

# Welcome to

# Troop 18

**Boy Scouts of America**

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## New Parent's Guide

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[www.scouttroop18.com](http://www.scouttroop18.com)

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# Introduction

## Message from the Leadership Team

Welcome to Troop 18!

They say that a journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. Your son has taken that important first step by joining Troop 18. Along the way he will make new friends, learn scout skills and life skills, perhaps a lifelong hobby or even a career. He'll be challenged to go beyond the boundaries of his comfort zone both mentally and physically. If he stick with it, he will develop leadership skills that will distinguish him from the crowd.

The program is designed so that the pace with which your son progresses through scouting will be unique to him. There is no right or wrong pace. The more active a scout is, the quicker and easier it will be for him to advance in rank and earn more awards. And the more fun he will have.

As parents, you can help your scout succeed by staying informed (read the newsletters, attend the Parent's meetings), ensuring he is properly uniformed, and he is active (regularly attends troop meetings and outings/activities). You can also help the troop succeed by being an active troop volunteer. The Troop is an allvolunteer organization. It is essential that every family support the troop by taking on a job (or two). You'll learn more about the opportunities available at the Parents' meeting. This Guide was written with new scouts and new parents in mind. Take a moment to review its content. As questions arise, please refer back to this Guide for most of the answers. If you have unanswered questions, please ask.

Welcome to Troop 18! You are now part of the family.

Yours in Scouting -

Troop 18 Uniformed Leaders and Committee Members

## Why Troop 18?

- Trained Adult Leaders
- Leaders are active in the District & Council
- Boy- Led Troop
- Youth Leadership Training opportunities: Introduction to Leadership Skills Training (ILST), National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT), and Lodge Leadership Development training (LLD)
- Community Service Opportunities
- Primary Scout Camps: Camp Tiak L.O. Crosby Scout Reservation
- Active Outdoor Program- Driven by the youth
- High Adventure Activities- Backpacking, Kayaking, Survival Skill Camping
- Variety of Merit Badges Opportunities: 136 merit badges to choose from
- Order of the Arrow (Scouting's National Honor Society)- involved in the chapter, and Lodge levels

# Why Scouting?

## Aims of Scouting

- Character development
- Citizenship training
- Mental and Physical Fitness

## Methods of Scouting

- The Ideals: The Scout Oath, Scout Law, Motto, and Slogan
- Patrol Method
- Advancement
- Association with Adults
- The Outdoors
- Personal Growth
- The Uniform
- Leadership Development

## The Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight

## The Scout Law

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

## The Outdoor Code

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

## Scout Motto

Be Prepared

## Scout Slogan

Do a Good Turn Daily

# What Does a Scout Do in Troop 18?

## Personal Code of Conduct

A Scout is expected to live his life by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law. We want him to be an example to those around him of the values, character and leadership of the Boy Scouts of America. A Scout should ALWAYS think like an ambassador and behave in a Scout-like manner that brings credit upon his family, the Troop, the community, and himself.

Scouts are expected to control their own behavior and those of other scouts. Those scouts who fail to live up to these standards will at the discretion of the Senior Patrol Leader and ultimately the Scoutmaster (or his designate) be subject to counseling/warning, probation, suspension, or even expulsion from the Troop. There is zero tolerance for hazing, bullying or violent behavior. A decision to suspend or expel a Scout from the Troop may be appealed to the Troop Committee.

## Weekly Troop Meetings

The Troop generally meets on every Monday, 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Exemptions: No Troop meetings during school vacations or major national holidays. The troop leadership will notify you on any changes to scheduled meeting times.

Please arrive early so the meeting can start on time.

Meetings are held at Wiggins Presbyterian Church, 331 W College Ave, Wiggins, MS 39577.

Attendance is not mandatory, however, frequent absences will impede the Scout's advancement, and negatively impact the scouting experience.

Troop 18 Activity T-shirt (Class B) uniforms shall be worn to Troop meetings, unless otherwise designated by the Scoutmaster. See the Scout Uniform section of this Guide for details.

