

# **BSA TROOP 49**

## **Scout and Parent Guide**

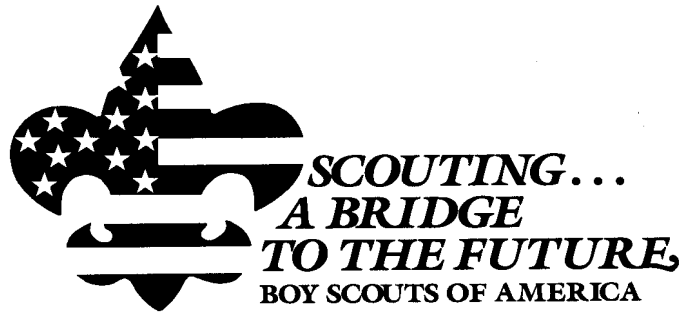
**Founders District  
Greater New York Councils (GNYC)**

**Sacred Heart Church  
215-35 Thirty-Eighth Avenue, Bayside, NY**

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*All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind are convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.*

*--Aristotle*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America! By becoming a Scout, you are beginning a wonderful adventure! By becoming a parent of a Boy Scout, you are setting your son out on the grand adventure of Scouting. This is a tremendously important and rewarding endeavor that you will be able to share with him.

What is it all about? What will you be expected to do? What does it cost? We have prepared this booklet to begin to answer these questions.

The following pages describe the organization of a Troop and the advancement pattern that each boy will follow. Scouts: reading this will help you understand how you can progress through the ranks with your parent's and fellow troop member's help. Parents: this guide will help you understand how you can help and what the various adult volunteers are doing to help the Troop.

## **WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?**

There are three aims to scouting:

- Aim I -- To build character
- Aim II -- To foster citizenship
- Aim III -- To develop fitness

These three aims are the bedrock of the American Scouting movement they represent the long term outcomes we want for every boy.

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people, and in other ways to prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential.

The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Boy Scout Oath and Law.

SCOUT LAW	SCOUT OATH
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A Scout is:</i>            Trustworthy            Loyal            Helpful            Friendly            Courteous            Kind            Obedient            Cheerful            Thrifty            Brave            Clean            Reverent</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">On my honor I will do my best            To do my duty to God and my country            and to obey the Scout Law;            To help other people at all times;            To keep myself physically strong,            mentally awake, and morally straight.</p>

Since 1910, these principles have been taught in an atmosphere of recreation and fun which allows young people to develop self confidence, leadership and moral character. More and more men, trained as Scouts, are taking their places in today's world as responsible adult leaders. Men who earned badges as Scouts, sit on the Supreme Court and in the chambers of Congress. Others hold important offices in our government, business and industry. Most of the members of congress were Scouts, as well as most of the astronauts who have walked on the moon.

The Boy Scouts of America is the largest youth oriented organization in the United States. More than 4 million boys and leaders are currently registered in the Boy Scouts of America.

Unlike Cub Scouting, which many of you are familiar with, Boy Scouting is a youth-lead organization. The boys learn how to organize and lead the Troop. After training, and with supervision from the adult leaders, the boys run the show.

The boys in the Troop will be working towards their 1st class and then Eagle ranks. As they travel on their trail to Eagle they will not only learn how to lead a team to a goal, but they will actually lead teams of scouts in a number of situations. Many Eagle Scouts put their accomplishments on their résumés and find they are often given very special consideration when applying and obtaining acceptance into colleges, the Military Academies, for college scholarships and for the work force.

Boy Scouting also provides for growth of moral strength and character, teaches citizenship, and enhances the development of physical, mental and emotional fitness. This is all done in the spirit of fun and adventure.

Parents: Please take a few minutes to read Chapter 1 of your son's Boy Scout Handbook.

Scouts: You will want to read and re-read your handbook throughout your Scouting career. It is your guide and record of achievements. Bring it to all meetings and take care to keep it neat and safe.

# ORGANIZATION

Troop 49 is a participating member of the Founders District of the Greater New York Councils (GNYC), Boy Scouts of America. The Troop's organization consists of a Chartered Organization, a Troop Committee, the Troop, and the Troop's Parents.

[Troop 49 Website](#)

## **Chartered Organization (Sponsor)**

Every Troop belongs to an organization. The Chartered Organization for Troop 49 is the Sacred Heart Church, Bayside Queens. Our Chartered Organization shares our objectives for the boys, insures that there is adequate, trained leadership, and provides our meeting space and storage facilities.

