Troop 113 Parent & Scout Handbook

Everything you need to know about the Troop



Rev 6 - Feb 2022

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Dear Scouts and Parents,

Welcome to Troop 113! We are excited to have you joining us.

For over 80 years, the Scouts and adult leaders of Troop 113 have contributed to our reputation as a fun, hard-working and award-winning troop. One of the major factors furthering our continued success is the active cooperation and participation of Scouts and parents like you.

When a boy joins the troop, his parents join the troop as well. Experience has taught us that your son's interest and accomplishments will be in direct proportion to your participation with him. You will find that time spent in Scouting is quality time between parent and son. We encourage you to become involved in the troop in a leadership or support role.

This handbook is meant to smooth your transition into Boy Scouting and Troop 113. The following pages will answer many questions you may have. Please review this handbook together and save it as a reference during your son's Scouting career.

This handbook is not a replacement for the official Boy Scout Handbook. Not all of the national BSA policies are covered here. The information in this handbook is meant to supplement the Scouts BSA Handbook and to provide specific information on our troop. Every Scout who joins Troop 113 will get a copy of that Handbook and will be expected to know what it contains. Our general policy is: If you don't understand something, ask.

Feel free to call either of us or contact one of our Assistant Scoutmasters any time you have questions. Welcome to Troop 113! We are glad you're with us!

Sincerely,

Christopher Ross
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(917) 533-5109

Scott Cohen
Troop Committee Chair
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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Troop 113. This handbook is designed to provide you with an overview of the troop, its program, structure, and policies in order make the transition from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA as simple as possible. Scouting is a partnership between the Scout, the Troop and the parent. The information contained herein will help each partner understand their role in making the Scouting experience for you and your Scout meaningful and productive. This handbook is <u>not</u> a replacement for the official Scouts BSA Handbook. Not all of the national BSA policies are covered here. The information in this handbook is meant to supplement the Scouts BSA Handbook and to provide specific information on our troop. Every Scout who joins Troop 113 will get a copy of this Handbook and will be expected to know what it contains. Finally, troop leadership is here to help you so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have. You can also visit our website at any time (www.troop113centerportny.com) for more information.

ABOUT THE TROOP

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is one of the largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations in the US. For over 100 years, the BSA has helped build the future leaders of this country by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. The BSA provides a program for young boys and girls that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness. One of the core values of the



organization is the belief that helping youth is a key to building a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society.

Troop 113 is proud to be a part of the Scouting tradition. Founded in 1938, Troop 113 is one of the oldest continuously operating Scouts BSA troops in the US. Throughout its over 80-year history the troop has developed a legacy of providing service to the community by bringing the values of Scouting to the young men and future leaders of Long Island. Since its founding, Troop 113 has been chartered by the Centerport Fire Department. Their dedication and support have allowed the troop to successfully develop and promote a Scouting program that serves the youth needs of our community.

The "Key 3"

The Key 3 is a group of three individuals within each troop that support and serve the parents and volunteers who ensure that youth members have the best Scouting experience possible. The Key 3 are: the *Chartered Organization Representative*, the *Scoutmaster* and the *Troop Committee Chair*. The Key 3 work together as the problem-solvers for the troop and its members. The Key 3 review successes and concerns and ensure that decisions are made with the best interests of Scouts in mind. The Troop 113 Key 3 are:

Name	Title	Phone	e-Mail Address
Bill Wilkes	Chartered Org. Rep.	(631) 421-0160	bwilkes@optonline.net
Christopher Ross	Scoutmaster		
Scott Cohen	Committee Chair	(516) 987-7878	sdsuser@yahoo.com

Troop 113 Mission

Service, Honor, and Duty on the Trail to Eagle. Troop 113 believes in a program that:

- * Emphasizes outdoor experiences and community service.
- * Provides opportunities for leadership development.
- * Provides an appreciation of our environment.
- Promotes a life exemplifying the Scout Oath and Law.

We emphasize community service as an important way of demonstrating good citizenship. We are very proud of the tradition of excellence that has allowed a high percentage of our Scouts to advance to the rank of Eagle, and we encourage every Scout to work hard to achieve this lofty goal.

The BSA Organization

Nationally, the BSA is broken down into large regions called Councils and Councils are further divided into Districts. Districts are made up of Cub Scout units called Packs, Scouts BSA units called Troops, and Venturing units called Crews. Scouts BSA Troop 113 is a part of the Suffolk County Council. The Suffolk County Council is comprised of four districts in eastern Long Island (Benjamin Tallmadge, Matinecock, Sagtikos, and Trailblazer.) Troop 113 is part of the Matinecock District.

All BSA units are operated by *chartered organizations*. Chartered organizations are typically civic, faith-based or educational organizations within the community. The chartered organization owns the Troop and is responsible for approving its program and leadership. Additionally, the chartered organization appoints a chartered organization representative to coordinate all Scouting unit operations within the organization. Our chartered organization has been the Centerport Fire Department since 1938.

Scouts BSA vs. Cub Scouts

You may have already noticed some big changes. Throughout Cub Scouts and Webelos, adult leaders planned every aspect of Pack activities and advancement. In Scouts BSA, however, the boys are responsible for almost everything, including communicating with parents. We encourage you to have your Scout follow the "chain of command" by asking the troop leadership, beginning with his Patrol Leader, for guidance or any questions he or you might have. This is a very important part of building self-confidence and teamwork! The following table summarizes the more important differences between Scouts BSA and Cub Scouts:

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Scouts BSA	Cub Scouts
Organized into troops and patrols	Organized into packs and dens
Mixed age and rank patrols	All Scouts in a den are the same age and rank
Individual advancement *	Lock step advancement
Advancement recognized immediately and at Court of Honor	Advancement recognized as a group during pack night
Includes both youth and adult leadership	Has only adult leadership
* Parent involvement (i.e. "not so su	ubtle encouragement" is recommended)

Aims and Methods of Scouting

The three aims of Scouts BSA are: character development, citizenship training, and mental and physical fitness. To accomplish the three aims, Scouting employs eight methods: the ideals, the patrol method, the outdoors, advancement, association with adults, personal growth, leadership development, and the uniform.

Ideals

The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout motto, and the Scout slogan. The 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 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.

Outdoor Programs

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 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

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

Association with Adults

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 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 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 Scout to determine his growth toward Scouting's aims.

Leadership Development

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

Boy-Led Troop

Troop 113 is a boy-led troop. One of the major differences between Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA is leadership development. In order to teach leadership, you have to let the boys lead. In fact, one of the more vigorous debates observed in Scouting is over the



feasibility of a boy-led troop. Some adult leaders will argue that while a boy-led troop is the BSA ideal, it's not possible in their particular troop for any or all of the following reasons: the boys are too young, too lazy, too irresponsible, or just not interested. It is also much easier for the adults to just take charge themselves than to teach the necessary leadership skills to the boys. However, while a boy-led troop is more work for the adult leadership, cooperation and help from parents lightens the load significantly. Working together we can provide an environment

that fosters leadership development and continue to build the leaders of tomorrow. All Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters are taught the basics of a boy-led troop and patrol in Scoutmaster Specifics. However, putting that training into practice is often difficult without real world experience. Troop 113 has the exemplary adult leaders with many years of experience who help to bridge the gap between theory and practice. They know that, though a boy-led troop may occasionally falter, it's worth the additional effort. The importance of a boy-led troop and patrol is emphasized in two chapters of the Scoutmaster's Handbook; chapter 3 "The Boy-Led Troop" sums it up nicely:

"Empowering boys to be leaders is the core of Scouting. Scouts learn by doing, and what they do is lead their patrols and their troop. The boys themselves develop a troop program, then take responsibility for figuring out how they will achieve the goals. One of our most important challenges is to train boy leaders to run the troop by providing direction, coaching and support. The boys will make mistakes now and then and will rely upon the adult leaders to guide them. But only through real hands-on experience as leaders can boys learn to lead."

There are many benefits to having a boy-led troop and our program and approach is designed with the goal of maximizing all of them:

- Boys learn critical planning skills
- * Boys learn to lead in a safe environment
- Boys learn from mistakes
- * Boys learn to lead others and work in teams
- Boys learn respect when treated with respect

Excerpts in this section were taken from *Parents' and New Leaders Guide to a Boy-Led Troop* which is available at: http://scoutmaster.org/boy%20led%20troop.pdf

TROOP ORGANIZATION

Scouts

Troop Youth Leadership

The top boy position in the Troop is the Senior Patrol Leader, or SPL. Next in line are the Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, or ASPLs. Senior Scouts also serve as Troop Guides, mentoring younger Scouts. Then come Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders, and other Troop leadership positions including the Scribe, Quartermaster, Chaplain Aide, Historian and the other positions stated in this handbook. The SPL and ASPLs are elected positions. Patrol Leaders are appointed by the Scoutmaster based on assessment of a Scout's readiness to assume this important leadership position. The Patrol Leaders appoint Assistant Patrol Leaders. The SPL and Scoutmaster appoint all other troop leadership positions. It is very important to remember that the real leadership in a Scout Troop comes from the Scouts themselves. Adults are involved to maintain safety, provide guidance when necessary, and make sure the aims of Scouting are being met. The Scouts should run the Troop. Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, said "Never do a thing for a boy that he can do for himself." Allowing the Scouts to run the Troop provides opportunity for personal growth and chances to learn leadership skills.

