

Scout Troop 342 Guidebook Zion United Methodist Church Findlay, OH

Black Swamp Area Council * Arrowwood District

1. WELCOME TO SCOUT TROOP 342

Scout Troop 342 is sponsored by Zion United Methodist Church. Our Troop Committee and Scoutmaster pledge to assist each Scout in the development of their duties to God and Country, to others and to himself. We strive to develop an awareness of self-reliance, to improve individual and group skills, and to increase abilities and knowledge, particularly those of the outdoors and nature.

Scouting involves more than the basic activities usually associated with the program, such as tying knots, cooking, and camping. While this is an integral part of Scouting, the program also includes adventures and work, with emphasis on growth and advancement in all phases of character building, citizenship, acceptance of responsibility, planning, execution, and evaluation.

Should a question arise, or a problem develop, please contact the Scoutmaster, one of the Assistant Scoutmasters, or our Committee Chair. Such contact is particularly necessary should any situation arise that may affect the Scout's relationship with their fellow Scouts, Patrol, or Troop. That way we can work together to address any difficulties.

Our Troop believes that it can be successful by being flexible and adapting to the changing times and interests of its members. Everyone's thoughts and suggestions are always welcome. This help is needed to make our Troop the best it can be.

The following material has been written to assist new Scouts and their families in learning some of the expectations and procedures that will help our Troop to remain successful and enhance each Scout's enjoyment of the program.

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2. TROOP MEETINGS

Our Troop meets every Monday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Zion United Methodist Church in Findlay. Any school holiday on a troop meeting night or Level 2 Emergency automatically cancels the Troop meeting. Exceptions will be announced at the Troop meetings and on the Troop web site.

12. JOINING TROOP 342

Membership in Troop 342 is open to any youth that meets the joining requirements for the BSA. Your scout can be a scout if he has completed the fifth grade, or is 11 years old, or has earned the Arrow of Light award, but has not reached the age of 18. Scouts are expected to attend all scheduled Troop meetings. The youth leaders will have additional planning meetings. Scouts need to bring their scout book to every meeting.

A parent or guardian should accompany their scout to a troop meeting. When the decision is made to join our Troop, a membership packet will be given to the parent for review and completion of the necessary forms. The parent, with scout, will meet with the Scoutmaster or an assistant Scoutmaster to discuss our Troop's Scouting Program. The scout can not participate in scouting functions until they are registered, and their fees are paid.

The Membership packet includes:

Scout Application	Yearly Calendar
Medical Forms	Troop Resource Survey
Troop Guidebook	Troop Roster

13. BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

14. AIMS OF SCOUTING

The Scouting program has four specific objectives, commonly referred to as the "Aims of Scouting." They are character development, citizenship training, personal fitness and leadership development.

15. METHODS OF SCOUTING

The methods by which the aims are achieved are listed below in random order to emphasize the equal importance of each.

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Patrols

The patrol method gives Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. It places responsibility on young shoulders and teaches scouts how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in small groups where they can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through their elected representatives.

Ideals

The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout Motto, and the Scout Slogan. The Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and as they reach for them, they have some control over what and who they become.

Outdoor Programs

Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoor setting that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with one another. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose. Being close to nature helps Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handiwork and humankind's place in it. The outdoors is the laboratory for Scouts to learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.

Advancement

Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps in overcoming them through the advancement method. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he meets each challenge. The Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a Scout grow in self-reliance and in the ability to help others.

Association with Adults

Youth learn a great deal by watching how adults conduct themselves. Scout leaders can be positive role models for the members of the troop. In many cases a Scoutmaster who is willing to listen to youth, encourage them, and take a sincere interest in them can make a profound difference in their lives.

Personal Growth

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

Leadership Development

The Scout program encourages scouts 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 scout accept the leadership role of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting. Positions of Responsibility and their job descriptions are found on our website <http://www.t342.com/troop-positions.html> . See **2020 Troop 342 Scout Leadership Positions** booklet for more info on positions.

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Scouts fitting the requirements for NYLT will be reimbursed for **half** of the NYLT **early fee** by T342 after the scout has successfully completed NYLT and their goals to the troop.

Uniform

The uniform makes the Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. 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 of youth who believe in the same ideals. The uniform is practical attire for Scout activities and provides a way for Scouts to wear the badges that show what they have accomplished.

16. TROOP ORGANIZATION

Our Troop operates on the patrol method, where each Scout is assigned to a patrol. Each patrol is composed of approximately seven to nine Scouts of similar ages. Patrols are encouraged to operate as independent units for many of their activities, such as camping trips, summer camp, etc. Patrol meetings, in addition to regular meetings, are encouraged. Each patrol chooses a patrol emblem to be worn on the uniform and elects patrol officers. Scouts desiring to change from one patrol to another may do so with the approval of the Scoutmaster. Elections are held at summer camp and after Christmas break.

