



Troop 1589 Scout & Parent Guidebook

Mission Statement

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

Vision Statement

The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law.

Welcome to Troop 1589

Dear Parents,

We're excited to share this information to help you and your child decide if Scouting with Troop 1589 is the right fit! While the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is primarily for youth, your involvement is key to your Scout's growth and success. By working together, we can strengthen the connection between your family and the Troop, ensuring the best possible experience for your Scout.

Troop 1589 is a thriving and active group. We host at least one outdoor activity every month (except August and November). As of September 2024, we proudly have 25 boys and 10 girls in the Troop, with seven Assistant Scoutmasters leading the Scouts and attending campouts, alongside 15 dedicated Committee Members who provide support.

We're chartered by Edmonson Elementary PTO (Peek) under the Michigan Crossroads Council East. Troop 1589 was founded in 1961, with the mission of promoting leadership and service. In 1999, we merged with Troop 1618 from St. Dennis Church, but our focus has always remained the same.

At Troop 1589, we prioritize leadership, life skills, values, service, friendships, and citizenship. Our goal is to help each Scout reach their fullest potential because we know they are tomorrow's leaders.

Yours in Scouting,

Chris Molencupp
Committee Chairman (B)

Dan Gunther
Scoutmaster (B)

Shelly Toenniges
Committee Chairman (G)

Dawn Haggart
Scoutmaster (G)

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Introduction to Scouting

Welcome to the Scouts BSA of America! By joining Scouts, you are setting your child out on the grand adventure of Scouting. This is a tremendously important and rewarding endeavor that your family will be able to share.

What is it all about? What are you expected to do? What does it cost? We have prepared this guide to answer these and other questions.

The next few pages explain how a Scouts BSA unit is organized and outline the advancement process for Scouts. By reviewing this, you'll see how your child can move through the ranks and how you can support both them and the Troop. You'll also get insight into the roles of our adult volunteers and how they help guide the Troop.

Unlike Cub Scouting, which is led by adults, Scouts BSA is youth-led. Scouts learn to organize and lead their Troop, with adult leaders offering supervision and guidance as needed.

Scouts in our Troop work their way from Scout rank to Eagle rank. Along the way, they'll gain leadership experience, learning how to guide teams toward a common goal. Reaching Eagle rank is a major achievement—many Eagle Scouts proudly highlight it on their resumes, finding it valuable when applying to college or entering the workforce.

Scouts BSA also fosters moral character, citizenship, and physical, mental, and emotional development—all while having fun and experiencing adventure!

Please take a few minutes to read Chapter 1 of your youths Scout Handbook.

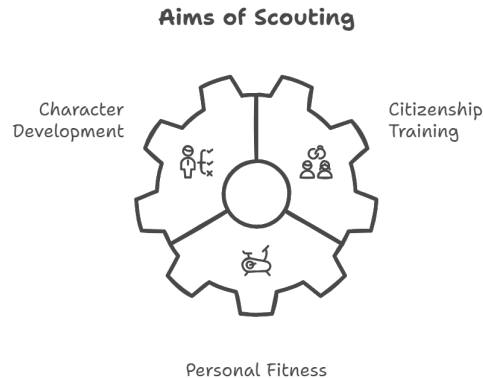
The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is chartered by Congress to serve our nation's youth by instilling the values of the Scout Oath and Law. The BSA aims to prepare young people for lives of impact and purpose. We welcome, at every level of our movement, youth and families who wish to live such a life of impact and purpose, guided by the Scout Oath and Law.

The BSA is committed to creating a welcoming, safe environment where Scouts can freely express themselves, share their experiences, and become the best version of themselves by learning from and respecting each other.

The BSA is non-partisan. The National organization, Local Scout communities (councils), and units will ensure that their decisions, public statements, relationships with third parties, activities, and events are consistent with our non-partisan nature and maintain the welcoming and supportive nature of Scouting.

Introduction to Scouting

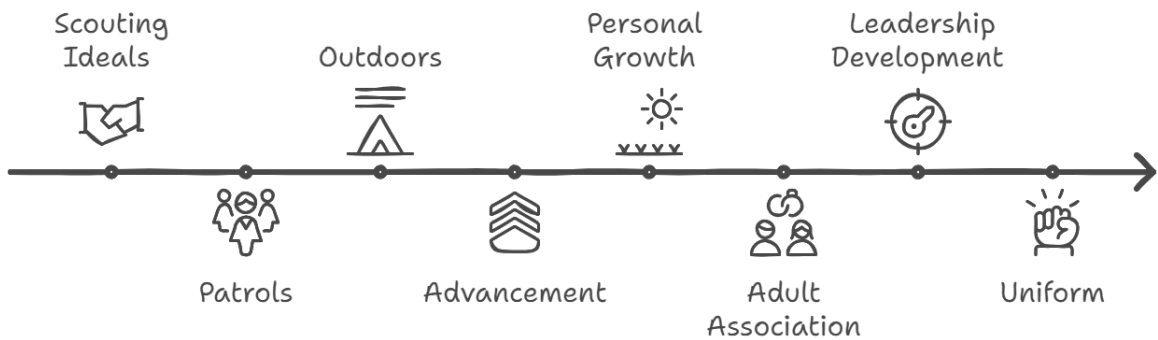
Aims of Scouting



These three Aims are the bedrock of the American Scouting Movement. They represent the long-term outcome we want for every Scout. Troop 1589, through a program planned by the Scouts themselves, and supported by the adult leadership, tries to give the Scout the opportunity to reach each of these Aims.

Methods of Scouting

The eight methods of the Scouting movement are the means through which the Aims of Scouting are achieved:

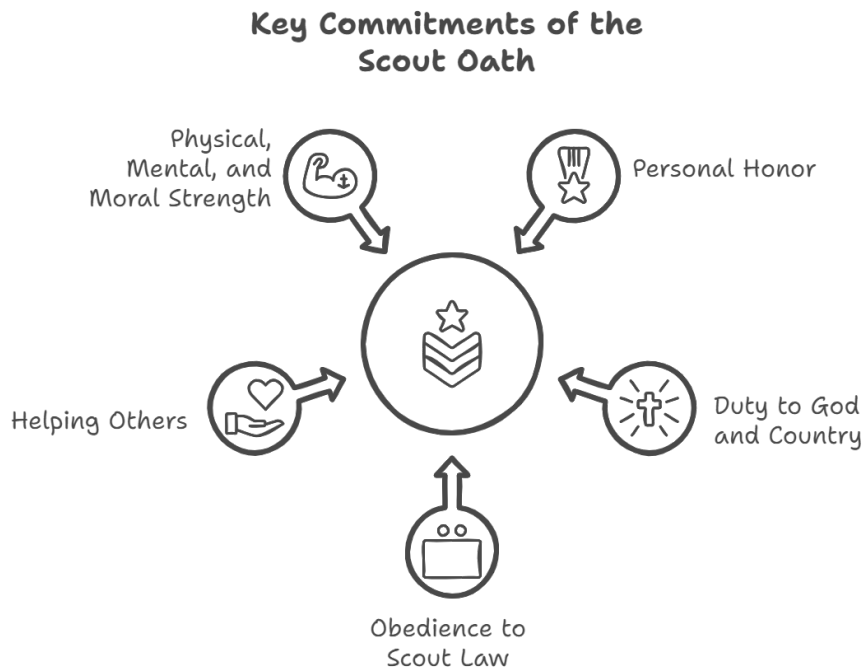


Since 1910, these principles have been taught in an atmosphere of recreation and fun, which allows young people to develop self-confidence, leadership, and moral character. More and more trained Scouts, are taking their places in today's world as responsible adult leaders. Those who have earned badges 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 astronauts who have walked on the moon were scouts!

