

*Welcome to*

*BSA Troop 101*

*Kingston, TN*  
*Catoosa District*  
*Great Smoky Mt. Council*



*Guide For Parents*

Dear Parent,

As Scoutmaster of Troop 101, I welcome you to the scouting adventure! We look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you and your son. Whether he knows it or not, your son has just made a commitment to maintain strong values, good citizenship, and physical and mental fitness. You will find the Boy Scouts of America to be the strongest character-building programs you are likely to encounter. With the exception of a few paid positions at the District, Council and National levels, Scouting is an all-volunteer organization, but one with tried and true methods and comprehensive training for adult and youth leaders. Parents are encouraged to be a part of the program and are invited to attend Troop meetings and quarterly Courts of Honor. There are abundant opportunities for adults to help out—you might offer your time and talents to help when needed by providing transportation, helping with fund-raisers, or serving as merit badge counselors; you might be interested in becoming a member of the Troop Committee or serving as an Assistant Scoutmaster. We can assist you in participating in various training programs that BSA has to offer. You and your son have joined a very active troop with a 60-year plus history of offering quality program activities to youth. If you have questions or concerns about any aspect of the program at any time, I ask that you please talk to me or my Assistant Scoutmasters, or bring your concerns before the Troop Committee at regularly-scheduled committee meetings. The minimum that we ask from you is your encouragement for your son to participate regularly in troop activities and maintain a positive attitude.

Troop 101 is sponsored by the Kingston Lions Club, and meets at Bethel Presbyterian Church. Through the Scout Oath, your son will be asked to declare his intent to “do his best to do his duty to God and country”. We ask that you help him learn what your religious beliefs require of him as he develops into an adult; in the BSA program, we encourage and expect belief in God, regardless of your specific religion. We honor the flag and the responsibilities of citizenship in the United States of America, and we expect your son to exhibit proper respect for the laws and symbols of his country at all times, especially during scouting events. We also ask you to help your son understand that his appearance and behavior, especially during scouting events, are the only outward signs the general public has of what scouting is all about.

You'll find that scouting is very much about character development. You may notice that we place a great deal of value on that thing which we refer to as “Scout Spirit”, that characteristic of scouts who *really* live their lives according to the principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law, maintaining positive attitudes in their daily activities. A scout who *really* has Scout Spirit doesn't *have* to be *asked* to help- he sees a need and takes care of it. He offers his cheerful service when it is needed. Scout spirit means being friendly and courteous and doing your best to maintain a cheerful attitude, even when it is difficult to do so. It means “getting with the program”, not complaining when things don't “go your way”, but being a team player. Will your son develop these characteristics overnight? Maybe. Maybe he already has them. Or maybe he will have to grow and develop some of these characteristics as he becomes a young adult. In Troop 101, we encourage “Scout Spirit” and good character from the moment a boy joins the troop. As the scout grows and advances, we will place increasing emphasis on such characteristics; as each boy participates in his Scoutmaster Conference prior to rank advancement, he will be asked to discuss how he has demonstrated Scout Spirit.

As a parent, you can help us by reminding your son of his obligation of Scout Spirit and by encouraging him to be a Team Player. Scout Spirit means that a Scout does his best to live by the Scout Oath and Scout Law on a daily basis, and not just during scouting activities. Scouts are expected to be active in Troop and Patrol meetings, events, and outings. To be active means that the Scout regularly takes part by attending meetings and activities, wearing the appropriate uniform and having the appropriate attitude. He always sets a good example for others to follow. Our goal is to “deliver the promise” that is made to every boy who picks up a scout handbook for the first time and reads about the program. Parents can help us by being supportive of those efforts, and by encouraging their son to do his best. We ask that parents encourage their sons to participate and advance through the ranks of scouting, but please don't expect too much, too soon. Only a small percentage of scouts reach the rank of Star; fewer still make Life. Only an estimated 4 percent of scouts will reach the rank of Eagle. Although many parents of young scouts want their boys to become Eagle Scouts, please do be patient, and do not rush your son. Scouts who are younger than 15 years old are usually not mature enough to have the leadership skills which are so essential to being an Eagle Scout. As boys grow older, they become more able to take on the responsibilities of an Eagle Scout. We expect scouts who are determined to reach Eagle to truly exemplify the many ideals set forth in the Scout Oath and Law, and always conduct themselves in such a manner as to bring honor to themselves and the Scouting Program. The Eagle Scout displays unquestionable Scout Spirit at all times and serves as a beacon to others in demonstrating the high ideals and principles of the Boy Scouts of America.