Patrols

The Troop is organized into groups called Patrols. Patrols work together to develop pride in their group, learn new skills, go on outings, play games, and compete in inter-Patrol contests. Patrols are mixed with boys of various ages, so that each patrol has older Scouts available to guide and instruct younger Scouts.

Scouts who are newly bridged from Webelos will be assigned to patrols with a Troop Guide, an older Scout who will help the new Scout get oriented and begin to learn basic Scouting skills. The troop structure helps to ease the transition and give the new Scout

encouragement and guidance as he learns about Scouts BSA.

Meetings are planned and run by the Scouts with the guidance and advice of the Scoutmaster and the Assistant Scoutmasters. Having the Scout leadership run the Troop meetings is an important part of helping the Scouts grow. A typical Troop meeting will include a review of activities that have just past, discussion and planning on future activities, skill development or practice, Patrol meetings, and possibly a brief ceremony or discussion on topics highlighting Scouting ideals.

The Patrol Leaders Council

The SPL, ASPLs, Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders, Quartermaster, Troop Guides, Scribe, and other Senior Scouts, make up the Patrol Leaders Council, or PLC. The PLC will meet once a month, or as directed by the SPL. Its purpose is to plan monthly meetings, trips, outings, and discuss issues that may be arising in the Troop. The PLC is the real leadership organization within the Troop and is where the decisions that guide the Troop come from. The SPL, ASPLs, Troop Guides and Patrol Leaders are the members of the PLC that may vote on issues. The other members are non-voting members. A member of the PLC must make at least 2 of 3 meetings on a rolling basis or risk losing his leadership position.

The Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters and various troop committee members provide appropriate support to the PLC. Check ScoutBook or the calendar on the Troop website for PLC meeting dates, times and locations.

Troop Elections

The SPL and ASPL positions are elected positions within the Troop. These are very important leadership positions that are vital to making the Troop function well. The SPL and ASPLs are elected by the entire troop. The Scoutmaster has the right to remove <u>any</u> leader at his/her discretion.

Instructors

An important aspect of Scouting is the learning of certain core skills that each Scout needs to master. To help facilitate that learning, the troop has assigned several senior Scouts to the instructor role. The instructor is expected to be proficient in the skills they will be teaching, and available to all Scouts, with an emphasis on younger Scouts to teach the various skills. The core skills that instructors will teach are camping, knots, orienteering, cooking and first aid.

Adults

In order to be successful, troops require the active participation of dedicated adult leaders and parents. Troop 113 is fortunate to have a large group of adult leaders and parents who actively contribute to its operation and management.

Adult participation in the troop falls into three categories: Troop Committee members, Direct Youth Contact (uniformed) leaders, and parent volunteers. The roles and responsibilities of each are described in detail in the **Adult Participation** section later in this handbook.



TROOP PROGRAM

Membership requirements

Troop 113 welcomes all eligible youth who are willing to accept Scouting's values and meet any other BSA requirements of membership. Every Scout and adult leader must fill out an official Boy Scouts of America application to join the Troop. In addition, each Scout and registered adult leader¹ must have on file a current *Medical Form*. Due to the nature of activities the troop participates in, all three sections of the medical form (Parts A, B and C) need to be completed. The form can be found on our web site as well as the Council and National BSA web sites. The medical information on the form will be kept in strict confidence, but it is very important. It lets the Troop leadership know about any medical situations that the Scout or adult may have (asthma, allergies, medical restrictions, etc.) and, in the event of an emergency, gives permission for a doctor to treat a Scout (or adult) if a parent cannot be reached. Please be truthful and thorough when completing the medical form. In addition, a copy of a current health insurance card (both front and back) must be on file with the troop.

Weekly meetings

Troop 113 meets every Monday evening during the school year from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Elwood Middle School School. ScoutBook and the Troop calendar will indicate which Mondays are general meetings and which are reserved for Patrol Leaders Council Meetings. There are occasional exceptions to both the schedule and location of troop meetings so please check ScoutBook or the Troop website calendar.

On troop meeting nights, Scouts are expected to arrive **on time**, **in uniform**, and with their Scout handbooks, as they continue to work on their advancement. We are all expected to conduct ourselves as guests of the Middle School and leave it in the same condition and order as it was when we arrived.



At the meetings, Scouts:

- Gather for the opening ceremony
- * Hear announcements of upcoming events, make plans by patrol for upcoming activities, and plan for upcoming outings. Sometimes there is a special program planned with a guest speaker or visitors.
- * Work on rank advancements, including merit badges, either in class or individually with older Scouts or merit badge counselor.
- Gather for the closing ceremony

¹ All adults must have a medical form on file in order to participate in any outdoor troop activity.

It is our hope that meetings will be fun and productive. Some of this is dependent on the boy-led nature of the meeting as well as the Scouts' level of participation and behavior during a meeting.

Schedule conflicts

From time to time, scheduling conflicts will arise. The Troop has always held schoolwork, religious education and family responsibilities as a higher priority than Scouting. Be assured there is no penalty for an absence from any meeting. If a Scout is unable to attend a troop meeting or make some other troop function due to such a conflict, it is expected that the Scout will notify his Patrol Leader and let him know. This is a responsibility of the Scout and not of his parent.

Scout Year Planning Process

Sometime in the summer before September 1st of each year the Troop will schedule and execute a planning meeting. At the annual planning meeting, the Troop calendar for the next 12 months is created by the PLC with the guidance of the Scoutmasters. The yearly plan will be comprehensive and will take into account events as detailed as specific events for weekly Troop meetings

Prior to the planning meeting, the Patrol Leaders will get input from their Patrols about activities or outings they are interested in. The Patrol Leaders will then bring those ideas to the meeting for consideration, and the PLC will determine the Troop's schedule for the coming year. After the PLC has determined the year's schedule, it is submitted to the troop committee for final approval. The purpose for Committee review is to ensure that the plan provides a quality program that meets the goals of the Troop and supports the Boy Scout ideals, not to question individual events. Care must be taken to make sure the plans made by the Scouts during the planning meeting are not superseded. After the Committee approves the plan, it will be distributed to all the Scouts.

The Scouts should remember that the yearly planning meeting is their chance to decide what their program is going to be like. During the meeting, it is the Scouts that decide what will be done for the following year. It is the Scouts who have the responsibility to come up with ideas for activities and plan to make them a success. It is the Scouts who take responsibility for their program and make sure they are doing exciting, memorable events. This is the best and greatest chance for the Scouts to take control of their program and make it what they want it to be.

The program schedule will be reviewed by the PLC periodically to make any needed updates or modifications.

Participation requirements

In order for a Scout to advance in rank, Scouts BSA policy requires him to be active in the troop. Although specific attendance requirements are not required for advancement, Troop 113 encourages Scouts to participate in at least 50% of the Troop meetings and events, and 50% of the Troop outdoor activities unless other arrangements are made with the Senior Patrol Leader and/or Scoutmaster. If a Scout is unable to participate at this level, the SPL or Scoutmaster may ask the Scout to a conference to discuss the Scout's

participation. Troop events are important to the Scout's development. Every event missed may mean a skill or lesson lost. Scouts are expected to participate in all aspects of the Troop program, including high adventure (when eligible) and community service.

Advancement

Through participation at Troop meetings, outdoor activities, and working on his own, the Scout will have an opportunity to work on merit badges and skills that will help him advance through the Scouting ranks. The first of these ranks is the Scout rank, which the



Scout will earn by joining the Troop, learning some simple Scouting having his concepts. and first Scoutmaster Conference. After the Scout rank, the Scout will continue through Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, and Life. Finally, he may be able to earn the highest honor in Scouting, the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks require work mainly on the basic outdoor and first aid skills every Scout needs to know.

The Star and Life ranks require work on merit badges, leadership, and service to the community. The Eagle rank requires work on additional merit badges, leadership, and service to the community. The leadership requirement can be fulfilled by actively and satisfactorily fulfilling a formal troop leadership role. The requirement may also be fulfilled by demonstrating leadership on special projects as agreed to with the Scoutmaster. An approved *Eagle Scout Service Project* that provides a lasting improvement for the community must also be completed. The Scout must complete all Eagle Scout rank requirements before his eighteenth birthday.

All ranks (except Scout) also have a requirement that specifies that a Scout must show Scout Spirit in his daily life. How the Scout behaves at meetings and during outings is usually the greatest measure of his Scout Spirit and will affect the decision of the Scoutmaster to sign off on this requirement and permit advancement. Scout Spirit also includes behavior outside of Scouting. Any pertinent information that the troop receives concerning a Scout's behavior outside of Scouting may be considered by the troop leadership in assessing Scout Spirit.

As the requirements for rank are completed, the Scout must present himself with his Scouts BSA Handbook to his patrol leader. The patrol leader will make sure each requirement has been met and will initial and date the item in the Scout's handbook. The Scout should be ready to prove he really has completed the requirement before he asks someone to sign his book. Requirements can only be approved in the Scouts BSA Handbook, so the Scout should make sure he has the book with him at all times.