All Scouts not yet First Class, are expected to come to Troop meetings prepared with their Scout Handbook, notebook, and pencil or pen.

At the beginning of each meeting there are usually brief announcements of upcoming events. Sign-ups for outings will also be available before and after Troop meetings

## **Patrol Meetings**

Patrols are generally given some time during troop meetings to take care of patrol business. Patrols are encouraged to plan patrol outings which may require additional planning.

## **Service Projects**

Troop 18 takes great pride in its service to the community. The Troop seeks to foster a strong sense of citizenship by participating in various service projects throughout the year. These projects include flag ceremonies, and volunteering manpower for local non-profit groups and events.

Troop sponsored service projects announced by the Scoutmaster are approved for rank advancement. For service projects not announced, the Scout must obtain Scoutmaster's approval prior to working on the project if he wants to apply it towards a rank advancement requirement.

From time to time, the Troop will require service hours to participate certain outings. The outings and number of service hours required are be determined by the Patrol Leader's Council with guidance from the Scoutmaster.

## **Leadership**

Once a Scout has achieved the rank of First Class he will need to select an approved leadership position to develop his leadership skills. These positions are listed in the Scout Handbook.

## **Training**

One of the key objectives of scouting is to develop trained youth leaders. The Troop offers the Introduction to Leadership Skills Training (ILST) for all newly elected or appointed leaders. District and/or Council offer National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT).

## **Courts of Honor**

Troop 18 conducts a Court of Honor quarterly to recognize Scout advancements and awards. The Court of Honor is a public ceremony, and is a chance for the Scouts to be recognized for their achievements. Families and their guests are encouraged to

attend. Eagle Courts of Honor are very special ceremony planned by the family of the Eagle Scout, and convened by the National Council for the sole purpose of conferring the Eagle Scout award. Attendance at the Eagle Courts of Honor is mandatory.

## **Fundraising**

Troop 18 raises funds through fundraising activities. All Scouts are required to participate in the selling of popcorn, and camp cards. The minimum gross sales amount will be established by the Troop Committee. These funds can be used for any scouting purpose such as summer camp, outings, Jamboree, Eagle Courts, uniform, camping gear, or dues. The Council also offers additional incentives based upon sales.

## **Order of the Arrow**

The Order of the Arrow is the Boy Scouts of America's National Honor Society. The purpose of the Order of the Arrow is fourfold:

1. To recognize those Scout campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives,
2. To develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit,
3. To promote Scout camping, and
4. To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Order of the Arrow is also unique in that its members are elected into the Order by their Troop. The requirements for election are set in the National Guidelines:

- Have demonstrated Scout spirit & adhere to the Scout Oath and Law in both public and private life
- Hold a minimum of the First Class Rank
- Have experienced 15 days and nights of BSA camping under the auspices and standards of the BSA within the last two years. This must include one long term camping experience defined as 6 consecutive days and nights of camping.
- Have the Scoutmaster's approval

# What does a parent do in Troop 18?

The role of parents within Troop 18 is to encourage their scout to be active, and be support the Troop's efforts.

- Read "How to Protect Your Child from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parent's Guide," – the detachable booklet in front of the Boy Scout Handbook – and complete Section 3 with your new Scout
- Complete online Youth Protection Training – required of all drivers and outing participants.
- Review the Guide to Safe Scouting- found on website under 'forms/documents'
- Review the items on the Shopping List — Attachment A&B
- Review the Scout's handbook and understand the purpose and methods of Scouting
- Actively follow their Scout's progress and offer encouragement when needed
- Show support to both the individual Scout and the Troop by attending all Troop Courts of Honor and answering the call for volunteers when made.
- Assist in Troop fundraisers and service projects
- Be aware of the Troop Events Calendar which is available on the Troop website. Upcoming events are also announced in parent group chat.
- Consider serving as Merit Badge Counselor in areas in which they have specialized knowledge and skills
- Consider volunteering to be a member of the Troop Committee

## Outdoor Program

Each summer, Scouts have the opportunity to attend a weeklong summer camp. All new Scouts are strongly encouraged to attend summer camp. At Summer Camp, Scouts work on rank advancement, Merit Badges, and develop themselves as scouts. Scouts who do not attend summer camp, especially in their early years, are at greater risk of losing interest in the scouting program and dropping out.