Troop 101 is dedicated to fostering the growth of boys into young men by giving them opportunities to develop good basic values, to learn about leadership as well as how to be a good follower, to practice organizational skills and teamwork, to become self-reliant, and to feel the pleasure of individual accomplishment through a program of outdoor activities. Please help us realize our goals by providing encouragement to your son and by allowing him to acquire such characteristics by demonstrating his own independence. Help him, but please do not do it for him; allow him to grow and develop the skills which are offered by the BSA program. The most important factor in keeping your son in scouting and helping him to achieve these goals is to encourage him and make sure that he's having fun. We work hard at this and we hope you will help us in any way you can. Together, we can make it happen!

Sincerely yours,  
Roger Richmond  
Scoutmaster

## Troop 101 Specific Information

- **Registration:** In order to participate in troop activities, youth must be registered scouts, with the exception of boys who are visiting the troop to determine interest. Adults are encouraged to become registered Scouters with an assigned Adult Position, particularly if they regularly attend campouts and other major activities.
- **Fees:** Upon entry into Troop 101, all scouts are expected to pay a registration fee, currently \$20.00, which includes their first year's registration and Boy's Life subscription. In subsequent years, as long as a scout works a minimum number of hours at Troop Christmas tree sales, annual fees are paid out of troop funds. If a scout works an additional minimum number of hours at Christmas tree sales and fund-raising events, the troop also pays a portion (determined annually by Troop Committee) of BSA Summer Camp and other "high adventure" activities, including Philmont Scout Reservation, Florida Sea Base, Northern Tier Canoe Base, National Jamboree, and National Order of the Arrow Conferences.
- **Fund Raisers:** Troop 101 has a long history of Christmas tree sales in Kingston, a fund-raising activity which has primarily funded troop activities for over 40 years. The Troop is currently exploring other supplemental fund-raising activities, particularly ice and soft drink concessions at major Roane County events. Fund-raisers provide our troop with the revenue necessary to operate a quality Boy Scout program, including gear and equipment needed for outdoor activities. Since this is done for the benefit of the boys, scouts are required to work at these activities. Additionally, since some of the work must be restricted to adults for safety reasons, parents of Scouts must also participate.
- **Troop Meetings:** Regular troop meetings are held every Monday night, from 7:00 until 8:30 at Bethel Presbyterian Church, 203 S. Kentucky St., Kingston. Exceptions to the meeting night are as follows: we do not meet on Mondays that follow outdoor activity weekends (unless there is a specific need to meet, and an announcement is made), and we generally do not meet on Mondays that occur on holidays, unless we announce otherwise.
- **Attendance:** Active participation and regular attendance is expected at all Troop, Patrol, District, Council, and other Scouting activities. Although Troop 101 does not place specific attendance requirements, if a scout is not participating on a regular basis, advancement may be restricted. The Troop makes it a policy to be understanding of conflicting activities such as team sports and band. Part of Scout Spirit is trying to achieve 100% attendance; however, we try to be mindful that boys, and their families, are busy with many activities these days.
- **Uniforms:** "Field uniforms"- We would like to have all scouts in a complete official BSA uniform, which includes an official BSA shirt, pants, socks, and belt, but we understand that a full BSA official uniform is costly. Complete "Field" uniforms (also known as "class A's") for Troop purposes includes an official BSA shirt with proper emblems. We request that scouts wear official BSA pants or other "olive drab" colored pants that are similar in appearance to BSA pants (short pants or long). This is the required attire for all troop meetings, unless otherwise specified. Official BSA socks and belt are currently optional, but suggested. Scouts who participate in certain Council activities will be required to have a complete official uniform. For camping and other outdoor activities, "Activity uniforms", commonly known as "class B" uniforms- Troop 101 T-shirts or other BSA T-shirts, are expected. When attending outdoor activities such as District and Council camporees, "Field" uniforms (Class A) *must* be included in every scout's personal gear.