After the requirements for a rank are completed, the Scout must schedule a *Scoutmaster Conference* and a *Board of Review*. Once the requirements for the rank have been completed and the Scoutmaster and Board of Review have approved the advancement, the Scout earns his rank. Rank advancement is usually announced at the end of weekly

troop meetings. However, formal recognition of the advancement will take place at the regularly scheduled Courts of Honor.

Scouting Skills

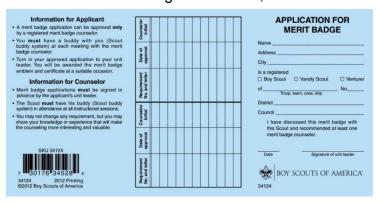
Scouts are expected to be proficient in the Scouting skills appropriate for the rank being sought (remember that this includes skills from any previous ranks as well). The Scout should be able to demonstrate and, if First Class or above, be able to teach these various skills.

Scouts who are actively participating will have numerous opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency with map and compass, knots and lashings, fire building and cooking and first aid. At the discretion of the Scoutmaster, a Scout may be asked to teach a specific skill to younger Scout prior to advancing to the next rank.

Merit Badges

Merit badges are awards that concentrate on a particular field of expertise or a specific skill and can be earned by Scouts in cooperation with a merit badge counselor. Each merit badge has an accompanying pamphlet that can be borrowed from the Troop library (if we have it) or purchased at the Scout Shop. Public libraries may also have a selection of merit badge pamphlets. There are over 135 merit badges available, and some are

required before a Scout can earn his Star, Life, or Eagle rank. The required merit badges can be earned in any order. Scouts should consult the Scouts BSA Handbook for information on which merit badges are optional and which are required. Merit badge opportunities are also offered at the district and council levels and at summer camp. Announcement of these



opportunities will be made at troop meetings or through email communications.

The following procedure governs troop merit badge work:

- * The Scout selects a merit badge subject. He can consult with his patrol leader or a Scoutmaster about his interests and should review the pamphlet and requirements for merit badges he may be interested in.
- * The Scout should approach a Scoutmaster or the Advancement Coordinator and ask for the names and phone numbers of merit badge counselors in the area. A list of troop merit badge counselors is also available from the troop librarian.
- * The Scoutmaster must assure that the Scout has met any prerequisites for the merit badge. i.e. pass swimming requirements before canoeing or lifesaving merit badges.
- * When the Scout first asks for the name of a merit badge counselor, he will be issued a merit badge application ("blue card") to track his progress through the merit badge requirements. This card will be filled out by the Scout, signed by the Scoutmaster, and then taken to every meeting with the merit badge counselor. *The counselor will not meet with a Scout without a blue card*.

- * The Scout is then responsible for contacting the counselor, asking for help working on the badge, and setting up the first meeting time.
- * Merit badge work is to be done outside of the troop meetings unless scheduled as part of the troop program.
- * When the merit badge is complete, the merit badge counselor will sign the card, and the Scout will be given a section to keep for his records. These records are very important. If something happens to the Council records, the copy of the blue card given to the Scout may be the only record that the merit badge was completed. Make a copy of the blue card. There have been cases where Eagle Scout applications have been turned down because the Council records were not correct and the Scout could not produce the blue card to prove he had completed a particular merit badge. The Scout should be very careful to save all the completed blue cards and store them in a safe place. Plastic notebook pages used by baseball card collectors are a great way to store the blue cards for safekeeping.
- * Meetings with a merit badge counselor must be with a buddy, either another Scout working on the badge or an adult. Scouts should never meet with a merit badge counselor without someone else being present2.
- * Maximum time limits to complete a merit badge are directly controlled by the merit badge counselor. Minimum time will be controlled by the merit badge requirements. Every merit badge will have limits to insure the Scout is learning and displaying the skill necessary to complete the merit badge.
- * Scouts must present a properly completed blue Merit Badge application card to the Scoutmaster for final signature and then to the Advancement coordinator before award of the Merit Badge can be made.
- * The Merit Badge will be awarded at the next Court of Honor. Merit badges are worn on the merit badge sash.

The troop appreciates the involvement of parents in the merit badge process. If you have expertise or knowledge of a particular merit badge topic and would like to serve as a merit badge counselor, please contact the Advancement Coordinator.

A Scout may not use a parent as their merit badge counselor unless the advancement coordinator and committee chair grant approval. This will usually occur only when there are no available counselors within reasonable distance for the merit badge in question. Under no circumstances may a Scout use a parent as the merit badge counselor for an Eagle required merit badge.

Other Advancement Considerations

Advancement is the responsibility of the Scout! Parents are encouraged to help, but the ultimate responsibility must lie with the Scout. A parent who takes those responsibilities robs the Scout of his opportunity to share in the Scouting experience.

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² The one exception to this rule is that the meeting is permitted to take place <u>in the public area of the library</u> without another Scout or parent present.

Scouts who do not advance over a long period of time may be asked to participate in a Scoutmaster Conference and/or Board of Review to see what can be done to help the Scout continue to advance.

The Scouts will be asked to interact and communicate with adults that they may not know very well throughout their Scouting experience, but particularly when working on merit badges. Learning to do this is an important part of the Scout experience. Communication can be face-to-face, via Zoom, by phone, or by e-mail.

Scoutmaster Conference

The Scoutmaster Conference is a time for the Scout and the Scoutmaster to sit down and talk about how the Scout is progressing towards his next rank. The Scoutmaster will ask

questions regarding how well the Scout has learned the items required for the rank he is completing. The Scout should come to the Scoutmaster conference with his Scouts BSA Handbook, wearing his full Class "A" uniform or, if appropriate, his activity uniform, and be ready to talk openly and honestly about his Scouting experiences. The Scoutmaster will be assessing the individual needs of the Scout, helping him to set goals for his next rank, and trying to gauge the success of the Troop program. The following process is used:



- * Scoutmaster conferences will be scheduled as needed on an ad hoc basis. A Scout can request a Scoutmaster Conference at any time by notifying the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster Conference will be scheduled based on the availability of at least two Scoutmasters (the Scoutmaster and at least one Assistant Scoutmaster or two Assistant Scoutmasters).
- * Before a Scout can have a Scoutmaster Conference for purpose of advancement, all the requirements must be signed and dated in his Scouts BSA handbook. **Unlike Cub Scouts, a parent is not authorized to sign off on their son's book**. The handbook should also document (event and date) activities in fulfillment of community service hours. If the requirements for advancement were completed at Scout camp, then the Scout is responsible to have the requirements transcribed from any documents given at camp into the Scouts BSA Handbook
- * The Scoutmaster (or a designated Assistant Scoutmaster) should evaluate each Scout requesting a Scoutmaster Conference and determine whether or not the Scout is ready for advancement. This determination should be based upon the knowledge of the Scout, including the Scout's level of participation over the previous six (6) months and completion of rank requirements. If the Scout is deemed ready for advancement, the Scoutmaster Conference can be held.
- * If the Scoutmaster does not sign off on the Scoutmaster Conference, the Scout may be asked to review some of the requirements and schedule another Scoutmaster Conference when the Scout feels he is ready. The Scout needs to know that if he

needs any help he must ask. There are many people, Scouts and adults who are available to help the Scout succeed.

* After passing the Scoutmaster Conference, the Scout must schedule a Board of Review, by contacting the Advancement Coordinator.

Board of Review

After completion of the Scoutmaster Conference and approval for advancement has been received, the Scout must <u>request</u> and appear before a Board of Review. A Board of Review is comprised of two or three troop committee members selected to serve by either the Committee Chair or the Advancement Coordinator. The Scoutmaster is not in attendance. During the Board of Review, the Scout presents himself to the Board. He

must be in full Class A uniform. His appearance should be neat, his attitude good, and his manner respectful. He may be asked to repeat the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Outdoor Code, the Scout Motto, or The Scout Slogan. He will then be invited to sit down, and the Board will ask him questions about his Scouting life. The guestions can range very widely, so the Scout should be ready to communicate openly and honestly. The purpose of the Board of Review is to determine the quality of the Scout's experience; to ensure that the program offered by the Troop is fun, exciting, and meets the goals of Scouting; and to ensure that all requirements for the rank have been fulfilled. Scouts should request Boards of Review from either the Troop Committee Chair or the advancement coordinator.



The Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review should not be stressful, but an opportunity for the Scout to demonstrate his competency in the Scouting and skills he has learned. This experience is part of the Scout's development and helps him to learn to communicate and develop confidence in an interview setting.

A Scout being considered for the Eagle rank, in addition to the troop level Board of Review, must undergo a special Eagle Scout Board of Review, chaired by officials from the District. The Scoutmaster and Eagle Advisor will work with the Eagle candidate to prepare him for the District Board of Review.

The Court of Honor

Courts of Honor are special Troop meetings held during the school year where awards, badges, and other recognition are presented. Parents, siblings and other family members are encouraged to join the Scout at the Court of Honor to participate and help celebrate the young man's achievements. It is very important that all Scouts, even those not receiving any award or advancement, attend to support their fellow Scouts. All Courts of Honor are planned well in advance and are on the Troop calendar. Traditionally, Troop 113 holds two Courts of Honor per year – one in the Spring, and one in the Fall.