### **Troop 18 and the outdoor program**

Troop 18 has a very active outdoor program and all boys are encouraged to participate to challenge themselves and grow as a Scout. Troop 18 is active year around.

During the school year, outings are scheduled for weekends. The summer is when the Troop is most active. The only mandatory outing is our annual Summer camp/ Camporee. Participation in all other outings is optional. Active participation in outings will generally translate into steady advancement in rank.

Opportunities for parents/adults to attend outings will be determined by the Adult Leaders and may depend upon the need for drivers, nature of the outing, and number of participants. Adults will be members of the adult patrol and will be responsible for completing the patrol duties assigned to them.

Troop 18 recognizes those scouts who are active in the outdoors through the BSA Outdoor Awards program: Nights of Camping are only tracked on recognized Scout related outings. Each Scout is responsible for tracking the dates and locations of camping. A Camping Log is included in the Scout Handbook.

## **Commitment for Outings**

Commitment for the Campouts generally obtained weeks prior to the outing. Details of the outing are available from the Seinor Patrol Leader as announced during the Troop meetings and in Troop newsletters. Outings are “pay as you go.” Please make payment by the due date.

If the outing is conducted utilizing the patrol method, then one Scout in each patrol will be responsible for planning a menu based upon a specified budget, purchasing of food, bringing it to the outing, establishing a duty roster – including cooking and cleanup, and leading the execution of these duties. These are skills required to earn the rank of First Class. A senior Scout, Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster will work with the Scout in accomplishing this task. Reimbursement of costs up to the budgeted amount is accomplished by the Scout presenting the receipts to the Troop Treasurer.

In order to be fair to the Scouts, it is very important to receive firm commitments well in advance of the outing. Withdrawals after the deadline will likely still be subject to the outing cost to avoid a negative impact on the budget.