## **Troop Committee**

The Troop Committee Functions as a governance, administration and support organization for the Troop. The Troop Committee is composed of the registered adult leaders of the Troop. It is led by a Troop Committee Chair, approved by the Sponsoring Organization and registered with the BSA. The Troop Committee governs all functions of the Troop and takes care of the non-program issues surrounding the Troop. For example: our Website, Troop funds, fund raising activities, membership drives, activity permits and coordination, advancement records, procurement and maintenance of Troop equipment, overall policy guidance for the Troop.

The Committee generally meets monthly (same nights as Scout meetings) as well as on an as needed basis.

## **Troop 49**

### **Troop Meetings**

Troop 49 will hold meetings weekly. Meetings currently are held every Friday, from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Changes to the meeting schedule will be announced as early as possible to allow for proper planning. Troop 49 does not generally meet on Good Friday, Friday of the week of an overnight activity, or during the months of June, July and August.

### **Pack Up Night Meetings**

There is also a special "PACK UP" meeting on the Wednesday or other special announced evening immediately before an overnight trip at 7:30 PM. This meeting is mandatory for Patrol and Senior Patrol Leaders and is strongly encouraged for the rest of the Troop. The activity covered is to literally pack up the troop and patrol materials necessary for the outing so that we are pre-loaded for the trip and have minimal Troop material to pick up on Friday Night at the trip start. *NOTE: We STRONGLY URGE NEW SCOUTS to bring their personal Packs to this meeting for a pre-trip checkout. This is an important step to help younger inexperienced scouts to be sure they are properly prepared.*

### **Adult Leadership**

A minimum of two registered adult leaders, or one adult leader and a Scout parent or other Adult, both of who must be at least 21 years of age, are required for all Troop 49 meetings, trips or outings.

### **Patrols and Patrol Leaders**

The Troop is a group made up of one or more patrols. Each Patrol usually consists of a Patrol Leader and no less than four Scouts but no more than eight Scouts. The boys in a patrol elect their patrol leader who in turn appoints the assistant patrol leader.

The Senior Patrol Leader may be an elected or an appointed position. The Senior Patrol Leader selects his Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. The Patrol Leaders, with the Senior Patrol Leader as their head, form the Patrol Leaders' Council, which plans the activities and runs the Troop meetings.

Elections for Patrol Leader(s) are held in September and optionally a second time later in the year. SPL, ASPL, PL and APL positions As do ALL youth positions of Responsibility each have a written set of minimum requirements and performance expectations which the Scout is expected to be aware of and to adhere to. Position tenure for all elected and appointed positions is dependent on reasonably meeting or exceeding the requirements and performance expectations of the position. Positions not up to standard

are subject to re-assignment to others at the discretion of the ScoutMaster in consultation with the Troop Committee.

### **Role of Troop Parents**

The role of parents within Troop 49 is to be supportive of the Troop's efforts and to provide the atmosphere Scouts need to learn and excel. Parents should:

1. Read their Scout's handbook and understand the purpose and methods of Scouting. Parents should informally review the Boy Scout Fast Start training (available on line at : <http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/faststart/> )
2. Actively follow their Scout's progress (or lack thereof) and offer encouragement and a push when needed.
3. Show support to both the individual Scout and the Troop by attending all Troop Courts of Honor.
4. Pay fees promptly. The Troop is continually putting out money for site and activities reservations, equipment, awards, and many other things. Therefore, it is essential that parents meet payment deadlines for all their son's Troop obligations: dues, outings fees, camp fees, and major outings payments.
5. Be sure that their Scout is provided with the complete uniform and is outfitted properly for our outdoor activities. Sew required badges on the Scout uniform. A helpful Insignia Guide for placement of badges and patches is available on our website and in the Scout handbook. Also senior boys (or their parents) can be called upon for help. The merit badge sash is usually purchased after the Scout has earned a few badges. It is worn over the right shoulder with merit badges on the front in lines of three across (horizontal to the shoulder fold and starting about 1 1/2 " down) and with award patches on back
6. Participate in our troop as much as you can and hopefully join us on camping and outdoor activities. Consider becoming an Adult Leader.
7. Transporting and accompanying Scouts on outings. It takes many drivers and adult hikers and campers to transport and supervise our Scouts on their many outings. Your help is greatly needed and it is hoped that you will offer your help as often as possible. Please note that National Scout policy forbids the use of controlled substances or alcohol by anyone on any Scouting activity. Drivers transporting other Scouts must be 21 years of age or older.
8. Turn in all required forms promptly. It makes the job of the volunteer who keeps track of all of these necessary forms so much easier when everyone helps by being prompt in returning them (e.g. medical and motor vehicle insurance forms). If required forms are not turned in, unfortunately that Scout may not participate in the outing.
9. Assist, as requested, in all Troop fund-raisers and other such activities. All such assistance lowers the cost of the program we offer to the Scouts and, therefore, lowers each family's cash outlay for their Scout(s).
10. Be aware of the Troop program and annual calendar (the calendar is always available for viewing and download from our website.) [Troop 49 Calendar](#) [Alternate Link to Troop 49 Google Calendar](#)

