



**SCOUT
AND
PARENT
HANDBOOK**

A guide to scouting with Troop 22

Welcome !

We extend a warm welcome to both you and your son as new members of the Troop 22 family. This handbook was compiled and written to help you understand scouting in general and to inform you about how our troop operates. Your understanding of the troop's mission, procedures, and activities will enrich your own experience and will go a long way in ensuring a meaningful and productive experience for your son.

All of us at Troop 22

The New Scout

When a boy joins the troop, he is placed into a patrol. Each patrol consists of six-to-eight boys led by a patrol leader (a scout). An adult from the troop is assigned to each patrol and functions as a parent contact for the patrol.

With the assistance of the patrol leader, the new scout quickly makes friends and becomes familiar with scouting and the troop.

That said, I want you to throw out all you think about scouting until this point. Boy Scouts is very different from cub scouts. Boys run more of the meetings and direction of the troop. Adults are there for guidance and supervision only. Boys scouts get their stimulation from their peers as opposed to adults coddling them. We want them to be individuals and develop skills, experience, confidence, and responsibility for themselves.

It is particularly important for new scouts to attend all regular troop meetings and as many camping trips as possible so that they quickly get a solid understanding of the breadth of the scouting experience and their own role in the troop.

Emails will go out to the parents regularly, but the boys are ultimately responsible for keeping their parents informed about troop activities.

The New Parent

We want our new parents to feel at home with the troop from the very beginning. In fellowship, we provide our sons with the best which scouting has to offer.

You are cordially invited to participate either as an adult leader or as an active parent. We welcome you and your ideas. Your participation will insure you get information first hand.

A troop of the size of Troop 22 depends on active adults in a variety of leadership and support roles. It is the troop's expectation that every parent will assist in some way during the course of the scouting year.

The Patrol Leader

The scouts are organized into patrols consisting of up to eight boys of the same rank. Patrols are led by patrol leaders who are elected by the scouts in each patrol for a term of six months. Elections are typically held in November and May.



The patrol leader is responsible for seeing that many things are done. The position of patrol leader, therefore, is a leadership opportunity for scouts trying to achieve their next rank.

The Senior Patrol Leader

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is usually an older scout who holds the rank of 1st class or higher and who is elected by the scouts to serve a six month term. The Senior Patrol Leader, with the assistance of the patrol leaders and members of the senior patrol, plans and leads all activities at the scout level. The scoutmaster and his assistant scoutmasters are advisors to the senior patrol leader. The SPL is elected twice a year in May and November.

Patrol Leaders' Council

The council consists of the senior patrol leader, members of the senior patrol, and the patrol leaders. The council meets monthly to plan upcoming troop meetings and camping trips as well as other troop activities. The Patrol Leaders' Council usually meets on the third Monday each month at 7 p.m. during the adult's Committee Meeting.

The Patrol Advisor

Each patrol has a patrol advisor who is a registered assistant scoutmaster trained to function as an effective adult leader. The patrol advisor does not run the patrol but serves as a resource person for the patrol leader and members of the patrol. The advisor consults with the scouts on any scouting topic. The patrol advisor also keeps parents of scouts in his patrol fully informed about what's going on, what activity deadlines are nearing, and what adult issues are under consideration.

Troop meetings

The troop meets each Monday from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the scout hut, located at 4601 Lakeshore Drive, Wichita Falls. We meet year round except for federal holidays. Just because schools are out doesn't mean we slip meetings.

Troop meetings concentrate on skill development, patrol involvement, competition, games, and fun.



Scout uniform

The uniform identifies each scout and adult leader as a member of the world's largest youth group -- just as a baseball uniform identifies members of a baseball team. The uniform is both practical attire to be worn during selected scout activities, and it provides a vehicle for the display of badges and awards earned by scouts.

Each scout is required to have a complete "class A" uniform and to wear it during troop meetings, while travelling to and from camping sites, and on other occasions. A full uniform for ceremony purposes includes green scout pants, a belt, scarf, and slide.

Class "B" uniforms are more casual. Boys can wear troop t-shirts instead.

Purchase of Uniforms and Equipment

Uniforms. A new uniform is available at the Scout Shop at the Northwest Texas Council scout headquarters.

