

1. Troop 1776 Policy Document Cover

This document will include the troop policies as defined by the adult leadership.

Contents

1. Troop 1776 Policy Document Cover	1
Contents	1
2. Troop 1776 Campership Policy and Application.....	2
Process	2
Troop Commitment.....	2
Policies.....	2
Troop 1776 Campership Application.....	3
3. Troop 1776 Training Policy.....	4
Background.....	4
Purpose	4
Troop Commitment.....	4
Policies.....	4
Required Training	4
Reimbursement.....	4
Documentation.....	5
Courses Available On Line.....	5
4. Venture Program.....	6
Overview	6
Venture Presentation.....	6



2. Troop 1776 Campership Policy and Application

Every Scout should be given an opportunity to take part in all Scouting adventures. This campership program has been established so that Scout families will find troop programs within reach.

As with all Scout programs, this program is based on the time honored principle that an individual earns his own way. Paying a boy's way is a joint effort of the Scout and his family, the Troop and the campership program. The purpose of the campership program is to make our outdoor program available to deserving Scouts who could not otherwise afford the attendance fees.

Process

To submit a Troop 1776 Campership, please complete the following steps:

1. Complete the below application and submit to the Committee Chair. Details of the application are confidential. All campership applications must be submitted 2 weeks prior to the trip it is requested for.
2. The Committee Chair will talk with the scout family.
3. The Committee Chair and Scoutmaster will decide if the request is approved and the amount of the campership.
4. The Scout family will be informed of the decision.
5. The Committee will be informed of the campership (amount). The process is strictly confidential and no names will be shared with the committee at large. Only the Committee Chair, Scoutmaster and Treasurer will know.
6. The amount will be provided to the treasurer and the troop funds transferred to the trip.

Troop Commitment

The troop committee will maintain a separate campership fund.

1. That account will be funded from the troop general fund and have a total of \$1000 at the start of each scout year. All donations to the troop that are directed for camperships will be added to this fund to assure they are used for camperships.
2. Any unused funds will be carried over from year to year.
3. If the fund is expended before the end of the year, the committee may vote to place additional funds in the account.
4. The campership information will be disseminated to all scouts and a copy will be placed in the scout notebook.

Policies

1. Troop 1776 Camperships are only available for troop activities. Camperships do not include the cost of medical examination, merit badge requirements, equipment, transportation and other camping related needs.
2. Each applicant is reviewed individually and must stand on his own merit. **Completion of application does not guarantee a campership grant will be awarded.**
3. Camperships, when awarded, are restricted to a maximum of 50% of any costs or camping fees for most troop activities and summer camp. For more expensive troop activities (i.e., Philmont, venture treks, etc.) the limit will be lower and at the discretion of the scoutmaster and committee chair.
4. Scouts who participate in fundraisers and are active with the troop will receive first preference.
5. Scouts will be required to maintain active participation at Troop activities as a condition of receiving Camperships. The Scoutmaster and Committee chair will use their discretion to determine if the scout's activity level warrants a campership.
6. Parents or guardians will be required to provide reasonable participation at Troop activities as a condition of receiving Camperships for their Scout. You will be asked to name a specific activity or activities in which you have or plan to participate in or lead if awarded a Campership for your Scout. Examples include: coordinate fundraising, organize a service projects, volunteer for a committee or uniformed leadership position, etc.
7. Camperships are awarded based on a combination of factors, which include financial hardship, the Scout's active participation, and the parent's or guardian's reasonable participation at Troop activities.
8. Camperships are non-transferable. A Scout who is awarded a campership but does not attend the trip forfeits the campership.

Troop 1776 Campership Application

All Campership applications must be filled out COMPLETELY and ACCURATELY or they will not be considered.

Name:		Patrol:	
Phone:		Age:	Grade:
Which trip are you attending? (Circle one) Name and Date:			
Please write a one-paragraph statement on the back of this form explaining the financial need and/or special circumstances surrounding your request - (Use additional paper if necessary)			
Scout Participation in Troop Fundraising - Yes or No		Which fundraisers have you participated in:	
Fee for the trip:	\$	What Troop Activities have you participated in the last year (number of troop meetings/names of outings):	
I will contribute my fair share from my earnings/savings	\$		
My family kindly agrees to help me by contributing	\$		
Other assistance (e.g. other family, Chartered Organization, Lions, Rotary, etc.)	\$		
Based on above, I am requesting	\$		
Have you received campership(s) with us in the past?		If yes, what year(s)?	