The Patrol Leader represents the Patrol at the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC). The PLC consists of an elected Senior Patrol Leader, the Patrol Leaders and other youth leaders. The PLC develops and implements our Troop Program with the guidance of the Scoutmaster and the Assistant Scoutmasters.

The Troop Committee Chairman is responsible to ensure that all Troop functions are properly delegated, coordinated and completed so that our Troop program is accomplished according to the policies of the BSA.

The Charter Organization is represented by the Charter Organization Representative, who serves as the liaison between our Troop and Zion United Methodist Church.

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of our Troop. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in the fact that the quality of his guidance will affect every youth and adult involved in our Troop.

Scouting Policy states there must be two adult leaders at all Troop activities. The Assistant Scoutmasters and other adults provide this two-deep leadership. In addition, they assist the Scoutmaster in performing his duties in guiding our Troop program.

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17. ADULT INVOLVEMENT, TROOP RESOURCE SURVEY

Scouting is for adults as well as scouts. It is expected that each Scout's family will contribute to our Troop and its program in some way. We invite you to offer your skills and interests so the best possible program can be developed for our Troop. If our

Troop Resource Survey does not address your resources and talents, discuss with the Committee Chairman ways you can assist the Troop. Please return the survey to the Committee Chairman.

The benefits that a Scout receives are directly proportionate to both the QUALITY and QUANTITY of Parental support and participation. Encourage and assist your scout in obtaining the most out of scouting. He needs your support!

Please get involved. Our Troop needs many adult volunteers to keep our program running smoothly. Most adults enjoy their role in our troop, but we need to spread out the load, so that no individual is overburdened. The adult volunteers in the troop include treasurer, advancement, outing planning, troop committee, merit badge counselor and many more. Parent meeting are held the second Monday of the month at 7 PM.

We encourage you to read "How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A parent's guide". You will find it in the front of your scout's Scout Handbook. This booklet explains ways to safeguard your children from child abuse. Please discuss this with your scout (or maybe with all your children). This discussion is one of the requirements for your Scout's first rank or advancement, the Scout (Joining) Badge. The prevention of Child Abuse is a topic that our Troop and the Scouts of America take very seriously.

The Troop's Committee meetings are held the 1st Monday at 6:30 PM, unless there is a conflict. These meetings are to solicit suggestions, comments and ideas on how to enhance the program. Troop financial information and plans for our Troop's future are normally available.

18. TROOP OUTINGS

You can't take the "outing" out of Scouting. In addition to weekly meetings, our Troop has a camping activity each month. These and other activities enable each Scout to enhance his learning experience. They also allow him to utilize and enjoy the rewards of the previous skills he has learned.

Some examples of past and future activities our Troop anticipates are:

- **Camping:**
- **Weeklong summer camp:** Camp Berry/ Out of Council Camp
- **Service projects:**
- **Courts of Honor** (parents and family also participate)
- **Fundraisers** (parents also participate):

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The week of summer camp each year provides a unique advancement opportunity. Certain skills and merit badges can be very difficult to get anywhere else.

All activities are based on Scout and parent input. If you would like to see something new, please bring it up to the Committee or the Patrol Leaders Council.

10. UNIFORM

CLASS A

All Scouts are required to wear the complete Scout uniform to all activities. It is a BSA requirement when traveling to and from outings. The uniform includes the official BSA shirt, BSA pair of pants or shorts and proper insignia on the shirt as shown in the back of this guide. All items are available at the Scout Shop in Findlay or Lima.

A complete BSA uniform is required (for example, to usher at Ohio State football games and at a Court of Honor). The complete uniform would also include pants, socks and belt. Most Scouts prefer the BSA uniform shorts and a hat in the heat of the summer. If a hat is worn, it must be either an official BSA hat or a Scout theme hat.

CLASS B

This is worn whenever the planned event involves strenuous physical activity. When announced, Scouts are permitted to wear a Scout T-shirt (like our generic Troop 342 T-shirt or a shirt with the Black Swamp Logo) with BSA pants or shorts.

NOTE: Camouflage pants and shirts are discouraged.

11. ADVANCEMENT

Since the Scout Advancement Program is an integral part of the learning experience, each Scout is encouraged and expected to set certain attainable goals. Scouts are expected to fulfill the requirements to progress to their next rank in a reasonable time. Scouts encountering difficulty in attaining their goals should discuss the difficulty with the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster. Parents are welcome to join in these discussions.

Parent participation in the advancement program

We ask that parents work with their scout on their rank advancement from the time they join through the rank of First Class. The requirements for these ranks are outlined in the Scout Handbook. Parents should read through these and test their scout on what he knows. When your scout has learned a requirement, he may have the Scoutmaster, or an Assistant Scoutmaster sign it off.

Scouts are required to keep track of any documentation (Merit Badge, Rank Cards and service hours sheets) issued to them from the Advancement Chairperson. These may be necessary as they advance to the next rank.

