

# **Boy Scout Troop 215 Lantana, FL**



## **Troop Handbook**

**[www.troop215.com](http://www.troop215.com)**

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Dear Scouts and Parents,

Welcome to Troop 215!

This guidebook was put together to let you know a little more about Scouting and more specifically, our Troop. Troop 215 is sponsored by Grace Presbyterian Church at 1844 Hypoluxo Road, Lantana, Florida 33462, 561-585-4136. The church is located on the south side of Hypoluxo Road just west of I-95. Our Troop was chartered in May 1993. Troop 215 belongs to Everglades District, Gulfstream Council. Membership in our Troop is open to all boys regardless of where they live or what their church affiliation is. The requirements for any boy to join Boy Scouts are that he is eleven (11) to eighteen(18) years old or has completed fifth grade and that an official BSA registration is completed and signed by a parent or guardian. Our website has the most current information about the troop's leadership. You can visit our website at <http://www.troop215.com>, you may be required to have an account to see some areas. An account is created upon joining the troop.

We encourage parents to get involved with the Troop and, more importantly, encourage your son's participation. Parents are also invited to attend Troop meetings, campouts, fundraising events and Courts of Honor. The Troop uses a website and emails as our main form of communication. The site has announcements, a calendar and Patrol Leader information, files and photos. There are instructions on how to use the site in the upper right hand corner of the site.

We hope our guidance will make your son's experience in scouting rewarding, fun, and memorable!

Yours in Scouting,

Jim Putnik  
Scoutmaster Troop 215

## **ABOUT SCOUTING**

### **1.1 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA 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.

### **1.2 AIMS AND METHODS OF SCOUTING**

The Scouting program has three specific objectives, commonly referred to as the "Aims of Scouting." They are character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

There are eight methods of Scouting that are used to achieve the aims. They are an integral part of everything the Troop does.

#### ***Ideals***

The ideals of Boy Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout motto, and the Scout slogan. The Boy Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and, as he reaches for them, he has some control over what and who he becomes.

#### ***Patrols***

The patrol method gives Boy Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. It places responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in small groups where they can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through their elected representatives.

#### ***Outdoors***

Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoor setting that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with one another. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose. Being close to nature helps Boy Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handiwork and humankind's place in it. The outdoors is the laboratory for Boy Scouts to learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.

#### ***Advancement***

Boy Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps in overcoming them through the advancement method. The Boy Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he meets each challenge. The Boy Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a Boy Scout grow in self-reliance and in the ability to help others.

#### ***Adult Association***

Boys learn a great deal by watching how adults conduct themselves. Scout leaders can be positive role models for the members of their troops. In many cases a Scoutmaster who is willing to listen to boys, encourage them, and take a sincere interest in them can make a profound difference in their lives.

### ***Personal Growth***

As Boy Scouts plan their activities and progress toward their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Boy Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. Probably no device is so successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn. The religious emblems program also is a large part of the personal growth method. Frequent personal conferences with his Scoutmaster help each Boy Scout to determine his growth toward Scouting's aims.

### ***Leadership Development***

The Boy Scout program encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Boy Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership role of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.

### ***Uniform***

The uniform makes the Boy Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Boy Scouting is an action program, and wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Boy Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Boy Scout identity in a world brotherhood of youth who believe in the same ideals. The uniform is practical attire for Boy Scout activities and provides a way for Boy Scouts to wear the badges that show what they have accomplished.

## **1.3 TROOP ORGANIZATION**

The Troop operates on a Patrol system. Each Patrol comprises approximately six (6) to eight (8) scouts. Each scout is assigned to a given patrol, with a Patrol emblem to be worn on the uniform. Patrols are encouraged to operate as independent units for many of their activities, such as camping trips, summer camp, etc. Patrol meetings, in addition to regular meetings, are encouraged and recommended. Each Patrol will periodically elect their Patrol Leader. Scouts desiring to change from one Patrol to another may do so with the approval of the Scoutmaster.

The Patrol Leader represents the Patrol at the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC). The PLC consists of an elected Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leaders, and the Troop Youth Leaders. The Assistant Patrol Leaders attend when their Patrol Leader cannot attend. The PLC develops and implements the Troop Program with the guidance of the Scoutmaster and the Assistant Scoutmasters, and the approval of the Troop Committee. The PLC currently meets as necessary.

The Troop Committee meets monthly at 7:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at the church to oversee the Troop administration, finances, records, programs, activities, and advancement. In addition, the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters monitor the Troop activities.

The Committee Chairman is responsible for insuring that all Troop functions are properly delegated, coordinated and completed so that the Troop program is accomplished according to the policies of the BSA. The Charter Organization Representative serves as the liaison between

the Troop and Grace Presbyterian Church.

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the Troop. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in the fact that the quality of his guidance will affect every youth and adult involved in the Troop. Scouting Policy is that there must be two adult leaders at all Troop activities. The Assistant Scoutmasters provide this two deep leadership. In addition, they assist the Scoutmaster in performing his duties in guiding the Troop Program.

## 1.4 SCOUT HANDBOOK

Each scout **must** have a copy of the Scout Handbook. Information in this book is useful to scouts and parents and **should be read very carefully**. Boys not having a book will not be able to work on advancement. Handbooks **must** be brought to each Troop meeting and camping trips.

## 1.5 SCOUT UNIFORM

The official Class "A" uniform of Troop 215 consists of scout shorts or pants, short sleeve scout shirt, scout socks, and a scout belt. Patches and emblems required are shown in the front and back inside covers of the Scout Handbook. Rank badges will be given out as they are earned. The Class "B" uniform, worn during the summer, consists of the **official Troop T-shirt**, scout shorts, scout socks and a scout belt. Class C uniform would be the same as Class B, but with any other scout shirt. Troop t-shirts are available for sale and each scout should have a minimum of two.

**Class A uniforms are required at all Troop meetings**, while traveling to and from activities, and during other special functions. **Uniforms are to be worn in the proper manner, buttons buttoned, shirtheads tucked in.** All patches and rank badges in place Uniforms must be kept in a clean and neat condition. Occasionally, Class B uniforms may be utilized when the troop is traveling and all scouts wear the same color shirt. The PLC may decide to have Class B uniforms required during summer month's meetings based on planned activities.