This is to certify that we have personally talked with this Scout regarding his attendance at camp and have verified the need for a Campership with his parents or guardians.

Parent or Guardian's signature:		Date:
Email:	Phone:	
Scoutmaster's or Committee Chair signature:		Date:
Email:	Phone:	

For Committee Use Only

Approved: No Yes \$ _____
Date Approved: Initials:

3. Troop 1776 Training Policy

Background

Encouraging adult participants to obtain the necessary training is critical to ensure adequate coverage for troop activities. The lack of trained leaders has caused trips to be cancelled and trained leaders to be separated from their sons on backpacking trips. The troop has invested in adult training, through reimbursement of training costs, and some adults have not participated in subsequent events.

Purpose

1. Identify those courses that are required for all adult leaders prior to participating in activities
2. Identify other courses that are strongly recommended and their required timeframes
3. Identify reimbursement strategy that encourages adult participation

Troop Commitment

The troop committee commits to the following to assure we maintain a trained adult leadership.

1. Adult training reimbursement will be funded from the troop's Adult Training fund. The budget for this fund will be defined during yearly troop budget planning process.
2. A committee member designated as the training coordinator will be assigned with the responsibility of:
 - a. Tracking the training and certifications of adult leaders.
 - b. Publicizing council and other BSA training activities and assuring the troop calendar is updated with those events.
 - c. Informing troop of regular CPR and first aid certification classes and organizing classes if needed.
 - d. Organizing a yearly Youth Protection training session.
3. If the fund is expended before the end of the year, the committee may vote to place additional funds in the account.

Policies

Required Training

- All adults must successfully complete Youth Protection and before attending troop functions other than troop meetings
- Weather Hazards training is required prior to attending the fourth activity. Adults can't participate in more than three activities without obtaining Weather Hazards certification.
- Current CPR training, as evidenced by a valid certification card, is required prior to attending the fourth activity. Adults can't participate in more than three activities without obtaining CPR certification.

Reimbursement

- Due to the low cost of training, costs associated with training is generally not reimbursable. If an ASM or Scout Master is requested to attend specialized training, i.e. not part of the standard training regime, the Committee Chairman can authorize reimbursement.
- The following courses will not be reimbursed: Youth Protection, Risk Zone, Scout Master specific, Outdoor Leader Skills, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Climbing Safety,
- The troop will reimburse CPR and First Aid training in the amount not to exceed \$40. Reimbursement will be done through credits against future activities fees (voucher). The reimbursement can only be used by the adult obtaining the training and is not transferable to a scout or another adult.
- Wilderness first aid is reimbursable if Council sponsors the course. Pre approval by the Scout Master is required for reimbursement. Reimbursement will be done through credits against future activities fees. The reimbursement can only be used by the adult obtaining the training and is not transferable to a scout or other adult.

Documentation

After successfully completing training, copies of your certification of completion should be sent to the training coordinator. Training records will be scanned and completion dates will be recorded in Troop Master.

Training is not deemed completed until certificates are received by the training coordinator. The training coordinator will record all completed in Troop Master.

Courses Available On Line

1. Orientation Training
 - a. Fast Start: Boy Scouting
2. Basic Training
 - a. This is Scouting
 - b. Youth Protection Training
3. Supplemental Training
 - a. Climb On Safely
 - b. Physical Wellness
 - c. Safe Swim Defense
 - d. Safety Afloat
 - e. Trek Safely
 - f. Weather Hazards
 - g. Troop Committee Challenge

4. Venture Program

Overview

Troop 1776 offers scout members the opportunity to participate in two different types of high adventure activities under the Venture program. **Criteria for participation vary among each program. In general, the venture program is open to any scout who has turned 14 years of age by January 1st of the year that the venture trek is planned and has, at a minimum, attained the Rank of First Class. In addition, all treks under this program are unique and therefore may require a different skill set to ensure the success and safety of each trek.** As a result there may be additional eligibility criteria. The specifics of each program are described below.