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The requirements for each rank are detailed in the Scout Handbook. The Handbook also has a place for a signoff as each requirement is completed. This is why they should bring it to teach meeting and most activities. The last step for most ranks is the scoutmaster conference, then a Board of Review organized by our Troop Advancement Chairperson. These will be scheduled as needed.

Merit Badges

Scouts planning to pursue merit badges need to get permission from the Scoutmaster and to get a blue merit badge card prior to starting the merit badge. Then the scout seeks out a Merit Badge counselor. Merit Badge counselors are adults that have knowledge of a specific skill or ability (for example a Safety merit badge counselor might be a Police Officer, a Fireman, etc.) Our Troop maintains a list of counselors that are available and on file with the BSA Office. The parent's responsibility is to ENCOURAGE their scout to achieve the next rank. **The SCOUT** should contact the counselor and make arrangements to get the badge requirements completed.

We would like to keep our Troop Merit Badge counselor list up to date. If your hobbies or employment fall under one of the merit badge titles, please let our Advancement Committee Chair know. He will help you to get signed up as a merit badge counselor.

For your scout's benefit, we suggest that you not serve as a merit badge counselor for your own Scout.

For merit badges or other awards, the proper paperwork should be turned in to the Scoutmaster for approval and forwarding to the Advancement Chairperson two weeks before for a Board of Review.

Award Presentations at Courts of Honor

Awards for advancement, achievements or special situations will be handled as follows:

- We try to procure the badges, patches, etc. earned two weeks prior to the Court of Honor to insure availability.

A Court of Honor is held to recognize and award each Scout's achievements during the prior period (usually **June, September, December and March**). This is a formal meeting. Parents together with family and friends are encouraged to attend in support of their scouts. This also provides an opportunity for parents to learn more about the upcoming troop events and hear details of the past month's activities. Scouts are expected to be in full Class A uniform for Courts of Honor.

12. ATTENDANCE POLICY

No scout will make every meeting and every campout. Family, church, and school activities often conflict with troop activities. High school sports often demand a great amount of time. Yet, attendance is important, nonetheless. As the Boy Scout Handbook 2000 puts it, *"To gain full advantage of all that Scouting has to offer, you need to be present when things are happening. Take part in meetings, in planning activities, and in the fun of adventures. If you're there, you can do your part to make*

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your patrol and troop a success." - page 169. Scouts best achieve the aims of Scouting (character development, citizenship training, and personal and mental fitness) when they participate in meetings, outings, and service projects, and hold positions of responsibility. In addition, the strength of the troop depends on the attendance of its members.

The troop activities fall into three primary areas: **Troop Meetings, Troop Outings, and Other Activities.** Being active in this troop means being active in all three of these important areas. It is not sufficient to attend only meetings---they miss the "outing" part of scouting and the chance to learn and apply scout skills in that environment. It is not sufficient to attend only the outings---the meetings are used to teach important skills and allow the older scouts to teach and prepare the younger scouts for these activities. Likewise, other activities, particularly community service opportunities are where the second point of the Scout Oath, Duty to Others, is put into practice.

General Attendance Expectations

A minimum attendance of **60%** in each of the three activity areas will be considered active participation. We do not count calendar months for attendance, "active" is the time you attend the troop functions. Your service clock can stop when you have non-troop activities and then start back up again when you are able to attend troop activities. Should you attend another scouting event and miss our troop activity then would earn time on the clock by providing some document from the event.

Scouts who do not maintain the minimum activity level need to talk to the Scoutmaster during a scheduled Scoutmaster Conference. Temporary schedule conflicts with other activities/responsibilities do happen and are understood, so please communicate with the Scoutmaster in these cases during a scheduled Scoutmaster Conference. Appeals may be taken to the Unit 342 **Key 3** for a decision by emailing them in a group email. (Scoutmaster, Committee Chair and Chartered Organization Rep.)

Attendance and Advancement

The scout ranks of Star, Life and Eagle, as well as Eagle Palms require an active participation level for rank advancement. Scouts not meeting the minimum activity level in all three activity areas since their last rank advancement will not be considered "active" and will not pass a Scoutmaster Conference for these higher ranks until they fulfill this requirement.

Attendance and Leadership Positions

Consistent attendance by the troop's leaders is critical for the troop to function properly. This is especially important for the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders and Patrol Leaders, who are expected to attend as many meetings and activities as possible. For the ranks of Star, Life, and Eagle, there is a leadership requirement that is, in part, to "**serve actively** for a period" of either four or six months (these are not calendar months) as specified in the rank requirement in one or more leadership positions. In Troop 342, we have defined "**serve actively**" as attending at least **60%** of troop meetings, troop outings, other activities and Patrol Leader Council meetings during the specified leadership period. **For a typical hour and a half**

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meeting – attendance is considered half or 45 minutes.

Extenuating Circumstances

Scouts with special/extenuating circumstances **should schedule** a Scoutmaster Conference for discussion. We want your scout to succeed. We don't want scouts to have to choose between being in other activities and participating in scouts. If they are interested in both and want to be active in both, we will try to be flexible.