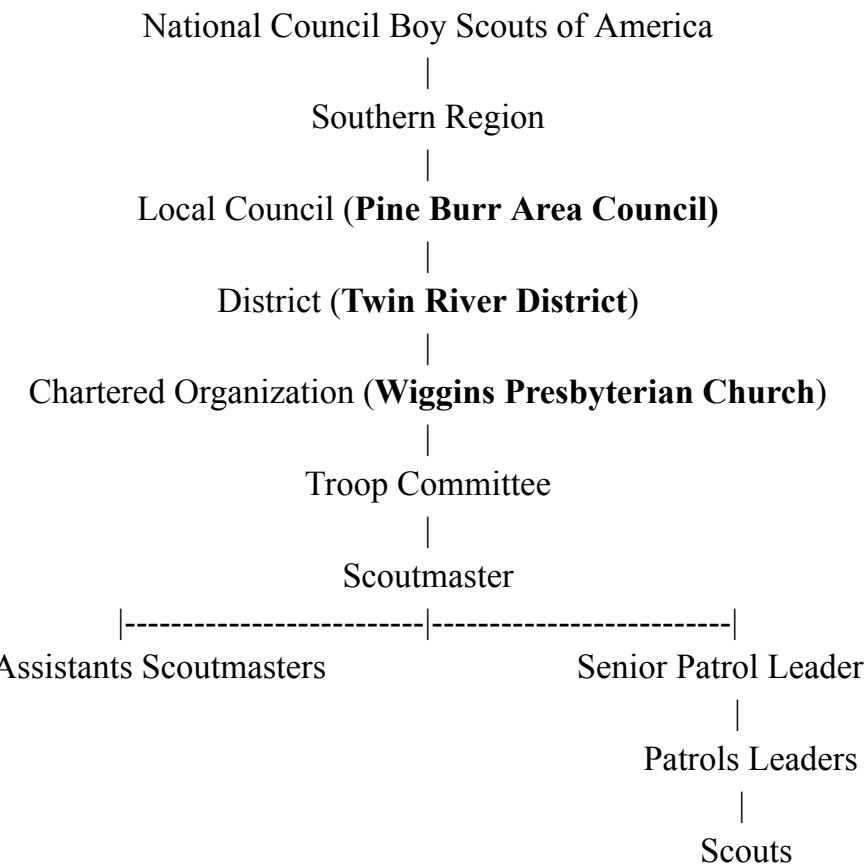
## **What to bring on a campout**

Each Scout is required to maintain in their backpack the Ten Essentials. Additional pack items will depend upon the outing. See Attachment A for sample Pack Lists for backpack treks and snow camping. On certain outings such as Camporee and Backpack Treks, the younger Scouts will participate in a “Shake Down” the Thursday before at which the Scouts come with all gear packed and ready to go. Senior Scouts will then inspect their pack and verify contents. They will also identify things to be left behind and provide suggestions on how to arrange their gear. Scouts will also be given their share of Patrol gear to carry.

## **Cancellations**

If for any reason your Scout must withdraw from an outing he has signed-up for, there are some people who must be notified. The Scout must call the Senior Patrol Leader and the Scout Master. Paid outing fees are considered “donated” to the Troop Treasury to cover the fixed cost of the event.

# BSA and Troop 18 Organization



## Troop Committee

The Troop Committee meets quarterly to discuss the direction of the Troop and actively seek comments, insights and /or concerns regarding the Troop's program from parents and Troop leaders. The success of the Troop largely depends on the support of parents and adult leadership. Therefore, Troop 18 encourages all parents, both Moms and Dads, in becoming active participants. Participation is greatly appreciated at any level: from attending Troop Committee meetings, becoming Committee members, becoming a Merit Badge Counselors or becoming a uniformed leader. To volunteer, please contact the Scoutmaster or Committee Chairman.

## Scoutmaster:

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the Troop. The Scoutmaster and Assistant

Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The general responsibilities of the Scoutmaster include:

Train and guide boy leaders

Work with other adult leaders to bring Scouting to boys.

Use the methods of scouting to achieve the aims of Scouting.

### **Assistant Scoutmasters:**

Assistant Scoutmasters are recruited by the Scoutmaster and approved by the Troop Committee to assist the Scoutmaster in the operation of the Troop. Assistant Scoutmasters are assigned program tasks by the Scoutmaster and provide guidance to the boy leadership. He or she also provides the required two deep leadership (two adult leaders present at every Boy Scout activity). Assistant Scoutmasters are required to take Youth Protection, SM/ASM Position Specific, and Outdoor Leader Skills. Many also have taken additional training such as Hazardous Weather Training, CPR, First Aid, Safety Afloat, Safe Swim Defense, and Wood Badge.

### **Senior Patrol Leader:**

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is the top boy leader in the Troop and is elected by the Scouts. He leads the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed.

The SPL must be at least a Life Scout, have taken the National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) course, and has previously served as either a Patrol Leader or as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader to be eligible for election. The SPL is also an invited member of the Troop Committee. The SPL is also responsible for leading the ILST training and giving direction to the youth leaders of the troop.

### **Assistant Senior Patrol Leader:**

The Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL) helps the SPL run the Troop, and fills in for the SPL in his absence. The ASPL assists with the ILST training and attend NYLT.

### **Patrol Leaders:**

The Patrol Leaders (PL) are responsible for giving leadership to the members of their Patrols and are elected by their Patrol members. Our youth leaders are trained to practice “Service Leadership” in leading their Patrol – taking care of those behind them.

The PL must be at least a First Class Scout, and must complete Introduction to Leadership Skills Training (ILST). The PL represents their Patrol on the PLC.