Introduction to Scouting

Scout Oath

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.



On my Honor

Honor is the core of who you are – your honesty, your integrity, your reputation, the ways you treat others, and how you act when no one is looking. By giving your word at the outset of the Scout Oath, you are promising to be guided by its ideals.

I will do my best

Do all you can to live by the Scout Oath, even when you are faced with difficult challenges. Measure your achievements against your own high standards, and don't be influenced by peer pressure or what other people do.

To do my duty

Duty is what others expect of you, but more importantly, it is what you expect of yourself.

to God

Your family and religious leaders teach you about God and the ways you can serve. You can do your duty to God by following the wisdom of those teachings and by defending the rights of others to practice their own beliefs.

Introduction to Scouting

and my country

Help the United States continue to be a strong and fair nation by learning about our system of government and your responsibilities as a citizen. When you do all you can for your family and community, you are serving your country.

and to obey the Scout Law;

In your thoughts, words, and deeds, the 12 points of the Scout Law will lead you toward doing the right thing throughout your life. When you obey the Scout Law, other people will respect you for the way you live, and you will respect yourself.

To help other people at all times;

Your cheerful smile and helping hand will ease the burden of many who need assistance. By helping out whenever you can, you are making the world better. "At all times" is a reminder to help even when it is difficult and even if you haven't been asked.

To keep myself physically strong,

Taking care of your body prepares you for a lifetime of great adventures. You can build your body's strength and endurance by eating nutritious foods, getting enough sleep, and being active. You should also avoid tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, and anything else that might harm your body.

mentally awake,

Develop your mind both in and outside of the classroom. Be curious about everything around you, and never stop learning. Work hard to make the most of your abilities. With an inquiring attitude and willingness to ask questions, you can learn much about the world around you and your role in it.

and morally straight.

Your relationships with others should be honest and open. Respect and defend the rights of all people. Be clean in your speech and actions and faithful in your religious duties. Values you practice as a Scout will help you shape a life of virtue and self-reliance.

Introduction to Scouting

Scout Law

The Scout Law has 12 points. Each is a goal for every Scout. A Scout tries to live up to the Law every day. It is not always easy to do, but a Scout always tries.

A Scout is:

TRUSTWORTHY. Tell the truth and keep promises. People can depend on you.

LOYAL. Show that you care about your family, friends, Scout leaders, school, and country.

HELPFUL. Volunteer to help others without expecting a reward.

FRIENDLY. Be a friend to everyone, even people who are very different from you.

COURTEOUS. Be polite to everyone and always use good manners.

KIND. Treat others as you want to be treated. Never harm or kill any living thing without good reason.

OBEDIENT. Follow the rules of your family, school, and pack. Obey the laws of your community and country.

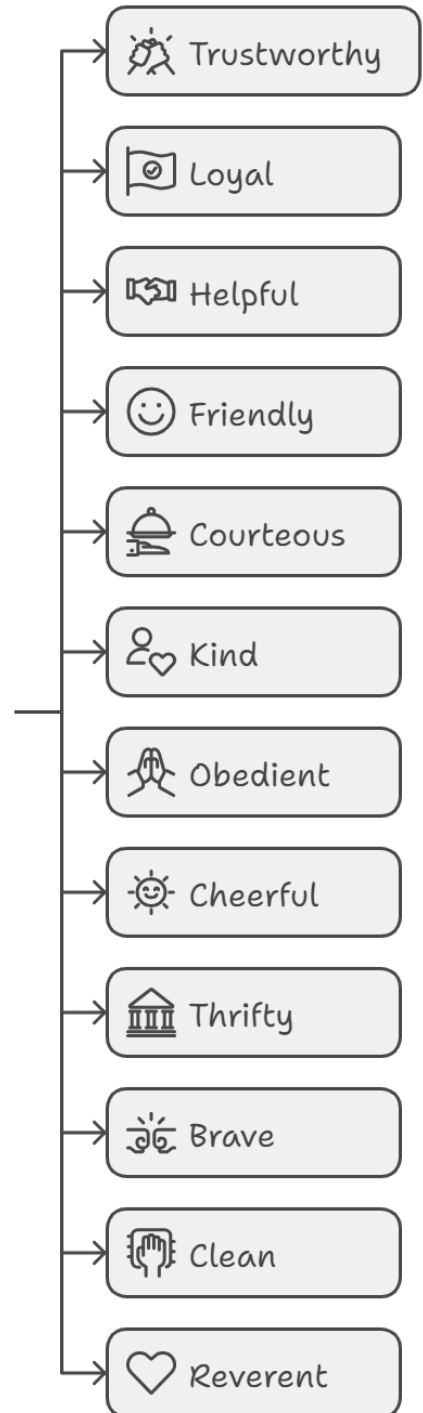
CHEERFUL. Look for the bright side of life. Cheerfully do tasks that come your way. Try to help others be happy.

THRIFTY. Work to pay your own way. Try not to be wasteful. Use time, food, supplies, and natural resources wisely.

BRAVE. Face difficult situations even when you feel afraid. Do what you think is right despite what others might be doing or saying.

CLEAN. Keep your body and mind fit. Help keep your home and community clean.

REVERENT. Be reverent toward God. Be faithful in your religious duties. Respect the beliefs of others.



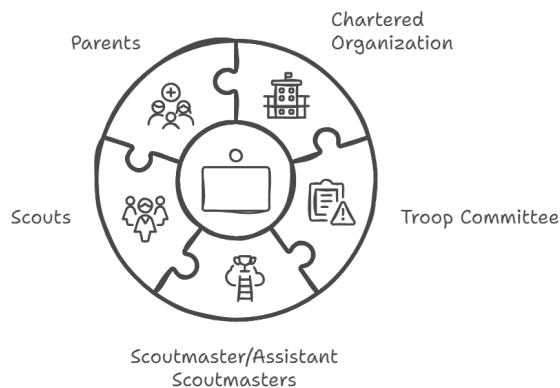
Organization

Troop 1589 is a participating member of the North Star District of the Michigan Crossroads Council East of the Boy Scouts of America. The Troop consists of a chartered organization, a troop committee, Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmasters, the Scouts and parents.

Scout Councils and Districts

The national headquarters for Scouts BSA of America is located in Irving, Texas. The national headquarters is referred to as the National Council. A council is defined as an administrative body chartered to be responsible for Scouting in a designated geographic territory. There are 280 councils in the United States. Each council is directed by a local Executive Board of volunteers and administered by a local Scout Executive and local paid staff. Each council is divided into smaller geographic areas called districts. Within each district are Scouting Units. Each district has a professional District Executive, a volunteer District Commissioner, and an all-volunteer District Committee.

Structure of Troop 1589



Chartered Organization

A religious or community organization, with the help of the BSA, can start a Scout unit in their community. The organization is called the “chartered organization” for their Scout Unit. The Chartered Organization maintains “ownership” of the unit while the unit is chartered at that location. The organization owns all of the equipment the troop uses. The Chartered Organization provides support to the Scout unit. The Chartered Organization provides a representative that is part of the troop committee. The Representative ensures the troop has adequate meeting facilities and that the troop is providing a good program for the Scouts. The Representative serves as a communication link between the Chartered Organization and the Troop.