For Scouts who have attained the rank of Eagle Scout, a special Eagle Court of Honor is typically held. Eagle Scout Courts of Honor are organized by the families of Eagle Scouts and are conducted in conjunction with Troop leadership. Eagle Courts of Honor are often attend by a variety of special guests, including members of the local district and council, public officials, troop alumni, and adults who have had an impact on the life of the new Eagle Scout. These events have been referred to as Scouting's greatest moments and all Scouts and Scout parents are encouraged to attend.



TROOP FINANCES

Dues

Dues are paid in two installments per year, as determined by the troop committee at the first committee meeting in September. Scouts joining the troop mid-year will pay a prorated portion of the annual dues subject to the committee's discretion. Payment of dues entitles Scouts to hold positions of leadership within the Troop, attend meetings, camping functions and any other Scout function. If dues are not paid by the end of October, the Scout is considered "inactive." If dues are not paid by the end of November, as we recharter our Troop, a Scout's membership is dropped from the BSA and Troop rolls. The money generated from dues is used for insurance, advancement material, annual rechartering, troop equipment and some troop activities. A copy of our annual budget with details regarding our fees and expenses in available to all parents and our Treasurer provides regular updates on the Troop's finances at our Committee meetings.

Activity fees

The troop keeps the cost of dues low and collects fees for most camping events or activities that have additional expenses associated with the specific event, such as food costs and transportation. Fees will vary depending on the duration of the campout or activity (2 nights versus 1 night), the distance traveled, whether or not registration fees or park permits are required and if any special equipment for the activity is needed. Information regarding all troop events and activities is available on the troop website and ScoutBook. Some activities will have an activity flyer describing the event that will be distributed at troop meetings. Registration is typically done via the RSVP function on ScoutBook and fee payments are made at troop meetings. Some events have limited space or require advance preparation so failure to register and/or pay on time as indicated could result in exclusion from the event.

Fundraising

The Troop requires funds to purchase equipment, help subsidize activities etc. The dues collected do not support the troop for the whole year. The Troop raises funds through money-earning activities approved by the troop committee. There may also be times that the Troop may have a special fundraiser to pay for high adventure trips. Even if a Scout



is not going on a high adventure trip, we encourage the Scout to support the other Scouts by participating in the fundraiser.

Fundraising activities have included popcorn sales, car washes, and Applebee's pancake breakfasts. In addition, we are always looking for new ideas (such as the 2020 Car Show). We also have received donations from individuals as well as local corporations. We would like to increase the latter two to ease the burden on the Scouts (and parents) from selling popcorn and other items.

ADULT PARTICIPATION

Parents are encouraged to show support for their Scout and, though not required, there is no better way to do this than to register as an adult leader with the Troop. Many hands make light work; and the more adult involvement with the Troop, the better program we can provide for our sons.

Only registered troop leaders and adults may accompany the Troop on outings, unless the outing is specifically designated as a family outing. To become a registered adult or troop leader an adult must complete and submit an Adult Application that must be approved by the Troop Committee Chair and the Chartered Organization Representative. The application is then submitted to the Suffolk County Council for criminal background check and final approval. All adult leaders are required to complete yearly Youth Protection Training³ and submit a BSA medical form. All registered adult leaders are expected to have a specific function within the Troop.

Before a parent joins the Scouts on an outing, it is important for that parent to remember that Boy Scouts is a boy-led program, not an adult led program. The boy-led Troop is one of the most basic and important principles of the Scouting program. If a parent participates in an activity, it is very important that s/he do their best to be adult Scout leaders, not parents. In order for the Scout program to succeed, the Scouts have to be free to make decisions, succeed, fail, and learn by running their own Troop.



Failure is sometimes the best teacher, and success is a reward both for the Scouts and the adults who guide them. Parents should not be offended if the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster asks them not to make suggestions or to help in certain situations and should not worry when the Scout leader appears to be letting the Scouts make a bad decision. Adult leaders are there to guide and maintain safety, and we will never allow a Scout to make a mistake that would seriously compromise their safety. Being a Scout leader is not easy in any capacity and becomes even harder when your own son is involved. Rest assured that the Troop adult leaders want parents to participate in all aspects of the Troop, and they will do anything they can to make the experience fun and rewarding.

All adult leaders serving an active role with the Troop must make arrangements for the BSA training class appropriate for their position. A listing of all leadership positions and associated training requirements is available at **my.scouting.org**⁴. This training is offered several times a year and helps to assure that everyone involved in the Troop's leadership understands the goals of Scouting. In addition, trained leaders are one of the

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³ See section on Youth Protection later in this guide for more information.

⁴ my.scouting.org is a centralized repository for all BSA volunteer resources.

requirements for the Troop to earn the Quality Unit Award. Many of the required training courses are available online.

The Adult Troop leadership consists of two main groups: The Troop Committee and The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters (also referred to as direct youth contact leaders).

The Troop Committee

The first group, the troop Committee, is made up of concerned adults who meet on a monthly basis to discuss issues and make decisions for the Troop. The committee is led by the Committee Chair and must have a Treasurer and Secretary. The members of the

troop committee fill many other important committee positions. The Committee makes policy decisions, keeps records, and constantly monitors the program quality. Committee members are also welcome to join outings and help with special events. Committee meetings are held monthly either online or at the Harborfields Public Library (see ScoutBook or the Troop calendar for the exact dates and times) and all parents are encouraged to attend these meetings. However, voting on troop matters is restricted to members of the troop committee.



The committee may appoint other members to serve on the troop committee as needed. In order to serve on the troop committee, you need to be a registered adult with the Boy Scouts of America. You may also need to complete the training requirements for your position if you have a specific role within the troop committee. The following section lists the various troop committee positions and their functions.

Troop Committee Positions

Committee Chair: Organizes the committee to ensure that all functions are delegated, coordinated and completed. Maintains a close relationship with the chartered organization representative and the Scoutmaster. Interprets national and local BSA policies to the troop. Prepares troop committee meeting agendas. Calls, presides over and promotes attendance at troop committee meetings and any special meetings that may be called. Ensures troop representation at the monthly roundtables. Recruits top-notch, trained individuals for camp leadership. Arranges for charter review and completes the troop rechartering process annually. Plans the charter presentation to the chartering organization.

Secures location for committee meetings. Sends out notices for committee meetings. Secures location for committee meetings. Maintains troop records as agreed between chair, treasurer, Scoutmaster, and advancement coordinator. Maintains the database of driver and vehicle information for the troop. Completes tour permit applications (with the help of Scoutmasters and Activity Coordinators) for each troop-sponsored activity or outing that requires a tour permit. Provides outing or activity leaders copies of approved tour permit.

Treasurer: Handles all troop funds. Pays bills on recommendation of the Scoutmaster and authorization of troop committee. Maintains bank accounts. Trains and supervises the troop scribe in record keeping. Keeps adequate financial records. Supervises money-earning projects, including obtaining proper authorizations. Prepares the annual troop budget. Reports status to troop committee at committee meetings as necessary.

Outdoor Activities Coordinator: Ensures that each troop activity is conducted so that it meets a common set of criteria, including adherence to BSA guidelines, participation minimums, and troop standards for organization and coordination. Recruits Activity Coordinators for each activity planned by the Scouts and acquaints the coordinators with standard methods for making a successful troop activity happen (e.g.: historical records from prior similar activities, promoting the event, sign ups, tour permits, fee collection, organizing transportation, etc.) The Activity Coordinator's goal is to have each activity organized and coordinated in a consistent fashion, leading to a level of consistent high quality in our outings.

Training Coordinator: Ensures that troop leaders and committee members have opportunities for training. Maintains, as appropriate, an inventory of up-to-date training materials. Keeps the troop informed regarding the availability of district or council sponsored training opportunities. Is responsible for BSA Youth Protection training within the troop. Encourages periodic junior leader training within the troop.

Advancement Coordinator (Chair): Encourages Scouts to advance in rank. Maintains troop Scout advancement records (ScoutBook). Completes and forwards to the council troop advancement reports. Secures badges and certificates for courts of honor. Provides advancement status reports to Scoutmaster and assistant Scoutmasters. Oversees troop advancement advisory committee and secures adults to serve on Boards of Review.

Eagle Scout Advisor: Advises Life Scouts as they work toward their Eagle rank. Helps Scouts with the process of selecting and preparing their plans for Eagle projects. Guides Scouts through the process of project approval through the District Advancement Committee.

Equipment Coordinator: Works with the quartermaster on inventory and proper storage and maintenance of all troop equipment. Maintains the troop trailer. Makes periodic safety checks on all troop camping gear and encourages Scouts in safe use of all outdoor equipment. Reports to the troop committee at meetings as necessary.

Procurement Coordinator: Helps the troop procure any necessary equipment. Researches prices and reports to troop committee. Makes necessary purchases upon approval of troop committee. Coordinates with troop committee chair and treasurer.