- **Boy Run Organization:** Troop 101 is a *boy-run* organization, as specified by the BSA Program. Being “boy run” means that meetings are planned and carried out by the scouts, with senior youth and patrol leaders in charge of activities. Adults are there to advise and assure that meetings are orderly and functional. Tenure in some form of leadership position is a rank requirement as the boy progresses into higher ranks. Every boy will have an opportunity to hold a leadership position of some type, whether it be elected or Scoutmaster-appointed.
- **Youth Leadership:** All Scouts in leadership positions must demonstrate their Scout spirit by wearing the Scout uniform, attending Troop and Council events, and adhering to the Scout Oath and Law in their daily life. The junior leaders must set the example for the rest of the Scouts to follow. **Patrol Leader Council Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month at 6:00 PM. Attendance at the PLC is mandatory for Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders, and Senior Youth.** All Troop activity planning is done at these meetings, so it is imperative that all junior leaders attend. Scouts in leadership positions who fail to meet these requirements and/or who fail to meet minimum expectations of the position may be removed from office until such time that they display necessary standards of leadership positions.
- **Troop Committee Meeting:** The Troop Committee meets on the second Monday of every month, also at 6:00 P.M., and is attended by the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, the Troop Committee Chairman, and Troop Committee members. Interested adults are invited to sit in on any given meeting to see how the committee operates, or to join this committee, which oversees general operations of the troop.
- **Service Projects:** Troop 101 participates in various service projects during the year that benefit the community or the Scout Council. Active participation from each Scout is expected. A large part of the commitment each scout makes in the scouting program is service to others. While service is needed to complete certain rank advancements, community service is a basic tenet of scouting and all scouts are expected to participate, whether needed for advancement or not.

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## Outdoor Activities

### Camping Policies:

Troop 101 maintains an active Camping/Outdoor schedule; monthly outings are planned on an annual basis, with a July through June Troop calendar. The Troop attempts to strictly adhere to the annual calendar; however, in some circumstances, adjustments must be made. We try not to let weather be a factor, so that scouts will have the experience of camping in all climates and conditions; however, health and safety must be a consideration, and, on rare occasions, outings may be cancelled or postponed. Age and experience of scouts will be a factor in making such decisions. Scouts are required to attend two meetings immediately prior to a scheduled outing in order to attend that outing, unless he has a valid reason for missing and approval has been granted by the Scoutmaster in advance.

Parents are invited to participate in outdoor activities; we do ask that parents understand that Troop outdoor activities should not be considered to be family camping opportunities- we ask that siblings not be brought along on camping trips and pets be left home. Special approval may be granted during certain activities, with Scoutmaster approval. Scouts are expected to participate in all Patrol activities at campouts and other outdoor activities. Please do not expect your son to share a family tent or eat his meals separately from his patrol. While it is acceptable for a young, entry level scout to tent with a parent initially, he