Attendance Policy Summary:

- **60%** minimum attendance at troop meetings, troop outings, and other activities is considered “active”.
- A Scout must be considered “active” to achieve the ranks of Star, Life, or Eagle.
- To fulfill the leadership requirement for the ranks of Star, Life, or Eagle, the scout must hold a qualified leadership position and attend at least **60%** of troop meetings, troop outings, other activities and Patrol Leader Council meetings during the specified leadership period.
- Scouts with special/extenuating circumstances regarding attendance **should schedule a**

Scoutmaster Conference for discussion. Appeals may be made to the Unit 342 **Key 3** by emailing them in a group email (Scoutmaster, Committee Chair and Chartered Organization Rep.)

- **If you are going to be absent you need to email Findlaytroop342@gmail.com** as a common courtesy not as an excused absent.

13. TROOP COMMUNICATIONS

As scouts develop into adults, it is essential that they assume the responsibilities of listening to announcements and taking necessary notes to ensure that their parents are aware of upcoming activities and other pertinent information. At each Troop meeting various announcements are made pertaining to updated information. If a Scout is unable to attend a regular Troop meeting, he is responsible for contacting his patrol Leader or another patrol member to obtain any information from that meeting. It should not be the parent's responsibility. Yearly a calendar will be sent home.

Communications outside of a regular meeting will be passed by telephone through the Senior Patrol Leader to each Patrol leader and subsequently to each Patrol member. This may be supplemented by e-mail.

If you find you are not receiving required information, discuss it with your Scout. Then contact his patrol leader, the senior patrol leader and finally the Scoutmaster.

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14. THE COSTS OF SCOUTING

Camp Outs and other activities

Although the Troop may occasionally pay for or supplement the cost of an outing, most outings will charge youth and adult participants based on expected costs. The Troop will estimate the costs before each outing and will try to charge fees so that each outing pays for itself. Regular weekend outing is \$15, special outings will be TBD.

The charges include the cost of food, lodging, supplies, admission fees, etc. The fees will be collected by the person organizing the event. This early commitment greatly helps those planning for transportation and other outing details. If you need to cancel out of an outing, please let the scoutmaster know as soon as possible. Refunds, less expense already incurred, will be considered.

Most of the time, the scouts are reminded of upcoming events at Troop meetings, the parents are not. Please encourage your Scout to take responsibility for making sure that he has your permission and the needed funds or materials for the event.

Fund Raising

Our Troop desires that all scouts be able to participate in the scouting program regardless of their personal financial situation. Because of this, various fund-raising projects are a regular part of our Troop activities. All Scouts are expected to participate in various fund raisers to ensure that the financial needs of our Troop are met.

Some of the money earned from fund raising projects (30%) goes towards Troop equipment, awards and expenses. The Scouts earn (60%) from the fundraisers which can be used for summer camp, monthly camp outs or other scouting expenses. Our Troop uses the remaining (10%) for community service projects.

Fees

An annual fee is collected at re-charter time (due December). If you join the Troop at a different time of year, the fee will be reduced (prorated). The cost of a uniform shirt and basic camping gear should also be considered. There is a fee of **\$5** for dues each month.

Miscellaneous

The Troop requests that all moneys **be paid by check to “Scout Troop 342”**. Use the memo line and make a separate check for each event or fee.

The Troop Financial Records are always available for review by interested parents. Financial assistance is available for any family that is unable to be fully involved in Scouting because of financial difficulty. Please let the Scoutmaster or a Committee member know if this help is necessary.

15. OTHER RESOURCES

- **Scout Handbook** – Each scout will need this book.
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- **E-Signals** – This is the monthly newsletter of the Black Swamp Area Council. You will need to register an adult member on our charter to receive this publication.
- **Boy's Life** – This monthly magazine contains exciting stories for scouts. It is optional part of your annual fees. It may take several months before you get the first issue.
- **Scouting** – This monthly magazine is for adult volunteers. You will need to register an adult member on our charter to receive this publication. It may take several months before you get the first issue.
- **World Wide Web sites** – With millions of scouts nationwide, there are hundreds of on-line resources. Here are a few good sites.
 - **Troop 342 website** www.t342.com
 - **Black Swamp Area Council** www.bsac449-bsa.org
 - **National BSA** www.scouting.org
 - **National BSA Online Scout Shop** www.scoutstuff.org
 - **Merit Badges** www.meritbadge.com
 - **U.S. Scouting Service Project** www.ussscouts.org
 - **Boy's Life and Scouter** www.boyslife.org and www.scoutingmagazine.org
- Each month Arrowwood District has their Roundtable where the scouts can sign up for the merit badge offered (3-month attendance required)

16. CARE FOR TROOP EQUIPMENT/PROPERTY

Since our Troop has invested a great deal of money in equipment for the use of many Scouts, each Scout is expected to use and care for it better than if it were his own. This care may include taking some equipment home (such as drying out a tent). Scouts will be held responsible for deliberate or negligent damage.