### **Patrol Leaders' Council (“PLC”):**

The Patrol Leaders' Council, not the adult leaders, are primarily responsible for planning and conducting the Troop's activities. The PLC is composed of the following voting members: Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leaders, Scribe, Quartermaster, Junior Assistant Scoutmasters, and Troop Guides.

### **Patrols**

Leadership is one of the core methods of Scouting. Lord BadenPowell once said – “The patrol system is not one method in which Scouting for boys can be carried on. It is the only method.”

Patrols are led by a Scout elected by the Patrol members. The patrol method helps the boys accept the leadership of others and helps him to grow into a more responsible adult.

Troop 18 assigns all new Scouts into one New Scout Patrols. The reason for this is to provide focused training that will help these new Scouts understand what it means to be a Boy Scout and a member of a Patrol. The new Scouts will also learn or practice skills that will be called upon when there are integrated into a regular Patrol. Older scouts will serve as the Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leaders of the New Scout Patrols. One or more Assistant Scoutmasters will also be assigned to help supervise the Patrol. All new Scouts are encouraged to bring any issues, problems, or questions to the attention of the Patrol Leader, Troop Guide or Assistant Scoutmaster.

# Advancement

The Boy Scout advancement program provides a ladder of skills that a Scout climbs at his own pace. As he acquires these skills he moves up through a series of ranks, for which he is awarded badges: Scout (joining badge), Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and finally Eagle. The higher the Scout climbs the more challenging are the tasks required -- and the more rewarding. Advancement is a natural outcome of a planned, quality Troop Program, in which the Scouts actively participate.

## Advancement through First Class

Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouts, considered the First Class rank as the point where the Scout has taken the biggest step toward the goal of independence and reliability. The Scout will need to have demonstrated their skill to find direction and guide others, cook and care not only for themselves, but for their entire Patrol, and show they are ready to help others that require first aid.

While the world around us may have changed, a Scout from the time they join the Troop until the time they advanced to First Class will learn the basic scouting skills valued by Lord Baden-Powell. When joining the Troop, new Scouts must first learn the three parts of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and Country; Duty to Others; and Duty to Self.

The Scouts will learn to prepare for an overnight camping trip, cook, tie knots, how to hike safely, how to respect the American flag, how to function as a Patrol, develop physically, identify poisonous plants, how to navigate with and without a compass, knife and axe safety, fire safety, identify 10 plants and animals, water safety and demonstrate swimming proficiency, learn about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, administer first aid, all while working as a member of Patrol, and demonstrating Scout spirit by living according to the Scout Oath and Law in their everyday life. When the Scout achieve the rank of First Class, the Scout has hopefully grasped the fundamentals of scouting and can begin to start the long process of learning to lead others, working on the

learned skills and learning additional skills.

### **Advancement from First Class to Eagle**

After achieving the rank of First Class, the Scout will work toward the rank of Star, Life, and ultimately Eagle. The Scout will focus on developing their leadership skills, performing service projects, earning Merit Badges (six for Star and five for Life) and applying the skills learned while achieving the rank of First Class.

Those special few who demonstrate the commitment to developing their skills as a leader and challenging themselves physically, mentally will be rewarded by earning the final rank is Eagle. To earn the rank of Eagle, the Scout must earn 21 Merit Badges, and continue to serve the Troop in a leadership position, and must demonstrate their leadership skills through a substantial service project (“Eagle Project”) that they must plan and direct. Our goal in Troop 18 is to provide our Scouts with the training, tools, resources, and opportunities which challenge the Scouts to be the best leader they can possibly be.

Specific requirements for advancement are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook. Take a look at Chapter 1 which contains an advancement summary through First Class.

### **Sign-Off of Advancement Requirements**

It is the philosophy of the Troop that a Rank requirement should only be signed off after the Scout has demonstrated a proficiency in the skill. Each Scout rank builds on the foundation of prior ranks so it is a disservice to the scout if they advance before they are ready. A shaky foundation will result in a poor trained Scout.