Health Officer: Collects and maintains BSA Medical Forms for all troop Scouts and leaders. Keeps list of expirations of all medical forms and advises troop leadership and individual members when new medical forms are required. Provides copy of medical forms to trip leaders in advance of any troop outings.

Summer Camp Coordinator: Prepares camp flyer in advance of camp registration. Collects all registration forms and fees for summer camp. Coordinates with Health Officer to ensure medical forms for all camp attendees are up to date as of the week of camp. Works closely with the troop assigned in-camp Scoutmaster(s). Works with Treasurer to ensure that fees and paperwork are forwarded to camp (usually council office for the chosen camp) on a timely basis.

Historian Adviser: Assists the troop historian with research and documentation of the troop history.

Librarian Adviser: Assists the troop librarian in maintaining the troop library.

Den Chief Coordinator. Oversees the recruitment, preparation and activities of troop Den Chief volunteers.

Cub Outreach Coordinator. Develops and maintains relationships with local Cub Scout packs in order to develop a recruiting pipeline for the troop. Is responsible for communications between the troop and local packs as well as coordination of Cub Scout invitations and attendance at troop events.

Court of Honor Coordinator: Oversees the planning of troop Courts of Honor including venue selection and reservation, refreshments and supplies. Coordinates with event leaders or hosts to develop the guest list for the event. They will maintain a standing list of local dignitaries and district and council Scouting representatives and invite or suggest guests that should be invited to major troop events such as Courts of Honor or Eagle Courts of Honor.

Direct Youth Contact leaders

The second group of adult leaders are the Direct Youth Contact leaders, known as the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts and help them advance, learn new skills, and live by the Scout Oath and Law. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters also accompany the Scouts on outings

Direct Youth Contact Leader Positions

Scoutmaster: The Scoutmaster coordinates with the SPL to ensure a quality program that provides opportunities for advancement, leadership experience, and an exciting outdoor program. He also maintains the safety of the Scouts.

Assistant Scoutmasters): The Assistant Scoutmasters (ASM's) are responsible for specific areas of the Troop Program based upon their interests and expertise and the needs of the Scouts. Currently, we have ASMs working with Program, Troop Guides, Instructors, Community Service, New Scouts, Den Chiefs and High Adventure. ASM's fill the Scoutmaster role at any activity that the Scoutmaster cannot attend.



Adult Activity Leaders: Troop 113 makes every effort to share the responsibilities for overseeing the planning and conduct of troop activities amongst the troop uniformed adult leadership and registered adults. Below is a set of expectations for adult leaders of such activities:

- Work with the Scoutmaster and/or PLC to identify activities during the year that you would like to oversee:
- * Assure that they are appropriately scheduled on the troop calendar;
- * Take the lead in making arrangements in advance, as needed, e.g., campground reservations and payments;

- * Attend a PLC to discuss the event planning at the appropriate time include coordination of meal planning and shopping;
- * Assure that adequate adult leadership (e.g., two-deep) is in place and assure that proper adult training (e.g. Safe Swim, Safety Afloat, etc.) has taken place;
- * Work with the troop secretary to have a tour permit prepared, if required;
- * Prepare an activity flyer at the appropriate time and share this with the Scoutmaster and Outdoor Activity Coordinator. Arrange for distribution to the troop. Consult with the troop treasurer, if necessary, regarding event costs;
- * Discuss the event openly with the troop at a troop meeting;
- Communicate all final travel arrangements;
- * Check with Health Officer regarding records of any special medical needs or issues with the Scouts. Obtain medical records and be responsible for them on the event. Return the records to the Health Officer upon completion of the event;
- * Assure that all Scouts attending have a completed permission form;
- * Oversee the event, assuring that appropriate boy leadership is in place and working properly. Make every effort to allow the boys to run the event, to a reasonable extent;
- * In lieu of a Scoutmaster, take attendance and give this information to the Scoutmaster:
- * After the event, document and discuss any 'performance issues' with Scouts, as appropriate. Include praise for any Scout who demonstrated good spirit, leadership, etc.
- * In line with the point above, also share this information with the Scoutmaster and the Advancement Coordinator. This will be valuable information in future coaching sessions.

Expectations of a Scout Parent

Each young man and his family are important members of our troop. Active, involved parents and family members are vital to a Scout's advancement and level of interest.

The parent of a Scout should:

- * Enjoy the Boy Scout experience alongside your son!
- * Provide the necessary uniform, equipment and transportation for your Scout so that he is properly clothed and equipped to participate in troop and patrol activities.
- * Provide encouragement to your Scout and help him set and abide by priorities, which will help further his Scouting experience.



The success and enjoyment of the Boy Scout increases as the Scout's participation increases. Allow time to review, study and practice his rank requirements.

- * Provide never-ending encouragement to your Scout in his advancement, service and commitment to the Scout Oath and Laws.
- * Provide Information to the Scoutmaster or one of the Assistant Scout Masters regarding problems or concerns you or your Scout may have (medical conditions, learning disabilities, medications etc.).
- * Allow your Scout to "learn by doing". He will make mistakes when trying to accomplish tasks on his own, but this builds character! Of course, there are older Scouts and adult leaders present to ensure that new Scouts are are safe.
- * Encourage your Scout to attend summer camp! Experience proves that new Scouts are much more likely to stay in Scouting, enjoy Scouting more, and advance more quickly by attending summer camp.
- * Help your son to find the time to study his advancement requirements, and if possible, test your son on those requirements so that he is more comfortable when reviewed by the troop leadership. In accordance with Boy Scout policy, parents are not authorized to sign-off Boy Scout requirements for their son.
- * Attend and/or support Courts of Honor, campouts, fund-raisers and other Troop activities as your time allows. We welcome your participation for both the Troop's and your son's benefit.
- * As a parent, participate in the troop's activity based on your own family and work situation and demands. Troop 113 has had an excellent level of adult volunteers; and we expect each new family to continue that tradition. Adult leadership opportunities include: Assistant Scoutmaster positions, troop management positions and troop committee participation, etc.
- * We welcome the participation of all parents and guardians in our program in all areas, meetings, departments, training, merit badge counseling and camping. Some levels of participation require registration as an adult leader and BSA training.

The support and involvement of parents and family members in Troop 113 are what has made the Troop so successful throughout the years. Regardless of the family time constraints, there are always positions available which the which will fit into a family's schedule and help the Troop. Many positions will require only a few hours of your time. Experience has shown that parental involvement, either in a leadership or a support role, has a direct bearing on the motivation a Scout has and the accomplishments he achieves.

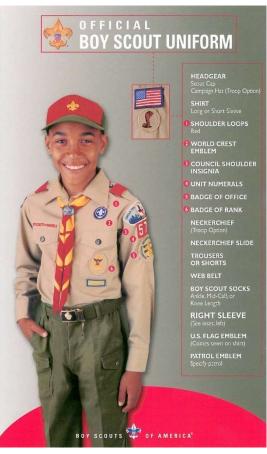
New Leaders Are Critical to Troop Success. With new Scouts, we expect to gain new leaders as well. Parent volunteers are a must in order to support the new Scouts. Typically, at least two parents of new Scouts will need to become trained assistant Scoutmasters to assist with new Scouts (and to replace any outgoing adults). There are additional volunteer opportunities on the troop committee.

UNIFORMS

Uniform Requirements

The Boy Scouts of America is a uniformed organization. Our policy is that volunteers and unit members are expected to be in as complete a uniform as financially possible during unit meetings and activities. The Scout uniform is the ONLY PLACE where official insignia that you or your son have received, earned or are entitled to wear is to be displayed. The uniform instills pride and ownership in the program and the members of our Troop. During Scouting activities, it is easy to recognize who is "in our Troop" or other Troops or even Scouting members at a distance. Finally, the wearing of the uniform reminds Scouts and Scouters of their obligations to uphold the Scouting ideals and that of service.

We side with the BSA in areas of identification, sense of pride and health and safety in asking that you go with this policy, and we will work with you to ensure that your son or you are in as complete a uniform as possible. If you have concerns about our uniform policy, we encourage you to talk with us. We are proud of who we are and proud of our Troop's heritage and identity in the community. The Scout uniform is an outward



sign of identification with the Scouting program and should be worn with pride. The uniform makes our troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in our community. It gives the Scout an opportunity to practice being neat, take pride in his appearance, display his awards and badges, and feel a part of a group.

Class A Uniform

The Class A uniform consists of the following items:

- * BSA short or long-sleeved khaki Scout shirt with appropriate patches and insignia properly attached
- Scout shorts and/or Scout long pants
- Scout socks
- * BSA green web belt with Scout buckle or Scout leather belt (unless pants are self-belted)
- * Neckerchief and slide
- Scout hat

While Scouts are in Class A uniform, they may not wear any hats except Scouting hats. These includes troop hats, camp hats, OA hats or official BSA hats.

Class A uniform is required for Troop meetings, unless otherwise advised.

Insignia Placement

Correct placement of uniform insignia is shown on the inside cover of the Scouts BSA Handbook and in the BSA Insignia Guide. Patches must be placed on the uniform in the correct location and attached in a neat manor.