The Chartered Organization for Troop 1589 is:

James B Edmond PTO (Peek)

621 E. Katherine Ave.

Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

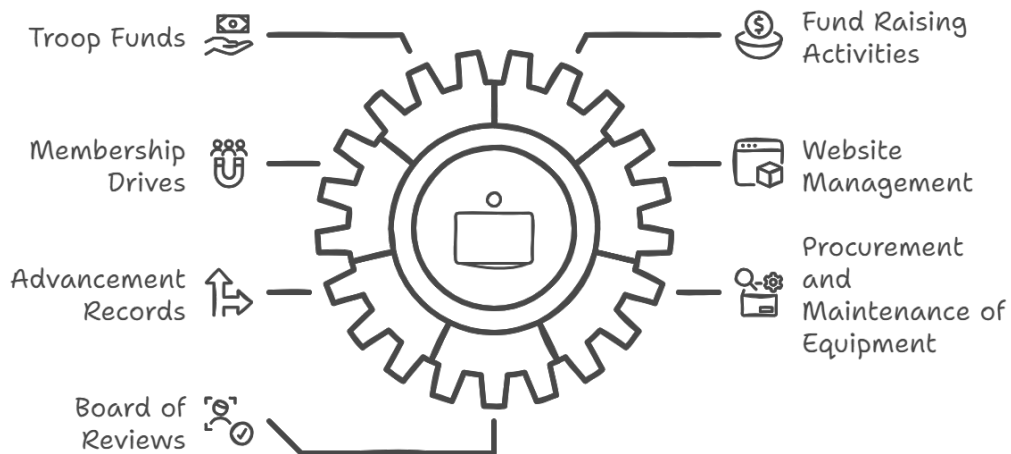
Organization

Troop Committee

The Troop Committee functions as an administration and support organization for the Troop. The Committee takes care of the non-program issues surrounding the troop, such as troop funds, fund raising activities, membership drives, website management, advancement records, and procurement and maintenance of troop equipment. The Troop Committee has a very important role in the rank advancement process of the Scouts. Committee members sit on the Board of Reviews and make the decision if a Scout is ready for the next stage in their Scouting journey.

The 1589 Troop Committee's are led by a Committee Chairperson. The Chairperson works to ensure that the many non-program tasks are handled by the adult volunteers. The Troop Committee's meets monthly. The meetings are open, and attendance is encouraged by all parents and other interested adults.

Troop Committee Functions



Organization

Troop 1589B (Boys)

Troop 1589(B) Committee meets on the **third** Tuesday of each month from 7:30pm-8:30pm.
Location: TBD

Troop 1589(B) Committee has the following positions filled:

Chartered Organization Representative	Jeff Gerald
Committee Chairperson	Chris Molencupp
Scoutmaster	Dan Gunther
Treasurer	Steve Kramer
Life to Eagle Advisor	Dan Gunther
Adult Quartermaster	James Haggart
Outdoor Activities Coordinator	Maria Kramer
Adult Leader Training	Paul Timmins
Advancement Coordinator	Tim Houle
Membership/Registration	Nicole Hoffman
Fundraising	Brian Howard

If you are interested in finding out more about any of these Troop Committee positions, please contact the committee. There are additional positions open that the troop needs volunteers for. You can contact us at boyscouttroop1589@gmail.com.

Organization

TROOP LEADERSHIP

Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmasters

Every Scout Troop will have a Scoutmaster for the Boys, a Scoutmaster for the Girls and one or more Assistant Scoutmasters. They are commonly referred to as *Scouters*. The role of the Scouter in the Troop is to ensure a program that is fun and safe and gives the Scouts opportunities to advance through ranks of Scouting. The Scouters usually will have the closest contact with the Scouts as they will attend most of the meetings, campouts and activities with the Scouts. The Scouters will work closely with the youth leadership of the troop providing guidance and help when needed.

Youth Leadership Positions

The troop is made up of several patrols. Each patrol usually consists of a Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Scribe and Patrol Quartermaster with no less than four Scouts and no more than twelve Scouts (this will vary depending on the circumstances). The Scouts in a patrol elect their Patrol Leader who in turn appoints the Assistant Patrol Leader, Scribe and Quartermaster.

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is an elected position. The SPL selects his Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL). The SPL could appoint several other leadership positions (with the approval of the Scoutmaster) or elections could be held to help make up the youth leadership of the troop.

The Patrol Leader Council (PLC) is made up of the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, Assistant Quartermaster, Troop Guides, Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters. The PLC meets every month. Scouts discuss the past campout using the START/STOP/CONTINUE method. Once done the Scouts discuss the upcoming campout/activity and finalize plans for the upcoming month.

The Scoutmaster Handbook suggests that the foregoing paragraph best summarizes the Scouting movement. The Patrol method has been proven to be very successful in fostering four important points amongst the members of the patrols.

- First, they promote friendship by grouping friends together.
- Second, the small size allows each Scout to get involved because he is needed in helping the Patrol function.
- Third, the Patrol Method develops responsibility as each member of the Patrol takes on a leadership position within the patrol.
- Fourth, the Patrol Method introduces a democratic process to decision making.

Organization

The Patrol Method

One point worth mentioning again is the notion in Scouting of “The Patrol Method.” Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouting, realized that kids tend to hang out in natural “gangs”. Every Scout Troop is made up of these natural gangs, or patrols, that are groupings of five to eight boys/girls. Each patrol elects its own leader. The patrol leaders, with an elected senior patrol leader as their head, form the core of troop leadership – the patrol leaders’ council. It is the council’s job to plan and run the Troop program. Each Patrol Leader represents his Patrol on the council and interprets to his patrol the plans and decisions of the council. Patrols have time to meet during each Troop Meeting. During the second week of each month, the Patrols also have their own meetings, elect their own officers, and plan and carry out their patrol activities.

Adult Leaders

Scouters (adult leaders) provide guidance for the youth leaders of the troop. In addition, the Scouters sign off on requirements as Scouts work towards their next rank.

Two registered adult leaders, or one adult leader and a Scout parent, both of whom must be at least 21 years of age, must be in attendance for all Troop 1589 meetings, outings or trips (in-person and online).

Organization

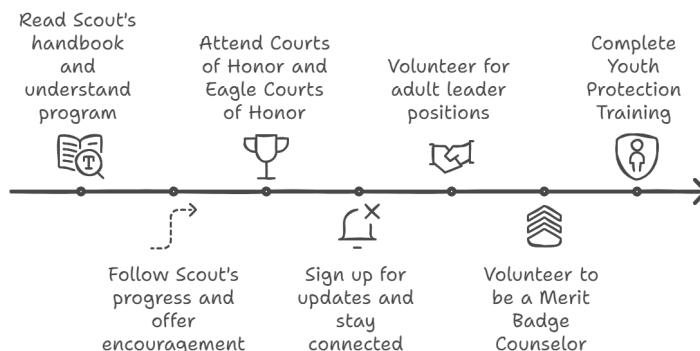
Troop Parents/Families

The role of the parents/families within Troop 1589 is to be supportive of the Troop's efforts and to encourage the Scouts to learn and excel. Parents/families should:

- Parents, including guardians and stepparents, are welcome at Committee meetings and encouraged to support Troop activities. There are many ways to contribute, such as serving as an Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Member, Activity Coordinator, or Board of Review (BOR) member.
- Review your Scout's handbook, particularly chapters 1 and 2 on character, leadership, and citizenship. Support good behavior by reviewing and signing the "Scout Policies and Procedures" with your Scout(s) and complete an Emergency Release Form with three authorized adults for pick-up. Notify the Scoutmaster of any changes.
- Track your Scout's progress through the Scout Handbook and Scoutbook (online). Check these resources regularly and reach out to the Scoutmaster or Advancement Chairperson if you need guidance.
- Become familiar with the Troop's policies on uniforms and camping to better support your Scout's experience. Attend all Courts of Honor to celebrate your Scout's achievements.
- Stay connected by signing up for updates and reviewing the Troop calendar on Scoutbook.
- Consider becoming a registered leader or merit badge counselor. While registration isn't required to help, it opens more opportunities and training.
- Lastly, complete the BSA Youth Protection Training online and renew it every two years.