## ADVANCEMENT

There are many definitions of advancement, but the Scouting definition might well be, simply, "the art of meeting a challenge." For that is exactly what the Boy Scout advancement program asks the boys to do. The Boy Scout advancement program provides a ladder of skills that a Scout climbs at his own pace. As he acquires these skills he moves up through a series of ranks, for which he is awarded badges. Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The higher he climbs the more challenging his tasks -- and the more rewarding.

Achievements include:

- Learning skills that qualify for Scouting's more rugged and exciting outdoor challenges.
- Developing body and mind, growing self-confidence, and helping younger Scouts climb the advancement ladder.
- Discovering how it feels to go further -- in so many ways -- than he ever thought he could.

We don't look at advancement as a goal, but as a natural outcome of a planned, quality Troop program.

There are four steps of advancement:

- The Boy Scout Learns.
- The Boy Scout is Tested.
- The Boy Scout is Reviewed.
- The Boy Scout is Recognized.

### Advancement Through First Class

**Figure 1 First Class Rank Badge**



From the time the Scout enters the Troop through the time he earns advancement to First Class, he is learning basic scouting skills to enable him to camp, hike, swim, cook, tie knots, administer first aid, and perform other tasks the outdoors and to work as a member of a team. With those first steps the scout begin to build himself physically, mentally, and morally. He will start to live with the Scout Oath and Law. Soon he will learn the symbolism inherent in the Scout badge; he will learn that there are three points of the trefoil which stand for the three parts of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and country, duty to other people, and duty to yourself. The goal of this Troop, is for the Scout to achieve the rank of First Class within his first 2 years in the Troop. This is a sign that the scout has mastered the fundamentals of scouting and can begin to start the long process of learning to lead others, refining the learned skills and learning additional skills. (Note: Advancement can be faster or slower, but it is important to remember that there is an age limit for making advancement to Eagle Scout, but pressure to advance too fast may result your scout becoming discouraged and experiencing a lack of "fun".) in

[ADVANCEMENT INFORMATION WEBSITE](#)

## Advancement from First Class to Eagle



**Eagle Badge**

badges  
next  
than the

to work  
meaning

From the achievement of First Class through Eagle, the Scout will be demonstrating leadership, performing service projects, earning merit and using the skills learned while achieving the rank of First Class. The ranks you will earn are Star and Life. These ranks are harder to obtain earlier ranks, but are also more interesting for the older scouts. Upon completion of all the requirements for Star and Life the Scout will be eligible for Eagle. The original principals, the Scout Oath and Law now have fuller for the Scout and their understanding of them is much greater. The final steps towards Eagle are filled with leadership experiences.

Details for advancement are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook, which every Scout should obtain as soon as possible after joining the Troop. Take a look at Chapter 1. This short chapter has an advancement summary through First Class.

### **Overview of how Advancement Works:**

#### 1. Rank Advancement:

The ranks of Scouting and the requirements to advance through them are described in the Boy Scout Handbook.

To attain the higher ranks in Scouting, you must acquire certain merit badges. Some of these are specified (such as those from the Eagle merit badge requirement list) and some you can choose from the complete list according to your own interests. (See the Boy Scout Handbook, pages 598-619, as well as the current Boy Scout Requirements book) You may also be required to show other skills and/or participate in service projects.

For the early ranks (Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class), authorized older Scouts may be appointed by the Scoutmaster to verify your completion of requirements.

One of the requirements common to all ranks is to show Scout Spirit. That means to obey the Scout Law and to be a worthy member of the Troop.