Merit badges are worn on the merit badge sash. Merit badges are not worn on the Scout shirt. Merit badges may be worn in three columns on the sash; there is no required order. The sash is worn over the right shoulder and only on formal occasions such as Boards of Review, Courts of Honor, special flag ceremonies etc.

Wearing the Uniform

The Class A uniform is required to be worn:

- * To all Courts of Honor
- * At all troop meetings and functions, unless otherwise advised, as above. (merit badge sash is not required at our general meetings)
- * To all Boards of Review
- * To District, Council and National Scouting events
- * Scoutmaster Conferences (unless the activity uniform is appropriate based upon the location of the conference)
- * To other events as specified by the Scoutmaster

For more formal occasions (Courts of Honor, Webelos crossovers, religious worship services and public appearances) the Scout may add his merit badge sash and religious medals.

For members of the Order of the Arrow (OA), the OA sash is to be worn at OA functions and other functions that render service to OA such as elections; camp promotion and OA tap outs. The OA sash is not worn with the merit badge sash at a Court of Honor, nor is it to be worn folded over the Scout belt.

Wearing of military clothing, camouflage and the imitation of United States Military uniforms at any Scouting activity is a violation of National BSA policy (BSA Rules and Regulations, Article 10, Section 4, Clause 4b) and will not be permitted.

A Scout is expected to wear his uniform with his shirt buttoned and tucked in.

The following additional rules apply to clothing worn at campouts or other events when a Class A uniform is not required:

- * Clothing items including headgear that display or advertise drugs, illegal controlled substances, alcohol, tobacco, suggestive wording, profanity, gangs or advocate violence are never permitted.
- * Grooming or attire, which disrupt Scouting activities, are not appropriate and therefore are prohibited.

Class B Uniform

Class B uniform is the Troop 113 T-shirt. These can be purchased during special sales held throughout the year.

Where to Buy

Uniforms and other Scouting accessories are available at:

The Camp-Site Sport Shop: 1877 New York Ave, Huntington, NY (631) 2714969

Suffolk County Scout Shop: 7 Scouting Boulevard, Medford, NY (631) 345-3979

Nassau County Scout Shop: 344 Broadway, Massapequa, NY (516) 797-0574

Don't forget to check with the troop gear exchange for slightly used uniforms that our Scouts have outgrown. The gear exchange will be set up at troop meetings throughout the year.



COMMUNICATIONS

The Troop depends heavily on several methods of communication in order to share information with Scouts and parents. Much of our communication will take place via Slack or e-mail, originating either from ScoutBook or directly from Troop leadership. Slack, ScoutBook, and the Troop website all provide a wealth of information needed to make your son's Scouting experience a great one.

Your son's direct line of commutation will be with his Patrol Leader. If the Patrol Leader does not have the information needed, the Scout will then go through the chain of command and contact an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and then if necessary the Senior Patrol Leader. Uniformed adult leaders are always available to assist a Scout or parent with information requests.

Troop Web Site

The troop maintains a web site at www.troop113centerportny.com. This handbook, as well as the troop calendar, news, outdoor activity resources, checklists, forms, and virtually all other information about the troop and Scouting in general can be found by visiting our site. Additionally, there is a photo gallery where pictures from our most recent events are posted and a link to the Troop Shutterfly photo archive can be found.

ScoutBook

ScoutBook is the BSA's web-based unit management tool. ScoutBook is a secure platform that provides a safe way for parents, Scouts, and leaders to record, track, and manage their Scouting experience. Although any adult leader or Scout can register, ScoutBook is designed specifically for registered unit leaders, registered Scouts, and parents or guardians of registered Scouts. Unit leaders can see Scout advancement information as well as training data on other unit volunteers. ScoutBook includes many useful features including:

- * Tracking of advancement, merit badges and awards
- * Tracking of hiking, camping and community service events (important for rank requirements)
- Calendar of Troop activities & events with RSVP functions
- * Messaging, notifications and reminders of troop activities & events
- * Links to medical forms and pre-filled permission slips
- * FAQ forum

Important note about ScoutBook RSVPs – RSVPing in ScoutBook is very important. Timely RSVP's for Troop events allow leaders to know who is participating and who is not in order to estimate costs, plan meals and transportation, and other logistical factors. Additionally, some events have limited availability and an RSVP is therefore necessary to secure a slot.

Slack

The troop also maintains a secure, private online communication and collaboration workspace, called Slack, that is available for use by all troop members and parents of troop Scouts. The troop Slack workspace incorporates chat rooms (channels) organized by topic, private groups (for patrols, and other smaller groups of troop participants) and direct messaging. At any time, the workspace will contain active discussions on a wide variety of important topics including troop activities and events, patrol planning, merit badges, advancement, and many others. The workspace can be accessed on computers, and mobile devices at troop113centerportny.slack.com. To request access, users must send an email to sdsuser@yahoo.com.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Camping

Camping is an exciting time for the Scout, but it is also a time of great responsibility. The Scouts will be expected to take most of the responsibility by planning the trip, setting up their camp, cooking their food, washing their dishes, and building their fires. Scoutmasters and other adult leaders will always be available to provide guidance and assistance, but

these trips are primarily the responsibility of the Scouts.

To be adequately prepared for campouts, a minimum amount of required equipment is needed. Please refer to the Scouts BSA Handbook for a list of required equipment. Additionally, The BSA Fieldbook, an extension of the handbook, provides an extensive amount of information to help plan and prepare for a variety of outdoor adventures. The Troop web site also has lists of suggested gear for various outings.

In order to participate on a campout, the Scout is expected to attend appropriate planning meetings, which help to assure a safe and successful outing.

Summer Camp

Every summer, Troop 113 attends a weeklong summer camp. Summer camp offers each Scout advancement opportunities and outdoor challenges that he will remember for a lifetime. The summer camp program is geared for Scouts for all ages and ranks. The first-year camper program is specifically

TICKS

It is very important to check your son for ticks after all camping and backpacking trips to reduce the chance of him getting a tickborne disease. Some ticks can be as small as the head of a pin.

Clothing and gear can be treated with products that contain Permethrin to repel ticks and mosquitoes.

Get medical attention if he has a tick bite followed by fever or a rash.



designed for new Scouts and has them working on many requirements needed for ranks through First Class. There are merit badge sessions for Scouts who need merit badges to attain their rank.

Besides the advancement offered at summer camp, the Scouts have many opportunities to swim, fish, canoe, hike, participate in shooting sports such as rifle and archery, make new friends and have fun. Attending summer camp is one of the most important highlights of the Scouting year. No Scout should miss attending!!

If he wishes, a Scout has the option to attend camp for provisional weeks. A provisional week takes Scouts who want to attend camp during a week that their troop is not in camp, and joins them with other similarly situated Scouts, under the guidance of volunteer campmasters. If you wish additional information you may contact the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chair.

The troop also has and will continue to explore high-adventure summer camp options for those Scouts looking for a more challenging summer experience.

Other Outings and Events

During the year the Troop will hold some special events. It may be a weekend campout, day hike, a trip to a local event or special location, or a community service project. The Scouts are expected and encouraged to participate in these events.

Outings fall into four types of trips:

- 1. Family oriented for all.
- 2. Outdoors adventure for all Scouts.
- 3. High adventure for advanced Scouts having appropriate skills.
- 4. Community service activities, including Eagle Service Projects.

There also will be at least one high adventure outing every year. In order for a Scout to participate in a high adventure outing, he may have to meet certain age or rank requirements, usually 13 years of age and/or First Class. High adventures include extended hiking trips, climbing and rappelling, extended canoeing trips, and many other exciting adventures.

With ALL trips, day or overnight, prior to the trip the Scout will need a signed permission form confirming he is going on the trip and has his parents' consent. The form must be filled out and submitted with the payment for the trip. All trips have a deadline. To be fair to the other members of the troop there will be no exceptions to this policy. These forms and appropriate medical forms are vital in cases of emergency where medical treatment may be required. Adults participating in trips will need to submit the necessary medical forms as well.

Fire Building

Scouts must pass specific requirements before they are given the responsibility for working with fires. To work with fires, the Scout must earn his Firem'n Chit by demonstrating knowledge of fire safety and the ability to safely start a fire. Scouts will only use matches and/or lighters only when appropriate and safe and only after earning the Firem'n Chit.



Knives

Scouts must pass specific requirements before they are given the responsibility for working with knifes, axes and saws. In order to use woodworking tools, including his personal pocketknife, he must earn the Totin' Chip by demonstrating knowledge of the safety precautions that are important when using wood tools. Sheath knives, those with fixed blades that do not fold, and any



knives with blades longer than four inches are not to be used at any time during Troop activities or events. There really is no use for these types of blades during Scout events or outings, and they can be dangerous. Small pocketknives, multi-bladed camp tools, or single-blade knives that lock open and fold into the handle are acceptable. When in doubt, consult a Scoutmaster before purchasing a new knife.

The Whittling Chip, if earned when the Scout was a cub Scout, does not carry over to boy Scouts. He must not use any knife, ax or saw until he earns a BSA Totin' Chip.