PLEASE donate your Scout's outgrown uniforms. Troop 215 has a uniform bank in Room C6, which loans uniforms to Troop members. Gently worn Troop t-shirts are also available. See any of the committee members with your donations or if you are in need of part of the uniform.

## 1.6 TROOP LINGO

The Troop has its own acronyms for quite a few things. To bring you up to speed, here is a list:

SM	Scoutmaster
CC	Committee Chairperson
COR	Charter Organization Representative
ASM	Assistant Scoutmaster
PLC	Patrol Leaders Council

SPL	Senior Patrol Leader
ASPL	Assistant Patrol Leader
PL	Patrol Leader
APL	Assistant Patrol Leader
QM	Quartermaster
NYLT	National Youth Leader Training
COH	Court of Honor
LTE	Life to Eagle

## **BE PREPARED**

### **2.1 ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**

All members of Troop 215 are expected to participate in all phases of the Troop program. Unless each person is willing to do his share, the Troop as a whole will be affected. This means regular attendance at Troop meetings, camping trips, monthly activities, service projects, and fund-raisers. Important planning takes place at the weekly Troop meetings and it is vital that scouts attend to help with that planning. However, we realize that there will be times when scouts cannot attend due to illness, family commitments or school functions. **The scout needs to contact their Patrol Leader when they cannot attend an activity or Troop meeting.**

### **2.2 REGISTRATION AND DUES**

New boys to the Troop are required to complete an Official BSA Registration Form & a medical form. Initial registration fee will be charged according to Gulfstream Council fee chart or free for scouts transferring from Webelos or another Troop.

The monthly dues are \$10 a month. The dues cover registration fee, insurance, Basic Troop Supplies fee, and awards. The full \$10.00 is collected at the **first meeting** of each month. **Scouts who have not paid their dues in full by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month will have their advancement items withheld and be kept from campout participation until dues are paid. Scouts will not be re-registered until dues are paid. Costs for campouts and other activities are paid prior to those activities.** For new scouts or Webelos crossing over dues begin the first full month of membership. For example, if a scout joins the Troop on the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month, he would not be required to pay dues until the first of the next month.

### **2.3 TROOP MEETINGS**

The Troop holds regular Troop meetings in appropriate meeting rooms and outside facilities at Grace Presbyterian Church. The meetings are Tuesday nights from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. unless announced otherwise. **The Troop meets 12 months out of the year.**

A normal Troop meeting may consist of:

6:55 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Gathering and room set up
7:00 P.M.	Opening ceremony
7:05	Announcements
7:10	Skill Instructions
7:45	Patrol Meeting
8:15	Skill Competition
8:25	Final Announcements
8:29	Scoutmaster Minute
8:30	Closing ceremony and room clean up

The meeting is run by various boys in the Troop under the leadership of the Senior Patrol Leader. Equipment cleanup and inspection will be after each camp out. A scout may not leave until dismissed.

In addition to regular meetings, the Troop attempts to have some type of activity monthly to enable each Scout to enhance his learning experience and to utilize and enjoy the rewards of the previous skill he has learned. Some examples of past and future activities the Troop anticipates are as follows:

- Camping
- One Day Outings
- Week long summer camp either in Florida or out of state
- Community or Council service projects, Good Turn projects and Eagle Scout Projects
- Courts of Honor
- Fund raisers

All programs are based on Scout and parent input. If you would like to see something new, please bring it up to the Committee or Patrol Leaders Council.

## 2.4 TROOP ACTIVITIES

Most major Troop activities are planned at least one year in advance and the times and dates are published in the Troop Calendar on the website. Annual planning is done in August for the coming year. Please keep track of these dates and help us avoid conflicts. **All scouts wishing to participate in the monthly campouts must be at the meeting prior to the planned date.** This time is spent planning menus, and coordinating drivers, etc. All scouts should participate. Exceptions to this policy will be accepted if prior arrangements are made with the Camping Coordinator and Senior Patrol Leader. The Troop depends on parental support to see to it that their son attends as many Troop activities as possible. Each campout has a “sign up/drop out” deadline printed in the Troop calendar. Please ensure your son has signed up and paid by the deadline. Should your son have to drop out of a camping trip, it is imperative that he do so by the deadline or he will be charged for the trip.

Schedule changes and special notices will communicate additions to the calendar. Detailed information about monthly activities are usually discussed at Troop meetings or is listed on the website. All parents/scouts are encouraged to watch the calendar for any important announcements. We especially encourage all parents to ask their sons about any announcements



they may have received at the Troop meetings.

## **2.5 FUNDRAISERS**

The Troop offers various fundraisers for scouts to raise money for the year's activities. In the past Troop 215 has participated in council fundraising activities such as popcorn sales and Camp Card sales. All the profits from these events go to the scout's account for Troop expenses (see Scout Accounts for specific guidelines). Additionally, each scout in the Troop is offered the opportunity to work at our other fundraising events that are planned throughout the year. Scout Account money is designated for use toward any scout activity; however Troop dues are the primary expense before money is used for any other activity.

## **2.6 COMMUNICATIONS**

As boys develop into adults, it is felt essential that they assume certain responsibilities of listening to announcements and taking necessary notes to ensure they are aware of upcoming activities and other pertinent information. At each Troop meeting various announcements are made that pertain to updated information. If a Scout is unable to attend a regular Troop meeting, he is responsible for contacting his Patrol Leader or another Patrol member to obtain any information from that meeting. He also can check the Troop website for important announcements he may have missed, **it is the Scout's responsibility**. Communications outside of a regular meeting will be passed on by telephone through the Senior Patrol Leader to each Patrol Leader and subsequently to each member. If a scout should still need more information, he should call his Patrol Leader.

**If you find you are not receiving required information, first discuss it with your Scout and then contact the Patrol Leader, Scoutmaster, the Troop Committee Chairman or the Charter Organization Representative so the problem can be corrected.**

## **2.7 BEHAVIOR**

We expect the scouts of Troop 215 to behave like scouts at all times, whether at a scouting event or at other times. The Scout Law and Oath will always be a guide for the scout's conduct. When we represent the Boy Scouts of America and Grace Presbyterian Church we should set an example as scouts and citizens.

