

## TROOP 599

### MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE (returning scouts)

#### Checklist of Items

Every September each scout in Troop 599 and his parents must complete and return the attached forms in order to remain an active member of the troop for the upcoming year. **No scout will be permitted to attend outings or advance in rank after September 30, if he has not completed and returned this package.**

We have made every attempt to minimize the number of forms required. Please complete the attached forms and return them to Walter Brookhart or your Patrol Advisor as soon as possible **and not later than October 10, 2017**. For ease in processing, please keep the completed package together with the checklist and your check on top. If you have any questions about these forms, please call Walter Brookhart at 713-465-0329. We recommend that you keep a copy of the completed forms in your Parents' Notebook.

- ☐ Parent Transportation Commitment  
[All drivers on outings must have a Youth Protection Training Certificate completed since January 1, 2016, on file in TroopMaster. YPT can be completed on-line in less than 30 minutes at [www.my.scouting.org](http://www.my.scouting.org). Click on the Training link to go to YPT training.]
- ☐ Records Update and Parent Driver/Insurance Information
- ☐ Parent Resource Update
- ☐ Merit Badge Counselor Application<sup>1</sup>  
[To become a counselor you must complete the attached Merit Badge Counselor application, together with a BSA Adult Application, including criminal background check authorization, which can be found in the office of the Scout Lodge. You must also complete Youth Protection and Merit Badge Counselor Training which can be taken on-line at [www.myscouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org) in several 15 minute modules.]
- ☐ Check for \$100.00 payable to Troop 599 for dues for the 2017-18 school year

Visit our Troop 599 website at [www.scouttroop599.org](http://www.scouttroop599.org) and sign up for weekly troop e-blasts with up to date, important information. Also find us on Facebook at Boy Scout Troop 599 - The Thunderbirds.

<sup>1</sup> If you are already registered as a Merit Badge Counselor and wish to continue for the badges you listed last year, you need take no action. If you are already registered as a merit badge counselor and wish to add or delete merit badges, you can do so merely by indicating on this form. The BSA adult application is NOT required to merely add or delete merit badges.

## PARENT TRANSPORTATION COMMITMENT for 2017-18

The extensive camping program undertaken each year by Boy Scouts of America, Troop 599 requires significant adult participation to provide the required transportation. We must have 20 - 25 drivers for each of the nine (9) campouts planned throughout the year. To make this program work, every parent must do his/her part. With gas costing almost \$3.00 per gallon and the troop often having difficulty finding transportation for all scouts, **it is now mandatory that all parents drive on at least two (2) campouts each year. Further, all drivers must have a Youth Protection Training Certificate completed since January 1, 2016, on file in TroopMaster.** YPT can be completed on-line in about 30 minutes at [www.my.scouting.org](http://www.my.scouting.org). Click on the Training link to go to YPT training.

Parents are encouraged, but not required, to camp with the Troop when they drive. While each patrol should provide sufficient drivers for each outing, in order to help our Patrol Leaders and Transportation Chairman schedule the required drivers, please circle on the following list the two (2) campouts on which you would prefer to drive. We will try to accommodate your selections. **If you do not select at least two campouts, two will be selected for you.**

Aquatics (Lake Livingston)	September 15 - 17, 2017
Deep Sea Fishing (Galveston)	October 20 - 22, 2017
49 <sup>th</sup> King Ranch Outing (Lockhart)	November 17 - 19, 2017
Climbing/Rappelling (Fredericksburg)	December 15 - 17, 2017
Stealth / Iron Chef (Flatonia area?)	January 19 - 21, 2018
Biking / Hiking (Lake Bastrop?)	February 16 -18, 2018
History Tour (Gonzales)	March 23 - 25, 2018
District Camporee (Camp Bovay - Navasota)	April 20 - 22, 2018
Beach Outing (Quintana Beach)	May 18 - 20, 2018

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Scout's Patrol: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's Name (Dad):\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's Name (Mom):\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

# TROOP 599

## RECORDS UPDATE and PARENT DRIVER/INSURANCE INFORMATION

### Records Update for 2017-18

Scout's Name (First and Last) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name (First and Last) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address\* \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone\* \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name (First and Last) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address\* \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone\* \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\* (if different from that of Scout)