The requirements for both of these awards are listed in the Scouts BSA Handbook, and the Scout should review them as soon as possible after joining the Troop. After a Scout demonstrates his knowledge and satisfies a Scoutmaster or a Scout designated by the Scoutmaster that he has mastered the required skills, he will be issued a Totin' Chip and/or Firem'n Chit card signed by the Scoutmaster. These cards must be in the Scout's possession at all times so that he can prove he has mastered the appropriate skills.

If a Scout is observed disregarding the safety rules for fire or wood tools, he may be asked to present his card, and one or more corners may be cut off. If a Scout loses all four corners of any card, he must again demonstrate that he understands the rules and regulations before he will be issued another card. Throwing a knife at any time will result in disciplinary action up to possible expulsion from the troop. Only a Scoutmaster or his designee may sign or cut corners from a Scout's Totin' or Firem'n cards. Repeated violations of the above fire building or knife use guidelines may result in the permanent loss of fire building or knife use privileges.

Prohibited Items

Absolutely, no radios, electronic games, DVD players, game boys or other electronic devices as well as toy guns, bows and arrows, homemade or otherwise, fireworks or aerosol cans (pump sprays are allowed) will be allowed on any Scout event such as camping trips, troop meetings, Court of Honor, hikes, service projects, summer camp etc. These devices do not support an appreciation and enjoyment of the outdoors. If a Scout is found with any of the above items during a trip, it may be confiscated by the Scoutmaster and returned later. Repeated incidents may result in disciplinary action. Cell Phones are permitted (see Cell Phone Policy) and are good tools of communications with parents to arrange for pick up times and the like, but may not otherwise be used except in an emergency situation or with permission of an adult leader. A personal MP3 player (or similar device) may be used with headphones in a tent or cabin.

Gear

Some of our camping trips will include several miles of hiking with backpacks, and will almost always involve staying safely outdoors overnight. Good gear is very important.

Scouts should use the personal checklists found on the Resources page of the Troop website when packing for a campout or summer camp. These checklists are very important. Small items forgotten can make for an uncomfortable trip. If you need help finding gear to purchase or borrow, please let a Scoutmaster know. There is a list of catalogs and web sites at the end of this document that may help when purchasing gear. All personal gear must have the Scouts name on it.

The Troop Quartermaster is in charge of assigning Troop owned gear to Patrols during an outing. Patrol Leaders are expected to supervise the use of the gear and make sure it is returned in good condition. All gear should be returned and checked in by the Quartermaster by the next Troop meeting. The person who checked out the gear is expected to thoroughly clean and dry any Troop gear before returning it to the Quartermaster. The Quartermaster may refuse to accept gear that has not been adequately cleaned and may refer repeated problems to the Scoutmaster. The Quartermaster should immediately report any damaged gear to the Scoutmaster. Any gear that is not returned over a period of time will be considered lost. The person responsible for that piece of gear will also be responsible for the replacement at their cost.

Transportation

In most cases, the Troop will need adults to help provide transportation to and from outings. Drivers are expected to obtain drivers insurance that meets at least the minimum as defined by State Law. If you ever intend to assist as a driver you must be registered with the Troop and have current YPT.

Youth Protection

All Troop activities that include adult leadership will strictly follow the Youth Protection and Safe Scouting policies and guidelines set forth by the Boy Scouts of America in the BSA publication *The Guide to Safe Scouting*. Youth Protection policies and guidelines are for the protection of both the Scout and the adult leader and should be strictly adhered to.



Registration

The Troop Committee Chair and chartered organization representative must approve the registration of all adult leaders, volunteers, and program participants. To become a registered adult or troop leader an adult must complete BSA Youth Protection Training and submit the completion certificate with their completed Adult Application. Youth Protection Training is available online and must be renewed yearly. All adults wishing to register with the Troop must also agree to undergo a mandatory criminal background check.

Adult Supervision

A minimum of two registered adult leaders are required at all Troop activities including meetings. One-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited both inside and outside of scouting. No Scout should ever be in the company of an adult without being in sight of others, or without having another adult or Scout in attendance.

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Adults may transport a Scout from one location to another without another adult in the vehicle as long as there are at least two Scouts in the vehicle. If two adults cannot accompany the Scouts on a trip, the trip will be cancelled.

Private online communications (texting, phone calls, chat, IM, etc.) must include another registered leader or parent. Communication by way of social media (Facebook, Snapchat, etc.) must include another registered leader or parent.

Other policies as spelled out in the Youth Protection and Guide to Safe Scouting guidelines may apply.

Behavior

All Scouts are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Scout Oath and Scout Law. In keeping with these principles, the Troop has adopted these policies regarding Scout behavior and any required discipline:

- * Scouts are expected to respect others at all times. Verbal or physical bullying, threatening, intimidation, fighting, hazing, and/or harassment are not permitted. The use of vulgarity, profanity, or offensive or abusive language is also not permitted at any time.
- * Scouts are expected to respect leadership at all times and to follow the reasonable directives of youth or adult leaders. Failure to cooperate with either youth or adult leaders at any Troop activity or event may result in the Scout being sent home (parents will be called to pick up the Scout).
- * Theft or destruction of Troop, Patrol, or personal property is also not permitted. At the discretion of the Scoutmaster, repairs or replacement will be at the Scout's or Parent(s)/Guardian(s) own expense. All Troop equipment will be maintained properly including all tents, lanterns, utensils, dishes, pots, and pans etc.
- * Throwing rocks, sticks, or any objects that may cause harm or personal injury is strictly prohibited.
- * Scouts will not leave a Troop activity or event without permission, stray from the group, or fail to use the Buddy System when instructed to do so.

The youth leaders of the Troop will refer Scouts who are repeatedly in violation of any of the above policies to the Scoutmaster. The following procedures⁵ will be followed:

- Incident #1: Verbal warning
- ★ Incident #2: Conference with the Scoutmaster
- * Incident #3: Scoutmaster Conference with the Scout's parents
- * Incident #4: Membership with the Troop may be terminated based on recommendation of the Scoutmaster and final determination by the troop committee

If at any time, any Scout (or his parents) does not feel safe on any Troop activity, he should immediately bring the matter to the attention of the adult leader(s) in charge.

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⁵ These procedures were developed and approved by the troop committee for handling most incidents. However, in situations where a Scout's behavior is so egregious, and after a review by the Scoutmaster and an Assistant Scoutmaster, the incident may be referred by the Scoutmaster directly to the troop committee for review to determine which discipline to apply including expulsion from the Troop.

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy

The following policy on smoking and alcohol is quoted from the current BSA Committee Guidebook and Scoutmasters Handbook:

It is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances is not permitted at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America, or at any activity involving participation of youth members.

Health is a most valuable possession. Smoking will dangerously impair a person's health. The BSA recommends that leaders maintain the attitude that young adults are much better off without tobacco. Leaders are encouraged not to use tobacco products in any form nor allow their use at any BSA activity.

Smoking or use of tobacco products by minors, or by adults in the presence of Scouts is strictly prohibited.

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances (except medication of which the adult leadership has been made aware) by minors, or by adults at any Troop activity or event is strictly prohibited.

Cell Phone Policy

The following policy on cell phone usage during troop events is currently under evaluation:

- Cell phones should not be used during program hours without permission from an Adult leader.
- * Use of functions other than emergency phone calls must support the outdoor program (e.g. using GPS) or assist a Scout with advancement (e.g. photograph for a merit badge).
- * No texting. Texting should only be considered when voice emergency communications are not possible.
- * No games or music. These are distractions and do not foster the Patrol method.
- Noncompliance with this policy may result in confiscation of the phone. There will be a "three strikes" policy, so the third time a Scout is seen violating the Electronics Policy, that Scout's phone may be taken away for the rest of the day until program hours end.
- * Phones and other devices may be used before and after program hours, as long as they do not keep people awake and are not being used inappropriately.

Troop Roster

The Troop roster will be developed annually or when needed as determined by the Troop Secretary. The roster will contain names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail address and positions for every Scout and Adult leader in the Troop. To ensure the safety of our youth, the Troop roster should remain with the Scouts, leaders, and their parents, and not given to any outside group or persons.

CLOSING

Welcome to the Scouting adventure. Get ready for hard work, exciting times, and most of all fun!

To the Scouts, remember, this is *your* Troop. How well it functions, what adventures you experience, where you go, and what you do are *your* choices. Get involved with the Troop leadership. Take pride in your Patrol. Get to be good friends with the other Scouts in the Troop. Help out when needed, and when you have a job assigned, do it well. Work hard to become an Eagle Scout. You can also talk to a lot of adults who became an Eagle Scout. All of those adults will be glad that they achieved the rank of Eagle and all will encourage you to spend the time and make the commitment to finish. No matter what your rank, remember that the Scout Oath and Law are more than just words we say at Troop meetings. The Scout Oath and Law are ideas Scouts use to guide their actions throughout their lives.

To the parents, remember that your son is embarking on a new adventure. He will need your support, but you have to walk a fine line between encouraging him to do well and actually doing for him. Sometimes a thing not given teaches more than a thing easily gotten. Encourage your son to work hard and commit to working on his ranks and merit badges. Join us as a leader if you have the time and interest. Help out whenever you can to make this a better Troop. And thank you for allowing your son to join us on this great adventure!