#### 2. Scoutmaster conference - your informal discussion with the Scoutmaster about the standards you have met:

When you have completed all the requirements for your new rank you must call the Scoutmaster to make an appointment for a Scoutmaster Conference. You must bring your Boy Scout Handbook to the conference. At the conference, you and the Scoutmaster will talk about your work, your growth in Scouting ideals, and your goals for the future.

#### 3. Board of Review - what it is and who will talk with you:

As a final step in advancing rank, you will have a Board of Review: a meeting with a group of at least 3 adults from the Troop who will also review your rank advancement efforts to see if you have met the standards. They may talk with you about what you have done and what you learned in the process, or they may ask you about your ideas about Scouting, and Troop activities in which you have participated. Be sure to bring your Boy Scout Handbook with you. Be sure to wear your full Class A uniform (including sash if you have six or more merit badges). Sometimes, a boy leader from the Troop may be requested to sit on your Board of Review and he will join in talking with you about your development as a Scout.

If you have completed all the requirements for the rank successfully, had your Scoutmaster Conference and a successful Board of Review, you will be informed that you have achieved the rank you are seeking.



When you advance in rank, the new rank dates from your day of passage, even though you may not receive your new rank patch until the next meeting or receive official recognition of your advancement until the next Court of Honor. This means that you can begin working toward your next rank as soon as you pass the last one.

#### 4. Merit Badges:

Merit badge requirements are listed in merit badge booklets which can be purchased at any Scout Shop, through the BSA Retail Catalog (1-800-323 0732), or on the internet at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges.aspx>

Remember the On Line Advancement Website has LOTS of helpful materials to help you: [ADVANCEMENT](#)

More links here: [Links to Advancement, Merit Badges, Troop 49 Forms Etc.](#)

The **first thing to do when you're ready to start a merit badge** is to get from the Scoutmaster a contact number for the applicable Merit Badge Counselor, and a "blue card" (an Application for Merit Badge). Once you have your blue card, you can call a merit badge counselor who can guide you through the requirements. He may want to meet with you then or have you work on your own and then call him or her when you are ready for verification. When you have completed all the requirements and had them "signed off" by the authorized merit badge counselor, you give the card to the Scoutmaster who will sign it and provide it to the Advancement Chairman to record your accomplishment in the Boy Scout Records (TroopMaster and the Internet Advancement System), and later give you the merit badge you have earned at the next Court of Honor.

Note: You must go to a merit badge counselor with a "buddy" (a buddy can be another Scout, a parent, relative or friend). You are not to meet with a counselor alone.

(To find a merit badge counselor for the merit badge you want to work on, see either the Advancement Chairman or your Scoutmaster.)

#### 5. Courts of Honor:

Troop 49 will conduct a Court of Honor at least twice a year. We typically conduct three (If possible, we will schedule one in September, or October, one in February and one in June). A Court of Honor is the ceremony in which formal recognition of achievement is given to all the members of the Troop who have advanced rank, completed merit badges, won awards, or otherwise distinguished themselves. **The full Class A uniform (with merit badge and Order of the Arrow (OA) sashes- if applicable) is worn to a Court of Honor by every member of the Troop.**

It is the responsibility of the Scoutmaster and the Advancement Chair to plan each COH and make sure that all relevant advancement since the last COH is covered. The Scoutmaster, with assistance from the Advancement Chair and other adult leaders, plans and conducts the Troop Courts of Honor. The Troop Committee will support the Courts of Honor as requested.

The Court of Honor is a public ceremony, and is a chance for the Scouts to be publicly recognized for their achievements. Parents and all other interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

**IMPORTANT:** In order to meet the schedule for a Court of Honor, it is necessary for the scout to have met all requirements for rank advancement including a successful Board of Review and communication of the relevant advancement (blue cards, etc.), preferably two full weeks, but no later than ten days before the scheduled date of the Court of Honor

## Eagle Court of Honor:

The Eagle is Scouting's highest rank award and the Eagle Court of Honor is a national Court, the most formal ceremony conducted. A national Scouting representative will open and close the Court and speakers will outline the achievements of each of the new Eagle Scouts. All troop members and their families attend the Eagle Court of Honor. Scouts wear the complete Class A uniform, as above.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

### Annual Registration Fees

How much does Boy Scouting cost? As little as possible, but nothing worthwhile is free. The annual fee for each Scout in Troop 49 is \$75.00. Notably, \$45 of this goes directly to BSA/GNYC for youth dues and Scouting Magazine. We use the rest (\$28 after mandatory BSA Insurance and other fees) to actually run and pay for our Troop's activities ( in addition to fundraisers, etc.) *(Please note that we kept our fees flat from 2005 through 2014 at \$55, but had to raise it to \$65 as of 2014, and to \$75 in 2017- always due to BSA National Charge increases)*

We accomplished this by being as frugal as possible and using fund raising to supplement the dues. We promise to do the same in the future. Our fees are reviewed annually, and may be adjusted moderately in the future. Troop 49 dues are payable by December 31<sup>st</sup> each year.