is expected to soon find a scout “buddy” for a tent mate. Parents are also reminded that adults participate in troop campouts for the purpose of maintaining safety and providing guidance and instruction to the scouts. Often, we parents have a hard time knowing when to back off and let the boys do things. If you are helping, for example, with patrol cooking, please give assistance to the *patrol*, not just to your son, and refrain from “taking over”. It is ok for boys to make a few mistakes - we all do; making mistakes is a very good way to learn. Please allow the scouts to do the work; give them pointers and assistance, but don’t do the job *for* them. On the other hand, we discourage parents from attending campouts if they do not intend to participate, to the extent practical, in the activities the troop is engaged in during the outing. We expect parents and other adults who attend campouts to camp *with the boys*, using similar materials and equipment. We have recently established an “adult patrol”, which will function much the same as a youth patrol, intended to show the boys, by our example, that working together as a team has many advantages. Parents attending campouts must agree to follow all rules imposed by BSA, Troop Leaders, or the organization hosting an event such as a District Camporee, etc. Your example of cooperation and adherence to rules is the most important lesson you can impart to your son and his fellow scouts. Above all, please remember that there are designated adult and youth leaders for each and every campout, and all interactions with the scouts should be done at all times in consultation and cooperation with these leaders.

We discourage soft drinks and excessive amounts of other “junk food” on campouts, and ask that parents refrain from bringing coolers and other containers full of them for the boys. Soft drinks tend to increase dehydration; water is much preferred for hydration during outdoor activities. Candy spoils appetites for the nutritious foods we will be expecting scouts to prepare, which are needed in order to maintain health and stamina during outings. Campouts and other outdoor activities are generally seen as a refuge from electronic equipment. Radios, tape players and TVs are generally prohibited on Troop events and during Troop meetings; Walkman type personal radios may be used with approval of the Scoutmaster or his designee. We ask that parents who attend campouts respect this policy; personal Walkman type radios are acceptable for adults who wish to follow special events such as ball games.

- **Cost of Camping:** Typically, cost for food is \$10.00 per weekend event, plus any additional fees such as campsite rental or Camporee fees. After initially stating his intention to attend a camp out, refunds will not be given to scouts once food is purchased. Food will not be purchased for scouts who fail to pay camping fees by the meeting immediately prior to the outdoor activity; unless arrangements are made with approval from Troop Leadership such scouts will not be allowed to attend that campout. Groceries for campouts will be purchased by scouts from each patrol. Receipts for groceries, as well as any money not spent, are to be turned in to the Scoutmaster. It is rare that \$10 does not cover the cost of food for a weekend- please do not allow scouts to exceed that in amount per individual when buying groceries. Value shopping (a Scout is Thrifty!), and careful planning (Be Prepared!) are among the skills we want to develop in our Scouts. Please assist your son in determining adequate quantities and assuring that all necessary supplies are needed. In our experience, Scouts usually do not drink milk on camp outs- even those boys who drink vast amounts at home. Please be *very* conservative when buying milk.
- **Transportation:** Transportation is provided by troop parents and Scouters preferably utilizing a minimum number of vehicles necessary to transport the troop and all it’s gear. Please help us by driving when asked, and by limiting the number of vehicles that can only carry one or two scouts. Please try to remember that every adult does not need to have their personal vehicles at every troop activity. We’d like to minimize our impact on the environment.
- **Equipment:** Troop 101 has a considerable amount of camping equipment including tents, cooking equipment, storage equipment, etc. This equipment was purchased over many years and is worth a considerable amount of money. To replace it due to carelessness or malicious conduct would divert Troop funds from other, more worthwhile uses. Every adult and Scout is expected to take proper care of this equipment. This includes proper usage, proper

storage, and proper cleaning. Malicious destruction of Troop property will be subject to disciplinary action and in extreme cases may result in having the scout/parents responsible for replacement or repairs.

- **Personal Equipment:** Personal items needed for a typical campout are described in the Boy Scout Handbook. Electronic and other costly equipment is disruptive and does not belong on troop campouts and is to be left at home. ***The Troop will not be responsible for any personal articles of Scouts that may be lost or stolen on Scout functions.*** Radios, Walkmans, compact disc players, Game Boys, or any other noise producing devices will not be allowed on any Troop Activities. Card collections and other expensive personal items should not be taken. *No sheath knives or weapons of any kind, including knives with blades longer than 3", are permitted on any scouting experience.*
- **Volatile fuel:** Flammable materials on campouts are restricted for use with adult supervision only and should be limited to fuel for lanterns and cooking stoves. Fuel will be provided by the Troop. Parents should insure that Scouts do not bring any flammable fuel to campouts. Tent heaters are prohibited. No lanterns, candles, or other flames are permitted in tents. Aerosols such as insecticide and deodorant are also prohibited.
- **Summer Camps:** Troop 101 encourages every Scout to attend summer camp. The Troop will submit registrations for Camp Buck Toms and pay registration fees in full by March 1<sup>st</sup>, in order to take advantage of early registration. Parents must have paid their portion to the troop no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>. Scouts who pay after this date will pay the higher, non-discounted fee. Late registration may result in a scout being less likely to get all of his merit badge requests. Currently, Troop 101 pays \$60.00 towards each scout's fees, assuming that the scout met his minimum required hours in fund raising. Camp scholarships are available through BSA for

families requesting financial assistance. The Scoutmaster can provide this information, and all inquiries are kept confidential. Partial payment is usually required with scholarships. Scouts who have been to camp a few times are encouraged to participate in the C.O.P.E. or Mountain Man programs at Camp Buck Toms, or to serve on camp staff for the summer.

- **Tobacco and alcohol products:** BSA regulations and Troop 101 policy stipulate that no adult smoke or be seen using any tobacco products in the presence of scouts. Adults are role models for youth, whether they are aware of it or not. Adults who smoke or choose to use other tobacco products may not use them in the presence of scouts at any time, and will be asked to stop, if seen doing so. Use of alcohol or illegal drugs is strictly forbidden at any scouting activity.
- **Adult leader conduct:** Adult leaders shall exhibit the ideals of Scouting when working with boys. They will strive to set the example in their handling of scouts. Standards of conduct in personal habits, language, hygiene and interaction with Scouts will be in accordance with the Scout Oath and Law. The scoutmaster is responsible for the conduct of adult leaders. The principle of two-deep leadership will be maintained at all times. All registered Adult Scouters are required to have completed BSA Youth Protection Training; parents who are not registered Scouters are also encouraged to participate in Youth Protection Training.
- **Order of The Arrow:** OA is considered an honor scouting program for scouts who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their everyday lives. Scouts are elected into the Order by their peers and become eligible for election when they have reached First Class and have camped for at least 15 days and nights, including 6 days/ 5 consecutive nights of long term camping nights, such as summer camp.

## Safe Scouting

Troop 101 strictly follows the **BSA Guide To Safe Scouting** <http://www.ussscouts.org/safety/g2ss.html> for all Troop activities. All registered Troop Leaders must be trained in BSA Youth Protection within 60 days of their registration. Parents who are not registered Scouters are also encouraged to participate in Youth Protection Training. Troop 101 maintains a Two-Deep Leadership policy, as set forth by BSA: two registered adult leaders or one registered leader and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings. When in transit, all passengers must use seat belts. When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian. When separate facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers. Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes and taking showers at camp, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults must protect their own privacy in similar situations. Activities with elements of risk should never be undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures. Discipline used in Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.