The adult leaders and scouts will be working hard to plan and execute a quality program and it is not fair for one or two to ruin that for others. **Therefore, fighting, profane language, any actions that endanger other scouts, or the scout himself, or disrupt the program for the other scouts will not be tolerated. These cases will be handled on an individual basis, but at a minimum, the scout may be asked to leave the Troop meeting or campout, which may require the parent to drive and pick up the scout, or pay for transportation for the scout to go home from the activity.**

## ON THE WAY TO EAGLE

### 3.1 ADVANCEMENT (THE TRAIL TO EAGLE SCOUT)

Advancement from Tenderfoot to Eagle is an important part of the scouting experience and is completely explained in the Scout Handbook. Troop 215 has leaders to help and advise the boys on advancement. One youth leader is the Troop Guide who has been assigned to train and guide newer scouts in the skills and requirements needed to obtain the ranks from Scout to First Class. The other individual is the Advancement Chairperson. This person is responsible for maintaining advancement records, scheduling boards of review, and acquiring awards. **Scouts are responsible for completing advancement requirements on their own and for maintaining a complete record of their own advancement.** Opportunities for completing advancement requirements will be provided to the scouts and it is their responsibility to take advantage of these opportunities.

For those Scouts that have earned the rank of Life Scout and want to begin to work on their Eagle project, the Troop currently has a Life to Eagle (LTE) Coordinator and 4-5 ASM's and/or Committee Members that will mentor the Scout from project selection through Eagle Application and ultimately the Eagle Board of Review. There is a Troop 215 Eagle Project Check List at the back of this handbook for anyone who is interested in starting their Eagle project. This guide is based on the Project Book available at [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org).

The Troop has seven basic rules about advancement.

- 1) **Parents cannot sign-off advancement or merit badge requirements unless the requirements are worked on as a group.**
- 2) The Merit Badge Counselors must be approved by the Scoutmaster and Gulf Stream Council **before** any work is completed on the merit badge. The Advancement Chairman reserves the right to disallow any advancement or merit badge signed-off by an unapproved individual.
- 3) Scouts must obtain a merit badge card and be signed by the Scoutmaster prior to meeting with a counselor. The scout will be given credit for completing a merit badge when he returns the card, which has been signed by his counselor & the Scoutmaster, to the Advancement Chairman.
- 4) **Boys will be encouraged to advance but will not be pushed to advance. Troop leaders are responsible for providing advancement opportunities but are not responsible for ensuring a scout advances in rank.**
- 5) Even though the Advancement Chairman maintains records of each scout's advancement, it is each scout's responsibility to maintain written proof of his advancement. Scout Handbooks provide places to have requirements signed-off and scouts will be given signed cards for each merit badge or rank advancement. Possession of a patch is not considered proof. Eagle rank will not be granted without documented proof that all requirements have been completed.

- 6) **The Scoutmaster will judge a scout's leadership for the ranks of Star, Life, and Eagle requirement after discussing it with the assistants and the Committee Chairman. A Scout must demonstrate competency and involvement while holding a Troop position, not just wear the badge of office. Troop Leader Training (TLT) is required for each term of office to complete the leadership position requirement. Nation Youth Leader Training(NYLT) is strongly encouraged and partially funded by the Troop through scholarship.**
- 7) In order to be eligible for a Board of Review, each scout needs to complete their Scoutmaster Conference before the Meeting for the scheduled Board of Review. No Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review shall occur at the same meeting. To receive Rank advancement at a Court of Honor, the Scout must complete the Board of Review 2 weeks before the Court of Honor. The Scout may earn his Rank within the two weeks before the Court of Honor, but will not receive the recognition at the Court of Honor. The Scout may be presented with his new patch at a regular Scout meeting or wait until the next Court of Honor.

Scoutmaster conferences and Board of Reviews require complete Class "A" uniform. No Scoutmaster conference or Board of Review will take place with a Scout that is not in COMPLETE Class "A" uniform. This includes a Scout shirt with proper patches in the proper places, Scout shorts or pants, Scout socks and a Scout belt.

## **3.2 COURT OF HONOR**

Every effort will be made to present scouts with a merit badge or rank patch at the Troop's Court of Honor. A Court of Honor will be held 4 times each year, the first Tuesday in March, June, September and December. A Court of Honor is a special Troop meeting where all family members are invited. The meeting is held for the purpose of providing extra recognition to those scouts who have earned rank advancement, merit badges or other accomplishments. The whole family is encouraged to attend even if a scout has not earned any special recognition because the meetings are also used to discuss the Troop's accomplishments and future activities.

## **WE LOVE CAMPING**

### **4.1 CAMPOUT GUIDELINES**

In the interest of the safety of all Scouts, as well as the enjoyment and successful learning experience of the Scouting program, common sense and good conduct is required at all times. When gathering for a campout after 5:00 on Friday evenings, the Troop will not be preparing a dinner. Please see that your son is well fed before arrival.

Menus and duty rosters are to be approved by the Scoutmaster at the Troop meeting prior to the campout. **All scouts attending the campout must be present at the Troop meeting immediately prior to the campout unless other arrangements have been made.**

The following special rules should be noted:  
- NO tree or fence climbing without specific leader permission

- NO participating in waterfront activities without proper supervision
- NO throwing of any objects except as part of an organized activity
- NO use of cutting tools (axe, knife, etc.) without successful completion of Totin' Chip Training (This rule applies to ALL Scouts, regardless of rank) In any case, saws and axes will only be used in a defined axe yard and under adult supervision.
- NO food of any kind in tents (Scouts and adults) - ants, bugs, raccoons, etc WILL visit.
- NO flames in tents (Scouts and adults)
- NO sheath or hunting knives or folding LOCK BLADE KNIVES with a blade over 4" (inches) long. The only exception being kitchen knives kept in the cooking area and retained in the Patrol box.
- NO bare feet are allowed except in waterfront areas, for swimming, in showers, or in tents. Water shoes will be allowed for aquatic activities. **At no time are open toe shoes to be worn in camp, the axe yard or during meal preparation.**
- NO radios, cellphones, tape or CD players, video games, or similar electronic devices are allowed. These items are only permissible on trips with travel time longer than three (3) hours **and** with permission of the driver. These items then must be left locked in the vehicles until the trip home. The focus should be enjoying the outdoors and the activities offered.
- NO use of fire starters (matches included) without permission or successful completion of the Firem'n Chit. Scouts are not to carry butane lighters or matches on their person. Only Adult Leaders will be allowed to use propane devices.
- NO fireworks or pyrotechnics.
- NO Scout will ride on the OUTSIDE of any motor vehicle. This restriction includes hanging or riding on bumpers, in trailers, in the beds of pickups, etc.
- NO Scouts are to walk in or through another campsite without permission of the other campers.
- NO trash will be thrown on the ground. Campsite WILL be left as clean, or cleaner, than it was found.
- NO camouflage clothing allowed with Class A uniform, as Scouting is not a hunting or military activity.
- NO alcoholic beverages, drugs or tobacco of any kind. Smoking is not permitted on Scout property (unless there is a designated area). Adults who smoke, please note that it should be done out of the view of Scouts.
- Use the buddy system, at least 2 scouts when leaving campsite, no exploring alone.
- Be safe and have fun.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE CAMPING GUIDELINES MAY RESULT IN THE PARENTS BEING CALLED TO PICK UP THEIR SON OR THE SCOUT NOT BEING PERMITTED TO GO ON THE NEXT CAMPING TRIP.