What does this fee cover?

- Dues for national BSA membership
- Scout insurance
- Troop membership (Pays for badges, awards, Cabins and Camp site rentals when we go camping, Propane cooking fuel for camping, troop supplies like stoves, tents replacements to fix what is broken, supplies and other expenses incurred by the Troop as a whole in running our activities.
- Subscription to *Boys Life* magazine (Written for Scouts, really enjoyable, and gives the Scouts ideas for activities and outings. A good buy)
- It does NOT pay for your Adult Leaders (we are all purely volunteers)

Interesting Facts: The fee we pay each year to BSA- GNYC as part of our RECHARTER FEE is \$ 33.00 per Scout for Registration and \$12 per scout for Boy's Life (total is \$45.00). In addition we are charged \$40 as a troop for Insurance, which roughly comes to around \$1.10 per scout. So out of the \$75 in dues, almost \$47 goes directly to BSA for fees we pay them.

Only about \$28.00 is left to be used to help pay for the bullets listed above such as campsite and cabin rentals, and other costs the troop lays out to pay for our activities.

We pay \$33 per Adult Leader for BSA Registration, etc, out of their \$35 annual dues.

### Fees for Outings / Activities

Individual activities may have fees associated with them. For example, **food** for camping outings, Fee for a day trip such as to a museum, etc. If so, the parents and Scouts will be notified in advance.

### Fundraising

Additional funds are raised by the boys through various fundraising activities, such as a cake sale. The Troop plans to do two to three major fundraising projects a year. Details on this year's fund-raisers will be available at future Troop meetings.

### Rechartering

The process of rechartering is the annual collection of registration fees for the Scouts and Leaders, and the filing of a detailed troop roster and other information with the District and Council. The process of rechartering the Troop must be completed annually no later than February. **(We use our Dues to pay the \$45 per Scout and \$33 per Adult leader Rechartering fees to the BSA – you do not pay separately for them.)**

# UNIFORM

The Scout uniform helps to achieve the objectives of Scouting. The uniform by itself can not make a good Scout or a good Troop, but its use has been proven to improve both the Scout and the Troop because it is a visible symbol of Scouting and unity. Each scout is required to have and wear, within a reasonable amount of time after joining the Troop, the following uniform items:

## **“Class A” or Field Uniform (THE “CENTENNIAL “ UNIFORM)**

- Tan scout shirt with appropriate insignia and patches (GNYC strip, GREEN shoulder loops, GREEN Troop 49 number, badge of rank, patrol emblem, etc. )
- Troop 49 neckerchief (obtained from Troop)
- Neckerchief slide (can be purchased or made by Scout).
- Olive Scout pants or shorts.
- Boy Scout Socks, for wearing with shorts.
- Troop 49 Hat (obtained from Troop) or, optionally, a Yawgoog or Boy Scout Hat.
- Scout web belt and buckle.
- Sneakers or hiking boots. Socks are required.

## **WHAT YOU OBTAIN DIRECTLY FROM OUR TROOP – CUSTOM For us**

T 49 Neckerchiefs  
Troop 49 Number Patch  
Troop Custom Boy Scout uniform Hat.  
Class “B” Shirts

**“Class B” or Activity Uniform** (worn, as instructed by Troop leadership, when activities may cause damage to the field uniform).

- Red Troop 49 T-Shirt (obtain from Troop 49).
- Sneakers or hiking boots. Socks are required.
- Scout pants or shorts, or Jeans.
- Boy Scout Socks, for wearing with shorts.

Uniforms and insignia are worn a certain way. The Troop Leaders and staff at the Scout Shops will be able to answer any questions you might have on where to put what badge. Inside the cover of the Handbook there are guides for badge placement. There is also a guide on our Website.

## GENERAL BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

The guidelines for the acceptable behavior of a Scout are contained in the Scout Oath and Law as stated in the Boy Scout Handbook.

Fighting, hitting, harassing, or in any way causing harm or subjecting a Scout to harm is out of character with Scouting and is prohibited.

**Troop 49 Requests that NO PERSONAL ELECTRONICS be brought to troop activities (except if we PRE ANNOUNCE a special exception for a particular event). This includes cell phones, PDA's, IPODS, Electronic games, etc.**

Each Scout in Troop 49 (and, similarly, any of his family members) has a responsibility to protect and respect Sacred Heart Church property as well as the property of the Troop and his fellow Scouts. Any damage or loss incurred will be the responsibility of those who cause it.

VERY IMPORTANT: National Scout policy prohibits alcohol and/or drug use by anyone at any Troop activity. It is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances is not permitted at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America, or at any activity involving participation of youth members.

Anyone found in possession of or using illegal drugs or ANY form of alcohol (BEER, WINE, LIQUOR, etc.) will be asked to leave immediately. This is a BSA, GNYC and Troop 49 Policy.

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

The camping and hiking programs are essential elements of the advancement process. Scouting in the outdoors helps to teach self reliance by utilizing and developing skills such as swimming, camping, hiking, cooking and backpacking. Boys learn to accommodate to group needs as well as to eventually provide group leadership. The Scout will not be pushed beyond his capability. The Troop is organized so that older Scouts and trained adults will provide instruction and support as new experiences are encountered.

Camping and other outdoor experiences throughout the school year are held in various public campgrounds, parks and reserves. Standard state campground rules, such as the prohibition of all firearms, apply on all outings. In addition, the Troop Committee and Scoutmasters prohibit unsafe or distractive items on outings and at Scout activities. Unless specified on an outings flyer as allowable, such items as audiovisual equipment (Video games, CD players, portable radios, tape players, TV's or other similar equipment) , any archery equipment or guns or water-spewing items (including balloons), or any toy or other item that might be unsafe to use or distracting from Scout activities should be left at home. In addition, Scouts may only bring a pocket knife (sheath knives are not permitted) if they have earned a BSA "totin chip", recognizing that they have mastered knife and cutting implement care and safety.

If any unsanctioned item is brought on a Scout outing, it will be confiscated and returned to the boy's parent with an explanation.

## YOUTH PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Boy Scouts of America actively promotes training and awareness to protect Scouts from modern risks of verbal and physical abuse, kidnapping, assault and drug abuse. Guidelines and suggestions are set forth on the first pages of the Boy Scout Handbook. It is worth your time to read those pages and cover them with your Scout as a family discussion. All Adult Leaders are required to complete Youth Protection training. We strongly urge all parents to also take the course to familiarize themselves with the materials.

You can access and take Whether you are a Parent, interested Adult, or a Scout: [On Line Youth Protection training](#)

## The “three R’s” of Youth Protection

The “three R’s” of Youth Protection convey a simple message for the personal awareness of our youth members:

- **Recognize** that anyone could be a molester.
- **Respond** when someone is doing something that goes against your gut or against the safety guidelines.
- **Report** attempted or actual molestation or any activity that you think is wrong to a parent or other trusted adult

It is national Boy Scout policy that no Scout should be alone or share a tent with any adult leader or parent (other than their own). There should be a "buddy" (another Scout, adult, relative or friend) present at all times. We call this “Two Deep Leadership”

## TROOP ACTIVITIES

### 1. Outings

#### a. Kinds of outings:

Outings include a wide range of activities which are of interest to boys. Typical outings include hiking, camping, cycling, wall climbing, skiing, challenge course, Camporee, summer camp, service projects, etc. There is a troop overnight outing about every month, on average (except for our summer break)

#### b. Schedules of events:

Events are posted and announced at Troop meetings, and listed on the Troop Calendar on the TROOP 49 Website and in the e-mail communications sent to all registered Scouts. The outings announcement will cover the activities planned for the outing, the location, estimated transportation and food costs, equipment arrangements, clothing needs, and sign-up procedures. It is important that parents as well as Scouts read all Troop communications and keep them handy for regular reference.

#### c. Sign up procedure/Remittance:

The Monday night before an outing is the deadline for commitment or reservation for an outing and for payment of all required fees, unless stated otherwise by the outing announcement. Generally outings charges will not be reimbursed unless the outing is canceled for everyone because it helps to pay for the campsite reservation fees and other advance charges. Food charges are shared by all scouts and are paid to the patrol members responsible for shopping.

[Signed Troop 49 Permission slips](#) are required for EVERY outing. In addition, certain outings also require the submission of a Part A or Part B Medical Form for local trips, or a Part A, B and C Medical Form for more extensive experiences such as Summer Camp. (Parts A,B and C are good for ANYTHING)

ALL of these forms are very important. **If they are not submitted by the deadline (or if applicable before travel to the outing begins), the scout cannot participate in the outing in question.**

(See Yawgoog Website for the forms. [Yawgoog](#))

#### d. Pack Up Night Meetings

There is also a special “PACK UP” meeting at 7:30 PM on the Thursday Evening immediately before an overnight trip. This meeting is mandatory for Patrol and Senior Patrol Leaders and is strongly encouraged for the rest of the Troop. The activity covered is to literally pack up the troop and patrol materials necessary for the outing so that we are pre- loaded for the trip and have minimal Troop material

to pick up on Friday Night at the trip start. *NOTE: We STRONGLY URGE and occasionally require NEW SCOUTS to bring their personal Packs to this meeting for a pre-trip checkout. This is an important step to help younger, inexperienced scouts to be sure they are properly prepared.*

## **2. Service projects:**

The Troop's expectation is for all boys to help whenever they are needed or called upon, not just to complete the service obligation for rank advancement, but whenever possible. Service projects are designed to help our sponsor organization, to help with Community needs, to help Eagle candidates with their Eagle projects, and just to be helpful as part of the spirit of Scouting.

## **3. Camporee:**

The Camporee is an annual or semi-annual District event. At these events each patrol competes individually in Scouting-based activities. At each event Scouts earn a certain amount of points, and the patrol with the most points wins. Camporees are designed to be fun while providing an outdoor experience and teaching or reinforcing important skills.

## **4. Summer Camp – Yawgoog Scout Reservation**

Our troop generally attends the Yawgoog Summer camp during “Week 4” (generally the third week of July.) This is a great opportunity to recreate, learn, earn advancement, and generally have lots of fun together as a Troop. Our scouts generally return year after year. Many even return to become paid staff.

## **SCOUT SHOPS**

There are several Scout Shops in the NewYork area where you can purchase scout uniforms and supplies. Here are several:

Oriental Trophy  
133-10 39 Ave.  
Flushing, NY 11354  
(between Prince St. and College  
Point Blvd.)

Phone: 718-886-8909  
Fax: 718-886-8307  
Email:  
[Orientaltrophy@yahoo.com](mailto:Orientaltrophy@yahoo.com)

Scout Shop at Theodore  
Roosevelt Council BSA  
544 Broadway  
Massapequa, NY 11758  
Phone 516.797.7600  
E-Mail [info@trcbasa.org](mailto:info@trcbasa.org)

[LINK TO ON LINE SCOUT SUPPLIES STORE:](#)

## **AND FINALLY**

You are now part of a great organization that includes hundreds of thousands of Scouts, tens of thousands of adult leaders, interested parents, and the BSA professional staff. Scouting is much more than enjoying the outdoors. The Troop teaches leadership skills, community skills and citizenship skills. Scouting also shows boys how they can keep themselves strong and healthy and make the most of school. With hard work and dedication, your son will be able to serve as a leader in the Troop and advance in rank along the trail to Eagle.

Parents: [Parents Training Guide](#) Please take advantage of this resource to familiarize yourself with the BSA Program.

Beyond anything else said in this package, the boys and us "big kids" are in Scouts to have fun! For more information go to our [WEBSITE](#)

## **Troop Committee Blog:**

The following is a record of material decisions that have been taken by the Troop Committee. We began this narrative in 2015 and will periodically add materials as they collect.

### **2015 - 1 (Approved) (Troop Committee Meetings and Voting)**

- We (Troop Committee) will try to meet once in a while- probably only for major issues of burning consequence. Otherwise, emails will be the primary “meeting” venue.
- We will set out email descriptions of matters with alternatives and choices for decisions.
- We will give ourselves a reasonable amount of time for responses (more time if possible, but realistic if the situation calls for a fast decision)
- Votes of those responding will be counted
- Majority of votes sent back decides the question.