### Driver/Insurance Information

Troop 599 is required to file an application for a Tour Permit with the Sam Houston Area Council office of the Boy Scouts of America prior to each troop outing. As part of the permit application, we are required to list all drivers, together with the vehicles that will be used to transport scouts to and from the outing, and verify that each driver and vehicle is covered by bodily injury and property liability insurance. Coverage limits must be at least equal to the minimum required by the state where the vehicle is registered. BSA recommends at least \$50,000/\$100,000/\$50,000. BSA will provide secondary coverage above the driver's limits. Seat belts are required for all vehicle occupants. T599 is also required to have the Texas driver's license number of all drivers. **If, during the scouting year, you should trade or purchase a new vehicle, please provide the appropriate new information to the Troop Records Coordinator.** Please provide the following information.

### Driver Information

Please provide the following information for each adult driver who may drive your vehicle.

Driver Name	Drivers License No. (including state)	Cell Phone No.
1.		
2.		

### Vehicle/Insurance Information

Please provide the following information for each vehicle that you may use to transport scouts. Following the example, list the primary vehicle first, followed by any other vehicles you may use.

Vehicle Year/Make/Model	License Plate No.	Owner's Name	Number of pass- engers (including driver)**	Does each pass- enger have a seatbelt?	Liability Insurance (at least \$50K/\$100K/\$50K)		
					Bodily injury		Property damage per accident
					per person	per accident	
1.							
2.							
3.							

\*\*Please allow space for passengers' gear.

# BOY SCOUT TROOP 599

## PARENT RESOURCE COMMITMENT

### FOR 2017-18

Scout's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Helping your son and others have fun, learn and advance in Troop 599 can be a most rewarding experience. But, you'll never know until you VOLUNTEER. As Troop 599 has grown to more than 120 boys, it has become critical that ALL PARENTS share in the jobs required to keep our program running. In addition to driving to and from at least two (2) outings **it is required that all parents assist in at least one (1) area.** While a few jobs require a commitment of 20-50 hours per month, many only take 1-2 hours per month or a concentrated effort within a short time span. Please check the areas below in which you would be willing to help. Rank your preferences (1, 2, 3, etc.). Indicate interest for both father and mother. **Brief descriptions of the responsibilities of each position are included on the back of this form.**

Outings	Dad	Mom	Programs	Dad	Mom
Outings	_____	_____	Weekly Programs	_____	_____
Equipment	_____	_____	Courts of Honor	_____	_____
Transportation	_____	_____	Scout Sunday	_____	_____
Troop Vehicles	_____	_____	Scouting for Food	_____	_____
Medical Records	_____	_____	May Banquet	_____	_____
Summer Camp	_____	_____	Silent Auction	_____	_____
High Adventure	_____	_____	Scout Fair	_____	_____
Venture	_____	_____	Chaplain	_____	_____

#### Development

Advancement	_____	_____
Merit Badges	_____	_____
Boards of Review	_____	_____
Data / Records	_____	_____
Patrol Advisor	_____	_____
Leadership Advisor	_____	_____
Eagle Advisor	_____	_____
First Class Emphasis	_____	_____
Order of the Arrow	_____	_____
Training	_____	_____

#### Administration

Committee Chairman	_____	_____
Fundraising	_____	_____
Treasurer	_____	_____
Secretary	_____	_____
Membership	_____	_____
Parent Resources	_____	_____
Newsletter Editor	_____	_____
Telephone Committee	_____	_____
Uniform Exchange	_____	_____
Scoutmaster	_____	_____

## TROOP 599 - PARENT RESOURCE DESCRIPTIONS

### Outings

**Outings** - assisting in planning, coordinating and preparing for outings; advising ASPL of Outings.

**Equipment** - assisting with equipment; organizing, checking condition, buying supplies; advising ASPL(s) of Equipment.

**Transportation** - organizing drivers to/from outings.

**Troop Vehicles** – ensuring that the Troop truck and trailer are always properly serviced and prepared for each planned use.

**Medical Records** – keeping track of medical forms for all scouts; making sure they are current and available for outings.

**Summer Camp** – helping select, plan, prepare, coordinate or lead the Troop's annual Summer Camp outing. Computer skills (MS / Word and/or Excel) very helpful.