## 4.2 SUMMER CAMP

**“80% of Scouting is Outing!”** Our Troop attends at least one week of summer camp each year at a nationally accredited Scout Camp. Summer camp is vital to your son’s continued membership in Scouting. Studies show that a new scout who attends summer camp will continue with Scouting. Summer camp provides advancement opportunities that simply cannot be beat. Certain skills and merit badges may not be available anywhere else. Parent participation is also important to meet our two-deep leadership policy. Summer camp attendance may include local camp at Tanah Keeta, another Florida Boy Scout Camp or an out of state camp. Any scout wishing to attend an out of state summer camp with the Troop must have successfully attended a full week of summer camp locally at least 1 year prior to the out of state camp dates **and** have

the approval of the Scoutmaster.

#### **4.3 PERMISSION SLIPS and HEALTH FORMS**

A parent/guardian signed permission slip must be on file with the Troop for all camping activities. Parents should also sign the camping roster for each camp event. This acknowledges that the parent knows where the scout will be and gives emergency information to contact the parent if needed. Any boy not furnishing this slip will have to be left behind, and any consequences resulting from this action will be the responsibility of the boy and/or parents.

Parts A and B health forms and a copy of insurance card are required for every scout and adult participating in any event. Parts A and B are to be completed annually by all BSA unit members and are required for all scouts and adults for events less than 72 hours in length. Part C is to be completed by a physician and required for all scouts and adults participating in any events over 72 hours in length including summer camp, certain national or international events, and high adventure activity. All parts of the form are valid for one year. All of these authorize the adult leader in charge to seek medical assistance should a Scout or adult incur an accident or become ill. Depending on the seriousness of the problem, parents may be notified. It is the parent and scout's responsibility to ensure the troop has current medical forms. All medical forms are available on the Gulfstream Council website ([www.gulfstreamcouncil.org](http://www.gulfstreamcouncil.org)). High adventure activities may require additional forms.

#### **4.3 TROOP EQUIPMENT**

Troop 215 currently has each Scout acquire his own tents. The Troop has stoves, lanterns, patrol boxes, cooking equipment, tarps, rain flies and other gear worth several thousands of dollars. The equipment is maintained through dues and special fundraisers. Scouts are expected to treat this equipment with respect and pay for anything damaged or lost through carelessness. Troop equipment is due back cleaned and properly packed the Tuesday after a camping trip.

#### **4.4 SCOUT EQUIPMENT AND PACKING**

Personal equipment is something every scout will eventually need. The Scout Handbook contains a list of items that every scout is expected to have at each camp out. If you have a new Scout, don't rush out and spend lots of money on camping equipment yet. Start by reading the pages on camping and what to bring in your Scout's Boy Scout handbook.

*Please . . .*

Do not bring anything that has a high monetary or sentimental value. We have discovered that things have ways of being misplaced or broken on campouts!

*Food*

All food and drink that your Scout will need for the weekend will be provided and is included in the cost of the camping trip. All food must be stored in the Troop dry boxes and not in any camper's tent or personal gear.

When gathering for a campout after 5:00 on Friday evenings, the Troop will not be preparing a

dinner. Please see that your son is well fed before arrival.

### *Identification*

ALL clothing items that your son takes should be permanently marked with his name. Engravers work very well on metal such as cooking gear.

### *Pocketknife*

The knife is the one piece of camping equipment that your son will keep and use, as he grows older. A cheap knife will dull easily and be difficult to sharpen. While an official BSA knife is not necessary, it will gain a great deal of sentimental value. Sheath knives are not allowed at Boy Scout functions. Scouts MUST have a Totin' Chip to be allowed to carry any pocket knife.

### *Hiking*

Hiking is an essential part of Scouting. Good shoes are essential for a good hike. Most tennis shoes do not have enough support. Shoes should be broken in first. Wool or nylon socks, such as the uniform socks, should be worn, as they do not retain moisture like cotton socks do. Water Bottles are also nice for a midnight drink of water when you do not want to leave your cozy sleeping bag. Many canteens that are available at a cheaper price do not hold up. Quality water bottles and many other camping gear are available at many sporting goods stores as well as online vendors.

## WEEKEND PACKING CHECKLIST

### Camping Equipment

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag in a stuff sack    | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook    | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocketknife             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight with extra batteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Foam sleeping pad | <input type="checkbox"/> Notebook, Pen or Pencil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duffel Bag or Back Pack         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess kit          | <input type="checkbox"/> Mosquito repellent      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fork, Knife, Spoon              | <input type="checkbox"/> Reusable Cup      | <input type="checkbox"/> Canteen                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal First Aid kit          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing kit        | <input type="checkbox"/> Souvenir Money          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow in a stuff sack or bag   | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch             | <input type="checkbox"/> Poncho                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Totin' Chit                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Fireman Chit      |  |

### Clothing – Pack in large Zip-Lock bags

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform (Shirt & Pants)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Belt  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bolo                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear (3 pair)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Hat   | <input type="checkbox"/> Socks (3 pair)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit in a zip-lock bag           | <input type="checkbox"/> Class B-shirts (2)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking footwear       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Pants                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts  | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra pair of shoes   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swim Shoes or Crocs                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Jacket  | <input type="checkbox"/> Wool Socks for hiking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleep Clothes (T-shirt & Gym Shorts) | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra clothes depending on the weather/season |  |

### Personal Hygiene

- |  |   |                                      |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper in a zip-lock bag    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wash cloth in a zip-lock bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Towel       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soap in container or zip-lock bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Comb or brush                | <input type="checkbox"/> Tooth brush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handkerchief or Kleenex           | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Beach Towel |

### Optional – Don't Bring heirlooms or expensive items that cannot be replaced.

- |   |                                     |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stand-alone Digital Camera (not phone) | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch      | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer book or Bible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses | <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Stool           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medicines (held by adults in charge)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Compass    |   |

**PLEASE REFER TO THE PREVIOUS SECTION 4.1 FOR ITEMS NOT PERMITTED ON OUTINGS FOR SCOUTS OR ADULTS**

## The Ultimate Outing Planner

Every successful business, organization and small group needs to have a plan put together to be able to handle situations that may occur. Plans develop over time to adapt to new challenges and problems that occur. Boy Scout campouts are no different.