Your involvement makes a big difference in the Troop's success!

How to Support Your Scout's Journey



Troop 1589 General Information

JOINING TROOP 1589

To join BSA Troop 31, you must do the following (as outlined in "The Scout Handbook"):

- Meet the age requirements - complete the fifth grade or be 11 years old, or earn the Cub Scout Arrow of Light Award (must be under 18 years old)
- Complete a Scout Application Form and health history, signed by a parent or guardian
- Practice repeating the Pledge of Allegiance Demonstrate the Scout Sign, Salute, and Handshake Demonstrate tying the square knot Understand, and agree to live by the Scout Oath or Promise, Law, Motto, and Slogan, and the Outdoor Code
- Complete the "How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide" pamphlet from the front of the "The Scout Handbook"

Our Troop holds weekly meetings every Thursday evening during the school year from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the cafeteria of Page Middle School, Madison Heights, MI (unless otherwise announced).

The following is a sample of a weekly troop meeting plan:

6:45 - 7:00 Setup, preparation

7:00 - 7:05 Opening ceremony

7:05 - 8:25 Patrol Meetings/Planning/Skill Instruction/Advancements

8:25 - 8:30 Announcements and closing

8:30 - 8:45 Clean up

Troop 1589 General Information

COMMUNICATION

Troop information and resources can be found on the troop website <http://troop1589.com/>, including contact information for key leaders, event information, and answers to frequently asked questions. This is a public facing site; therefore, personal information will not appear on this site.



The troop uses an online troop management application called Scoutbook (<http://www.scoutbook.com>). This is where we maintain your scout's advancement records and contact information. All personal scout information will appear on the secure <http://www.scoutbook.com> site. Scout families will receive access to this record keeping and informational package upon registering with the Troop.

Each family will be able to personalize their username and password. Scouts who already are in Scoutbook will be transferred in by their pack. Most communication within the troop is sent via email, using the email address(es) listed in Scoutbook, so please be sure your contact details are correct and current in Scoutbook at all times.

If you have questions or difficulty accessing Scoutbook, please contact the troop leadership via email at boyscouttroop1589@gmail.com, or at one of our weekly meetings.

Our official calendar is available within Scoutbook.

We also use Discord and Facebook Messenger to relay troop information. In order to join our Discord channel, adults and scouts MUST have current Youth Protection Training and scouts must have permission from their parent(s).



<https://www.facebook.com/WeAre1589>



<https://Instagram.com/wearetroop1589>

Troop 1589 General Information

CAMPOUTS

There will be a campout fee due before each campout. This fee covers most of the cost of the campout (food, registration) and commits the Scout to the outing while allowing the Patrol to plan for food purchases. This fee is generally \$25 - \$45 and scouts may use funds from their Scout Account (if available) to cover fees

Camping nights are recorded by the Advancement Chair to aid in tracking requirements for participation. To qualify as a completed "night" of camping, the scout must be in attendance for the majority of the daytime activities and set-up or take-down of camp. Any questions regarding this should be directed to the Scoutmaster.

SUMMER CAMP

Your Scout won't want to miss the great fun and camaraderie to be had at Summer Camp. The availability of merit badges, rank advancements, swimming, fishing and time with friends is an undeniable pull. Troop 1589 traditionally attends summer camp during June/July but it can vary year to year. Costs range from camp to camp but are typically under \$400, including transportation to and from camp.

Registration for summer camp usually begins in March. Final Summer Camp fees are determined by the Troop based on the cost of transportation, summer camp fees, and required adult participation.

The Troop has attended Beaumont Scout Camp, Camp Hiawatha, Camp Friedlander, and Owasippe Scout Reservation in recent years.

SUMMER CAMP INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The Troop will hold a meeting at least one month prior to summer camp to explain summer camp policies and procedures. It is very important that parents attend this meeting so that any questions can be resolved.

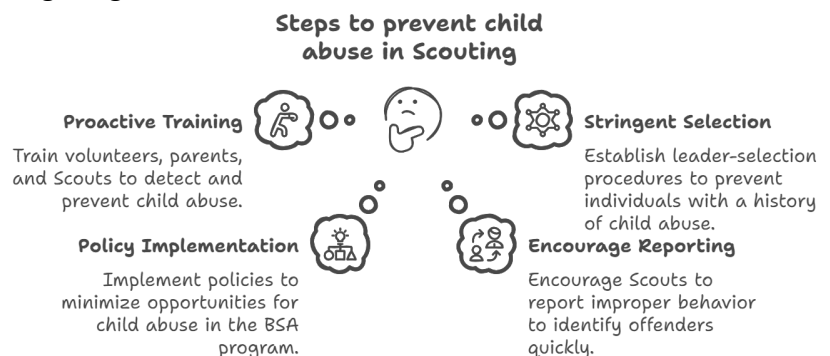
Troop 1589 General Information

YOUTH PROTECTION

Child abuse is a major problem affecting our society. Each year more than 2 million cases of suspected child abuse are reported. This means that 1 percent of American children are experiencing physical abuse, 1 percent are experiencing sexual abuse, and 2 to 5 percent are experiencing emotional maltreatment or some form of neglect.

Because of the significance of this social problem, The Boy Scouts of America has declared child abuse as one of the "unacceptables" to receive special attention by those involved in the Scouting program. The BSA has developed a five-point plan to combat child abuse and to improve the environment in which young people live. The key elements of this strategy include the following points:

- Training Scouting volunteers, parents and Scouts themselves to aid in the detection and prevention of child abuse.
- Establishing leader-selection procedures to prevent individuals with a history of child abuse from entering the BSA leadership ranks.
- Establishing policies that minimize the opportunities for child abuse to occur in the program of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Encouraging Scouts to report improper behavior in order to identify offenders quickly.
- Swiftly removing and reporting alleged offenders.



Parents guide

The Boy Scouts of America has developed materials for use in the Scouting program that provide essential information to members and their families. A detachable booklet in the front of The Boy Scout Handbook, "How to Protect Your Child from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parents Guide," provides information to help families to increase self-protection skills. This guide is also available online at: <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/parents-guides/>

Troop 1589 is committed to following all guidelines of the Youth Protection program. All registered adult volunteers are required to complete Youth Protection Training.

Any suspected offenses of the Youth protection program must be reported to the Committee Chairman, the Scoutmaster or the Council Executive. All incidents reported to the Committee Chairman, or the Scoutmaster will be reported to the Council Executive. All reports are taken seriously, and appropriate action is taken to ensure the safety of the youth.

Troop 1589 General Information

RECHARTERING AND FEES

The process of rechartering the troop is the annual collection of registration fees and current contact information for the Scouts and leaders. The rechartering process must be completed by the end of November of each calendar year.

Annual Registration

How much does Scouting BSA cost? Upon joining the Troop, each Scout is asked for \$135 in dues and Crossovers is \$50. A portion of this fee is for BSA membership and BSA insurance. The remainder of the fee helps to cover the troop costs during the year. Dues are payable to the Troop in November of each year for the following year. The yearly dues for an adult Scouter or Committee Member is \$60 and is due in November of each year. Financial Aid is available to Scouts, contact the Scoutmaster with questions.