- **ADVENTURE TREKS:** Activities included in this program are typically more challenging outdoor experiences such as Opik, whitewater rafting, extended bike and canoe trips, and long distant backpacking trips of 20 miles or more such as the Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina AT Treks. Although typical troop outdoor activities are usually 2-3 days, adventure treks can be as long as 4-5 days and usually evolve around a certain skill set to be emphasized such as cold weather camping, canoeing and extended backpacking skills. Additional criteria for participation are set prior to scout sign-up by the scout in charge and his Adult advisor. Planning is usually more involved, should begin well in advance and requires careful thought to ensure the trip runs smoothly and is successful. The scout in charge and his adult advisor are responsible for preparing trek agenda.
- **HIGH ADVENTURE TREKS:** Activities under this program take adventure treks to an even higher level and are considerably more challenging. In general, these treks usually involve a unique, long-term summer trek, which typically lasts more than 7 days. These trips are more detailed, require a significant amount of planning, research, training and teamwork to be a success. Planning typically begins 12 – 18 months in advance. Additional eligibility criterion may be required for participation and it is the responsibility of the Venture Advisor, with the input and approval of the Scoutmaster and Committee, to determine criteria requirements prior to scout sign-up.

The high adventure program has a strong emphasis on the Patrol Methods of BSA. Scouts who meet the eligibility criteria and have signed up to participated in the high adventure trek are assigned to a Venture Patrol. Under the direction of the Adult Advisor and Venture Patrol Leader, patrols work together as a team through out the year planning and training for the trek at hand

All High adventure Treks require committee approval prior to soliciting scout sign-up. Using the guidelines below the scout planning the proposed Trek is responsible for preparing a presentation to the committee.

Venture Presentation

The Venture Advisor and the Venture Trek Leader (if different) are expected to work with the scout to prepare him for a thorough presentation to the committee. When it is determined that the scout is ready to make the presentation, he (they) should contact the Scoutmaster and Committee Chair to put the presentation on the Committee meeting agenda. The scout is responsible to present an overview of the trek to the Committee for:

- Fundraising approval
- Verification that trek plan follows Troop policies on safety and financing. Trip Safety is determined by criteria for participation, experience level, group size and itinerary.

The scout's presentation should be approximately 15 minutes. It is essential that the he comes prepared with a well thought out plan. In addition, he is expected to answer any questions or address concerns the committee may have. The Scout's presentation should cover the following points:

The purpose of the trip and proposed itinerary

- Eligibility criteria
- Safety plans
- Proposed Trek budget and fundraising plans

5. Registered Adult Leadership

Overview

Troop 1776

1. Create a MyScouting account: <http://myscouting.scouting.org>
And complete the on-line training for:
 - a. "Youth Protection Training"
 - b. Fast Start Training: "Boy Scouts"
 - c. Leader Position – Specific Training – Orientation Training: "This is Scouting"
 - d. Supplemental Training: "Troop Committee Challenge"
2. Register yourself as a Leader in BSA; BSA Leader Application Form
 - a. Costs \$20 annual registration
 - b. Benefits: aids in protecting Scouting youth by allowing for a criminal background check, allows you to go and participate in Scouting activities, covers you under the Troop's insurance policy.
3. Complete a Troop 1776 Driver Application Form.

Assistant Scoutmaster

4. Serve on the Troop Committee while completing the following Patriots' Path Council training:
 - a. New Leader's Essentials
 - b. BSA Specific Skills
 - c. Outdoor Leader Skills
5. Get Scoutmaster's recommendation
6. Purchase a complete uniform and wear it to inspire our youth
7. Participate in Troop 1776 events and training.

Addendum:

Members of the Troop Committee need to complete an adult application and be registered with Patriots' Path Council. Committee members have direct contact with scout youth during Board of Reviews, driving on trips, participating on events, etc., and so both the scout and adult need the protection of registered adults, background checks, and insurance coverage.

1. Troop 1776 Fundraisers

Overview

There was discussion of a previous decision (10/14/09) to have 10% of fundraising go to the troop and the discussion in April to have Belle Mead Coop sales be an exception, with all funds going to scout vouchers. The point was made that the Belle Mead fundraiser does not use troop equipment and so would not need to give 10% back to the troop.