Logistically, each Patrol needs to plan for their patrol's participation in the Troop or Patrol outing. The following are some guidelines that each PATROL LEADER should implement to help the Patrol achieve the overall plan. The Patrol Leader will either be responsible for each individual item or delegate the responsibility to another member in the patrol.

- ☐ Patrol Box – Take inventory and restock the Patrol box after, or before, the next Patrol campout. This can be scheduled as part of the Patrol activity during the Troop meeting.
- ☐ Menu Planner – The menu planner will create the menu the scouts will use on the campout while setting up a shopping list. A notebook of menus is available in Room C6, in the Boy Scout Handbook and online.
- ☐ Shopping List – List of items the Grub Masters will need to purchase for the trip.
- ☐ Special Items List – List of specialty items the Patrol will need on the campout or event to reach their planned activity, e.g. Dutch Ovens. The Special Items form is available from the Camping ASPL if you do not already have one.
- ☐ Patrol Duty Roster – Patrol Leader is responsible for assigning or creating the Patrol duty roster. The duty roster form is available from the Camping ASPL if you do not already have one.
- ☐ Patrol Activity Time – Patrol Leader is responsible for assigning or creating the events that will occur during Patrol activity time, e.g. advancements, Firem'n Chit, Totin' Chit, animal study, rope craft or other activity. The activity time form is available from the Camping ASPL if you do not already have one.
- ☐ Present the Patrol's menu, shopping list, specialty list, Duty Roster and Patrol Activity time to the Camping ASPL (Senior Scout) and Coordinator (Adult)
- ☐ Money – The Grub Masters and Patrols will be given a budget for each trip, including funds for adults. Purchase the food and provide a receipt to the Treasurer to receive a reimbursement.
- ☐ One ice cooler and dry box from the Troop trailer, see Quartermaster.



## **Parent's guide to grocery shopping**

So your son will be the Grub Master for his patrol this campout. After each Patrol develops its menu (a week before the trip), it assigns the shopping to two of the Patrol members. Ideally, an older Scout will be paired with a newer Scout to make the process easier and a boy-led activity. Think of this as an opportunity for the Scouts to learn what you have to master on each grocery store trip: plan, budget, purchase, manage the receipt. Drive the Scouts to the store and let them shop themselves. They may ask your advice, such as store brand vs. name brand, but let them figure out the math and make the trade-offs necessary to complete their purchases within budget.

Our menu-planner worksheet, which is available from the Troop Librarian and on the Troop website, can help facilitate the planning process before you go the store. Make sure you know how many people to shop for. Again, eight days before the campout, the Patrol should have a firm head count. Part of the logic behind the eight-days-out policy is that it gives you a weekend and several weeknights on which to shop. You shouldn't have to shop the day of the campout. Plan to spend approximately \$12 per Scout for a weekend campout. That includes a Friday cracker barrel, three meals on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. For longer or shorter trips, costs will be adjusted accordingly.

Don't overbuy items like milk, fruit, and vegetables. Please remember ice in the budget. Some refrigerator space is available at Grace, but plan on refrigerating your own patrol's food when purchased. While we want our Scouts to eat right-and we strongly encourage them to plan balanced menus-the fact is that we end up giving away a lot of healthy stuff on Sunday. Don't buy things we already have. Your son should check supplies in their Patrol box before going shopping. The scouts can save money by purchasing store brands, avoiding individually-packaged items, and picking raw ingredients over prepared foods.

Turn in your receipts when you drop off the food. The sooner we get your receipts, the sooner we can close out the event budget.

Ice cooler – A Troop cooler should be obtained from the Troop trailer prior to shopping. The cooler will hold all the patrol's cold items during the course of the weekend. Please refrain from using personal coolers, since the coolers will experience scout wear in sandy soil. Be certain to also check out a dry box from the Quartermaster.

No worries. This is a great learning experience for you and your Scout. No one has starved on a Troop 215 campout and all Scouts have learned to improve their shopping skills in the process.

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

### **5.1 PARENT SUPPORT**

A key element in maintaining and improving the quality of Troop 215 is by having active parental support. To be successful, scouting **must** be a family activity. Parent support does not consist of dropping your son at a Troop meeting and picking him up. Guide your son in developing the tools for commitment. Support includes of the following:

- 1) Make sure your son attends all Troop activities and is ready for them.
- 2) Encourage your son in his scout advancement. Find out from him what he needs to advance.
- 3) Take an active interest in his scouting activities.
- 4) Attend parent meetings, Courts of Honor and other family activities.
- 5) Join the Troop Committee. The committee is made up of parents and meets once a month to oversee Troop activities.
- 6) Become a Merit Badge Counselor for the Troop. You don't have to be an expert in the area. There are over 120 merit badges so there should be something you know about.
- 7) Support fundraiser projects. This is how we earn money for Troop equipment and program activities

## 5.2 COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Besides the Scoutmaster and his assistants, there are many other opportunities for parents to assist in Troop 215. We at Troop 215 encourage the buddy system and two-deep leadership in all aspects, including adult positions. You can volunteer to help in more than one of these areas be with other adults, many hands makes light work. A list of who is currently active in these positions can be obtained from the troop website.

**Chartered Organization Rep.** - The liaison with the unit's sponsor. As a member of the chartered organization, that person will know the most effective ways to get the organization's assistance and maintain a mutually satisfactory working relationship with the chartered organization.

**Committee Chair** - Preside over committee meetings; attempt to ensure everything else is running properly according to the BSA policy

**Scoutmaster** - The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the troop. The Scoutmaster and his assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in the fact that the quality of his guidance will affect every youth and adult involved in the troop.