Fees for Outings/Activities

Most campouts are \$25 per Scout which covers food, supplies, and some transportation expenses. Some individual activities may have additional costs/fees associated with them. The Troop Committee may help fund certain events. Most campouts are from 6:00pm Friday through 12:00pm on Sunday.

Scout Accounts

Troop 1589 maintains a "Scout Account" for all Scouts and registered adults. The Scout Accounts are line-items in our accounting software – there is not an actual bank account for each individual. The Scout should maintain a positive balance in his Scout Account to be used for campouts, summer camp, or other Troop activities. Money may be added to your Scout's account by check, cash, or credit card. Contact the Treasurer to make deposits to your or your scouts account. Account balances can be checked through the Troop website.

Fundraising

It is recommended for all Scouts to participate in fundraising activities on behalf of the Troop. Portions of all fundraisers are diverted to the Scout's individual account based on the Scout's participation or sales. These funds may be used for payment for any Troop activity such as summer camp or monthly campouts.

Troop 1589 currently has two mandated fundraisers annually. The term "mandated" refers to the minimum required contribution each registered scout (family) must make to the Troop General Fund at the time of these fundraisers.

Troop 1589 General Information

UNIFORM

The Scout uniform helps to achieve the objectives of Scouting. The uniform itself cannot 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.

Troop 1589 is a “Full Uniform” Troop; Class A shirt, scout socks, scout pants/shorts, and scout belt are required for meetings, events, and travel. A scout hat is optional for meetings and most activities. The Troop provides all new Scouts with shoulder loops, troop neckerchief, slide tie and Scout Handbook when joining.

Recycled uniforms are maintained in a uniform closet located in the scout room and are available to all Troop members. The term “Formal Class A” means the Scout should have on his Class A shirt, scout pants/shorts, scout socks, scout belt, neckerchief and sash. The Scout should be in “Formal Class A” for Scoutmaster conference, Board of Review, and Court of Honor.

During campouts, service projects and summer meetings the Scouts may wear a Class B uniform. A Class B uniform consists of a Troop t-shirt, scout pants/shorts, scout socks and a scout belt. Scouts should be told when a Class B uniform is appropriate and necessary. Parents are expected to understand the uniform requirements and to encourage their Scout to be properly dressed for all Scouting events.

SCOUT SHOP

The Scout Shop is available for parents to purchase parts of the uniform or other Scouting supplies. Shop online at scoutstuff.org or in person at the store.

The local Scout Shop is located at:

1155 E. Long Lake RD, Troy Mi 48085 (248-526-0169)

Advancements

ADVANCEMENTS

There are many definitions of advancement, but the Scouting definition may be, “the art of meeting a challenge”. For that is exactly what the Scout advancement program asks the youth to do. The 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. The ranks of scouting are Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The higher he climbs on the advancement ladder the more challenging his tasks – and the more rewarding.

We do not look at advancement as a goal, but as a natural outcome of a planned, quality troop program.

There are four steps of advancement:

The Scout Learns.

The Scout is Tested.

The Scout is Reviewed.

The Scout is Recognized.



Advancement through the Rank of First Class

From the time the Scout enters the Troop through his advancement to First Class, he is learning basic Scouting skills to enable him to camp, hike, swim, cook, tie knots, administer field first aid, perform other tasks in the outdoors, and to work as a member of a team. With these first steps the Scout begins to build himself physically, mentally, and morally. He will start to live the Scout Oath and Law.

Troop 1589 has a goal for each new Scout to achieve the rank of First Class within the first year of joining the Troop. The monthly campouts and weekly meetings will give each Scout the opportunity to have rank requirements completed and signed off by the Scoutmaster, an Assistant Scoutmaster, or a Scout who has already completed the rank of Eagle. (Parents do not sign off in the Scout’s handbook.) The Troop also encourages new Scouts to attend summer camp with the Troop and participate in the new Scout program there to get the Scouts off to a quick start on their rank advancement.

All of the requirements for each rank are listed in the back of your Scout’s handbook. This is a helpful tool for your Scout, you, and the Troop to monitor your Scout’s progress on their Trail to Eagle.

Advancements

Advancement from First Class Rank to Eagle

As your Scout advances from First Class to Eagle, the Scout will be demonstrating leadership skills, performing service projects, earning merit badges, and using the basic skills learned while completing earlier ranks. The next ranks your Scout will be earning are Star and Life. These ranks are harder to earn than the 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 to work for Eagle. The original principles, the Scout Oath and Law, now have greater meaning for the Scout and his understanding of them is much deeper. The final steps toward Eagle are filled with leadership experiences. One of the requirements for Eagle is to complete an Eagle Project. To assist the Scout in this challenge, the scout will select an Eagle Coach, Advisor, or Mentor.



Troop 1589 has had over 100 Scouts advance to Eagle throughout the history of our Troop!

BOARD OF REVIEW

Once a Scout has completed all of the requirements for a rank, he requests a Scoutmaster Conference. The Scoutmaster Conference should be requested in advance and not the evening of. The Scout should present himself to the Scoutmaster in full Class A uniform. When the Scout completes his Scoutmaster Conference, he must then request a Board of Review. The Board of Review is composed of Troop Committee members for the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star and Life. The Eagle Board of Review is composed of leaders and adults from across the Eagle District. The Scout must present himself to the Board in full Class A uniform.

The purpose of the Review is not an examination. Rather it is to determine the Scout's attitude and acceptance of Scouting ideals; to ensure that the requirements have been met for advancement; to discuss the Scout's experiences in the Troop and the Troop's program; and to encourage the Scout to keep working towards advancement. The Board may also use this opportunity to find out what other activities outside of Scouting the Scout is participating in at home, school, or in the community. A Board of Review may also be used to counsel a youth regarding their lack of progress toward advancement.

Advancements

MERIT BADGES

Merit Badges are the second main area of the Scout advancement program. The goal of the Merit Badge program is to expand the Scout's areas of interest and to encourage the Scout to meet and work with adults on a chosen subject. Merit badges are earned when a Scout completes all badge requirements, and the requirements are signed off on a Blue Card by a registered Merit Badge Counselor. Unlike ranks, there is a degree of choice in the merit badge program.

The Scout can choose which merit badge he would like to work on and, before starting any work on a merit badge, the Scout should contact the Merit Badge Coordinator or the Scoutmaster to make sure there is a counselor available for that merit badge. Once a Merit Badge Counselor is known and available the Scout should request a blue merit badge card from the Scoutmaster.



As the Scout works with the Merit Badge Counselor on the requirements for the merit badge the counselor will sign-off the blue merit badge card. When the Scout completes all requirements for the merit badge the Scout turns the completed and signed blue card into the Advancement Coordinator. Earned merit badges will be presented to the Scout during the Troop's next Court of Honor.

Along with the Merit Badge the Scout will be given the center section of the blue card (Applicant's Record). The Applicant's Record should be kept in a safe place as it is the official BSA record showing that the Scout has completed the merit badge.

When a Scout applies for Eagle Scout he may need to refer to the blue card to prove completion of the Merit Badge or verify the date completed. Scouts will need to earn a total of 21 merit badges to earn the rank of Eagle. Thirteen of the 21 merit badges must be from the "Eagle required" list of merit badges.

The BSA currently offers over 130 different merit badges covering areas of interest from American Business to Woodwork. All merit badges and the requirements for each can be found at www.meritbadge.org for reference. There is also a merit badge library with frequently used merit badge pamphlets located in the Scout room file-cabinet. In addition, the Scout Store has merit badge pamphlets available for purchase.