17. TROOP HEALTH AND SAFETY

The health and safety of each scout is very important to us. In order to attend activities and outings with our Troop, we need both **Class I & II** medical forms.

Class I has a brief medical history and emergency contact information. **Class II** includes full medical information and requires an examination by a doctor.

The **Class I & Class II** medical forms are good for 1 year.

18. DRUG, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO USE AND ABUSE

Use of controlled or illegal substances is always prohibited. The Boy Scouts of America prohibits the use of alcoholic beverages at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America and at any activity involving participation of youth members.

We support the attitude that our youth and adults are better off without tobacco. The use of tobacco products in front of youth is prohibited.

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19. DISCIPLINE POLICY

During all events and activities, the scouts are expected to live up to the rules established by the Boy Scouts of America, the Troop, and the leaders. All participants are expected to use good judgment and common sense. In the event any scout (or adult) does not follow these rules or threatens the health or safety of any of its members, the leader in charge may take immediate remedial action, including but not limited to immediate suspension from that activity.

20. CAMPOUT GUIDELINES

Unless otherwise notified, **when our troop gathers for a camp out after 5:00 PM in the evening, the Troop will not be preparing a dinner.** Please, see that your scout is well fed before we gather.

The following rules should be noted:

- NO** use of cutting tools (ax, knife, etc.) or matches without successful completion of Totin' Chip and Firem'n Chit Training. Saws and axes will only be used in a defined axe yard.
- NO** flame in tents (Scouts and adults)
- NO** sheath or hunting knives. Also, no folding lock blade knives with a blade over 4 inches long. The only exception is kitchen knives.
- NO** personal video games, etc. except during the travel time to and from the activity.
- NO** Scout will ride on the outside of any motor vehicle. This includes hanging or riding on bumpers, in trailers, in the beds of pickups, etc.
- NO** Scout is to walk in or through another campsite without permission of the other campers.
- NO** Scout is to be in another Scout's tent without the permission of all the Scouts sleeping in that tent.
- NO** trash will be thrown on the ground. The campsite will be left as clean or cleaner, than it was found.
- Camouflage clothing is discouraged.
- Inexpensive cameras are okay.

21. CAMPOUT EQUIPMENT

If you have a new Scout, don't rush out and spend lots of money on camping equipment yet. The Scout Handbook is packed with information on the things a new Scout needs to succeed and have a great time. Start by reading about Hiking and Camping in the Scout Handbook. Ask some Scouts or leaders what type of pack and sleeping bag they would recommend and why. Have your Scout go on a camping trip using an old sleeping bag (or borrow one) and have him look around at the various types to see what may work best for him.

Make sure that your Scout can handle the gear he will be using. For example, a sleeping bag that stuffs into a small space can be difficult to handle for the first time. A little practice and preparation will help to keep the trip fun. The troop will normally

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provide tents for all participants.

Do not bring anything that has a high monetary or sentimental value. Things have a way of being misplaced or broken on camp outs.

Sleeping Bags

Synthetic filled bags should have 3 lbs. of fill minimum, and a 4 lb. bag will usually be more than adequate. Additional warmth can be provided by wool or wool blend “Blanket-sheet” inner liner, and a blanket or two on top. There is no need to invest in a

“Sub-zero” bag for your scout for scouting purposes. A bag that stuffs or compresses into a small space is also a plus.

Hiking

Hiking is an essential part of Scouting. Good shoes are essential for a good hike. Most tennis shoes do not have enough support and will not stay dry. Shoes should be broken in first. Wool socks should be worn as they do not retain moisture like cotton socks do. The uniform socks are wool and have some cushioning for walking. Get a solid canteen that will hold up and a strap or belt clip. The canteen is also nice for a midnight drink of water when you do not want to leave your cozy sleeping bag.

Rain gear

Bring a poncho or rain suit to most outdoor events. Staying dry is an important part of staying warm.

Cooking

The Troop provides troop or patrol cooking gear for meal preparation. We ask that each Scout have a mess kit and eating utensils.

Pocketknife

The knife is a piece of camping equipment that your scout will keep and use as he grows older. A cheap knife will dull easily and be difficult to sharpen. While an official BSA knife is not necessary, it will gain a great deal of sentimental value. Otherwise purchase a good brand.

Identification

Everything that your scout takes should be permanently marked with his name. Engravers work very well on metal items such as a mess kit. Colored nail polish or tape also works very well identifying utensils which tend to become intermixed.

22. CONTACT INFORMATION

Scout Master

Bob Wagner, Findlay, OH, 419-348-0540 evening cell

Committee chair

Carol Little, Findlay, OH, 419-422-5552

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Sponsoring Church

Zion United Methodist Church, 9009 State Rt. 12 West Findlay, OH

Charter Organization Representative

Mike Harmon, Findlay, OH, 419-722-7115

Local BSA Office

2100 Broad Ave, 419-422-4356

To other BSA Troops and other groups serving youth:
If you find parts of this guidebook useful, feel free to copy it and modify it for your group.

