



Important Things to Know

- 1) **Troop Meetings** are held every Tuesday night from 7:30 - 9:00, at Temple Beth Sholom, except on Jewish holidays and during school vacations. **Membership is not casual** especially if your scout holds a leadership position.
- 2) **Application:** An electronic copy of the Youth Application has been provided. Fill out the form once, and print AND SIGN two copies to submit.
- 3) **Medical form:** The fillable form is located at www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr. A physician need not sign the form. This is completed and submitted in September. A separate form will be required when your son comes to summer camp.
- 4) **Uniforms:** are essential to scouting. A checklist is attached to guide you through the uniform purchase process. A patch placement guide is included in this packet (or on the troop's Web Site) and is on pages 22-23 of the Scout Handbook.
- 5) **Dues and fees:** Annual "dues and fees" of \$125 per scout are payable each September and are broken down into: National Fees (includes Boys' Life Subscription), Council Fees, and Troop Dues:
Note: Webelos bridging over in the spring pay NO DUES until September. Otherwise, if your scout joins after September, simply pay the pro-rated fees for the applicable portion of the year.

For new scouts (excluding new Webelos), there is a one-time fee of \$56 to cover the cost of a Boy Scout Handbook, 267 troop numeral patch, a troop neckerchief, a troop hat, a troop "Class B" uniform shirt, and a patrol patch. This, however, will reduce your purchases from the scout shop.

- 6) **Patches:** Patches (insignia) are listed on the checklist enclosed or are supplied directly from the troop. These are not iron-on patches -- they must be sewn on. The patch placement guide on pages 22-23 of the Scout Handbook will help with patch placement. Patch Magic is a non-iron patch product available at the Scout Shop, and we have a seamstress who does uniforms for \$10, if needed.
- 7) **Equipment:** You need not purchase expensive equipment to get your scout started. Used equipment is fine, but it must be adequate. The Scout Shops sell ONLY that which has been designed for boys. You may not get the very lowest price there, but all their merchandise is priced fairly, and you will never have to worry about quality or size. They will take the time to fit your boy with the right size equipment. If you know your way around camping equipment, you may find what you need at REI, Campmor, Dick's or other outlets. An equipment checklist has been provided to get you started.
- 8) **Parents Association:** Meetings are held twice each year, while the boys are in their meeting. These meetings are important and will keep you abreast of the troop's progress and give you some input into the running of the troop. Every parent will be expected to pitch-in. You may volunteer for a committee, become a uniformed leader or simply volunteer to shop for awards, write articles, stuff envelopes, etc.

- 9) **Advancement:** Primary Ranks (Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class) are earned at each scout's own pace. Skills are taught at meetings and on overnights. It is not unusual for "best friends" to join Scouts on the same date, but be different ranks at the end of the year. Each requirement must be "signed-off" by your son's Patrol Leader. Advanced Ranks (Star, Life & Eagle) are the result of earning various required and elective merit badges. Each is a course unto itself, and is tested and approved by an Adult Merit Badge Counselor. Study for merit badges is completed at camp or individually. It is important that parents steer clear of advancement. While it's fine to provide a firm push from time-to-time, it is ultimately the Scout's responsibility to learn and earn his ranks.
- 10) **Board of Review:** This is like a final exam of sorts, held before a Scout receives each successive rank. It is particularly important that each Scout knows the material – especially first aid, and skills that will enable self-sufficiency in the wilderness. Mostly, Scouts pass their first time – but it is not unusual for someone to be "sent back" to study more before being seen as qualified.
- 11) **Court of Honor:** this is an awards ceremony to honor the progress and achievements of your Scout, and other in the troop. There are two such Courts of Honor each year. Usually one is in late January and one is in early June. Your entire family -- including grandparents are invited to see your Scout get awards.
- 12) **Leadership and supervision:** for your boys' safety, there must be at least 2 adults at every meeting or outing. Failure to have at least 2 adults automatically cancels the event. Further, no adult may be alone (one-on-one) with a Scout of any age or gender. This applies to giving rides home, merit badge counselor meetings, emails, and to every Scouting activity.
- 13) **Permission Slips:** are required for EVERY trip. No exceptions.
- 14) **Overnights:** Usually once each month, even in inclement weather. We usually meet Saturday mornings at 7:30 AM at the parking lot of the Roslyn Middle School, unless otherwise announced. At the end of the trip, the parents who drove will drop your scout back at the parking lot on Sunday. Please make sure you are there ON TIME to pick up your Scout.
- 15) **Transportation:** Parents will be assigned two overnights each year for driving. Mark your calendar well in advance, as if they were weddings you had to attend. Be sure to make arrangements for your other children. If you have to take them with you, there will not be enough seats for scouts. We depend on parents as our only source of transportation.
- 16) **Scout Camp:** each summer we have a program where a scout can enroll in camp for 1 to 6 weeks in camp. The cost is approximately \$400/week and includes all meals and virtually all activities.
- 17) **Fundraising:** Currently, we have one major fundraiser each year: we sell mums in the fall. This is not a mandate for you to buy a lot of mums, but it is essential that your son participate in our fundraiser. Dues are merely the beginning of our expenses and the fundraiser provides the rest.
- 18) **More Fundraising:** Your son has an opportunity to raise funds for his own special trips. Separate from the mums sale, every boy may earn his own money through the Scouts, BSA popcorn sale. The proceeds from personal sales will be placed in an account earmarked for your Scout to be used for local summer camp or for a special camping venture to Philmont, Sea Base, a National or International Jamboree, or another national Scout Camp. Any money earned through individual popcorn sales which is not used for an official Scout Camp program will be forfeited and added to Troop funds when the Scout graduates, or otherwise leaves Troop 267.