**Key 3** - The Chartered Organization Rep, Committee Chair, & Scoutmaster complete the Key 3. These 3 volunteers are the main driving force behind the troop's operations.

**Treasurer** - Collect funds, ensure troop's finances are handled properly, etc.

**Advancement Chair**- Update Troopmaster software as scouts turn in advancement; prepare Court of Honor report, set up advancements prior to Court.

**Board Of Review Coordinator** - schedule scoutmaster conferences and board of reviews for scouts who sign up for them and obtain at least 3 adults for each.

**Fundraising Chair**- Coordinate fund raising and any money collection forms with council; help motivate troop for fund raising.

**Popcorn Chair** - Ensure the troop's annual popcorn sales are run properly.

**Camping Chair** - Obtain possibilities for future campouts; make reservations; complete tour permits

**Life to Eagle** - Help our life scouts continue on to achieve Eagle.

**Equipment Chair** - work with quartermaster to ensure troop supplies are filled and in working order, including the trailer.

**Secretary** - Take notes during the committee meeting and promptly email the members. Notes can be just a summary of details.

**Health Form Chair** - Ensure everyone's health forms are up to date; Distribute

required forms to campout head to make sure everyone who is camping has a current health form on the trip.

**Membership Chair** - Ensure everyone is properly registered with the troop; welcome new families; help make sure communications with membership exists; Troopmaster account maintenance.

**Communications Chair** - Maintain website and accounts on the site as well as any email lists.

**Adult training Chair** - motivate parents to continue training; encourage youth protection updates in timely fashion.

### 5.3 DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY & VEHICLE SAFETY

The Troop uses the resource of the parents to provide the transportation and the leadership for our outings. When accepting this responsibility, we ask that as a leader you do your best to be an example of good scouting and act accordingly to the Scout Oath and Law as well as, but not limited to, the rules of this guidebook. You are being looked on as a role model for our scouts. As a driver, we demand that when you show up to drive for an outing that you and your vehicle are in good driving condition. We cannot take the risk of anything less than that. The Troop cannot tolerate an impaired driver due to lack of rest, alcohol or drugs. A driver may be asked by the Troop leadership not to drive if there is ANY concern that this may be a problem. Cigarette smoking while transporting scouts is also prohibited. If any parent has a concern that one of our drivers may be impaired, please bring it to the attention of the leader in charge of the activity immediately. Your son's safety is our first concern. We live by the motto SAFETY FIRST!

Any Scout who drives a vehicle to a Troop event or campout must be at least 16 years of age; possess a valid driver's license; and have his parents' or Guardian's permission. He will do so only in accordance with the provisions of the tour permit for the event. Upon reaching the destination, the Scout will park his car and **turn the keys into the adult leader in charge** until it is time to return. He will not transport any other Scout to or from the event. The written authorization will be turned in to the Scoutmaster prior to departure. For all trips outside the Gulf Stream Council, all drivers must be 18 years of age.

The Troop will travel to and from outings/campouts as a unit except when permission for alternate travel is granted by the Scoutmaster. Parent cooperation is most appreciated.

## 5.4 COST OF SCOUTING

The Troop desires that all boys be able to participate in the scouting program regardless of their personal financial situation. Because of this, various fundraising projects are a regular part of the Troop activities. The basic cost of scouting is **monthly dues** as described in section 2.2, that can be paid or earned through fundraisers. Additionally each camping trip, summer camp, and other activities have costs specific to the activity. Weekend camping trips range from \$20 to \$50 depending on the activity and summer camp cost starts at about \$200.00 per week.

Many Scouts earn their Scouting fees via Council events such as Popcorn or Camp Cards. In addition, Grace offers Scout Bucks where Scouts can assist our groundskeeper on Saturday morning for the equivalent of \$5/hour. Grace asks that as a minimum, two Scouts pair together for buddy system compliance. The activities will be a age and skill appropriate and follow Boy Scout tool usage guidelines.

Another source of funding is relatives. We have found many grandparents, uncles and aunts enjoy helping with the Scouting journey by providing funds or camping gear for special events like birthdays. Helping finance the Scouting experience is a gift the Scout will receive benefits from for a lifetime.

The Troop determines the amount of money needed for outdoor events to cover the cost of transportation, food, supplies and fees. The early knowledge of which Scouts will be participating in an activity greatly helps in the planning stages. Scouts who sign up for an event and later are unable to attend must notify one of the scoutmasters **PRIOR** to the event. **Money paid by the Troop on behalf of the scout that is non-transferable or non-refundable will not be refunded.** Refunds will **NOT** be made after the “sign up/drop out” deadline.

When the Troop collects money, **we ask that all moneys be turned in via an envelope.** Place your name, purpose, amount paid, and method of payment (i.e., cash, check) on the outside of the envelope. We ask that payments greater than \$100 be made in the form of a check to avoid having large amounts of cash on hand on the payment dates. Checks should be made out to “Boy Scout Troop 215”. Payments can be made at any Troop meeting, to the Treasurer or in their absence, the Committee Chair. Please be courteous of others when submitting money to the Treasurer. Please think of your transactions with the Treasurer as sacred as your transactions at a bank. There should only be **ONE** person with the Treasurer at any given time.

Our Scouts have reached the age where they should have enough responsibility to fill out a money envelope. Our Scouts know what outings and events they want to attend, and should sign up for them. This would greatly help eliminate the confusion the Scouts have as to whether or not they have signed up for an outing.

Financial Assistance is available for any Scout who is unable to be fully involved in Scouts because of financial difficulty. Please let the Scoutmaster, Charter Organization Representative or the Committee Chairman know if help beyond fundraisers and Scout Bucks is necessary.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 215**  
**GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SCOUT ACCOUNT BY-LAWS**

**I. USE OF MONEY**

IRS guidelines for not for profit fundraising and benefactors allow Scout Account money can only be used for the purpose of funding Troop 215 authorized Scouting activities as approved annually by the Troop Committee.

The activities can include, but are not limited to summer camp, day trips, monthly campouts, District or Council event fees such as Camporee, National Youth Leadership Training(NYLT), or Order of the Arrow activities, National Jamborees, High Adventure Camps.