## Advancement

All Scouts are encouraged to advance in rank as well as in their Scouting skills and knowledge. This doesn't mean each Scout will advance at the same pace. Each Scout is an individual and must be allowed to advance according to his own ability and ambition. NOTE: Parents, please do not set your own timetable for your son to meet a certain rank. Instead, encourage him along the Scouting trail by working at his own speed. Remember, Scouting is supposed to be a fun experience! We also ask that parents not initiate merit badges or approach Troop Leaders to request that items be signed off in the handbooks. Scouting is about taking individual responsibility and leadership, and scouts are expected to take their own initiative. If you feel that your son is not advancing quickly enough, please schedule a meeting with the Scoutmaster to discuss this important subject. Scouts must fulfill all the requirements for each rank as stated in the Boy Scout Handbook. This must be done to the Scoutmaster's satisfaction. "Scout Spirit" is required for each level of rank advancement. "Scout Spirit" includes active participation, and an eager, helpful, and supportive attitude. Scouts who demonstrate poor attitudes may be restricted from advancement by the Scoutmaster or the Board of Review. Older Scouts are expected to exemplify this "Scout Spirit" to and for younger Scouts. Following a Scoutmaster's conference, each scout will present himself, in Class A uniform, for his Board of Review.

At Troop meetings, as well as working on his own, your son will have a chance to earn many badges and awards. As he earns these awards and badges, he will progress from Tenderfoot through the Second and First Class ranks into the more difficult requirements for Star and Life Scout badges. And finally, he may earn the most distinctive rank of all - Eagle Scout. Scouts are encouraged to take initiative and keep up with their personal rank advancements- parents, please advise your boys as needed, but allow them to do the work themselves. **Boys advancing to Eagle are required to demonstrate a greater level of independence and leadership in their daily lives, during Troop activities, and as part of their Eagle Project. Scouts who do not demonstrate a high degree of Scout Spirit and Leadership may not be recommended to the Eagle Board of Review as successful candidates for the rank of Eagle Scout.**

- **Merit Badges:** No Merit Badges may be started without the approval of the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. The Scout needs to identify and contact a Troop-approved Merit Badge Counselor prior to beginning work on any merit badge. Please understand that Troop 101 has a long-held policy that no parent may sign off on advancement or merit badges for their own sons, except when serving in an approved capacity as Merit Badge Counselor for a group of scouts.
- **Rank Service Projects:** The Scoutmaster must approve all service projects needed for rank advancements before the project is started.
- **Scoutmaster Conference:** The scout is required to request a Scoutmaster conference when he has accomplished all the requirements for advancement in rank. Scoutmaster Conferences

are scheduled as requested, for the purpose of determining the scout's readiness for rank advancement. If the Scoutmaster does not feel the scout is ready for advancement, based upon the scout's demonstrated knowledge of advancement requirements, he may request that the scout spend another week studying his Scout Handbook.

- **Boards of Review:** All ranks require a Board of Review after all the other requirements for that rank have been completed. The Scoutmaster recommends the advancement of Scout upon satisfactory completion of the Scoutmaster Conference. A Board of Review is scheduled as required, upon the availability of at least three members of the Troop Committee. The Scout must appear before the board of review in full uniform.

- **Courts of Honor:** Courts of Honor, held on a quarterly basis, serve as a time to recognize Scouts for Advancements and for the earning of Merit Badges. Parents are encouraged to attend these to show support for their sons. Courts of Honor also serve as a time of general fellowship and an opportunity for parents, who don't attend Troop Meetings on a regular basis, to get to know Troop Leaders and stay informed about Troop activities. For Courts of Honor, we meet at 6:00 P.M. and everyone brings a covered dish, enough to feed the number of people in their party. After the covered dish dinner, the Senior Patrol Leader officially convenes the Court of Honor.

## Eagle Scout

- **Significance:** The fact that a boy is an Eagle Scout has always carried with it a special significance, not only in Scouting but also as he enters higher education, business or industry, and community service. The award is a performance-based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. Not every boy who joins a Boy Scout troop earns the Eagle Scout rank; only about 4 percent of all Boy Scouts do so. This represents more than 1 million Boy Scouts who have earned the rank since 1911. Nevertheless, the goals of Scouting—citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness—remain important for all Scouts, whether or not they attain the Eagle Scout rank. A scout who achieves the rank of Eagle Scout exemplifies the ideals of scouting in every aspect of his life, and stands apart from others in the high standards he sets.
- **Progression:** To earn the Eagle Scout rank, the highest advancement rank in Scouting, a Boy Scout must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. Although many options are available to demonstrate proficiency in these areas, a number of specific

skills are required to advance through the ranks—Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. To advance, a Boy Scout must pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges.

- **Merit Badges:** Merit badges signify the mastery of certain Scoutcraft skills, as well as helping boys increase their skill in an area of personal interest. Of the 120 merit badges available, 21 must be earned to qualify for Eagle Scout. Of this group, 12 badges are required, including First Aid, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Environmental Science, Personal Fitness, Personal Management, Camping, and Family Life. In addition, a Scout has a choice between Emergency Preparedness and Lifesaving and a choice among Cycling, Hiking, and Swimming.
- **Scoutmaster Conferences:** At each of his rank advancements, a Boy Scout takes part in a Scoutmaster conference. These conferences help the Scout to set goals for himself in line with his individual talents and abilities. At each conference, the Scoutmaster helps him evaluate how well he

accomplished his present goal and then works with him in setting new goals.

- **Service and Responsibility:** Beginning with the Star rank, and continuing through Life and Eagle, a Scout must demonstrate participation in increasingly more responsible service projects. At these levels, he also must demonstrate leadership skills by holding one or more specific youth positions of responsibility in his patrol and/or troop.
- **Steps in Advancement:** Advancement, one of the eight methods by which the aims of Scouting are achieved, has four steps through each award level. First, the Scout learns. Much of his learning comes from other boys in his patrol or troop and by active participation in troop program. His patrol activities are directed toward the skills he needs. Every troop hike, camping trip, or other activity offers potential learning experiences. A Scout learns to pitch a tent by pitching one, to use a compass by finding directions, and to cook a meal by having to prepare and eat it. Second, the Scout is tested. The specific requirements determine the kind of testing. Verbal testing is sufficient in some instances. In other instances, a Scout must demonstrate his skills by doing. Third, the Scout is reviewed. The purpose of the review is to ensure that all requirements for advancement have been met. This includes a check of the Scout's attitude

and practice of the ideals of Scouting, in addition to his Scoutcraft skills. The decision regarding whether a Scout has met the required standards to qualify for rank advancement begins with the troop and, for the Eagle Scout rank, is approved by the district, local council, and finally, the National Council. Fourth, the Scout is recognized. The final step in advancement involves presentation of the badge, usually at a ceremony before the entire troop.

- **Boy Scouts With Disabilities:** Boy Scouts with disabilities may qualify for the Eagle Scout rank. Each Scout must earn as many of the required merit badges as he can. He then submits an application for alternate merit badges. His BSA local council determines the alternate merit badges for him to earn.
- **National Eagle Scout Association:** Founded in 1972, the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) maintains contact with Eagle Scouts to sustain their interest in Scouting. Any Eagle Scout may join the association. Applications for membership in NESA may be downloaded from this Web site and are available through your local council or by contacting the Eagle Scout Service at the national office.

## Discipline

General: Discipline policy in Scouting is simple and the doors of Scouting are always open to those who strive to follow its law. Adherence to Troop 101 policies is required to avoid disrupting activities.

Obedience: Obedience in Troop 101 means to follow to the Scout Oath and Law. Obedience to the Scout Law includes respect for Scout leadership and adult leadership and all members and guests of the troop. Respect for adult and Scout leadership is expected. Under no circumstances will adult or boy leaders administer physical punishment for any reason. Hazing, of any type, will not be tolerated.

Enforcing Discipline: a. Discipline in the patrols will be handled initially by the patrol leaders. Patrol leaders have the authority to ask any patrol member to leave a patrol activity and report to the senior patrol leader.

b. When the patrol leader cannot handle the problem, he must obtain help from the senior patrol leader. The senior patrol leader has the authority to ask a Scout to leave the meeting area and report to the Scoutmaster.

c. When the senior patrol leader cannot handle the problem, he must obtain the help of the Scoutmaster.

d. When the scoutmaster determines that a scout requires discipline the following actions are taken:

(1) First instance -- Conference with the scoutmaster or designated assistant scoutmaster.

(2) Second instance -- Conference with scoutmaster and a phone call to parents explaining the problem and stating that one more complaint may result in a suspension for a period of time established by the severity of the offense. Parents may be requested to attend meetings to help supervise their Scout. The Scout may be assigned to appear before a board of review as a lesser disciplinary action prior to suspension from troop activities.

(3) Third instance -- Conference with scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairman, and parents. Based on the scoutmaster's recommendation, the Scout may be suspended from all troop activities for a period of time as established by the scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster will notify the Troop Committee of his actions.

(4) Fourth instance -- The issue is referred to the Troop committee by the scoutmaster with a recommendation of action and the circumstances for the referral.

e. The above steps are not meant to discourage either the patrol leader or senior patrol leader from seeking advice from the scoutmaster or any adult leader when they are having leadership challenges, but are intended to state discipline options in advance. Complaints that are unrelated or separated by a "significant" period of time will be treated as first offenses. However, recurring problems will follow the above guidelines.

f. In extreme cases a scout may be recommended for dismissal from the Troop. This action means that only by agreement from the Troop Committee will the scout be permitted to return to the troop. Dismissal will only be carried out by the Troop Committee. In the case of a dismissal, a letter to the scouts parents will be sent outlining the reasons for the dismissal and the alternatives for returning to the troop.

g. If a scout is disruptive during any event (meeting, camping trip, day trip, etc.) and it is determined by the adult leader of the event that the scouts continued presence will continue to be disruptive, the parents of the scout will be called to come and get the scout.

### ***Scouts and Adult Leaders should:***

- Obey the Scout Oath and Law at all times
- Attend all scheduled programs and participate as required in cooperation with other unit members and scout/adult leadership.
- Respect the personal and property of the Troop and others at all times.
- Be orderly and attentive at Troop meetings
- Be respectful and responsive to both adult leaders and fellow Scouts
- Follow safety requirements and avoid endangering self or others
- Avoid alcohol, drugs and other harmful substances
- Set a good example by being neatly dressed and presentable.
- Keep tent and personal gear labeled, neat, and clean.

# Aims and Methods of the Boy Scout Program

## Aims

- Boy Scouting works toward three aims. One is growth in *moral strength and character*. We may define this as the what the boy is himself: his personal qualities, his values, his outlook.
- A second aim is *participating 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, to the government that presides over that society.
- A third aim of Boy Scouting is *development of physical, mental, and emotional fitness*. Fitness includes the body (well-tuned and healthy), the mind (able to think and solve problems), and emotions (self control, courage and self-respect).

*The methods are designed to accomplish these aims.*

## Methods

- **Advancement-** Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps to overcome them through the advancement process. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he overcomes each challenge.
- **Adult Association-** Boys learn from the examples set by their adult leaders. Troop leadership may be male or female and association with adults of high character is encouraged at this stage in a young man's development.
- **Personal Growth-** As Scouts plan their activity, and 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.
- **Ideals-** The Ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, Motto and Slogan. The Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and as he reaches for them, he has some control over what he becomes.
- **Patrols-** The patrol method gives Scouts an experience in group living and participating in citizenship. It places a certain amount of responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept that responsibility. The patrol method allows Scouts to act in small groups where they can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through their elected leaders.
- **Outdoors-** Boy Scouting is designed to take place in the outdoors. It is in the outdoors that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with each other. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive.
- **Leadership Development-** Boy Scouting encourages 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 roles of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.
- **Uniform-** The uniform makes the Scout troop visible as a force of good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Boy Scouting is an action program, and wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Scout identity in a world brotherhood youth who believe in the same ideals.