Recognizing the significance of these sign-offs, rank requirements can only be signed-off by the Troop Guide, or in certain cases by the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters. Before requesting that a requirement be signed off, the Scout must have (1) read the relevant section of the Scout Handbook, and (2) be able to demonstrate his proficiency in the skill. If the Scout is relying upon activities outside of the Troop to

satisfy the requirements, the Scout must be able to provide sufficient proof that the activity was completed. A Scout may only rely upon those activities completed after the Scout has joined Boy Scouts to satisfy the advancement requirements.

## **Merit Badges**

The goal of the merit badge program is to expand a Scout's areas of interest and to encourage the Scout to meet and work with adults in a chosen subject. Merit Badges are earned by a Scout working with a registered Merit Badge counselor. The Troop will periodically offer Merit Badges during Troop meetings throughout the year. Numerous other opportunities to work on Merit Badges are also made available including summer camp, and special Merit Badge classes. A Scout may also work on Merit Badges outside of the Troop by working with any registered Merit Badge counselor.

Parents of Troop 18 Scouts are encouraged to become Merit Badge Counselors. If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please contact the Troop Committee Chairman, the Scoutmaster, or an Assistant Scoutmaster.

## **Merit Badge Procedures**

This is the procedure to be followed by a Scout to earn a merit badge:

First, decide on the Merit Badge to pursue. Talk to your Patrol leader or Senior Patrol Leader about your interests. Read the requirements of the merit badges you think might interest you, and pick one to earn. Your Senior Patrol Leader will give you the name of a person from a list of counselors. These individuals have special knowledge in their merit badge subjects and are interested in helping you. Merit Badge Workbooks can be found at <http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/list.asp>.

If the Merit Badge will be worked on at an organized troop event such as a troop meeting or organized by the troop, or summer camp the Merit Badge Application ("Blue Card") will be provided to you at the event. If you are pursuing a Merit Badge on your own, then you may obtain the Blue Card from the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster.

## New Parent's Guide Troop 18

### Blue Card Back

<p>The applicant has personally appeared before me and demonstrated to my satisfaction that he has met all requirements for the (please print)</p> <p>Merit badge _____</p> <p>Name of counselor _____</p> <p>Address of counselor _____</p> <p>City _____ Zip code _____</p> <p>Telephone number of counselor _____ / _____</p> <p>Signature of counselor _____ Date _____</p> <p>Checked and recorded: _____</p> <p>Date _____ Initials _____</p> <p>Certificate and badge presented _____ Date _____</p> <p>Applicant will turn in this portion to his unit leader for record posting.</p>		<p><b>APPLICANT'S RECORD</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>has given me his completed application for the _____ Merit badge</p> <p>Completed on _____ / _____ / _____ by _____</p> <p>Signature of counselor _____</p> <p>Signature of unit leader _____</p> <p><b>NOTE TO BOY SCOUT, VARSITY SCOUT, OR VENTURER: Retain this copy for your permanent records.</b></p>	<p><b>COUNSELOR'S RECORD</b></p> <p>Applicant _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Troop _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Team _____ Unit number _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Crew _____</p> <p>Merit badge _____</p> <p>Date completed _____ / _____ / _____</p> <p>Remarks: _____</p> <p><b>It is suggested that the counselor keep this record in case any question is raised later in regard to this award.</b></p>
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### Blue Card Front

<p><b>Information for Applicant</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A merit badge application can be approved only by a registered merit badge counselor.</li> <li><b>You must</b> have a buddy with you (Scout buddy system) at each meeting with the merit badge counselor.</li> <li>Turn in your approved application to your unit leader. You will be awarded the merit badge emblem and certificate at a suitable occasion.</li> </ul> <p><b>Information for Counselor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Merit badge applications <b>must</b> be signed in advance by the applicant's unit leader.</li> <li>The Scout <b>must</b> have his buddy (Scout buddy system) in attendance at all instructional sessions.</li> <li>You may not change any requirement, but you may share your knowledge or experience that will make the counseling more interesting and valuable.</li> </ul> <p>SKU 34124</p> <p></p> <p>7 30176 34528 4 34124 2012 Printing ©2012 Boy Scouts of America</p>	<p><b>APPLICATION FOR MERIT BADGE</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____</p> <p>is a registered  <input type="checkbox"/> Boy Scout <input type="checkbox"/> Varsity Scout <input type="checkbox"/> Venturer  of _____ Troop, team, crew, ship No. _____</p> <p>District _____</p> <p>Council _____</p> <p>I have discussed this merit badge with this Scout and recommended at least one merit badge counselor.</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>Signature of unit leader _____</p> <p> BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA® 34124</p>
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1. Fill out the information in pen, and then have it signed by the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster.