### **2015 - 2 (Approved) (Eagle Scouts and Asst. Scoutmasters)**

Eagle Scouts who “Age Out” at 18 will be automatically invited to become Asst. Scoutmasters (or if they prefer, #92U “Unit College Scouter Reserve”, as they are not eligible to be Adult leaders otherwise)

- At Age 21:
- If they will be local to Bayside and are able and wish to be actively involved in running the troop, may continue as Asst. Scoutmaster.
- Otherwise will become regular Adult Leaders (All Adult Leaders, including Scoutmaster and Asst. Scoutmasters are members of the Troop Committee)

### **2015-3 (Approved) (Junior Assistant Scoutmasters)**

Eagle Scouts will be appointed as Junior Assistant Scoutmasters by the Scoutmaster for such time as they continue to meet the qualifications and responsibilities of that Role as determined by Troop 49.

- Prior to appointment, Scoutmaster will first ask each Scout who qualifies if he wishes to be appointed (No Scout will be forced to accept the role)
- Scout will be provided the Role’s qualifications and responsibilities statement in writing (The obligations)
- If after appointment, the Scout is unwilling or unable to meet the obligations, He will be asked to voluntarily step down from the role or alternatively may be removed from the role by the Scoutmaster.

### **2015-4 (Approved) (Assistant Scoutmasters)**

Assistant Scoutmasters are expected to be actively involved in running the troop and preferably have specific responsibilities.

- Assistant Scoutmaster will be expected to participate in Troop Meetings, Outings, activities, etc. to an extent at least constituting 1/3 of the total activities the Troop conducts in a year
- At time of Charter, Individuals not able to meet these expectations will change roles and become Troop Committee members instead of ASM.

### **2016-1 (Tabled) (Investigate Troop Trailer)**

Trailer Options: Proposed that a small committee (2 or 3 people) investigate the cost of purchasing a small troop trailer, including:

- Estimation of the annual cost of Insurance and Registration, and options for safe storage nearby
- Identification of options for purchase and the cost, prepare a capital (acquisition) budget and annual budget, for Troop Committee consideration.



- Evaluate the impacts of using a trailer on typical annual troop trips (due to restrictions against trailers on Parkways such as the Cross Island, Belt, Southern State, Northern State, Palisades, Taconic, etc.

### **2016-2 (Approved) (Parental Transportation)**

Parents of Scouts going on an event are required, as a condition of participation, to provide transportation for their Scout, his personal gear, and for a portion of the troop's equipment. If a Parent wishes to share the load with another parent of a scout attending, whoever they are sharing with must also provide the same transportation BOTH WAYS. (ie: two Scouts share = Transport of 2 Scouts; plus 2 Scouts personal gear; plus 2 Scout's shares of Troop Equipment. (If one vehicle cannot handle, then the share doesn't work

### **2016-3 (Approved) (Event Deadlines and Financial / Participation implications)**

A: Events will be defined and announced well in advance. Scouts will be accepted for an event based on commitment to attend , pay the cost and provide the necessary Adult Participation/ transportation, etc. The deadline for RSVP and COMMITMENT will be at least:

- i. The weekend BEFORE a Wednesday or Thursday Pickup Meeting
- ii. Where pickup is not required, one week ( 5-7 days) before the event or;
- iii. The date of cutoff for RSVPs to be communicated to the identified troop leaders at meetings and/or via emails, the Troop Website, etc.
- iv. Where an event is limited in size by circumstances such as venue size, transportation/ bus size, other external limits on size, etc., first paid and committed/ honoring all obligations will break any ties. (ie: If an earlier commitment to attend is not matched by payment, a later commitment matched by the first payment to come in will get the spot(s).
- v. We will identify specific Troop leaders who will responsible to receive RSVPs, commitments, payments etc.
- vi. Personal direct and definite communications to the identified Troop leaders to RSVP for an event, preferably in writing, will have precedence to indefinite, and to oral communications and / or other indirect communications such as communications through other individuals.

B: We will honor "oral commitments" whenever possible, except when there is a limited size and payment must be used to determine who goes on a trip (see Proposal 3 a) iv above). When we honor an oral commitment ("I promise to pay, please count my scout included...") we will only require the Scout to compensate the troop for funds spent to date we determine they are probably not going. (for example, if we honor an oral commitment to go and they cancel BEFORE we purchase food, there is no issue. However, if it is AFTER we purchase food, they are obligated for the \$15 food fee, or other fees the troop expended for them in expectation they would honor their oral commitment).