

**TROOP 778**

**INTRODUCTION**

**AND**

**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

**General Information**

**Troop 778**

**Boy Scouts of America**

**Yorba Linda, California**

**Council: Orange County**

**District: Portola**

**Sponsor: St. Martin de Porres Church**

**Charter Renews: 02/28 of each year**

**Charter Start Date: 02/28/81**

**Number of Eagle Scouts (as of 1/26/04): 62**

# 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

## Welcome to Scouting

Welcome to Troop 778 and the Boy Scouts of America! We are extremely happy that you decided to enter the Scouting adventure and have chosen our Troop. We hope your experiences in Scouting will be fun, exciting, and everything you imagined Scouting would be. This handbook will cover some of the more important aspects of Scouting and the rules governing the Troop. Please read it carefully with your parents and, if questions arise – ask.

## How to join Troop 778

To apply to our Troop:

1. Complete a Boy Scout Application form for the Scout (including the health history on the back of the last page. Please do not write through other copies).
2. Complete an Adult Application for one parent (preferably the one who will be most active).
3. Attached a check payable to “BSA Troop 778” for \$55.00 (if registering January through August) or \$30.00 (if registering September through December). The registration/re-charter cost of each additional sibling is \$25.00 each.
4. Deliver the above 3 items to the Troop 778 Recruitment Coordinator.

## Scouting – What is it?

Since 1910, it has been the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by (a) helping instill proper values in young people, (b) preparing these youth to make ethical choices over their lifetime and (c) helping them achieve their full potential. The Scouting experience helps boys become men.

Scouting is, of course, only one of many influences in life, including the family, church, school and others, that shape each boy as he grows into manhood. Many important leaders, both past and present, credit their Scouting experiences as one of the most important positive influences in their youth. Scouting will help you grow by emphasizing three basic goals:

1. **building character,**
2. **fostering citizenship, and**
3. **developing physical, mental and moral fitness.**

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

Scouting is **action oriented**. Scouting is **fun**. Boys learn about things they're interested in by actually doing them. Scouting builds on the love of the outdoors that is in most every boy and teaches him to survive under less than ideal conditions and to respect the land, water and air that surround him. This program lets the Scout explore, develop new interests, increase his knowledge and progress in rank and leadership at his own pace.

It must be emphasized that, despite the abundant help available to a boy from the adult leaders, other unit members, and his parents, it is up to the Scout how much or how little he gets out of Scouting. The Scout Oath and Law govern our troop. The words in the Oath and Law hold a special significance to a Boy Scout. They are the standard, the road map and the barometer of how well the Scout understands the basic goals highlighted above. As a new Scout, you will be expected to learn the words of the Oath and Law almost immediately and to begin showing your understanding of them in your daily living for the rest of your life.

## **Keeping Informed**

To keep you informed, we use multiple forms of communications including:

- Announcements and handouts at regular Troop meetings.
- Email notices and distributions.
- A regularly updated calendar of events distributed via email and at Troop meetings.
- Parent meetings two or more times per year.
- Advancement and Activity Records via the Troop computerized database.

To facilitate these communications, we try to maintain a proper record of the email and telephone contacts of each Scout and his parents. Please make sure you have given us this information and that you inform us of any changes.

## **Parental Involvement**

Scouting is not a baby-sitting program. BSA does not stand for "Baby Sitters of America".

Nothing in Scouting can ever replace the role of parental involvement in a boy's life. To succeed, our Troop needs parents to participate on multiple levels.

## **Troop Activities**

We normally have one major outdoor activity every two months, such as camping, hiking or a District or Council event. In addition, we occasionally have a service project such as a Troop or an Eagle Scout project, or a money-making event. Finally, we try to participate in an annual high adventure event. We also participate in a BSA summer camp each year.