Camping Equipment Check List

- _____ 1. Sleeping bag and/or blankets • _____ 12. Soap in container
- _____ 2. Air Mattress* • _____ 13. Washcloth
- _____ 3. Waterproof ground sheet, plastic* • _____ 14. Toothbrush and toothpaste
- _____ 4. Sweater and/or jacket • _____ 15. Comb
- _____ 5. Poncho or raincoat • _____ 16. Metal mirror*
- _____ 6. Rubber boots • _____ 17. Hand towels and bath towel
- _____ 7. Pair of sneakers • _____ 18. Mess kit w/knife, fork, spoon,
and cup***
- _____ 8. Complete uniform plus
extra parts**** • _____ 19. Flashlight*
- _____ 9. Swim trunks** • _____ 20. Scout knife*
- _____ 10. Pajamas • _____ 21. Scout handbook
- _____ 11. Extra shorts** • _____ 22. Canteen
- _____ 22. Watch
- _____ 23. Camera
- _____ 24. Notebook, pencil, and pen
- _____ 25. Pillow
- _____ 26. Wallet

Extras you might want to take along

- * Not required but you might want to take along.
- ** Only need if you are camping during the summer.
- *** Will need if you are going on an over nighter.
- **** Only if scoutmaster tells you that you need it.

We ask that cell phone use be limited to car trips NOT at the meetings or campsites.

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Boy Scout/Varsity Scout

Uniform Inspection Sheet

Uniform Inspection.

Conduct the uniform inspection with common sense; the basic rule is neatness.

Boy Scout Handbook

The *Boy Scout Handbook* is considered part of a Scout's uniform.



General Appearance. Allow 2 points for each:

- Good posture
- Clean face and hands
- Combed hair
- Neatly dressed
- Clean fingernails

Notes _____

Headgear. All troop members must wear the headgear chosen by vote of the troop/team.

5 pts. Notes _____

Shirt and Neckwear. Official shirt or official long- or short-sleeve uniform shirt with green or blaze orange shoulder loops on epaulets. The troop/team may vote to wear a neckerchief, bolo tie, or no neckwear. The troop/team has the choice of wearing the neckerchief over the turned-under collar or under the open collar. In any case, the collar should be unbuttoned and the shirt should be tucked in.

Notes _____

Pants/Shorts. Official pants or official uniform pants or shorts; no cuffs.
(Units have no option to change.)

10 pts. Notes _____

Belt. Official Boy Scout web with BSA insignia on buckle; or official leather with international-style buckle or buckle of your choice, worn only if voted by the troop/team. Members wear one of the belts chosen by vote of the troop/team.

Notes _____

Socks. Official socks with official shorts or pants. (Long socks are optional with shorts.)

5 pts. Notes _____

Shoes. Leather or canvas, neat and clean.

5 pts. Notes _____

Registration. Current membership card or temporary certificate on person.

5 pts. Notes _____

Uniform points. Total points from above (70 possible)

Insignia.* Correct placement: left pocket, 5 points; right pocket, 5 points; left sleeve, 5 points; right sleeve, 5 points; merit badge sash, 5 points; shoulder epaulets, 5 points.
Insignia points from reverse (30 possible)

Total Uniform Inspection Score

Uniform and insignia points combined.

A perfect score is 100 points.

*For more information about insignia, see the *Insignia Guide*, No. 33066.

Total Uniform Inspection Score

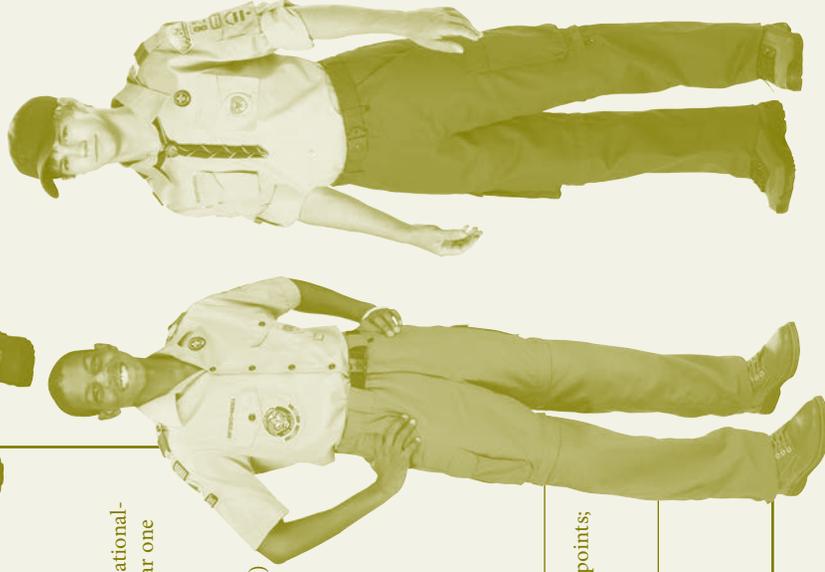
Name _____

Troop/Team No. _____

Patrol/Squad _____

Our unit inspection
will be held on _____.