The Scout Shop is located at:

Address: 3604 Maplewood Ave
Wichita Falls, TX 76308

Hours: Mon.- Fri., 8:30 am – 5:15 pm
And some Sat., 10 am - 2 pm

Telephone: (940) 696-2735

Email: nwtcguestservice@bsamail.org 

Payment: cash, check, credit



Neckerchiefs and green 22's are provided to all scouts by the troop and are given soon after a new scout joins the troop.

Equipment. Please consult one of the adult leaders before purchasing camping equipment such as sleeping bags. We can advise you about the type of equipment you'll need and other features to look for in camping gear. Likewise, we may be able to give you information on where to get the best price.

Troop committee

The troop is directed by the troop committee which consists of all registered adult leaders. All parents are encouraged to attend committee meetings which are held on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the scout hut.

Our Troop Webpage

<http://troop22wichitafalls.weebly.com>

The troop webpage is a great source for up-to-date information regarding troop activities. It contains permission slips, maps, the troop calendar of events, camping lists and many other resources for your use.

Outdoor Activities

Troop 22 camps every month year round. All information regarding the campout is discussed during meetings. The destination of each trip, the cost to scouts, suggested clothing/equipment, and other useful information are all announced well in advance. Scouts are required to register for each trip and pay any fees ahead of time. If a scout commits to a trip and any costs are expended based upon that commitment, the scout is responsible for paying those costs whether he attends the event or not.



Transportation for Camping Trips

Each Troop 22 adult going camping is expected to help drive boys without rides. Your cooperation in this regard allows the troop to provide safe and economical travel to and from its destinations. We will be adding your vehicle information to our troop list of available rides. The troop provides drivers with detailed maps which are distributed before each trip to assist adults in locating the camps

Summer Camp

Our annual summer camp is a fun-filled activity planned for a seven-to-10-day trip during the summer.

In past years, the troop has traveled to distant points such as Oklahoma, Arkansas and Colorado. The trip to and from the camp includes stops at places of interest, , museums,



and other attractions. The cost of the summer trip is modest and is partially defrayed by proceeds of fundraising events.

It is strongly recommended that every scout attend summer camp. *It is the single most important activity of the scout year.*

Cost of scouting

When a new scout joins the troop, he pays his first year's registration. If a boy keep active in the troop and his dues are current, subsequent years' registrations until he is 18 will be paid for by the troop's general fund.

Dues are \$5 a month and are used to pay costs associated with the troop's purchase of merit badges and badges of rank. Each scout is expected to pay this cost out of his own funds. Dues accumulate every month regardless of meetings or attendance.

A fee is charged for every camping trip as well as for summer camp. The troop subsidizes the cost of scouts' attendance at these camps through a year 'round program of fundraising events and activities.

Fundraising

Scouting is made affordable through the troop's fundraising efforts. The cost of camping trips as well as summer camp is partially paid by the troop from its fundraising proceeds. Likewise, the cost of each year's registration fees and Boys Life subscriptions is paid in full by fundraising proceeds.

The troop has purchased all necessary troop equipment such as tents, tarps, stoves, and lanterns. Again, fundraising efforts make this possible.

Fundraising requires scout and parent support -- and participation. The troop relies on four fundraisers each year.

- Popcorn (October)
- Camp Cards (April)
- Various fundraisers as needed

Each boy sets up a “scout account” with the treasurer when he starts. This account pays for his dues and camping fees if you want. Proceeds from fundraisers are deposited into this account to defray a boy’s costs.

For some of the fundraisers, money is "credited" to each family in direct proportion to the time it spends on fundraisers. We expect each family to support the fundraising efforts of the troop since the funds support all members through subsidies and troop operation expenses.

Court of Honor

The court of honor ceremony is held twice a year (usually Late July or early August, just shortly after Summer Camp and Late Feb or Early March, just after Merit Badge College) to officially recognize and present to each scout the badges or ranks he has earned.



All troop families are invited to attend the ceremony -- and, in fact, excellent adult attendance goes a long way in making these evenings special for the scouts.

Service projects

To earn certain badges of rank, a scout is required to donate at least 6 hours of community service. If your son is working on an outside project, please ask the scoutmaster for approval toward advancement. Scouts undertaking eagle projects typically recruit help from their fellow scouts. Your son can also help friends in other troops with their eagle projects and receive credit toward advancement. Our Asst. Scoutmaster over Advancement will work with you to get verification of hours from the other troops. We do it all the time.

Merit badges

When a scout wishes to earn a merit badge, he must first meet with an adult counselor. Counselors are recruited and identified for each badge offered by the Boy Scouts. The troop maintains a directory of these adults on the bulletin board. There is also a list on the council website <http://www.nwtcbsa.org>.

In no case shall a scout meet with a merit badge counselor alone. Each scout should have buddy or parent with him, or should meet in a public place.



We also work on merit badges at regular meetings, when a boy goes to summer camp, at merit badge college in February, and at specially scheduled home study groups.

The requirements for each of the over 120 badges available are contained in a merit badge booklet bearing the badge title. You can purchase them from the scout store or download them from www.meritbadge.org. The troop also maintains a library of merit badge booklets which scouts may borrow.

Safety

Troop 22 adult leaders have been trained and are experienced in providing a safe environment for all activities. Special care is always taken to ensure the safety of everyone. The troop also pays for each assistant scoutmaster to have a federal and state criminal background check completed. This is done both for the safety of the boys, parents, and leaders.

Medical Forms / Accident Insurance

When you join Troop 22, you are asked to sign a form for each camping trip authorizing our adult leaders to obtain medical treatment for

injuries. Before summer camp, forms are provided for medical exams so that we know in advance about any physical restrictions. All boys will need a physical done before summer camp by their doctor or the troop PA, Lee Ackley. Scouts and their parents are expected to respond promptly to troop requests for such exams. Be sure to use a BSA medical form.

Some final remarks

Now that you know a little about us, please ask us questions to learn even more!

Accompanying this handbook is a listing of adult leaders.

Please keep this handbook in a safe place in your home so that you can consult it whenever you have a question -- but, in all cases, if you need information. ***Please Ask!***

This following website has lots of resources for parents..



Troop 22

Troop 22 Leader Contacts:

Kevin Harman	Scoutmaster	642-3487 BrennanH69@msn.com
Adèle Lewis	Asst. Scoutmaster	733-0233 & 642-3177 Adele.Lewis@TxDOT.GOV
Lee Ackley	Asst. Scoutmaster	ILuvTexas@prodigy.net
Dominic Macias	Asst. Scoutmaster	232-1575 MaciasDominic@ymail.com
Jim Gullage	Asst. Scoutmaster	940-531-1526 JGullageRN@gmail.com
Mike Cody	Asst. Scoutmaster	867-1451 Michael_Cody@sbcglobal.net
Mike O'Hearn	Asst. Scoutmaster	316-682-9930 AirmanOHearn@gmail.com
Rusty Park	Former Scoutmaster	631-5968 RustyPark67@yahoo.com
Keri Richardson	Treasurer	642-0609 KLLrar2@sw.rr.com

Robert Richardson	Secretary RRichardson1@sw.rr.com	642-6648
Kim Clements	Camping Chair TimandKimC@gmail.com	632-8821
Nancy Springer	Training Coordinator Nancy_Doug@yahoo.com	447-3377
Tim Clements	Charter Representative TimandKimC@gmail.com	632-8021
Curtis Dolberry	Committee Chair HollidayMK@srcaccess.net	632-7055

Camping Equipment List:
Year Round

Uniform
Pants
Shirts (scout related or plain)
Underwear
Sweatshirt
Windbreaker
Socks
Rain Gear
Hiking Boots
Tennis Shoes
Compass
Small Pillow (optional)
Sleeping Bag
Cot/Air Mattress/Pad
Sunglasses (optional)
Day Pack
Bible/Prayer Book (optional)
Binoculars (optional)
Chapstick
Wallet/Money (optional)
Mess Kit [knife, fork, spoon, cup, plate, bowl]
Canteen & Camp Cup
Camp Chair
Mini 1st Aid Kit for Daypack
Medication- to be turned into Scoutmaster
Pocket Knife with tote n chip
Towel & Wash cloth
Hat
Dirty clothes bag
Flashlight (extra batteries)
Toiletries (Shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, etc.)
Watch
Small notebook/pen
BSA handbook

Winter Additions to Above:

Winter Sleeping Bag (Rated 30 degrees or lower)
Scarf
Gloves/ mittens
Warm Hat
Winter Socks
Coat/Parka
Snow Boots

Summer Additions to Above:

Shorts
Swim trunks
Swim Towel
Suntan lotion
Insect repellent
Summer sleeping bag (rated 60 degrees or just a sleep sack)
Wet Clothes Bag (can just be a large zip lock)

Summer Camp

Each summer camp will have a suggested packing list