## **Equipment Needed**

The BSA Ten (10) Essentials is a requirement of belonging to Troop 778. They will be present on all outings. The troop provides most cooking equipment and other joint use items for campouts. You will need the BSA required Ten (10) Essentials plus: a sleeping bag, personal eating dishes and utensils, personal hygiene items, and a backpack to carry your equipment. Parents, be advised that it is best to start with basics and build up to a better inventory of gear as birthdays, Christmas and other holiday gifts come along. It is very important to **MARK ALL INDIVIDUAL GEAR** with an etcher, scrawl, or other permanent marker.

## **Troop Costs/Fees**

The Troop collects an annual fee of \$55.00 each January (\$25.00 for each additional sibling). This includes the registration fee for the Scout and one adult, Boys' Life Magazine and insurance. If you are new to the Scouting program, you will pay the full \$55.00. As a Cub Scout transferring to the Troop, please pay \$55.00 if joining the troop during the months of January through August, and pay \$30.00 if joining September through December.

In addition, dues of \$7.00 per scout are collected each month at the first meeting of the month. Scouts who are behind in their dues will not receive advancement.

Troop policy is that all monies paid are in the form of a check. Cash payments are too difficult to track and place an undue burden on the Troop Scribe and Treasurer.

## **Troop Sponsorship and Meeting Place**

Troop 778 is sponsored by St. Martin de Porres Church, Yorba Linda, California. Church membership and/or attendance are not required to participate in Scouting. Troop meetings are generally held each Monday from 7:00 p.m. to approximately 8:00 p.m. at the St. Martin's Church Hall on the corner of Yorba Linda Boulevard and Fairmont Boulevard, in Yorba Linda. A Troop calendar is distributed regularly with up-to-date meeting and outing information.

## **Troop Committee and Adult Leaders**

We strongly encourage all parents to stay involved in what their son is doing. As a Troop committee member or assistant leader, you have a hand in implementing the program your boy will experience here in Troop 778 and will become more aware of his progress and achievements. It has been our experience that the boys who have parental involvement and encouragement in Scouting activities progress faster and remain with the Scouting program longer than the Scouts who do not have that involvement.

If you cannot afford to devote some consistent time to the troop, please consider volunteering to help drive Scouts to the outdoor functions, help out in several campouts each year, serve as a merit badge counselor in an area of personal expertise or interest, or work in some of the temporary positions which arise from time to time (fund raising, summer camp co-ordination, going to summer camp as an adult leader for the week or part of the week).

In any case, we require your attendance at all the Troop Courts of Honor ceremonies. These are special gatherings at which your son and other members of the Troop are honored and/or recognized for their achievements. The Troop has at least three ceremonies per year and they are announced at the meetings and placed on the schedule.

## **Adult Leader Training**

We welcome all parents to become members of the adult leadership of Troop 778. In order to ensure both safe and enjoyable outdoor experiences for the Scouts in the Troop, adults must participate in certain training experiences to lead outings. The basic leader training is “New Leader Essentials” and “Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)”. These are followed up by “Backpack Awareness/High Adventure Training.” These classes are offered once or twice each year. In addition to these training programs, “Youth Protection Training” is required for all adults in BSA who work with youth.

## **Adult Troop Expense Reimbursement**

The Committee Chairman or Scoutmaster must approve all Troop purchases prior to expenditure. If you are asked to purchase supplies for a Troop event, please purchase the items separately from personal items. To be reimbursed, complete a Troop “Reimbursement Form,” obtain proper signatures, and give it to the Troop Treasurer with all receipts attached. To be reimbursed for driving Scouts to and from outings, you must fill your vehicle with gasoline prior to leaving and immediately upon return. You must carry a minimum of four Scouts or Scouters or a comparable amount of equipment. Provide the Troop Treasurer with the return fill-up receipt.