**High Adventure** - helping plan, prepare, and coordinate special summer high adventure outings.

**Venture** - assisting as a Venture leader; providing guidance; planning and participation on outings.

### Development

**Advancement** – keeping advancement records; purchasing awards; tracking scout progress.

**Merit Badges** - being a merit badge counselor; or coordinating merit badge classes.

**Boards of Review** – sitting on advancement Boards of Review (no uniformed leaders); or coordinating Boards of Review.

**Data / Records** - keeping troop records (advancement, contact data, training, attendance) in Troopmaster.

**Patrol Advisor** - advising a patrol; providing guidance, tracking and promoting advancement; assisting with leadership position assignments.

**Leadership Position Advisor** – advising scouts serving in troop leadership positions of Scribe, Librarian, Historian, Bugler or Webmaster; providing guidance and tracking progress.

**Eagle Advisor** – advising Life scouts on the path toward Eagle; providing guidance on Eagle project preparation and reporting.

**First Class Emphasis** – being a uniformed leader in the FCE program; teaching skills to new scouts.

**Order of the Arrow** – being the Troop OA representative to the council; planning and coordinating OA elections.

**Training** - tracking scout and adult training certificates and expiration; organizing special leadership training courses (Youth Protection Training, Safe Swim, etc).

### Programs

**Weekly Programs** - assisting in planning, providing speakers, organizing demonstrations; advising ASPL of Programs.

**Courts of Honor** - organizing refreshments at Courts of Honor.

**Scout Sunday** - organizing helpers for church service; arranging for photographer; coordinating the luncheon and selling tickets.

**Scouting for Food** – driving scouts on donation routes; delivering food; or organizing and managing the October food drive.

**Banquet** – planning and organizing the May banquet (table decorations and food).

**Silent Auction** – obtaining donated items (occurs at May Banquet).

**Scout Fair** – coordinating participation of the Troop in the April Scout Fair; organizing the training/equipment; overseeing event.

**Chaplain** - serving as the Troop adult Chaplain; mentoring scout Chaplain Aide.

### Administration

**Committee Chairman** - chairing the Troop Committee; managing yearly registration; facilitating filling of committee positions; overseeing all administrative functions.

**Fundraising** - organizing and managing greenery sale.

**Treasurer** - managing the troop checkbook; processing all receivables and payables.

**Secretary** - providing minutes of committee meetings.

**Membership** - coordinating yearly membership recruiting of Webelos and transferring Scouts; advising Den Chiefs and ASPL of Membership.

**Parent Resources** - maintaining database of parents and their interests in serving the Troop.

**Newsletter Editor** – compiling, editing, designing, and publishing the monthly newsletter.

**Telephone Committee** – being on a telephone tree for a patrol; or organizing and assigning specific telephone tree messaging.

**Uniform Exchange** - maintaining inventory, soliciting donations and managing surplus/donated uniforms.

**Scoutmaster** – serving as the Troop Scoutmaster; advising the Senior Patrol Leader and his ASPLs.



# Boy Scouts of America MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR INFORMATION



(Please type or print legibly.)

Name\* \_\_\_\_\_ Primary phone\* \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work

Address\* \_\_\_\_\_ Other phone \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work

City/state/zip\* \_\_\_\_\_ Other phone \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work

Email address\* \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ I do not have email. Age \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: ☐ Troop ☐ Team ☐ Crew ☐ Ship No. \_\_\_\_\_ BSA ID \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am not affiliated with a district.

☐ I am not affiliated with a unit.

**\*Required field. Primary phone and email address indicate how Scouts should contact you.**

**To qualify as a merit badge counselor, you must**

- Be at least 18 years old and of good character.
- Be registered with the Boy Scouts of America (position code 42).
- Complete Youth Protection training.
- Be recognized as having the skills and education in the merit badge subjects covered and hold any required qualifications and training as outlined in the *Guide to Safe Scouting* or the *Guide to Advancement*—or use others so qualified.
- Be able to work with Scout-age boys.

**As a merit badge counselor, I agree to**

- Follow the requirements of the merit badge, making no deletions or additions, ensuring that the advancement standards are fair and uniform for all Scouts.
- Have a Scout accompanied by his buddy during all instructional sessions.
- Keep my Youth Protection training current.
- Renew my registration annually if I plan to continue as a merit badge counselor.

Merit Badges <i>For more than eight merit badges, attach additional sheets.</i>	Add (A) Drop (D)	For each merit badge, list qualification(s) that support your request. <i>Qualifications could include college degrees, formal training certificates, positions held, and specific life experiences.</i>
1.	A	
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		

A = Adding a new merit badge that you will counsel to the roster. D = Removing your name from the roster for this merit badge.

**Complete the following:**

- ☐ This is a new application (first time to register as a merit badge counselor).  
Attach this form to the BSA Adult Application, indicating position code 42.
- ☐ This is an update to an existing list of merit badge subjects.
- ☐ I no longer wish to serve as a merit badge counselor.

Youth Protection training date \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach copy of the current certificate.)

**I agree to work with:**

- ☐ All Scouts
- ☐ All Scouts in these districts: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Only with Scouts in these units (indicate whether troop, team, or crew): \_\_\_\_\_

**Counselors are encouraged to be available to work with any Scout in any unit.**

☐ I plan to serve as a merit badge counselor for this event or outside organization: \_\_\_\_\_

**Council Approval:**

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS

## What's It All About?

The merit badge counselor is a key player in the Boy Scout advancement program. Whatever your area of expertise or interest—whether it is a special craft or hobby (basketry, leatherwork, coin collecting), a profession (veterinary medicine, aviation, engineering), or perhaps a life skill (cooking, personal management, communication)—as a merit badge counselor, you play a vital role in stirring a young man's curiosity about it. By serving as a counselor, you offer your time, knowledge, and other resources so Scouts have the opportunity to broaden their horizons. And in doing so, your mission is to combine fun with learning.

You are both teacher and mentor to the Scout as he learns by doing. By presenting opportunities for growth via engaging activities like designing a Web page (Computers), performing an ollie and a wheelie (Snow Sports), or fabricating rope (Pioneering), you may pique a young man's interest and inspire a Scout to develop a lifelong hobby, pursue a particular career, or become an independent, self-supporting adult.

## Learning to Be a Merit Badge Counselor

All merit badge counselors should seek training. It is important that they have a full understanding of their responsibilities and also of the recommended practices for quality counseling. The presentation “The Essentials of Merit Badge Counseling” has been designed for this purpose and covers the following topics:

A Scouting overview: mission, aims, and methods	Merit badge program role and benefits
Merit badge counselor qualifications	How to become a counselor
The merit badge counseling process	Merit badge requirements
Effective counseling	Group instruction and camp settings

The session can be downloaded and viewed from <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/GuideforMeritBadgeCounselors/MBCounselorGuide.aspx>.

Another resource is the *Guide for Merit Badge Counseling*, No. 34532. This resource can be found online at [www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/GuideforMeritBadgeCounselors/MBCounselorGuide.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/GuideforMeritBadgeCounselors/MBCounselorGuide.aspx).

## Processing This Application

Merit badge counselors *must* register as adult Scouters and be approved by the council advancement committee for each merit badge listed on this Merit Badge Counselor Information form. A merit badge counselor does not have to pay a registration fee, but must complete an Adult Application for position code 42, fill out this form, and complete BSA Youth Protection training. Submit the Adult Application with the Merit Badge Counselor Information form to your council. Counselors may wish to associate with a particular unit but are encouraged to serve any Scout from any unit.

## Special Qualifications and Guidelines for Merit Badge Counselors

A number of merit badges involve activities that are restricted or require certification or special training for those supervising these activities. See the [Guide to Advancement](#), topic 7.0.1.1, “Qualifications of Counselors.” Merit badge counselors may personally meet these required qualifications, or they may use others so qualified. Additionally, the BSA [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) has specific requirements and procedures for shooting sports and for aquatics, winter, and other activities. These policies apply to all BSA activities, including merit badge instruction. For other merit badges where specific BSA requirements do not exist, counselors should have sufficient depth of knowledge and experience to understand how to safely present the material.

## Instructions to Counselors

- The unit leader (Scoutmaster, Varsity Coach, crew Advisor, or Skipper) recommends and provides the name and contact information of at least one merit badge counselor to each Scout desiring to work on a merit badge. Before beginning to work with a youth, counselors should check the boy's merit badge application (blue card) to ensure it is signed by the unit leader.
- Every Scout must have a buddy with him at each meeting with a merit badge counselor. This buddy could be another Scout, a parent or guardian, a brother or sister, or a relative or friend. There is no one-on-one contact allowed with Scouts and counselors—the buddy requirement is mandatory.
- Counselors may not add to or delete any merit badge requirements. Group instruction is allowed where special facilities and expert personnel make this most practical, or when Scouts are dependent on a few counselors for assistance. However, any group experience must provide attention to every individual candidate's projects and progress, and assure each has actually and personally fulfilled *all* the requirements. If, for example, a requirement uses words like “show,” “demonstrate,” or “discuss,” then every Scout must individually do so. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of Scouts sitting in classrooms and watching demonstrations or remaining silent during discussions.
- When a Scout begins working on a merit badge, the current-year *Boy Scout Requirements* book lists the official requirements in effect at that time. If requirements change after a Scout has started working on a merit badge, he may stay with the requirements in effect when he started unless the BSA's National Council places a specific timeline on the implementation of new requirements.



## MERIT BADGE LIST<sup>1</sup>

American Business  
 American Cultures  
 American Heritage  
 American Labor  
 Animal Science  
 Animation  
 Archaeology  
 Archery  
 Architecture & Landscape Architecture  
 Art  
 Astronomy  
 Athletics  
 Auto Maintenance  
 Aviation  
 Backpacking  
 Basketry  
 Bird Study  
 Bugling  
**Camping**  
 Canoeing  
 Chemistry  
 Chess  
**Citizen in Community**  
**Citizenship in Nation**  
**Citizenship in World**  
 Climbing  
 Coin Collecting  
 Collections  
**Communication**  
 Composite Materials  
**Cooking**  
 Crime Prevention  
**Cycling**  
 Dentistry  
 Digital Technology  
 Disabilities Awareness  
 Dog Care  
 Drafting  
 Electricity  
 Electronics  
**Emergency Prep**  
 Energy  
 Engineering  
 Entrepreneurship  
**Environmental Science**

Exploration  
**Family Life**  
 Farm Mechanics  
 Fingerprinting  
 Fire Safety  
**First Aid**  
 Fish & Wildlife Mgmt.  
 Fishing  
 Fly Fishing  
 Forestry  
 Game Design  
 Gardening  
 Genealogy  
 Geocaching  
 Geology  
 Golf  
 Graphic Arts  
**Hiking**  
 Home Repairs  
 Horsemanship  
 Indian Lore  
 Insect Study  
 Inventing  
 Journalism  
 Kayaking  
 Landscape Architecture  
 Law  
 Leatherwork  
**Lifesaving**  
 Mammal Study  
 Medicine  
 Metalwork  
 Mining in Society  
 Model Design & Building  
 Motorboating  
 Moviemaking  
 Music  
 Nature  
 Nuclear Science  
 Oceanography  
 Orienteering  
 Painting  
**Personal Fitness**  
**Personal Management**  
 Pets  
 Photography

Pioneering  
 Plant Science  
 Plumbing  
 Pottery  
 Programming  
 Public Health  
 Public Speaking  
 Pulp & Paper  
 Radio  
 Railroading  
 Reading  
 Reptile & Amphibian Study  
 Rifle Shooting  
 Robotics  
 Rowing  
 Safety  
 Salesmanship  
 Scholarship  
 Scouting Heritage  
 Scuba Diving  
 Sculpture  
 Search & Rescue  
 Shotgun Shooting  
 Signs, Signals & Codes  
 Skating  
 Small Boat Sailing  
 Snow Sports  
 Soil & Water Cons.  
 Space Exploration  
 Sports  
 Stamp Collecting  
 Surveying  
**Sustainability**  
**Swimming**  
 Textile  
 Theater  
 Traffic Safety  
 Truck Transportation  
 Veterinary Medicine  
 Water Sports  
 Weather  
 Welding  
 Whitewater  
 Wilderness Survival  
 Wood Carving  
 Woodwork

1. Eagle required merit badges are in **bold red** print.