Bring this form with you.



Boy Scout/Varsity Scout Uniform Inspection Sheet

Official Placement of Insignia

Conduct the uniform inspection with common sense; the basic rule is neatness.

Merit Badge Sash

- If worn, **merit badges** are attached to front (and back, if needed) of sash.
- Venture/Varsity letter** is attached at bottom front corner.
- Temporary insignia** may be worn on back.

5 pts.

Notes _____

Shoulder Epaulets

- Green shoulder loops identify Boy Scouting (all members of a troop).
- Blaze (orange) loops identify Varsity Scouting.

5 pts.

Notes _____

Right Sleeve

- U.S. flag emblem** centered directly below shoulder seam. Only the most recently earned **Journey to Excellence recognition** may be worn below patrol emblem or below the National Honor Patrol star.
- Musician badge**, if in band or drum corps, is worn ½ inch below patrol emblem.

5 pts.

Notes _____

Left Sleeve

- Council shoulder emblem**, unit numeral, and veteran unit bar are worn as shown snug up, and touching each other.
- On the official shirt, the **badge of office** is centered on the pocket, as shown. On the official uniform shirt, the **badge of office** is centered and touching the unit numeral, or centered 4 inches below the shoulder seam.
- On the shirt, the **Trained Leader emblem** is centered as shown at the top of the pocket flap. On the official uniform shirt the **veteran unit bar** (25, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, or 80 years) is positioned above and touching troop numeral and in turn touching council emblem.
- Den chief cord** is worn over the left shoulder, under epaulet.

5 pts.

Notes _____

Right Pocket

- Jamboree insignia** (only one) worn above BSA or interpreter strip.
- Order of the Arrow lodge insignia** worn on pocket flap.
- Temporary insignia** worn centered on the pocket or hung from the button.
- The **Varsity or Venture strip** is worn above the BSA strip or above the interpreter strip.
- Nameplate**, if worn, is centered above the BSA strip, interpreter strip, and Venture or Varsity strip.

5 pts.

Notes _____

Left Pocket

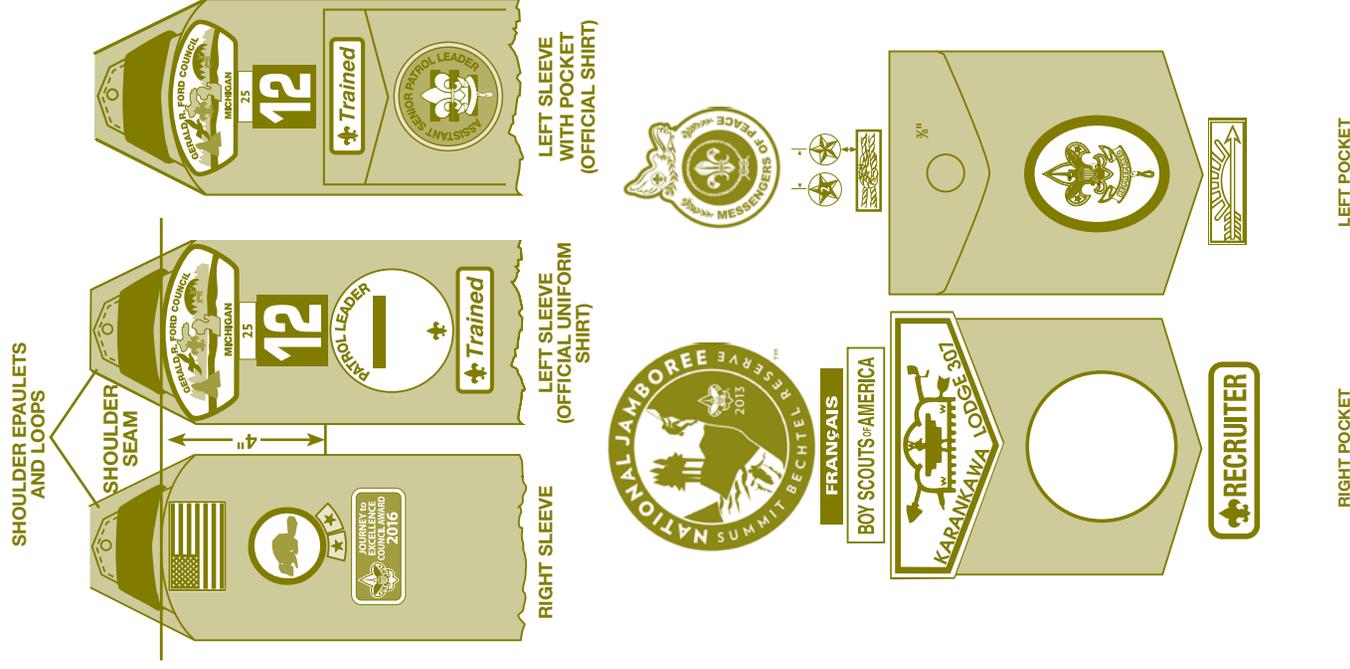
- Service stars** are centered above the pocket, ¼ inch from top point to top point and ½ inch from either the pocket or embroidered knots.
- Embroidered square knots** are worn centered above the pocket in rows of three.
- Not more than five medals may be worn, pinned centered immediately above the pocket (extending over knots if both are worn).
- The order of wearing knots and medals is at the wearer's discretion; typically the medal or knot the wearer deems most important is worn to the wearer's right.
- Badges of rank** are worn centered on the pocket above the Arrow of Light Award, as shown.
- The **World Crest emblem** and **Messengers of Peace ring** are worn centered horizontally over the left pocket and vertically between the left shoulder seam and the top of the pocket.