The money can only be used by an active scout in Troop 215 and is not transferable to any other scout's account, except in the case of siblings as directed by parent/guardian. Transferring scouts may have funds transferred directly to the new troop. If, in the event a boy leaves Scouting for any reason, his Scout Account money will be transferred into the Troop's general account and allocated at the discretion of the Troop Committee.

**II. SCOUT ACCOUNT**

Money will be allocated to the account through the Scout's participation in the Troop fundraising activities. These will include popcorn sales, Camp Card sales and other Troop / District / Council fundraising events planned for a given year. The amount per participation will be selected by the Troop Committee on an annual basis or as directed from District or Council. The intent is to balance and encourage Scout participation and reward for effort as well as helping all Scouts be able to participate, regardless of financial situation.

A Scout may request, in writing, to be placed on "inactive" status. This would apply to those Scouts participating in school activities, sports, etc. which would prevent him from participating in the Troop activities for a certain amount of time. Once a Scout is placed on "inactive" status, monthly dues will cease to accrue. Once the Scout decided to return to the Troop, he will need to pay a \$25.00 re-activation fee. Depending on the length of time away, the Scout may need to reregister and become rechartered.

**III. SCOUT ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

The Troop Treasurer will manage the Scout Accounts. He or she will be responsible for keeping monthly records of each Scout's individual account. The Scouts will receive printouts of their account balances monthly or at the Scout's request.

The currently monthly dues are \$10.00. Monthly dues cover the cost of registration fees, insurance, basic Troop supplies and awards. Dues are collected at the first meeting of each month.

Scouts who have not paid their dues, in full, prior to a Court of Honor will have their advancements withheld until payment is made. Additionally, Scouts who have not paid their

dues, in full, prior to a monthly camp out, will not be able to attend until payment is made in full.

In regards to new Scouts or Webelos who cross over, dues begin in the first full month of membership. For example, if a Scout joins the troop on the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month, he will not be expected to pay dues until the 1<sup>st</sup> of the NEXT month.

Scouts may make regular deposits to their Scout Account as deemed necessary.

#### **IV. CHANGES TO THE SCOUT ACCOUNT BY-LAWS**

The Troop Committee will govern these by-laws. Any changes, clarification or additions should be raised to the Troop Committee Chairperson.

***Please keep this form, signed by the scout & a parent, in your handbook for future reference***

## **ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**

*All members of Troop 215 are expected to participate in all phases of Troop activity. This means regular attendance at meetings, camps & trips and good community service as well as active positions of responsibility. Troop 215 prides itself in carrying on no matter what obstacles are encountered. It is the Scout's responsibility to call his Patrol Leader and let him know whenever he will be absent from a particular meeting or event.*

## **CODE OF HONOR**

*As a member of Troop 215 each member promises to conduct himself in a manner consistent with the Scouting ideals set forth in the Scout Oath and Law.*

### **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.*

### **Scout Law**

*A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent.*

***Abusive or rude behavior and/or language will not be tolerated at any Scout related activity or meeting. Any Scout engaging in such behavior will, upon the second warning by a Troop leader, be dismissed from that Scouting activity. The Troop leader will contact the Scout's parents, explain the situation and have arrangements made for the Scout to be picked up immediately. The exact time and place of the parents pick up of the Scout is at the Leader's discretion and the parents cost. Repeated misbehavior will result in dismissal from Troop 215.***

*Scouts and adults will not possess, use or consume mood-altering chemicals (unless prescribed by a doctor), including alcoholic beverages and tobacco at any Scout related function. An adult leader will search any Scout suspected of having the above-mentioned substances in his possession, along with his belongings. If any of the above-mentioned substances are found in the Scout's possession, the Scout will be subject to immediate dismissal from that activity and possibly from Troop 215.*

*Equipment of the Troop loaned for the use of camping should be returned the Tuesday meeting following the camping trip. A \$5 fee will be charged for late returns, and the full price of the item will be billed for items not returned by the following weeks meeting.*

## **Affirmation**

*We have chosen to participate in Troop 215's meetings and activities. We hereby indicate our understanding and advocacy of Troop 215's **CODE OF HONOR**, and agree to support our commitment to that **CODE OF HONOR**. We have read the **Troop Handbook** and will abide by its rules.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's or Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scout's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***Please keep this form, signed by the scout & a parent, in your handbook for future reference***

## **Addendum to the Troop 215 Handbook**

### **2. Campout Rules & Regulations**

*The following rules and regulations apply to all Scouts and adults whether the Scout and/or his parents have signed them.*

**The Scout Oath and Scout Law govern everyone in camp**, including both Scouts and adults, at all times.

**Uniform Requirements:** Scouts and adult leaders will wear complete class "A" uniforms to and from the campout and at chapel on Sunday. The complete class "A" uniform consists of: a uniform shirt, scout shorts or pants, scout socks, and a scout belt. A scout belt may be the official scout belt, or a scout themed belt (i.e. belts from summer camps, treks, or OA belts).

**Camping is by patrols:** At campouts, patrol members camp together in the location designated for their patrol. Sharing of tents by Scouts within a patrol is expected. *Adults do not share tents with Scouts, including their own sons, and generally avoid the area of their own son's patrol.* Adults (the "Black beard Patrol") ordinarily will camp in their own designated campsite. On some occasions, two to four adults will be assigned to camp with each Scout patrol, but not with the patrol of the adult's own son. The exception to this provision will be if the parent is the assigned patrol advisor.

**Stay out of the other patrol's area:** Scouts should request permission before entering another patrol's campsite/area. Adults should also request permission before entering any Scout patrol site/area. Adults should discourage Scouts from being in the "Black beard" patrol area unless they have a specific need to be there.

**Hands off!:** Scouts should keep their hands to themselves, unless they have a specific reason and permission to touch them (i.e.... relay races, practicing first-aid, etc.). Don't touch someone else's equipment, tent, or belongings, unless you have the owner's prior permission. This includes throwing of unwanted items onto another's equipment, tent or belongings.

**Everyone Works:** Each patrol leader designates individual Scouts to be in charge of planning patrol menus, preparing equipment, buying food ("grubmaster"), cooking, and clean-up. Every patrol, including the "Black beards", should have a duty roster. All Scouts and adults are expected to do their share of patrol duties in accordance with the duty roster.

**Keep the campsite neat and tidy:** All Scouts and adults are to maintain their tents and gear (both personal gear and patrol/troop gear) in a clean and neat condition on an on-going basis. The entire Troop assembles for a "clean sweep" of the camping area at the end of each campout.