All troop parents are encouraged to become merit badge counselors. Please take a look a look at the Troop Resource Survey found in Appendix A and if you can help with a merit badge, fill out the survey and return it to any adult leader.

Advancements

MERIT BADGE LIBRARY & EAGLE REQUIRED MERIT BADGES

Troop 1589 has a library of merit badge pamphlets for our Scouts to check out. A scout should check with Troop Librarian to check out a pamphlet. We also have an electronic library of pamphlets as well as unofficial requirements worksheets available at:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1h-HT_ZrABeobFOIQRUrBBzieoQWOM5KY?usp=sharing

MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS

Troop 1589 has many adult leaders trained as Merit Badge Counselors. Below is a listing of adults a scout can reach out to for merit badges. Eagle required are noted in blue.

Reminder: Scouts must copy an additional leader or parent on all email communications to a merit badge counselor.

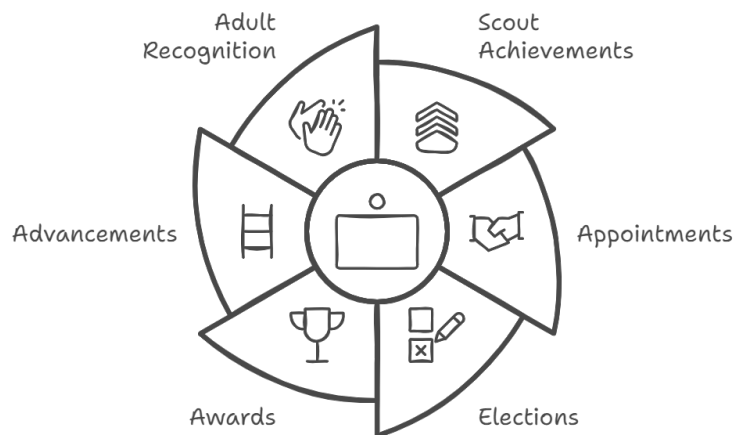
A	C	D	E	F	G	H	M	P	R	S	T	W
American Business	Camping	Digital Technology	Electronics	Family Life	Gardening	Hiking	Motorboating	Personal Fitness	Radio	Salesmanship	Textile	Wilderness survival
David Marini	David Hawes Daniel Gunther	Paul Timmins David Hawes Daniel Gunther	Paul Timmins	Scott Chapman Ron Goatly	Dawn Haggart	Scott Chapman	Paul Timmins	Richard Weiermiller	Paul Timmins	Maria Morales-De-Kramer Daniel Gunther	Maria Morales-De-Kramer Jeffery Geraldts	Daniel Gunther
American heritage	Citizenship in the nation	Disabilities Awareness	Entrepreneurship	First Aid	Graphic Arts		Moviemaking	Personel management	Robotics	Scholarship	Theater	
Richard Weiermiller	Richard Weiermiller	Maria Morales-De-Kramer Dawn Haggart	David Marini	Richard Weiermiller	Scott Chapman Daniel Gunther		Daniel Gunther	Ron Goatly	Scott Chapman	Jeffery Geraldts	Jeffery Geraldts	
Archery	Citizenship in the world		Emergency preparedness	Fishing			Music	David Hawes David Marini		Ron Goatly		
Paul Timmins	Richard Weiermiller		Dawn Haggart	David Marini	Golf		Ron Goatly				Traffic Safety	
Ron Goatly					David Marini							
Art	Citizenship in Society			Fly Fishing				Pets			Scuba Diving	
Maria Morales-De-Kramer Scott Chapman Daniel Gunther	Dawn Haggart			David Marini				Maria Morales-De-Kramer Dawn Haggart			David Marini	Dawn Haggart
Astronomy	Communication								Plant Science		Scouting Heritage	
Scott Chapman	Maria Morales-De-Kramer								Dawn Haggart		Richard Weiermiller	
Athletics	Cooking								Pubic Seaking		Sports	
Jeffery Geraldts	Maria Morales-De-Kramer								Dawn Haggart		Jeffery Geraldts Ron Goatly	
Aviation	Crime Prevention										Sustainability	
Ron Goatly Paul Timmins	David Hawes Dawn Haggart										Ron Goatly	
	Cycling											
	Ron Goatly											

Advancements

COURT OF HONOR

The Court of Honor is a public ceremony and is a chance for the Scouts to be recognized for their achievements. Troop 1589 conducts a Court of Honor twice a year. The Court of Honor recognizes all Scout appointments, elections, awards, and advancements since the previous Court of Honor. Adult recognition may also be presented during the ceremony. It is the responsibility of the Senior Patrol Leader and the PLC to plan and conduct the Troop Court of Honor. Parents and all other interested individuals are encouraged to attend the Court of Honor to show support for the Scout.

Components of the Court of Honor



Conduct Policy

TROOP 1589 CONDUCT POLICIES

- **No Smoking, Alcohol, or Drug Use**
Smoking, alcohol, or illegal drug use by Scouts is strictly prohibited. Adult leaders may smoke only in designated areas away from Scouts.
- **Respectful Behavior**
Scouts must show respect to leaders and fellow Scouts, avoiding disruptive behavior. If disruptions occur, the Scoutmaster may require a parent or responsible adult to accompany the Scout to meetings or activities.
- **No Fighting**
Physical contact such as pushing, hitting, or "fooling around" is not allowed, as it can lead to injury or escalate into serious conflict.
- **No Hazing or Harassment**
Both physical and mental hazing or harassment are strictly forbidden.
- **No Fireworks**
The use of fireworks or incendiary devices at any Troop event is prohibited.
- **Electronic Devices**
Electronic device use is at the discretion of the Scoutmaster and may vary by campout. For safety, all electronic communications (texts, emails, etc.) must include a parent or registered leader.
- **Disciplinary Actions for Violations**
 - Smoking, Alcohol, or Drug Use:** Immediate removal from the event. Parents must pick up the Scout or cover expenses for their return home. A second offense results in dismissal from the Troop. Other penalties may include loss of leadership positions or campout privileges.
 - Willful Destruction of Property:** Scouts must replace or repair the property and may be required to issue a written apology, with additional consequences at the Scoutmaster's discretion.
 - Fighting:** Loss of one campout or activity, plus further action at the Scoutmaster's discretion.
 - Inappropriate Language:** Extra camp chores or work assignments. Repeated offenses will lead to further action by the Scoutmaster.
 - Misbehavior in Vehicles:** Consequences decided by the driver and Scoutmaster, including extra chores.
 - Violation of Troop or Camp Rules:** Penalties at the discretion of the Scoutmaster.
 - Other Misconduct**
Any incident requiring adult intervention will be handled at the Scoutmaster's discretion, which may include loss of privileges, work assignments, or referral to the Troop Committee. In the Scoutmaster's absence, another adult leader may act.

Camping & Outing Policy

TROOP 1589 CAMPING & OUTING POLICIES

Troop 1589 is a highly active camping troop, hosting around ten campouts a year, including a one-week summer camp. These outings offer Scouts valuable opportunities for rank advancement, outdoor skill development, appreciation for nature, and time to bond with fellow Scouts.

Occasionally, we also plan special activities.

- The Outdoor Activities Chairperson (or event leader) will provide an information packet to families 3-4 weeks before each campout or event. This packet includes details like the event description, dates, location, departure and return times, required gear, leader contacts, costs, and a permission slip.
- Money and permission slips are due at the troop meeting two weeks before the event, unless other arrangements are made with the leader.
- A current health form is required for each Scout attending, which also authorizes designated individuals (besides parents/guardians) to pick up Scouts after the event. All Scouts must wear seat belts when traveling to and from activities.
- Scouts should not be picked up early from campouts or events unless prior arrangements have been made with the Scoutmaster.
- Parents are allowed and encouraged to attend all events. Before attending, each adult must be registered with the BSA and must have current Youth Protection Training.
- The buddy system is always in effect during campouts and activities to ensure safety. Scouts will not leave the group alone.
- Scouts and adults do not share tents. Scouts should have their own tents, but Troop 1589 does have a limited number of tents to loan. Scouts are expected to keep their assigned tent tidy during the event and scouts will be expected to take any Troop tents home for set up and cleaning before returning the tent, in a timely manner, to the Troop Quarter Master. Adults should bring their own tent.
- Scouts tent and cook as patrols. They generally do their own meal planning and preparation. Any questions regarding meal plans should begin with the Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader while purchasing questions should be directed to the Scoutmasters.
- Parents must hand over all medications (in original packaging) to the leader in charge, along with written dosage instructions when not attending.
- Scouts need to have earned their TOTIN' CHIP and/or FIREM'N CHIT cards to use knives, axes, saws, or build fires and light stoves. These cards must be carried with them.
- After each campout, Scouts are expected to help unload and store troop equipment before being dismissed.
- Return times from outings are estimates, so please stay reachable by phone for updates on our arrival time.

Uniform Policy

TROOP 1589 UNIFORM POLICIES

Class A Uniform (Full)

Worn for public events like parades, civic functions, Scout Sunday, worship services, and advancement activities such as Scoutmaster conferences, Boards of Review, and Court of Honor.

Required:

- BSA shirt with appropriate patches (Troop 1589, Michigan Crossroads Council, rank, leadership, world crest, Arrow of Light, and other earned patches or service stars).
- BSA pants/shorts, belt, socks, neckerchief, and slide (Bolo ties are for adult leaders only).
- Hat (optional but must be BSA-approved).

Class A (Informal)

Worn at weekly meetings, traveling to campouts, or when a full Class A uniform isn't needed.

- Same as full Class A, except:
- Neckerchief, slide, and socks are not required but should be available for campouts.
- Scouts coming from another activity may wear a Class A Informal or a Troop T-shirt (with Scoutmaster approval).

Class A Plus

For special occasions like Courts of Honor.

- Same as full Class A, with the addition of a Merit Badge or Order of the Arrow sash (worn over the right shoulder).

Class B

For warm-weather meetings, campouts, and certain activities (Scoutmaster approval required).

- Troop or BSA T-shirt with BSA pants/shorts and belt.
- Hat is optional, but if worn, must be BSA-approved.
- Full Class A uniform must be available for away-from-home activities.

Class C

For special activities authorized by the Scoutmaster.

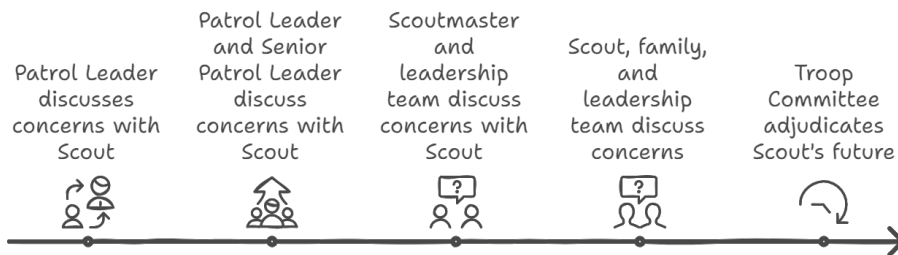
- Troop, camp, or BSA T-shirt.

Behavior Policy

TROOP 1589 BEHAVIOR POLICIES

Significant or recurring Scout behavior problems such as lack of initiative, willingness to participate, willingness to listen to Scout Leadership, or Disrespect will be address as a five-stage sequence.

Addressing Scout Behavior & Motivation Issues



Stage 1 (Patrol leader/Scout):

In private, the Patrol Leader will discuss his concerns with the Scout' behavior or motivation problem. The Patrol Leader will discuss the problem with the Scout and develop possible courses of action for improvement or resolution. The Patrol Leader may consult with Senior Patrol Leader or the Assistant Scoutmaster associated with his patrol for advice, but the problem should be initially handled at the lowest possible level using the principles of "Scout-Led" leadership

Stage 2 (Senior Patrol Leader/Patrol Leader/Scout):

If the problem remains after Stage 1, the Patrol Leader will refer the matter to the Senior Patrol Leader. The Senior Patrol Leader, along with the Patrol Leader, will discuss the problem with the Scout and develop possible courses of action for improvement or resolution. The Senior Patrol Leader may consult with the Scoutmaster for advice, but the problem should be handled at the lowest possible level using the principles of "Scout-led" leadership.

Stage 3 (Scoutmaster/Senior Patrol Leader/Patrol Leader/Scout):

If the problem remains after Stage 2, the Senior Patrol Leader will refer the matter to the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster, along with the Assistant Scoutmaster associated with the Patrol, the Senior Patrol Leader and the Patrol Leader, will discuss the problem with the Scout and develop possible courses of action for improvement or resolution. A Scout Behavior Report will be completed at stage 3.

Stage 4 (Scoutmaster/Scout/Scout's Family):

If the problem remains after Stage 3, the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster Associated with the Patrol, Senior Patrol Leader, and Patrol Leader will meet with the Scout and his parents/guardians to discuss the problem and develop possible courses of action for improvement or resolution.

Stage 5 (Referral to Troop Committee for Adjudication of the Scout's Future in the Troop):

If the problem remains after Stage 4, the problem will be referred to the Troops Committee to adjudicate the Scouts future in the troop.

Device Policy

TROOP 1589 DEVICE POLICIES

While Troop 1589 acknowledges the educational benefits of technology, we've observed it often causes distraction and disruption. Therefore, the following device policies have been established:

In general, youth should not use cell phones and/or electronic devices at any scouting event - including, but not limited to:

- Troop Meetings
- Upon arriving to the destination of a scout activity
- When traveling less than 2 hours during a scouting activity (including to and from the event)

Exceptions:

- During travel of 2+ hours, cell phones and electronics may be used at the driver's discretion, with headphones, ensuring media is inaudible to the driver. Upon arrival, devices will be collected by the Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster until departure.
- Youth holding specific positions may use electronics for duties related to their role, with discretion. If disruptive, privileges will be revoked.
- In group communication situations (e.g., Frankenmuth campout), limited cell phone use may be allowed. Guidelines will be reviewed at the event's start. Afterward, devices will again be collected.
- Parents can request exceptions in writing, with the Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster/Committee Chair approving them. If disruptive, privileges will be revoked.

Youth Protection: Camera-only devices are allowed as per the Guide to Safe Scouting (e.g., not in bathrooms). Sharing/viewing inappropriate content will lead to confiscation and a formal investigation.

Appendix A

Commonly Used Acronyms

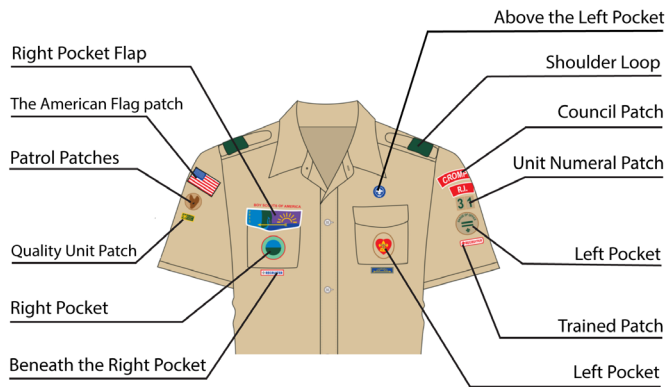
AQM	Assistant Quartermaster
ASM	Assistant Scoutmaster
ASPL	Assistant Senior Patrol Leader
BOR	Board of Review
BSA	Scouts BSA of America
CAC	Christian Activity Center
CM	Committee Members
COH	Court of Honor
COR	Chartered Organization Representative
CSE	Chief Scout Executive
DE	District Executive
ECOH	Eagle Court of Honor
FOS	Friends of Scouting
LFC	Last Frontier Council
LNT	Leave No Trace
MB	Merit Badge
NESA	National Eagle Scout Association
NYLT	National Youth Leadership Training
OA	Order of the Arrow
PL	Patrol Leader
PLC	Patrol Leader Council
QM	Quartermaster
SM	Scoutmaster
SPL	Senior Patrol Leader

Appendix B

New Scout Shopping List

Required Items

- Shirt – Standard short or long sleeve class “A” tan shirt. We recommend the short sleeve, because it is better for year around wear.
- Required emblems: Council emblem patch, World Crest emblem patch, World Crest ring patch, US flag patch



- Pants – Standard long pants for winter wear or standard shorts for summer wear
- Web Belt/Buckle – Standard Scout green web belt with BSA buckle
- Scout Handbook

Optional Items

- Hat – BSA red and green ball cap, or troop hat for summer, warm hat or stocking cap for winter.
- Merit Badge Sash – recommended once scout starts earning merit badges
- Socks – Green BSA socks (required when wearing shorts)
- Class “B” T-shirt – From time to time the troop has class “B” t-shirts silk screened. They may be purchased from the troop when available and are used to supplement the uniform when more than one shirt is required, or to reduce wear on the class “A” shirt.

Provided by Troop 1589

- Neckerchief & neckerchief slide
- Shoulder loops
- Troop numbers for shirt

Appendix C

Basic Camping Checklist

10 Scout Essentials

- Pocketknife or Multi-tool
- Water Bottle
- First-Aid kit
- Flashlight/Headlamp (with extra batteries)
- Extra Clothing
- Trail Food
- Rain Gear (jacket & pants)
- Matches & Fire Starter
- Sun Protection (suntan, hat)
- Map and Compass

Basic Needs

- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- Pillow
- Ground Cloth
- Tent (if not Cabin camping – scouts can borrow troop tents if needed)
- Scout Handbook

Weather Appropriate Clothing

- Class A Uniform
- Socks (wool preferred)
- Class B Uniform
- Underwear
- Pants/Shorts
- Shirts (long or short sleeve)
- Jacket
- Hiking boots/shoes

Toiletries/Personal Care

- Soap with Washcloth
- Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- Comb/Brush
- Towel
- Hand Sanitizer

Cooking and Eating

- Cup or mug
- Mess kit (bowl and plate)
- Personal Utensils (knife, fork, spoon)

Optional Items

- Raincoat & waterproof boots (check the weather)
- Camp Chair
- Hydration Pack
- Watch
- Camera
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Swimsuit
- Pen/Pencil and Notebook
- Whistle
- Insect Repellent
- Nylon Cord
- Binoculars
- Fishing Gear
- Religious book
- Bandana
- Football, soccer ball, frisbee
- Playing cards
- Other Activity Specific Gear

Appendix D

Cold Weather Gear Checklist

In addition to the Basic Camping Checklist, when camping in cool/cold weather, we suggest adding the following items:

- Mummy Sleeping Bag (20 degree or lower)
- Mummy Sleeping Bag Fleece insert
- Fleece Sleepwear
- Snow/Rain gear (jacket & pants)
- Long-Sleeved shirts
- Long Pants (no cotton)
- Long Underwear (polypropylene)
- Hiking Boots or Durable Shoes
- Ice Cleats/Crampons for Boots
- Socks (wool or synthetic blend)
- Warm Hooded Parka or Jacket
- Extra Fleece blanket
- Stocking Hat or Beanie (Fleece or Wool)
- Winter Gloves
- Wool Scarf
- Winter Hat
- Winter Face Wear (balaclava)
- Extra Socks and Pants
- Layering shirt/pants (synthetic)

Appendix E

Backpacking Checklist

Note: The key to successful backpacking is to take what you need – nothing more, nothing less. Some “convenience items” may be included in a short hike to a campsite but would not be appropriate for a longer trek. Patrol gear will be shared by other Scouts in your patrol. This should be a guideline to get you started – experience may lead you to omit some of these items as you see fit.

The Essentials (for safety, survival and basic comfort)

1. Navigation
 - Map
 - Compass
 - Whistle & Signaling Mirror
2. Sun Protection
 - Sunscreen & Lip Balm
 - Sunglasses
3. Clothing/Insulation
 - Scout Uniform
 - Warm Weather Clothing (see below)
 - Cold Weather Clothing (see below)
4. Hydration
 - Water Bottles/Hydration System
5. Fire
 - 9 Hour Candle
 - Waterproof Container
 - Magnesium Stick
 - Pocketknife (must have BSA Totin Chip)
6. First Aid
 - 1. First Aid Kit
7. Patrol Gear
 - Tent
 - Water Filter
 - Jetboil
 - Fuel
8. Illumination
 - Headlamp/flashlight (extra batteries)

Beyond the Essentials

- Backpack
 - Pack Cover “Duck”
 - Sleeping bag (with compression sack)
 - Sleeping pad (with sack)
 - Trekking poles
 - Trail mix/energy bars
- Warm Weather Clothing Options
- Wicking T-shirt
 - Wicking underwear
 - Quick drying pants/shorts
- Cool Weather Clothing Options
- Wicking long-sleeve t-shirt
 - Wicking long underwear
 - Hat, cap, balaclava
 - Gloves
- Footwear; Assorted Personal Items
- Hiking boots for terrain
 - Socks (synthetic or wool) plus spares
 - Crocs (in camp)
 - Camera/memory cards
 - Money
- Bear bag
 - Nylon cord (50’ for hanging food)
 - Water Treatment tablets
 - Bowl/cup
 - Duct tape
 - 2 gallon ziplock bags
- Long-sleeve shirt (sun/bugs)
 - Bandana
 - Rainwear (jacket/pants)
- Fleece jacket or vest, and pants
 - Rainwear (jacket/pants)
 - jacket, vest, pants, gloves, hat
- Toilet paper
 - Hand Sanitizer
 - Insect Repellant (at least 30% deet)
 - Toothbrush/toothpaste
 - Soap/deodorant

Parent & Scout Agreement

TROOP 1589

Parent and Scout Guidebook Agreement

This handbook has been given to the family of

SCOUT _____

These documents have been reviewed by the Scout together with their parents (or guardian). Scout and parent signature below attests that we have reviewed and agree to all information and policies contained within.

Signing below acknowledges receipt of Troop 1589 Guidebook and shows your agreement to comply with them.

Date: _____ Print Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Print Scout Name: _____

Scout Signature: _____

Return this signed agreement to Troop 1589 Scoutmaster.

Troop 1589

**North Star District Michigan Crossroads Council
Scouts BSA of America**

**More Troop information can be found below
Boys (1589B)**

<https://www.facebook.com/WeAre1589>

<http://troop1589.com>

boyscouttroop1589@gmail.com

Girls (1589G)

<https://troop1589g.com>

troop1589g@gmail.com