5 pts.

Notes _____

Total Insignia Score (transfer to other side)

30 pts.



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<http://www.scouting.org>

SKU 618365



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2016 Printing

Scouting is for adults as well as youth. We invite you to share your skills and interests so the best possible program can be developed for the Scouts in this troop. In making this survey, the committee wishes to find ways you can enjoy using your talents to help our Scouts. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Welcome to the Scout family of Troop No. _____ in the _____ Council.

Please return this survey to _____

(Please print.)
 Name _____
 Phone _____
 Street address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home phone _____
 Mobile phone _____
 Business phone _____
 Email address _____
 Occupation _____

1. What is your favorite hobby? _____
 2. In what sports do you take an active part? _____
 3. Would you be willing to assist the troop leaders and committee members occasionally? _____

4. Please check the areas in which you would be willing to help:

General Activities

- Campouts
- Hikes
- Outdoor activities
- Troop meetings
- Swimming supervision
- Accounting
- Web management/design
- Drawing/art
- Transportation of Scouts
- Transportation of equipment
- Other _____ (please print)

- I can participate in boards of review.
- I have a minivan or _____ truck.
- I have a workshop.
- I have family camping gear.
- I have access to camping property.
- I can make contacts for special trips and activities.
- I can help with troop equipment.
- Other _____ (please print)

5. Please check any Scouting skills you would be willing to teach:

- Ropework (knots and lashings)
- Outdoor cooking
- First aid
- Star study
- Map, compass, and GPS use
- Conservation
- Aquatics
- Knife and ax handling
- Citizenship
- Camping

Check the merit badges on the other side of this sheet that you are willing to help the Scouts earn.



MERIT BADGES

Check the merit badges that you can help the Scouts earn.

American Business

American Culture

American Heritage

American Labor

Animal Science

Animation

Archaeology

Archery

Architecture

Art

Astronomy

Athletics

Automotive Maintenance

Aviation

Backpacking

Basketry

Bugling

Camping

Canoeing

Chemistry

Chess

Citizenship in the Community

Citizenship in the Nation

Citizenship in the World

Climbing

Coin Collecting

Collections

Communication

Composite Materials

Cooking

Crime Prevention

Cycling

Dentistry

Digital Technology

Backpacking

Basketball

Bowling

Business

Cross-country skiing

Cycling

Downhill skiing

Fishing

Disabilities Awareness

Dog Care

Drafting

Electronics

Emergency Preparedness

Energy

Engraving

Entrepreneurship

Environmental Science

Family Life

Farm Mechanics

Fingerprinting

Fire Safety

First Aid

Fish and Wildlife Management

Fishing

Fly-fishing

Forestry

Game Design

Gardening

Geology

Geocaching

Go-karting

Golf

Graphic Arts

Hiking

Home Repairs

Horsemanship

Indian Lore

Insect Study

Inventing

Journalism

Kayaking

Landscape Architecture

Law

Leatherwork

Lifesaving

Mammal Study

Medicine

Metallurgy

Mining in Society

Model Design and Building

Motorboating

Music

Nature

Nuclear Science

Oceanography

Orienteering

Painting

Personal Fitness

Personal Management

Pets

Photography

Pioneering

Plant Science

Pottery

Programming

Public Health

Public Speaking

Pulp and Paper

Radio

Railroading

Reading

Reptile and Amphibian Study

Rifle Shooting

Robotics

Backpacking

Basketball

Bowling

Business

Cross-country skiing

Cycling

Downhill skiing

Fishing

Freshly Biking

Golf

Hockey

Mechanics

Mountain Man

Orienteering

Rafting

Rappelling

Sailing

Scuba Diving

Shooting Sports

Slow-pitch softball

Soccer

Spelunking

Survival

Swimming

Tennis

Video/photography

Volleyball

Whitewater canoeing

Windsurfing