at the patrol level. Patrols will come up with their own menus for outdoor events and will have autonomy in planning, purchasing, storing and carrying their patrol food. If the cost of Scouting presents a problem, please discuss it with a leader in private. Scouts who owe money may not be able to receive advancement or take part in future activities until all obligations are paid. A Scout is thrifty!

Troop dues are \$100 per year paid in two installments of \$50 due September and January. Parents may instead pay a one-time reduced rate fee of \$90 if paid in September. Scouts crossing over from Cub Scouts later in the year will pay a pro-rated reduced rate.

Medical Forms

The BSA annual health and medical record (known as the “medical form” or “annual physical”) is designed to help ensure that all participants in the Scouting program are healthy enough for the adventure of Scouting. It is not intended to limit participation but to inform and protect.

To keep up with possible changes and health status, the form needs to be updated annually or when a participant’s health information changes. This record expires annually.

The four part form (A, B1, B2, and C) serves as a single place to document a participant’s medical history and recent medical examination. It also provides consent for treatment in the event a participant needs care when traveling away from a parent or guardian.

Parts A and B should be completed for all participants and Scouting leaders. Part C should be completed by a licensed healthcare provider before the participant attends any event that is longer than 72 hours such as a summer camp, trek, or multi-day excursion.

The optional “high adventure risk advisory” (formerly known as Part D) needs to be shared with the examining medical provider during the pre-participation examination to explain known health risks for each of the BSA’s four high-adventure bases. Additionally, your council may develop a risk advisory specific to your council camps or other properties or events.

The forms will be maintained by the Troop health officer. To assure privacy, the forms will be carefully stored and used only as needed to provide for planning and rendering care. The AHMR will not be scanned, stored, or sent electronically except as specifically directed for a BSA national event.

Neither the BSA nor the AHMR is subject to the Health Insurance Probability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). A Scout is trustworthy; records and sensitive information should be maintained in a private manner.

The forms can be obtained at www.Scouting.org.

The Troop will also need a front/back copy of the Scout’s and/or leader’s health insurance card before attending outdoor events.

Closing

Welcome to the Scouting adventure. Get ready for hard work, exciting times, and most all, fun!

To the Scouts:

Remember, this is your Troop. How well it functions, what adventures you experience, where you go, and what you do are your choices. Get involved with the Troop leadership. Take pride in your patrol. Become good friends with the other Scouts in the Troop. Help out when needed, and when you have a job assignment, do it well. Work hard to become an Eagle Scout.

You can talk to a lot of adults who once had the opportunity to become an Eagle Scout and regret not taking that opportunity. No matter what your rank, remember that the Scout Oath and Law are more than just words we say at Troop meetings. The Scout Oath and Law are ideals Scouts use to guide their actions throughout their lives.

To the parents:

Remember that your son is embarking on a new adventure. He will need your support, but you have to walk a fine line between encouraging him to do well and actually doing it for them. Sometimes a thing not given teaches more than a thing easily gotten. Encourage your Scout to work hard and commit to working on his ranks and Merit Badges. Join us as a leader if you have the time and interest. Help out whenever you can to make this a better Troop. Thank you for allowing your son to join us on this great adventure!

Junior Leader Job Descriptions

This section details the leadership positions within the Troop. Leadership is important for advancement and development as a young man. Even if the Scout does not currently hold a leadership position in the Troop, he should make sure he understands the responsibilities of those that do. Voters have a responsibility in this country to monitor the performance of those they elect so that they can make informed choices in the future. Those being led should take responsibility to make sure that those chosen as leaders do their job.

Senior Patrol Leader

RESPONSIBLE TO: Scoutmaster

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Preside at all Troop meetings, events, activities, and annual program planning conference.
- Chair the PLC
- Name appointed youth leaders with the advice and consent of the Scoutmaster
- Assign duties and responsibilities to other leaders
- Work with Scoutmaster in training junior leaders
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

RESPONSIBLE TO: Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Be responsible for training and giving direct leadership to the following appointed junior leaders: Scribe, Librarian, Troop Historian, Instructor, Quartermaster, and Chaplain Aide
- Help with leading meetings and activities as called upon by the SPL
- Take over Troop leadership in the absence of the SPL
- Perform tasks assigned by the SPL
- Function as a member of the PLC
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Patrol Leader

RESPONSIBLE TO: Senior Patrol leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Plan and lead patrol meetings and activities
- Keep patrol members informed.
- Assign patrol members a job and help them succeed.
- Represent the patrol at all Patrol Leaders' council meetings and at the annual program planning conference
- Prepare the patrol to take part in all Troop activities.
- Develop patrol spirit
- Work with other Troop leaders to make the Troop run well
- Know what patrol members and other leaders can do
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Assistant Patrol Leader

RESPONSIBLE TO: Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES: Assist the Patrol Leader in:

- Planning and leading patrol meetings and activities
- Keeping patrol members informed
 - Preparing your patrol to take part in all Troop activities
 - Take charge of the patrol in the absence of the Patrol Leader
 - Represent the patrol at all Patrol Leaders' council meetings in the absence of the Patrol Leader
 - Help develop patrol spirit
 - Work with other Troop leaders to make the Troop run well
 - Set a good example
 - Wear the uniform correctly
 - Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Troop Guide/Instructor

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Scoutmaster and new-Scout Patrol

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Help Scouts meet advancement requirements through First Class
- Advise Patrol Leader on his duties and his responsibilities at PLC meetings
- Attend PLC meetings with the New Scout Patrol Leader
- Prevent harassment of new Scouts by older Scouts
- Help assistant Scoutmaster train new Patrol Leader when he is elected
- Guide new Scouts through early Troop experiences to help them become
- Instruct Scouting skills as needed within the Troop or patrol
- Attend at least 70% of the Troop meetings and activities during his service period
- Prepare well in advance for each teaching assignment

Junior Assistant Scoutmaster

A Scout must be at least 16, but not yet 18 to serve as a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. On his or her 18th birthday, he is eligible to become an assistant Scoutmaster.

RESPONSIBLE TO: Scoutmaster

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Function as an Assistant Scoutmaster (except for leadership responsibilities reserved for adults 18 to 21 or older).
- Accomplish any duties assigned by the Scoutmaster
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Troop Quartermaster

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Keep records of patrol and Troop equipment
- Keep equipment in good repair
- Issue equipment and see that it is returned in good order
- Suggest new or replacement items
- Work with Troop committee member responsible for equipment
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Chaplain Aide

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Keep Troop leaders apprised of religious holidays when planning activities
- Assist chaplain or religious coordinator in meeting the religious needs of Troop members while on activities
- Encourage saying grace at meals while camping or on activities
- Tell Troop members about religious emblem program of their faith
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Den Chief

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Scoutmaster and new-Scout patrol

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Serve as the activities assistant at den meetings
- Meet regularly with the den leader to review the den and pack meeting plans
- If serving as a Webelos den chief, prepare Cub Scouts to join Boy Scouts
- Project a positive image of Boy Scouting
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Troop Librarian

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Establish and maintain a Troop library
- Keep records on literature owned by the Troop
- Add new or replacement items needed
- Have literature available for borrowing at Troop meetings
- Keep system to check literature in and out
- Follow up on late returns
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Troop Historian

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Gather pictures and facts about past activities of the Troop and keep them in scrapbooks, wall displays, or information files.
- Take care of Troop trophies and keepsakes.
- Keep information about Troop alumni.
- Set a good example.
- Wear the uniform correctly.
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law.

Troop Scribe

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Attend and keep a log of PLC meetings
- Record attendance and dues payments
- Record advancement in Troop records
- Work with appropriate Troop committee members responsible for finance, records, and advancement
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Troop Webmaster

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Establish and maintain a safe and secure Troop website
- Ensure Troop website is a positive reflection of Scouting for the public
- Work with scribe and historian to manage the Troop's electronic communication tools
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Outdoor Ethics Guide

RESPONSIBLE TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Help Troop plan and conduct outdoor programs that emphasize the principles of “Leave No Trace”
- Help Scouts improve their outdoor ethics decision-making skills
- Support Scouts working to complete the relevant requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class rank
- Set a good example
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law

Guidelines for Overnight Scouting

A: Indoor Overnight Event

- Class A Uniform for Travel
- 32 oz. Water Bottle
- Backpack or Day Bag
- Change of Clothing
- Personal First Aid Kit
- Scout Handbook (Delete Handbook for "C" Backcountry trip)
- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- Toiletry Kit
- Travel Money (i.e. fast food, etc.)

B: Overnight Outdoor Campout (A + the Following)

- Bath Towel/Washcloth
- Bug Repellent and Chapstick (lip balm)
- Cooking Gear (provided by Troop)
- Cordage and Duct Tape
- Hat (suggested)
- Headlamp/Flashlight
- Hiking Boots and Camp Shoes
- Mess Kit
- Patrol Food/Snacks
- Pocket Knife (If Earned Totin' Chip)
- Rain Gear
- Sunglasses (suggested)
- Sunscreen
- Tent (provided by Troop)

C: Backcountry Overnight Hiking Campout (A + B + Following)

- Backpack Clothing: 2-3 Pairs of Wool/Synthetic Socks (avoid cotton)
- Fire Starter (i.e. lighter, Ferro Rod, Mg Block, Waterproof Matches)
- Hiking Stick(s) (suggested)
- Water Carrying Bag (provided by Troop)
- Replace Bath Towel with a Pack Towel
- Second 32 oz. Water Bottle
- Water Treatment (provided by Troop)
- Whistle and Compass

D: Overnight Canoeing Campout/Trip (A + Following)

- 32 oz. Water Bottle (at least one bottle) + one gallon of water per person per day
- Bug Repellent
- Cordage and Duct Tape
- Brim Hat (suggested)
- Mess Kit
- Patrol Cooking Gear + Firestarter/Camp Stove and Patrol Food
- Troop Tents
- Closed-toed Water Shoes + Camp Shoes
- Sunglasses (suggested)
- Swimsuit and Towel
- Water Treatment (provided by Troop)
- Wet Dry Bags/Waterproof Bags (all gear should be stored in bags)
- Whistle

One Day Hike

Scouts Travel in Class A
Bug Repellent
Hat (Suggested)
Headlamp/Flashlight (If Night Hike)
Hiking Boots
Hiking Socks + Extra Pair
Map and Compass
Pack Towel
Personal First Aid Kit
Pocket Knife (If Earned Totin' Chip)
Rain Gear
Snacks/Electrolytes
Sunglasses (Suggested)
Sunscreen
Two 32 oz. Water Bottles
Water Treatment (If necessary)
Whistle

Summer Camp

32 oz. Water Bottle
Appropriate Merit Badge Books
Backpack and Day Bag
Bug Repellent
Changes of Clothing (At least 5 Class B Shirts)
Cordage and Duct Tape
Hat (Suggested)
Headlamp/Flashlight
Hiking Boots/Camp Shoes
Mess Kit
Money for Travel Food and Trading Post
Other Items as Needed by Special Programs
Personal First Aid Kit
Pocket Knife (If Earned Totin' Chip)
Rain Gear
Scout Handbook and Notebook with Writing Instrument
Sleeping Bag
Sleeping Pad
Sunglasses (Suggested)
Sunscreen
Swimming Suit
Toiletry Kit
Towel (At Least One)