APPENDIX

Appendix A - Junior Leader Job Descriptions

This section details the leadership positions in the Troop. Leadership is important to advance in rank, to have a good program, and to develop as a young man. Even if the Scout does not currently hold a leadership position in the Troop, he should make sure he understands the responsibilities of those that do. Those being led should take responsibility to make sure that those they choose as leaders do their job.

Senior Patrol Leader

REPORTS TO: Scoutmaster SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- * Preside at all troop meetings, events, activities, and annual program planning conference. Chair the Patrol Leaders Council.
- * Name appointed boy leaders with the advice and consent of the Scoutmaster
- * Assign duties and responsibilities to other leaders.
- * Work with Scoutmaster in training junior leaders.
- * Coordinate activity calendars (troop, district, school).

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

REPORTS TO: Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- * Be responsible for training and giving direct leadership to the following appointed junior leaders: Scribe, Librarian, Troop Historian, Instructor, Quartermaster, and Chaplain Aide.
- Help with leading meetings and activities as called upon by the SPL.
- * Take over troop leadership in the absence of the SPL.
- * Perform tasks assigned by the SPL.
- * Function as a member of the PLC.

Patrol Leader

REPORTS TO: Senior Patrol Leader or Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES**:

- * Plan and lead patrol meetings and activities.
- * Keep patrol members informed.
- * Assign patrol members a job and help them succeed.
- * Represent the patrol at all patrol leaders' council meetings and at the annual program planning conference.

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- Prepare the patrol to take part in all troop activities.
- * Develop patrol spirit.
- * Work with other troop leaders to make the troop run well.
- * Know what patrol members and other leaders can do.

Assistant Patrol Leader

REPORTS TO: Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- * Assist the patrol leader in:
- * Planning and leading patrol meetings and activities.
- * Keeping patrol members informed.
- Preparing your patrol to take part in all troop activities.
- * Take charge of the patrol in the absence of the patrol leader.
- * Represent the patrol at all patrol leaders' council meetings in the absence of the patrol leader.
- * Help develop patrol spirit.
- * Work with other troop leaders to make the troop run well.

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REPORTS TO: Assistant Scoutmaster for New Scouts **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- Help Scouts meet advancement requirements through First Class.
- Advise Patrol Leader on his duties and his responsibilities at Patrol Leaders' Council meetings.
- * Attend Patrol Leaders' Council meetings with the New Scout Patrol Leader.
- Prevent harassment of new Scouts by older Scouts.
- Help Assistant Scoutmaster train new patrol leader when he is elected.
- Guide new Scouts through early troop experiences to help them become comfortable in the troop and the outdoors.

Junior Assistant Scoutmaster

A Scout must be at least 16 years of age, but not yet 18 years of age to serve as a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. On his 18th birthday, he must register as an adult and he is eligible to become an Assistant Scoutmaster.

REPORTS TO: Scoutmaster **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

Accomplish any duties assigned by the Scoutmaster.

Troop Quartermaster *

REPORTS TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- * Keep records of patrol and troop equipment.
- * Keep equipment in good repair.
- * Issue equipment and see that it is returned in good order.
- * Suggest new or replacement items.
- * Work with troop committee member responsible for equipment*.
- Maintain troop trailer and keep organized.
- * This position requires considerable adult involvement and oversight. The adult's title is called Equipment Coordinator.

Troop Scribe

REPORTS TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES**:

- * Attend and keep a log of Patrol Leaders' Council meetings.
- * Record attendance.
- * Record advancement in troop records.
- * Work with appropriate troop committee members responsible for finance, records, and advancement.

Troop Historian

REPORTS TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- * Gather pictures and facts about past activities of the troop and keep them in scrapbooks, wall displays, or information files.
- * Take care of troop trophies and keepsakes.
- * Keep information about troop alumni.

Troop Librarian

REPORTS TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- Establish and maintain a troop library.
- * Keep records on literature owned by the troop.
- * Add new or replacement items needed.
- Have literature available for borrowing at troop meetings and camping trips.
- * Keep system to check literature in and out.
- Follow up on late returns.
- Maintain list of Troop merit badge counselors.

Den Chief

REPORTS TO: Cub Scout Den Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- * Serve as the activities assistant at Webelos den meetings, to help prepare boys to join Boy Scouting and our Troop.
- * Meet regularly with the den leader to review the den and pack meeting plans.
- Project a positive image of Boy Scouting.

Bugler

REPORTS TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES**:

- * Play Taps at the end of each Scout meeting closing ceremony.
- * Close every Court of Honor with the playing of Taps.
- * At Trip Outings (where it would be possible to bring a bugle), play Taps each evening at the appropriate time.
- * Play at any time deemed appropriate by the Scoutmaster or Senior Patrol Leader.

Instructor

REPORTS TO: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader **SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- Instruct Scouting skills as needed within the troop or patrols.
- * Attend at least 50 % of the troop meetings and actives during his service period.
- Prepare well in advance for each teaching assignment.
- * For all the above positions the Scout must:
 - Set a good example.
 - 2. Wear the uniform correctly.
 - 3. Live by the Scout Oath and Law.

Appendix B - Rank Advancement Factors

Rank	Factors	Examples
Tenderfoot, Second and First Class	Participation	Actively participates in a minimum of 50% of all troop activities, including community service activities, and 50% of outdoor activities
	Scout Spirit	Adheres to all points of the Scout Law without significant exception
	Proper Uniform	Appears at Scout activities in the appropriate uniform, neat and orderly
Star	All of the above plus: Leadership	Fulfills a leadership role in the patrol or troop AND demonstrates leadership by: Willingly volunteering to lead activities; Accepting clear responsibility and accountability for the position that he holds; [If 'role' is as Den Chief, then Scout must also demonstrate the qualities above at the troop level.] Actively contributes to troop planning through the PLC or through appropriate other planning opportunities; Accepts the authority of others who may be called upon to lead
	Mentoring/Guiding	Helps younger Scouts with specific skills
	Role Model	Is neat in appearance and displays appropriate respect for the values of Scouting
Life	All of the above plus: Leadership	Consistently takes the lead when needed, without always being asked; Appropriately represents the troop at all functions;
	Mentoring/Guiding	Helps younger Scouts in identifying and delivering programs that address their advancement
	Role Model	Always presents himself in a manner that sets a high standard for other Scouts, without exception

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Rank	Factors	Examples
Eagle	All of the above plus: Leadership	In completing the Eagle project, demonstrate and clearly explain the appropriate leadership qualities required in that project and how these were assumed without undue adult assistance; Spontaneously knows when a leadership role needs to be filled and steps in; Always assures that (particularly outdoor) activities are led consistent with Scout policy – two-deep leadership, Outdoor Code, Leave No Trace, etc. and that the safety of each Scout is always assured; Recommends improvements in troop policy and the troop program; Leadership qualities must be a clear asset to the adult leadership of the troop
	Mentoring/Guiding	Demonstrate a commitment to the advancement of younger Scouts by monitoring and providing coaching and guidance with their advancement; Willingly and spontaneously addresses the safety and comfort needs of other Scouts, particularly in the outdoors
	Role Model	Always displays qualities and traits which exemplify the highest standards of Scouting as a model for younger Scouts

Appendix C - Gear & Equipment Resources

REI

144 Glen Cove Rd, Carle Place, NY 11514 (516) 873-8540 www.rei.com

Field & Stream (Dicks)

870 Walt Whitman Rd, Melville, NY 11747 (631) 421-3028 www.fieldandstreamshop.com

Dick's Sporting Goods:

6070 Jericho Turnpike, Commack, NY 11725 (631) 499-1410 www.dickssportinggoods.com

The Camp-Site Sport Shop:

1877 New York Ave, Huntington, NY (631) 2714969 www.campsitesportshop.com

Suffolk County Scout Shop:

7 Scouting Boulevard, Medford, NY (631) 345-3979 www.sccbsa.org/Scout-Shop

Nassau Scout Shop:

344 Broadway, Massapequa, NY (516) 797-0574 www.scoutshop.org

Other Outdoor Gear and Equipment Resources

Sierra Trading Post - www.sierratradingpost.com

Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com

Cabela's - www.cabelas.com

Campmor - www.campmor.com

Appendix D - Useful Web Sites

Here are just a few of the many Web sites that have good information on Scouting, the outdoors, and equipment selection:

Knot Tying

Knots Gallery - www.tollesburysc.co.uk/Knots/Knots gallery.htm#knots

Animated Knots Index - www.animatedknots.com/index.php

Basic Scout Knots - www.folsoms.net/knots/

Backpacking and Outdoors Web Sites

Outside Magazine - http://outside.away.com/index.html

The Lightweight Backpacker - www.backpacking.net

The Backpacker- www.thebackpacker.com

Adventure Sports - www.adventuresportsonline.com

Boy Scout Web Sites

The National BSA Web site - www.scouting.org

Suffolk County Council - http://www.sccbsa.org/

Matinecock District - www.sccbsa.org/matinecock

BSA Field book - www.bsafieldbook.org

Scouting Magazine - www.scoutingmagazine.org

InsaneScouter.com – <u>www.insanescouter.com</u>

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NOTES: