

## **Getting Started**

The Boy Scout program is very different from Cub Scouts – mostly in the fact that it is Scout-Lead. If scouts are coming from a well-run Webelos program where they were given responsibilities and decision-making opportunities, they will shift into a troop environment easily. If their Webelos leader did all the planning and operational work, then they will have a rougher time taking on responsibility for their scouting activities.

There are six ranks in Boy Scouts, culminating with the Eagle Scout rank. A boy completes the Joining Requirements and earns the Scout badge, but this is not a rank. The first three ranks (Tenderfoot, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, and 1<sup>st</sup> Class) are a time for a scout to learn skills for outdoors, self-sufficiency, and citizenship. The last three ranks (Star, Life, Eagle) are earned by completion of merit badges, service efforts, and leadership. As a scout advances in rank, he shifts from being a ‘learner’ and is expected to teach new scouts.

Either the Scoutmaster, or the Assistant Scoutmaster to sign off scouts in the patrol they are mentoring and Eagle, Life, or Star scout to sign-off rather to the same adult every time. This helps build relationships with the troop leadership and turns their handbook into an autograph book of other scouts’ initials. We encourage this living document to follow them all the way to their Eagle Board of Review for signatures by their review board at the time of completion.

The schedule for Troop 270 is predictable and consistent:

- Two to three Troop meetings each month, that incorporates patrol meetings.
- 1 Troop campout each month.
- 1 Service project every two months, ideally.

An active Boy Scout can reach 1<sup>st</sup> Class in 12 months and should reach 1<sup>st</sup> Class within 18 to 20 months. Our program schedule this year has all the activities that will have scouts meet that time schedule. The advancement activities listed for Troop Meetings occur during the ‘Patrol Time’ in each meeting. Located in Southern Arizona next to the Saguaro Cacti, Pusch Ridge and Mt. Lemon, Troop 270 meets at Pusch Ridge Christian Academy. With warm weather and sun enable us to run a program schedule year round in mountain and desert environments.

The Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders will be communicating to the scouts in their charge what pages of their Scout Handbooks to study well before a skills training session. If a scout does not read about the skill before hand, he should not expect to be introduced to it, learn it, and demonstrate proficiency all in one session.

We will use the following Advancement Guide to schedule and execute training sessions for various advancement requirements.

<b>J:</b> Joining requirement <b>T:</b> Tenderfoot <b>S:</b> Second class <b>F:</b> First class	
Month	Activities
As needed	<b>Eagle Court of Honor.</b> Larger number than national average in 2011.
April	<p><b>Individually:</b> Schedule a Scoutmaster conference for Joining</p> <p><b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Receive Scout badge, if requirements are complete. Arrive Early. Do <b>T10a</b> before meeting - each scout records first attempt. <b>T6, S4, S9b, F5</b> - flag etiquette, personal safety, citizenship Finish patrol flag and practice yell.</p> <p><b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Spring Camporee. Friday evening &amp; Sunday afternoon do <b>T1-3, S3c, e, f</b> - Totin' Chip, Firem'n Chit.</p> <p><b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>T8</b> - bring patrol flag and give yell for troop. Arrive Early. Do <b>T10a</b> before meeting - each scout records first attempt; <b>T11, T12, S7b</b> - first aid.</p> <p><b>Service Project:</b> Tour of Tucson Mountain's Aid Station #8. Do <b>S5</b>.</p> <p><b>3rd Troop Meeting (Court of Honor):</b> Receive Scout badge, if requirements are complete. Watch First Class scouts advance.</p>
May	<p><b>1st Troop Meeting: T3, S3g</b> - cooking, prepare menu for campout. Arrive Early. Do <b>T10a or T10b</b> before meeting - each scout records first or final attempt <b>T4b-c, T5</b>.</p> <p><b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Arrive Early. Do <b>T10a or T10b</b> before meeting – each scout records first or final attempt <b>T11</b> Go on a short Eagle Loop hike and practice rules of safe hiking. Review buddy system and use it on hike. Practice tying square knot, two half-hitches, and taut-line hitch on a break while hiking. Look for poisonous plants and talk about their treatment. Practice first aid for T12 - do not practice the Heimlich maneuver. Do <b>S1a</b> - map and compass</p> <p><b>3rd Troop Meeting:</b> Finish anything not completed in 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> Troop Meeting. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Direction.</p> <p><b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Do <b>T1-4, T6, S3g</b> - packing, campsite, tent, knots, flag skills, cook breakfast &amp; dinner in Dutch Oven.</p>
June	<p><b>Individually:</b> Schedule a Scoutmaster conference for Tenderfoot. Request a Board of Review.</p> <p><b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>S8a, S9a</b> – Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat. Arrive Early. Do <b>T10b</b> before meeting - each scout records final attempt. Practice first aid. Do <b>S7b</b> – make a first aid kit.</p> <p><b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Go on a Eagle Loop or Linda Vista hike and do <b>T12</b> - have senior scouts role-play injuries along the hike and sign off if new scouts show correct first aid.</p> <p><b>3rd Troop Meeting :</b> Do <b>S4</b> - flag ceremony. Finish anything not completed in 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> Troop Meeting. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Fire.</p> <p><b>Troop Camp Out :</b> Do <b>S1, F1</b> - 5-mile hike, directions without compass. <b>S3g</b> - plan and cook meal.</p>

July	<p><b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>T10b</b> before meeting - each scout records final attempt. Do <b>F2</b> - orienteering course, Eagle Loop and / or Linda Vista trail.</p> <p><b>Summer Camp:</b> Do <b>S8b-c, F9b-c</b> - swimming and water rescue, swimmer test. Complete left-over Tenderfoot requirements.</p> <p><b>T11</b> - Find poisonous plants. <b>S3g</b> - plan and cook meal.</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Troop Meeting:</b> Follow-up requirements from Summer Camp. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – First Aid.</p>
August	<p><b>Individually:</b> Schedule a Scoutmaster conference for Tenderfoot or Second Class. Arrange Board of Review.</p> <p><b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>S3, S7c</b> - flag ceremony, first aid. <b>S7c</b> - practice serious first aid. Do <b>S7a</b> - make a first aid kit if missed earlier.</p> <p><b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>S3, S7a</b> - flag ceremony, hurry cases. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Illumination.</p> <p><b>3rd Troop Meeting (Court of Honor):</b> Receive Tenderfoot or Second Class badge. Watch First Class scouts advance.</p> <p><b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Do <b>S6, F6</b> - animal identification, plant identification. Do <b>F1</b> - direction without compass. Do <b>S3g</b> - cook own meal.</p>
September	<p><b>Individually:</b> Do <b>F4b</b> (1 scout per campout) - food costs, amounts, and purchase for campout.</p> <p><b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>F4a,c,d</b> (1 scout per campout) - plan menu, list cooking gear, explain safe food handling.</p> <p><b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> <b>F7a-b</b> - knots &amp; lashings.</p> <p><b>3rd Troop Meeting :</b> Finish anything not completed in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Troop Meeting. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Insulation.</p> <p><b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Do <b>F1</b> - direction without compass. Do <b>F4</b> - (1 scout per campout) - use 1<sup>st</sup> Class Requirement Worksheet on page 4. In patrols of 6 or more scouts, divide into two groups so a different scout could serve as cook for each as needed.</p>
October	<p><b>Individually:</b> Do <b>F4b</b> (1 scout per campout) - food costs, amounts, and purchase for campout.</p> <p><b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>F4a,c,d</b> (1 scout per campout) Plan menu, list cooking gear. Explain safe food handling.</p> <p><b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>F8a, F8c</b> - bowline and victim transports.</p> <p><b>3rd Troop Meeting:</b> Review Tenderfoot &amp; Second Class skills with more advanced helping slower ones. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Nutrition</p> <p><b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Do <b>F7a,b</b> - lashings, knots, camp gadget. Do <b>F4e</b> - (1 scout per campout).</p> <p><b>Individually:</b> Schedule a Scoutmaster conference for Second Class. Arrange Board of Review.</p>