**Fire Safety:** Scouts may build and light ground fires (cooking and campfires) only *when* and *where* authorized by the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or the trip leader. No unauthorized fires are permitted. Fire safety rules will be strictly enforced. ***A fire must never be left unattended.***

**Aerosol cans (i.e. deodorant, insect repellent, etc.) are prohibited during any campout.**

**No flames in or near tents:** No fires or open flames (including stoves, lanterns, or propane bottles) are allowed in or near tents.

**No liquid fuels:** The use of liquid fuels by Scouts or Black beards for starting any type of fire is prohibited. Exception: If the Scoutmaster has previously authorized the use of backpacking or camp stoves at a campout, liquid fuel will be dispensed and recollected by the quartermaster (or his approved designee) at the campout. No Scout or Black Beard shall travel to or from a campout with liquid fuel in a backpacking stove tank.

**The buddy system:** The buddy system is very simple: Never leave your buddy nor let him leave you. (If the buddy system is good enough for Navy SEAL's, it's good enough for us!) The buddy system is in force (a) for all water activities; (b) when outside the immediate camp area; or (c) if separating from the main group when traveling. If you get caught without your buddy at a "buddy check", there will be consequences (for example, if you are swimming, both of you will have to get out of the water for a while).

**Water-safety rules:** Scouts and Black beards will follow Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat procedures and



policies at all times for all water activities.

**No fighting, hazing, bullying, harassment, or excessive roughhousing:** There will be no hazing, bullying, or harassing (physical or verbal) of any kind. Fighting, hitting, wrestling, or rough horseplay is not permitted. A Scout will not put himself or any other Scout in physical danger.

**No early departures unless excused:** Scouts are strongly encouraged to attend the entire campout. Scouts may not leave the immediate camp area without the permission of the Scoutmaster or trip leader, and must check-out with the trip leader immediately before departure. Unless a Scout has an urgent need to leave early, and has been excused by the SPL and Scoutmaster, all Scouts are expected to remain in camp until dismissed by the SPL after the troop's "clean sweep" of the camp site before departure.

**No alcoholic beverages** (it's BSA policy) **or illegal drugs** (it's the law). **Tobacco use** by adults on campouts is strongly discouraged. If an adult chooses to use tobacco products, it must be done out of the sight of the Scouts. Tobacco use by Scouts is prohibited. This includes any and all forms of tobacco, including smokeless and electric.

**Electronics:** Scouts are not permitted to possess any kind of electronic device during a campout, other than a fan. GPS devices may be used during backpacking or hiking trips with the permission of the Scoutmaster or trip leader. Devices such as cellular phones, hand-held games, CD players, MP3 players, etc. are prohibited. The adults may carry cellular phones and will place a call for the Scouts for any circumstance which necessitates the use of a phone. Note: This rule may be relaxed for the traveling portion of a trip that exceeds 3 hours each way. This rule is at the discretion of the driver. Headphones and/or a mute button are recommended. Once the Scouts arrive to the campsite, the devices will be handed over to the adult transporting the Scout for safe-keeping within the vehicle.

**Campout Sign-up / Cancellation Policy:** In order to comply with Council and National regulations, Scouts and adults planning on attending campouts must do so in a timely manner. Therefore, Scouts and adults must sign-up by the Tuesday meeting of the week prior to the campout (10 days before trip). Any cancellations must be made by this same date. The Local Tour Permit must list the quantity of Scouts and adults attending the campout, as well as identifying the drivers, their drivers license number, car, and insurance coverage. Any change to this is in violation of BSA National's policy. In addition, late sign-ups and cancellations affect the logistics of transportation, quantity of food purchased, and camp fees. Therefore, any Scouts or adults not abiding by this rule will still be responsible for their cost of the trip. Concessions will be made for Scouts or adults that are sick at the time of the campout. Misuse or repeated use of this concession will not be allowed.

On occasion, it may be necessary for reservations to be made well in advance of the sign-up deadline. In these cases, the number of attendees (Scouts and adults) may be limited to a number determined by the Camping Coordinator; or a notice may be given at a meeting that sign-up or cancellations must occur well before the standard deadline.

**Secondly, Scouts and adults are required to attend the weekly Tuesday meeting immediately prior to the campout.** This will allow for the SPL, PL, or adult leaders to review the campout with the attendees, make necessary assignments for "grubmaster" and the duty rosters, prepare menus, etc. Prior permission must be obtained from the Scoutmaster or Camping Coordinator if the Scout or adult is not able to attend this meeting.

**Consequences:** The consequences of failing to abide by the camp and troop rules may include quiet time isolation, extra work detail, calls home, being sent home, or in severe cases being suspended or even expelled from the troop. Parents may be required to travel to camp at their expense and take home a Scout who fails to abide by the troop and camp rules. A warning system will be in effect for minor inappropriate behavior problems. Consequences will be assigned as warranted. The most severe consequences may be assigned directly without assignment of less-severe consequences first.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE RULES, AND WILL ABIDE BY THEM:

Scout Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

July 2015 Edition



## Boy Scout Troop 215 Eagle Project Checklist

- ☐ Make arrangements to meet with Scoutmaster to check eligibility to begin Eagle Project process. Discuss idea concept(s) with Scoutmaster.
- ☐ Discuss idea concept with Life to Eagle (LTE) Coordinator. A Life Scout may ask one of the Life To Eagle Committee members or another Scoutmaster-approved adult to serve as his project mentor.
- ☐ After approval by LTE Coordinator and Scoutmaster, download Eagle Project Workbook or from [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org). Make sure you have the most recent revision from the website.
- ☐ Prepare typed / typeset paperwork, and discuss with LTE Coordinator. Sketches and drawings are preferred.
- ☐ Once approved by LTE Coordinator, obtain signature of organization benefiting from Eagle Project.
- ☐ Obtain signatures of LTE Coordinator and Scoutmaster on Troop Eagle Project Checklist.
- ☐ Contact Troop Committee Chair to place Eagle Project review on agenda for the Committee Meeting.
- ☐ Present the Eagle Project to Troop Committee. Please include a minimum of 5 copies of paperwork for Board members, as well as a signed copy of the Troop Eagle Project Checklist.

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Life to Eagle Coordinator

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Date

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Scoutmaster

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Date