## **2. GUIDELINES**

### **Troop 778 Uniform Policy – Class “A” Uniforms**

First Class, Star, Life and, Eagle Scouts: **Class “A” Uniform** consisting of: (1) BSA tan uniform shirt having all necessary insignia (USA flag, Council patch, troop number, patrol symbol, leadership position badge, rank badge, and, if applicable, the Arrow of Light badge) stitched in the required locations, (2) neckerchief (red with gold embroidery stitching), (3) neckerchief slide (or a BSA bolo tie to replace (2) and (3)), (4) green web or brown leather BSA belt, (5) BSA hat (usually the mesh cap), (6) BSA olive green pants or shorts, (7) BSA socks (if wearing BSA shorts), and (8) a merit badge sash (with properly attached patches). Please note that the Troop believes that older scouts need to set a proper example for the younger boys, which includes their appearance and behavior. Furthermore, Eagle Candidates are required by the District to be in full Class “A” Uniform for their advancement.

New Scouts, Tenderfoot, and Second Class Scouts: **Class “A” Uniform** for these younger scouts is a “belts up policy.” It consists of: (1) BSA tan uniform shirt having all necessary insignia (USA flag, Council patch, troop number, patrol symbol, leadership position badge, rank badge, and, if applicable, the Arrow of Light badge) stitched in the required locations, (2) neckerchief (red with gold embroidery stitching), (3) neckerchief slide, (4) green web or brown leather BSA belt, (5) BSA hat (usually the mesh cap), and (6) tan, olive green, black, blue or gray solid color pants or shorts (i.e., BSA pants or shorts are great but appropriate neutral attire is okay).

## Troop 778 Uniform Policy – Class “B” Uniforms

All Scouts: Class “B” Uniform consisting of: (1) Either BSA tan uniform shirt as described above or BSA red golf shirt or any BSA or Troop T-shirt, (2) BSA hat (usually the mesh cap), and (3) tan, olive green, black, blue or gray solid color pants or shorts (i.e., BSA pants or shorts are great but appropriate neutral attire is okay).

### What to Wear When???

At a Scoutmaster Conference: Scouts are to be in proper Class “A” uniforms, including the merit badge sash.

At a Board of Review: Scouts are to be in proper Class “A” uniforms, including the merit badge sash.

At all Courts of Honor (Eagle Court of Honor included): Scouts are to be in proper Class “A” uniforms, including the merit badge sash.

At all Troop Meetings: Scouts are to be in proper Class “A” uniforms during the school year and Class “B” during the summer.

While traveling to and from ALL Scouting outings, activities, events, functions, etc.: Scouts are to be in Class “A” uniform shirts without the neckerchief.

Attending flag opening, flag closing and campfires at Camporees, Jubilees and other major scouting events: Scouts are to be in proper Class “A” uniforms.

During other outings or as designated by the Scoutmaster: Scouts may be in Class “B” uniform. There are even occasions (especially on backpacking trips) where the uniform is optional.

### Scout Handbook

All new (Scout), Tenderfoot, Second Class Scouts and all Scout Leaders (PLC) must bring their Scout handbook to each meeting. It is imperative that these books be present so advancement can be achieved and properly recorded. **Please label the handbook on the outside edges and within the inside front cover.**

### Service Projects

The Scoutmaster, in coordination with the Advancement Chairperson, must pre-approve all service projects which are to be credited toward advancement. Acceptable service projects are those that help the sponsoring organization or the community and for which the Scout is exerting extra effort. Projects conducted for the Cub Scouts, for BSA or to benefit our Troop are not considered service projects, but are counted toward Scout Spirit.

## **Campouts**

Permission slips must be signed and submitted for all boys attending campouts. Parents may not leave on the day of departure until we have verified that we have a permission slip for every boy attending the campout.

All campouts must be approved in advance by the Scoutmaster and coordinated with the Troop calendar. Scouts must submit a duty roster, a menu, a list of the boys attending and the names of at least two adults supervising the campout. The trek leader for the outing can then file a Local Tour Permit application for the campout.

Scouts must be transported to and from the departure location or the campsite by a legal guardian or approved adult – with written authorization from the parent of the Scout. The Scouters responsible for the troop activity should not be asked to pick up Scouts or be asked to receive or turn over a Scout to someone who has not been prearranged in writing.

## **Attendance**

All Scouts working toward the First Class Rank will be required to attend at least 75% of the regular weekly meetings and one half of the yearly camping trips and outings to show Scout Spirit and meet participation requirements for advancement and to be considered/approved for a Scoutmaster conference and the Board of Review. All Scouts working toward the Eagle Rank will be required to attend at least 50% of the regular weekly meetings and one third of the yearly camping trips and outings to show Scout Spirit and meet participation requirements for advancement and to be considered/approved for a Scoutmaster conference and the Board of Review. The intent of this guideline is to encourage all boys to continue meetings and campouts with the Troop. Rank advancement carries with it the responsibility of sticking around and sharing experiences and skills with the younger boys. Because of the additional pulls on the older boys' time, the Committee and Scoutmaster will have latitude for reasonable excuse for some lack of attendance. This will be done on an individual basis.

## **Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC)**

The "PLC" is composed of the elected Scout leadership of the Troop. It contains the Senior Patrol Leader and his Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, the Patrol Leader for each patrol and the Troop Guides. The Troop Staff positions (i.e., Scribe, Quartermaster, Chaplain Aide, Historian, Librarian, etc.) also attend the PLC meetings, but they are not voting members of the PLC. In our Troop, the PLC plans the meetings and the activities to take place on the outings. They select outings which may have been offered to them by the adult leadership. The Scoutmaster works with the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) to plan these PLC meetings which generally take place immediately prior to the first Troop meeting of each month at 6:00 p.m.

## **Troop Committee Meeting**

The Troop Committee meets three to five times per year to address Troop business. The Troop Committee is identified in the BSA's pamphlet as follows: Chairman, Advancement Chairperson, Secretary, Activities and Outdoors Chairperson, Chaplain and Treasurer. Other positions can be added as interest and need arise.

### **3.    **ADVANCEMENT & MERIT BADGE PROCEDURES****

#### **General Information**

From joining the Troop through First Class rank, the Scout's skills are approved by the Scout's Patrol Leader or Troop Guide, under the direction of the adult Troop First Class Coordinator. The First Class Coordinator may delegate "sign-offs" to other trained adult leaders as appropriate and at his/her discretion. The focus of our program during a Scout's first year is for the Scout to earn the rank of First Class. During the Scout's second year, the Scout will focus on leadership skills and merit badges acquired to earn the rank of Star Scout.

#### **Scout-to-First Class Teaching, Testing, and Sign-Off**

Scouts can be tested and have their books signed by the following Scouts:

- Senior Patrol Leader
- Assistant Senior Patrol Leader
- Troop Guides
- Patrol Leader (if they are First Class and do not have a Troop Guide assigned to them)

Scouts can also be tested and have their books signed by the Scoutmaster or any Assistant Scoutmaster.

**ALL BOOKS MUST BE SIGNED WITH FULL SIGNATURES (LEGIBLE-NOT INITIALED) AND DATED!**

Scouts can be tested at any Patrol Meeting, Troop Meeting or Troop Outing. However, testing will not occur on the same day as the teaching unless authorized by the First Class Coordinator.

Teaching will typically occur at the following:

- During Scout to First Class Advancement Sessions (usually once a month)
- During Troop Meetings or Outings, by an instructor or special skills person
- During Patrol Meetings
- Personal study (highly recommended)

The primary teachers will be your Patrol Leaders or Troop Guides, with the assistance of other instructors and adult leaders.

Advancement is each Scout's personal responsibility. Do not wait to learn a skill at the advancement session. Study on your own, in advance. Each Scout should meet with their Patrol Leader and/or Troop Guide and plan their needed teaching and testing.

## Merit Badge Procedures

1. Pick A Subject. Talk to your Scoutmaster/Merit Badge Coordinator/Advancement Chairperson about your interest. Read the requirements of the merit badges which interest you and pick one to earn. Your Scoutmaster/Merit Badge Coordinator/Advancement Chairperson will issue you a blue card signed by the Scoutmaster and give you the name of a merit badge counselor from the current District List of Merit Badge Counselors. These counselors have special knowledge in their merit badge subjects and are interested in helping you. **You may not work on a merit badge until you have an approved, signed blue card from your Scoutmaster.**
2. Scout Buddy System. You must have another Scout or a parent or other adult with you at each meeting with the merit badge counselor.
3. Call The Counselor. Get in touch with your merit badge counselor and tell him/her you want to earn the merit badge. The counselor may ask you to visit him/her so he/she can explain what is expected and start helping you meet the requirements. You then may ask your counselor to help you start to learn and do the things required. Read the current edition of the merit badge book on the subject. Troop 778 has a library of various merit badge books.
4. Show Your Stuff. When you are ready, call the counselor for an appointment to meet the requirements. Take along the item(s) you have prepared to meet the requirements. If they are too large to move, take pictures or have an adult tell in writing what you have done. The counselor will verify that you have met the requirements for the merit badge.
5. Get The Badge. When the counselor is satisfied that you have met each requirement, he/she will sign your application. Give the “Application for Merit Badge” part of the blue card to your Advancement Chairman or the Merit Badge Coordinator so your merit badge emblem can be secured for you. **You must keep the “Applicant’s Record” of the blue card.**
6. More Or Less. Important: You are expected to meet the requirements exactly as they are stated – no more and no less. If it says “show or demonstrate,” that is what you must do. Just “telling about it” is not enough. The same thing holds true for such words as “make,” “list,” “in the field,” and “collect,” “identify” and “label.”

## Merit Badge Guidelines and Suggestions

1. Group Instruction of Merit Badges. Many subjects may be presented to groups of Scouts without defeating one of the purposes of the merit badge plan – working closely with a qualified adult. Our Council and District have developed policies for group merit badge programs – please get a copy from the Advancement Chairperson.
2. Time Frame For Work On Merit Badges. There is no time limit for completion of merit badges other than age 18. A merit badge counselor may retest a Scout if he has started a merit badge with another counselor and now needs to continue with a new counselor. A Scoutmaster may test the Scout’s ability to demonstrate and show proficiency in the requirements of a merit badge before allowing the merit badge to be processed. It is the sole responsibility of the Scout to “do” his merit badge.

All eligible work for a merit badge is work that is started after all sign up procedures from “Steps for Getting a Merit Badge” (step #1 above) are in order. Work for any given merit badge will not be allowed if the work was done before a Scout had applied and been given a signed application to start a merit badge and talked with a counselor.

3. It is suggested that an adult Scouter not be the merit badge counselor for their own son unless in a group setting (i.e., offer the merit badge to all who wish to attend).

### **Scoutmaster Conference**

In order to request a Scoutmaster conference, the Scout must have (a) successfully completed all rank requirements, (b) demonstrated good Scout spirit to your current Scout leadership, and (c) all dues paid up on a current basis. Accordingly, the Scout must complete a “Scoutmaster Conference Request Form”, including obtaining the signatures of the Advancement Chairperson, Senior Patrol Leader, Scribe and other Scout leaders, as appropriate.

At the Scoutmaster Conference, the Scout should:

1. Wear the proper Class A uniform, including the Merit Badge sash. All uniform insignia should be current and up to date, including rank and leadership position.
2. Bring your: (a) Scout Book, and (b) Merit Badge Records. Make sure everything is in order. Make sure you have all the proper signatures and dates in your Scout Book. Make sure you have all of your Merit Badge Blue Cards with you (preferably in a binder) and organized by date received.
3. Bring your "10+ Essentials." Be prepared to discuss their importance.
4. Review, and be prepared to discuss and be tested on, all Scouting skills, from Scout through your current rank.
5. Bring a 6-foot piece of rope with you. Know and be prepared to demonstrate all applicable knots and lashing skills, from Scout through your current rank.
6. Be prepared to review all First Aid skills, from Scout through your current rank.
7. Be prepared to review and discuss all your outdoor Scouting experiences, including campouts, day hikes, back pack trips, and any other wilderness or outdoor type of experience. Be prepared to demonstrate that you are well on your way to becoming a true Outdoorsman."
8. Be prepared to discuss your role as a leader in the Troop - past, current and future.
9. Be prepared to discuss the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan, Outdoor Code and First Class Badge. Know them and what they mean.
10. Be prepared to discuss your definition of Scout Spirit. Give examples of behavior and attitude patterns that demonstrate good Scout Spirit and also examples of poor Scout Spirit.
11. In summary: Be Prepared!

## **Getting Ready for a Board of Review**

1. A scout must complete his Scoutmaster Conference before asking for a Board of Review. You cannot schedule a Board of Review on the same day as your Scoutmaster Conference.
2. A scout must contact the Advancement Chairperson to schedule a Board of Review.
3. Three to six BSA registered adults serve on a Board of Review under the leadership and direction of the Advancement Chairperson. No prior training is necessary to serve on a Board. All materials are provided for you, including rank requirements, scout law and oath, sample questions to ask and the Scout's history with the troop.

## **What to Expect in Meeting a Troop 778 Board of Review**

1. The Scout must be in full class "A" uniform (including merit badge sash). The Scout must bring his Boy Scout handbook with him, with dates and signatures for advancement requirements.
2. The Scout will be asked to lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath and Scout Law (in proper protocol).
3. The Scout may be asked to explain (in his own words) the meaning and purpose behind each of the three points of the Scout Oath.
4. The Scout may be asked to explain (in his own words) the meaning associated with each point of the Scout Law.
5. The Scout may be asked to explain and describe the experiences he has enjoyed (and not enjoyed) in Scouting while traveling the path toward the rank for which he is being reviewed.
6. The Scout will be asked questions to reveal the Scout's attitude toward Scouting, his leaders (both Scouting and non-scouting), his peers, school and life in general.
7. The Scout may be asked to reflect on the most difficult task, the easiest task, the most enjoyable task and the least enjoyable task in which he participated while earning this rank.

Boards of Review will last from approximately 20 minutes (Tenderfoot rank) to 60 minutes (Life rank).

## **Courts of Honor**

All Scouts are to be in proper uniform with merit badge sashes worn over the right shoulder. No sharing of uniforms is allowed at a Court of Honor. If a Scout is not in proper uniform, the Senior Patrol Leader will make the decision of whether the Scout is to return home to obtain his uniform. A Court of Honor is a family event. Mom, dad, brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles, grandmothers and grandfathers are all invited.

## Scout Records

The Troop tries to keep track of each Scout's advancement success and activity participation in its "Troopmaster" computerized database. However, each Scout is responsible to make sure the information is correct. At regular intervals, by email or at a Court of Honor, the Scout will receive a print out of his computerized record. He should review it and return edits promptly.

Separately, each Scout is responsible for keeping his Scout Handbook up to date. He should make sure he gets proper signatures when he completes any advancement requirement.

Each Scout should keep a binder of all rank advancement and merit badge cards. The originals must be presented at his Eagle Board of Review. It is suggested that a separate binder, using plastic baseball card holding sheets, be used. This is also a good place to keep certificates, some photos, patches, etc. This binder stays at home in a safe place – do not bring to meetings.

## 4. FIRE POLICY

### Specific Rules

1. All camp/state park rules concerning fires supersede the fire policy of Troop 778.
2. All allowed campfires must be built within a fire ring – either provided at the campsite or built with rocks.
3. All ground cover within six (6) feet of the fire ring must be removed before any fire is begun.
4. A filled water bucket, a filled dirt/sand bucket and a ground beater of some sort must be near the campfire.
5. All fires must be started without liquid fuel unless direct permission is received from either the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster in charge of the camp.
6. Scouts are permitted to carry either matches and/or butane lighters to campsites – for proper use only. Proper use of matches or butane lighters includes:
  - (a) lighting of campfires,
  - (b) lighting of camp stoves,
  - (c) lighting of camp lanterns or candles,
  - (d) whipping the ends of a nylon rope, and
  - (e) sterilizing needles or knives for first aid activity.

Any other use requires permission from the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster in charge of the camp.

7. Fires or open flames of any sort are not permitted in tents, in areas outside the campsite, in groups of Scouts participating in activities not normally associated with the need for fire, during play or fun activities, in traveling vehicles or in any other dangerous situation.
8. Scouts are not permitted to play with fire. This policy is general in nature; however, it includes in part any removal of burning wood or coals from the campfire, building blowtorches and burning or smoking sticks/twigs outside the campfire.
9. In addition to these Troop 778 Fire Policy items, all BSA rules concerning fires found in the Boy Scout Handbook are still in effect.
10. Attention is directed to the Boy Scout Handbook, which includes the paragraph that reads as follows:

*NO FIRES IN TENTS! No tent is fireproof. All of them can burn or melt when exposed to heat. Keep all flames away from tents. Never use candles, matches, stoves, heaters or lanterns in or near tents. FLASHLIGHTS ONLY!*

## **5. GENERAL CAMPING GUIDE**

### **Scouts Plan Their Own Trips**

1. Location.
2. Type – backpacking or car camping.
3. Meals – including the shopping.
4. Duty roster preparation.
5. Agenda.

### **Requirements for Attendance**

1. Regular attendance at Troop meetings.
2. Scout-like conduct during all functions.
3. Permission slip and trip fees must be submitted at least one meeting prior to the trip.
4. Food fee must be paid and extra money brought for fast food stops during travel.

## Site Rules

1. Troop gear and facilities set-up prior to patrol set-up prior to individual set-up.
2. Buddy system will be used at all times.
3. Totin' Chip rules (see the Scout Handbook) will be followed for duties.
4. The Patrol method will be followed for duties.
5. Respect of fellow campers and equipment is expected.
6. Observation of the Outdoor Code:

*As an American, I will do my best to  
Be clean in my outdoor manner,  
Be careful with fire,  
Be considerate in the outdoors, and  
Be conservation minded.*

Although all Scouts are expected to conduct themselves appropriately, adult leaders in attendance will ensure that safe practices are followed in all activities.

## Camping Equipment List

With all your equipment, try to keep it simple and light. Remember, "ounces equal pounds and pounds equal pain."

### Ten Essentials (Plus) Always Carried

- |                    |                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pocket Knife       | - Boy Scout, Swiss Army or Multi-tool. No need to get biggest or most elaborate. No straight blades.                     |
| First Aid Kit      | - Including Moleskin, latex gloves.                                                                                      |
| Extra Clothing     | - Warm enough for expected conditions.                                                                                   |
| Rain Gear          | - Lightweight top & bottoms or poncho. Must be good quality.                                                             |
| Flashlight         | - Small with extra batteries and spare light bulb.                                                                       |
| Extra Food & Water | - Food should be something the Scout somewhat dislikes (so it will be eaten in an emergency only) and one pint of water. |
| Shelter            | - One emergency "space blanket."                                                                                         |
| Fire-Starter       | - Waterproof matches or butane lighter, and fire-starter.                                                                |
| Sun Protection     | - Hat, UV sunglasses, sun block, lip protection, long sleeve T-shirt.                                                    |
| Map & Compass      | - Good quality (no engineer's type) with straight edge.<br>Maps are usually provided by the Troop.                       |
| Whistle            | - Good quality with lanyard. No metal types.                                                                             |

### Clothing for Outdoor Events Carried In Addition to Above

- |            |                                                                           |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Socks      | - Thin polypro inner socks and heavier hiking outer socks.                |
| Boots      | - Quality high-top athletic shoes or good hiking boots.                   |
| Long Pants | - Durable loose fitting long pants. Synthetic is best as it dries faster. |
| Shirts     | - T-shirts and long sleeve shirt. Synthetic is best.                      |
| Jacket     | - Must be compressible yet warm.                                          |
| Hat        | - BSA Cap and warm cap.                                                   |
| Gloves     | - Fleece or wool.                                                         |

### Items for Day Hikes/Outings Carried In Addition to All Above Items

- Day Pack - Either a school backpack or a day pack.
- Water Bottles - Bring two (2) ONE LITER wide-mouth “Nalgene” bottles.
- Insect Repellant - Pump spray or stick.
- Drinking Cup - Eight-ounce plastic mug.
- Toilet Paper - Small roll, with small plastic bags for carry-out.
- Plastic Shovel - For digging disposal hole.
- Hiking Shorts - Optional. Synthetic is best.

### Equipment for Overnight Trips Carried in Addition to All Above Items

- Tent - Waterproof with rainfly.
- Ground Cloth - Plastic sheet for under the tent cut to fit tent outline.
- Sleeping Bag - Invest in a good lightweight bag. 10-20 degree F. minimum. Must be compressible in a stuff sack. The lighter, the better.
- Sleeping Pad - Lightweight. No air mattresses for beginning campers.
- Extra Clothing - Change(s) of underwear placed in one-gallon plastic bags. Thermal underwear. Sleep clothing.
- Personal Toilet Items - Soap, small towel, toothbrush, tooth paste, etc.
- Eating Utensils - Heavy plastic plate or bowl and heavy plastic silverware. (Plastic is easier to clean and lighter weight than metal.)
- Bag for Soiled Clothing.

### Equipment for Backpack Trips Carried in Addition to All Above Items

- Pack - Quality backpack with straps. Sized for the Scout.
- Extra Socks & Gloves
- Skeeter Stick - For bug bites.
- Mosquito Netting - Minimum for head and arms.
- Plastic Trash Bags - Fill a variety of needs.

**PARENTAL CONSENT TO FIELD TRIP AND AUTHORIZATION  
FOR MEDICAL OR DENTAL CARE OF A MINOR CHILD  
(MEDICAL RELEASE)**

Pursuant to California Civil Code Section 25.8

I, \_\_\_\_\_, request my son, \_\_\_\_\_, a member of Boy Scout Troop 778, Yorba Linda, California, be permitted to attend the following scouting event, \_\_\_\_\_, located at \_\_\_\_\_, from \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_. I understand my son will be transported to and from this event by an adult.

**My son is in good physical condition. Should any illness or injury occur to him on this trip, I will not hold the Boy Scouts of America or its officers, leaders, agents or members liable for medical, surgical, hospital, dental or other expenses incurred in the care of my child. This authority shall empower Boy Scouts of America or its officer, leaders, or agents to sign such form, documents, waivers and consents as shall be necessary to obtain such services.**

**My son MAY receive medical attention, including any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment, and hospital care to be rendered to such minor under the general or special supervision, and on the advice of, a physician and surgeon licensed under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act; or any x-ray examination, anesthetic, dental or surgical diagnosis or treatment, and hospital care to be rendered to such minor by a dentist licensed under the provisions of the Dental Practice Act.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Emergency Contacts (Names & Telephone Numbers): \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: The information below in no way  
limits or modifies the authorization given.**

Scout's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Scout's SS#: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Scout's Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Last Tetanus Shot: \_\_\_\_\_

Scout is allergic to: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications Scout is currently taking (include dosage): \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Plan Code/Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Subscriber Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Subscriber Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number to Verify Coverage: \_\_\_\_\_