

Troop 90 Policies and Procedures

From the Scoutmaster

I would like to review some troop policies and procedures with the scouts and families in Troop 90 as we are a large and growing troop. Please read the Troop manual on our website as I am only pointing out some of the more important guidelines we all need to follow.

Troop Meetings:

- Arrive by 7:20 PM: Troop meetings start promptly at 7:30 PM - don't be late! Every now and then, there will be special meetings with different times (which will be announced the week prior) and each scout will be responsible for their on-time attendance at those meetings.
- For the safety of all, scout drop-off is at the sidewalk by the main entrance to the building. Vehicles will line up behind one another and wait to drop off as the vehicles ahead move out; this keeps the scouts off the road and parking lot..... especially when it's dark. Absolutely *no drop-offs* in the driveway by the troop shed sidewalk. This is a major safety concern!
- Troop meetings require each scout in full Boy Scout uniform (tan shirt, scout pants, scout socks, belt and neckerchief) unless announced otherwise beforehand. Hiking boots, dress shoes, or fitness footwear is the only acceptable footwear. Many of our meetings are outside with physical activity and inclement weather. Proper outer clothing is needed for cold or rain.
- Each scout needs to have their scout book on hand at every meeting and camping trip with their name on it. This is your advancement record and scout knowledge....always have it with you.
- Some meeting activities will require certain supplies and gear. This will be announced beforehand and every scout will be responsible to bring what they need.
- Proper conduct will be required from every scout. Follow directions from the Leaders, no running or talking while others are talking, hands to themselves, proper manners, etc. No cell phone use unless part of a troop sanctioned activity (rare).
- Troop meetings end at 9:00 PM. All parents or guardians need to arrive prior to 9:00 PM to pick up their scout. (Note: service patrol members are responsible for cleaning the floors after the troop leaves. This responsibility rotates weekly between all patrols). The service patrol will be released at 9:15.
- There will be no scout business after 9:00 PM with the leaders. 9:00 PM is the time for the adult leaders and junior leaders to meet and discuss troop business in order to properly plan.

Troop Trips:

- To be eligible for a trip; Permission Slips are due 2 to 3 weeks prior to the trip date. The permission slip will be posted on our website and must be filled out by a parent or guardian and turned in *on-time* by the scout. If there is a fee for the trip – that too has to be in on time. *Late submittals will not be accepted* due to reservations, tour permits and logistics.
- Meals are planned by the patrols for camping trips. The patrol duty rosters and meal plans will be submitted and reviewed by the leaders for approval the meeting prior to the trip. Each patrol plans, buys, and cooks their own food. This planning will be done at a patrol meeting; taking into consideration any allergies, religious restrictions, etc. If a scout is registered for a trip and does not attend, that scout is responsible for paying his patrol for his portion of the food bill (due at

the meeting after the camping trip). The same goes for any fees the troop has paid out for that scout to attend. Proper planning means the cost for food per scout for a weekend camping trip should be between \$10-\$15.

- We generally meet and leave from the church parking lot for a trip. Time and location will be noted on the Permission Slip. Each scout is required to be prompt so they are not left behind. Return trip time and place will be posted on the Permission Slip. We normally meet at Woodlot Park on New Rd. for the return trip – not at the church.
- When the troop arrives back home – no scout is to leave with their parent or guardian until released by a leader.
- Trips require parent volunteers to help transport our scouts to and from the trip locations. This will require the parent volunteers to drive a number of scouts – not just their own son. When we ask how many fit in your vehicle – that means how many seats do you have available for all scouts. Please INCLUDE your own son in the count.
- Any adult wishing to camp with the troop for the weekend also needs to submit a permission slip so we can plan our troop roster. Please note: in order for an adult to attend an overnight trip with the troop, they will need 'Youth Protection' certification in order to attend. This certificate needs to be printed and handed in and filed with the troop records.
- Each scout is responsible for his personal gear and troop gear. After each trip, every scout is given a piece of the troop gear to be brought home and cleaned. This gear is due back at the next troop meeting and checked in with the troop Quartermaster. All items need to be clean and dry before handing in. If a scout ruins any troop equipment at any time, that scout will be responsible for funding a replacement.
- Electronic games and cell phones are not needed on any trips. Do **not** bring them unless specifically directed by an adult leader.

Advancement:

- Each scout is responsible for their own advancement. It is up to the scout to learn and accomplish the requirements needed to advance in rank – all the requirements and skills are outlined in the Scout Book/Manual. Scout skills are also taught by the troop instructors and it is up to each scout to work with the instructors and learn the requirements. Because these are skills the scouts will teach to others, it is essential that they know the skills so scouts are never signed off on the date on which they learn a skill (just like math tests in school).
- Once all the requirements for a rank are all signed off, the scout meets with an older scout and successfully reviews each requirement again to show they are proficient in the skills and to be eligible for a Scoutmaster Conference and a Board of Review to advance in rank.
- Scoutmaster Conferences and Troop Boards of Review are then scheduled through the Troop Advancement Chairman (Mr. Febinger) by the advancing scout.

Summer Camp:

- Every summer the troop attends a week long camping trip at a scout camp. In order to be eligible to attend, the scout must camp with the troop, without a parent, prior to attending summer camp.
- This year the troop is going to Camp Winnebago in Rockaway, NJ the week of July 30th, 2017.
- All BSA medical forms for summer camp will be required. This includes Parts A, B, and C (C= doctor form to be filled out and signed by the doctor). Please note: Medical Forms are only valid for one year. If a scout's medical form expires prior to summer camp, a new one will be needed and signed by their doctor.
- A separate listing of allergies and food restrictions is also required. If vegetarian, please be specific as many types of vegetarianism exist. Include any limitations or noteworthy information the attending leaders should know about. It is easier for us to solve a problem before it happens than after.

Requirements to join Boy Scouts:

- Meet the age requirements. Be a boy who is **11 years old**, or one who has completed the fifth grade or earned the Arrow of Light Award in Cub Scouts and is at least **10 years old**, but is not yet **18 years old**. Complete a Boy Scout application and health history signed by your parent or guardian.
- Before a scout can participate in Troop 90 activities, the above requirements must be met together with:
 - o payment of the troop registration fee
 - o Review and sign the Troop 90 Code of Conduct form.
 - o Fill out the Family Contact form

Communication:

- Troop Business has two forms of communication: troop website and troop email.
- Website: www.mytroop90.org
- Email: we use Yahoo Groups to communicate to the troop as a whole. To get on the email list, you contact our Committee Chairman (Rich Berg) or our Webmaster (Ashish Jawadiwar). They will send you an invite and you will follow the directions to join. Please note that both leaders travel for work and may be out of contact. Be patient for their reply.
 - o Rich Berg (Committee Chairman) and Ashish Jawadiwar (Webmaster) both can be reached at webmaster@mytroop90.org
- Patrols usually communicate differently, that is all decided on by the boys in each patrol.
- If your son is a patrol leader, the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) uses remind.com.
- Announcements are also made at the end of the Troop meeting to keep the scouts informed.

Questions:

- New scouts wanting information about joining can contact our Membership Chair: Mr. Thimba
 - o Mr. Thimba: athimba@msn.com