November	<p><b>Individually:</b> Schedule a Scoutmaster conference. Arrange Board of Review. <b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>F8b</b> – Bandages and CPR. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Sun Protection <b>Service Project:</b> Tour De Tucson Aid Station. <b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>T12b, S7a,c, F8b,c</b> - have older scouts role-play injuries and then sign off if new scouts show correct first aid. <b>Troop Camp Out:</b> First Class cooking</p>
December	<p><b>Individually:</b> Schedule a Scoutmaster conference. Arrange Board of Review. <b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>S7, F8</b> - Stage an emergency situation for the new scouts to handle. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Tools. <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Troop Meeting: (Court of Honor):</b> Receive Tenderfoot or Second Class badge. Watch First Class scouts advance. <b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Snow Sports / Winter Camping, First Class cooking</p>
January	<p><b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>S7, F8</b> - Stage an emergency situation for the new scouts to handle. <b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Weather Protection. Requests by scouts for any requirement demonstrations. <b>3rd Troop Meeting:</b> Do <b>F8c,d</b> - injury transport, heart attack. Or, stage an emergency situation for the new scouts to handle. <b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Snow Sports / Winter Camping, First Class Cooking</p>
February	<p><b>Individually:</b> Schedule a Scoutmaster conference. Arrange Board of Review. <b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> First Class Olympics - knot relays, first aid relays, compass use, fire building, animal/plant identification, <b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> Requests by scouts for any requirement demonstrations. Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat. Scout Essentials EDGE topic – Direction. <b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Requests by scouts for any requirement demonstrations.</p>
March	<p><b>Individually:</b> Do <b>J1,2,3</b>, with a parent to join a troop. Meet with Scoutmaster to join and get a Scout Handbook. Practice <b>J4-9</b> at home with a parent. Schedule a Scoutmaster conference for Joining. <b>1st Troop Meeting:</b> Receive Scout badge if requirements are complete. <b>T1, 5</b> - safe hiking and camping gear <b>2nd Troop Meeting:</b> <b>T7, 8, 9</b> Discuss Scout Oath, Law, motto, and slogan and begin memorizing them. Discuss buddy system. Create patrol name, yell, and flag design. <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Troop Meeting:</b> <b>T2, S3b</b> - pitch tent, select campsite. Discuss upcoming camping trip - packing list, uniform expectations, and duty roster. Create menu for trip. <b>Troop Camp Out:</b> Do <b>T1, 2, 3</b> - dress for campout, sleep in tent, prepare meal. Canoe Trip.</p>

**First Class Scout - Requirement #4 Worksheet**

Completion Date	Requirement Tasks																																																																								
<p>___/___/___</p>	<p><b>#4a: Help plan a patrol menu for one campout that includes at least one breakfast, one lunch, and one dinner and that requires cooking at least two meals.</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Meal</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Cooked?</th> <th style="width: 70%;">Food Items</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Breakfast</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes / No</td> <td> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Lunch</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes / No</td> <td> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Dinner</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes / No</td> <td> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Explain how your menu includes foods from the food pyramid and meets nutritional needs: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	Meal	Cooked?	Food Items	Breakfast	Yes / No	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	Lunch	Yes / No	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	Dinner	Yes / No	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>																																																												
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<p>___/___/___</p>	<p><b>#4b: Using the menu planned in requirement 4a, make a list showing the cost and food amounts needed to feed three or more boys and secure the ingredients.</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Food Item</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Amount Needed</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Cost</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Food Item</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Amount Needed</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Food items for _____ scouts were purchased on ___/___/___ at the _____ store for a total cost of \$_____.</p>	Food Item	Amount Needed	Cost	Food Item	Amount Needed	Cost	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
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_ / _ / _	<b>#4c: Tell which pans, utensils, and other gear will be needed to cook and serve these meals</b>	
	Meal	Gear Required
	Breakfast	_____
	Lunch	_____
	Dinner	_____

The Boy Scouts of America uses eight fundamental methods to meet boys' hope for fun, adventure and to achieving Scouting's aims of encouraging character development, citizenship, mental and physical fitness. A Scout troop functions best when all eight methods are employed.

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The ideals.              | 2. The patrol method. |
| 3. The outdoors.            | 4. Advancement.       |
| 5. Association with adults. | 6. Personal Growth    |
| 7. Leadership development.  | 8. The uniform.       |

Since 1910, the Boy Scout uniform has been a recognizable part of the American scene. Wearing the uniform helps boys develop a sense of belonging to their patrol and troop. It reinforces the fact that all members of the BSA are equal to one another. People seeing a boy in a Scout uniform expect someone of good character who is prepared to the best of his ability to help those around him. Likewise, adult leaders in full uniform set a good example for members of their troops and are also seen as community leaders fulfilling a very important role. The uniform required upon joining

Cost Estimate	Uniforms
\$ 9.99	Boy Scout Handbook 12th Edition, Coil Bound
\$ 14.99	Boy Scout Handbook 12th Edition, Perfect Bound or
<i>included</i>	Troop 270 Hat
<i>included</i>	Troop 270 Neckerchief
\$ 3.99	Boy Scout Neckerchief Slide
\$ 34.99	Class A - Boy Scout short sleeved shirt w/ flag. Youth
\$ 39.99	Class A - Boy Scout short sleeved shirt w/ flag. Adult
<i>included</i>	Boy Scout Patches for Uniform
\$ 2.49	Centennial BSA Shoulder Loops, green. (pair)
\$ 12.00	Troop 270 T-Shirt, Class "B" Uniform
\$ 49.99	Boy Scout Centennial Switchback Uniform Pants, Youth or
\$ 49.99	Boy Scout Centennial Switchback Uniform Pants, Adult or
\$ 34.95	Boy Scout Centennial Canvas Convertible Pants, Youth or
\$ 39.99	Boy Scout Centennial Canvas Convertible Pants, Adult or
\$ 14.99	Boy Scout Centennial Uniform Shorts, Youth
\$ 19.99	Boy Scout Centennial Uniform Shorts, Adult
\$ 8.65	Boy Scout Web Belt & Buckle
\$ 8.99	BSA Official Uniform Knee Socks or
\$ 5.99	Centennial BSA Uniform CoolMax Crew Socks or Low-cut

## **Advancement and Awards Uniform Placement**

We have three Court of Honors each year, historically in April, August, and December. Once awards are presented, boys are encouraged to display them proudly and properly on their uniform. These uniform insignia guides show the proper placement. Badges can be sewn or glued in place with a special fabric glue. This fabric glue can be purchased online at [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org) or the Catalina Council Scout Shop and the Insignia Guide can be found on the inside front and back covers of the Boy Scout Handbook.

## **Uniform Inspection**

Boys Scouts of Troop 270 can expect a monthly uniform inspection. The criteria for inspection are defined in the attached, Uniform Inspection Sheet – Boy Scout Varsity Scout (87K) and Uniform Inspection Sheet – Adult Leaders pdfs.

## **Uniform Exchange**

A Uniform Exchange program was proposed in 2010 where Scouts and Scout Leaders can get experienced (used) Scout uniforms for a nominal cost. It's also a great way to pass on your uniforms (donations) to Scouts that are in need of a Scout uniform. All Scout shirts, pants, shorts, neckerchief, socks, patches, and more are welcome. Contact the Troop Committee / Uniform Exchange Coordinator with questions.

## **Outdoor Adventure Schedule**

Outings typically take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of every active month. Historically, Troop 270 is active year round except December. This schedule is occasionally adjusted if there is a conflict with public holidays.

We have a good selection outdoor adventures in the following categories:

- Car and /or truck camping with the Troop Trailer – including District Camporees and potentially Crossover Camps.
- Backpacking outings.
- Other adventure related camps – including canoe trips, caving, climbing, aviation merit badge weekend, cold weather traveling and camping.
- Check online at [www.troop270.org](http://www.troop270.org) > Calendar for current schedule details.

## **Principles of Choosing Equipment**

**Individual Safety:** The wrong gear is unsafe to the individual Scout – a Scout without proper clothing on a mountain in a thunderstorm is at serious risk of hypothermia.

**Group Safety:** An unsafe Scout poses a hazard for the entire group, since a group is only as strong as its weakest member.

**Enjoyment:** The wrong gear means a Scout will not enjoy his scouting experience. It is no fun to shiver with cold in the middle of the night during a camping trip, and it is no fun when you are hiking with a pack that hurts to wear and that makes you feel like a

pack mule. In fact, the wrong gear can lead to a Scout hating the outdoors and / or even scouting. The right gear means a Scout can accomplish more and enjoy doing it.

**Self-Esteem:** The wrong gear can hurt a Scout's self esteem – this does not mean having the most expensive gear. All new Scouts want to be able to hike/backpack with everyone else, and carry their fair share of group gear. A Scout with a pack so heavy from inappropriate gear who is in tears climbing the first hill he comes to is going to suffer a huge blow to his self-esteem. He may not realize, and his friends may not realize, that no one but a trained athlete could reasonably be expected to carry more than half his weight on his back (in a pack that does not fit). For comfort on the trail, a pack containing everything needed for a safe trek should tip the scales at no more than 25% of a persons body weight. If your pack weighs less, so much the better.

**Skill Development:** Learning how to make the make do without, and how to “jerry rig” gear is knowledge and skill that can be learned, they must be learned and practiced under realistic conditions. Starting a fire with dry materials on a sunny day, for example, will teach you very little. The real skill is in understanding why a fire won't start and working out a solution. The more a Scout practices, the more a Scout will learn. Finding solutions and over coming problems continually adds to a Scouts knowledge and, in most cases, will help the Scout deal with problems should they occur again. A Scout who is struggling to use poor gear, will spend more time trying to make it work than learning the other more important skills.

**Group Capabilities:** What hurts an individual Scout hurts the entire patrol and troop. This goes beyond safety concerns. A Scout who can't keep up on a hike / backpacking trek, and who is not enjoying himself, holds back not just himself, but the troop as a whole. A Scout who can only hike a couple of miles with an outrageously heavy pack unfairly keeps everyone else from enjoying a more fulfilling and challenging trip. When many Scouts lack suitable gear, the troop leadership must scale down the types and kinds of activities that the troop as a whole can engage in.

**Equipment Selection Recommendation:**

- Approximately 1/3 to 1/2 of the troops monthly overnight trips are devoted to backpacking.
- Troop 270 highly recommends that Scouts primarily purchase gear suitable for backpacking.
- Backpacking gear can be used for car camping, but the converse is not true.
- Most gear suitable for car camping is *completely unsuitable* for backpacking.

One of the first and most important questions every parent of a new Scout asks is: “**What do I need to buy for my son?**” Good questions! This critical topic is handled in only the very general terms in your son's Scout Handbook and Fieldguide. Every Scout leader has seen his share of beginner Scouts absolutely atrociously outfitted despite the expenditure of hundreds of dollars by well meaning parents – a financial disaster for the parents and a physical disaster for the Scout! It is not enough to know that your son needs gear. We will cover the details soon, but first I need to finish a Troop Guidebook for Training Scouts for 2011 for our next Troop meeting.