2. The Merit Badge Counselor will meet with you to discuss the requirements of your Merit Badge and will monitor your progress. If you have any questions or problems as you are working on your requirements, contact the counselor. When meeting with a merit badge counselor on your own, always use the buddy system or be sure your parent is accompanying you

3. When you have completed your requirements, contact your merit badge counselor to review your requirements and have him/her sign off on your Blue Card. You are expected to meet the requirements as they are stated -- no more and no less. You are expected to do exactly what is stated in the requirements. If it says, "show or demonstrate," that is what you must do. Just telling about it isn't enough. The same thing holds true for such words as "make," "list," "in the field," and "collect," "identify," and "label."

4. Be sure the Counselor has signed the Blue Card in all applicable places. The Counselor will keep one part.

5. Then, take the Blue Card to the Scoutmaster for his review and sign off.

6. Turn in your signed form to the Advancement Chair. You will receive back the portion entitled "Applicant's Record" when you are awarded you're the merit badge at the next Court of Honor. You must keep this copy, and you will need it for your Eagle Board of Review.

### **Scoutmaster Conference**

A scout notifies the Scoutmaster once he has completed all rank requirements except for the scout spirit, Scoutmaster Conference and the Board of Review. The Scoutmaster will review with the Scout his performance in the troop, and if satisfactory will approve the scout for his Board of Review by the Troop Committee.

## **Boards of Review**

When a Scout has completed all the requirements for each rank, he appears before a Board of Review composed of members of the Troop Committee. The review is not an examination, but rather an opportunity for the Troop Committee to ensure that the requirements for advancement have been met, talk to the Scout about their Scouting experience and the Troop's program, how the Scout is getting along in the Troop, provide the Scout with an opportunity to express any comments or concerns, and for the Troop Committee to encourage the Scout to keep working towards advancement.

A Board of Review may also, however, be held to: counsel a boy about lack of progress towards advancement; discuss any behavior that violates Troop policy, poses a health or safety risk to others, or is otherwise detrimental to the Troop; investigate incidents of concern that have been brought to the attention of the Troop Committee.

## **Courts of Honor**

When a Scout advances, he should be recognized as soon as possible - preferably at the next unit meeting. He is then recognized a second time at a public ceremony called a Court of Honor. The main purpose of the Court of Honor is to formally recognize Scouts for their Scouting related achievements and to provide incentive for other Scouts to advance. Troop 18 has formal courts of honor at least three times a year.

The Court of Honor is a very special event for our Scouts. Every Scout deserves to be recognized in front of his family and the larger Troop family. For this reason, families are encouraged to attend even if your own Scout will not be advancing in rank. Guests are always welcomed.

# Scout Uniform

## How the uniform helps a boy

The uniform is one of the methods Scouting uses to achieve the aims of Scouting. When a Scout puts on the uniform, he tells the world that he has agreed to live by the Scout Oath and Law, and that he is a person who can be trusted. The uniform serves as a constant reminder to our Scouts that they are to act as a Scout.

## How the uniform helps the Troop

1. When smartly worn, the uniform help build good Troop spirit.
2. By investing in a uniform, a Scout and his parents are really making a commitment to take Scouting seriously.
3. The uniform makes the Troop visible as a force for good in the community.
4. In public, Scouts in uniform create a strong, positive, youth image in the neighborhood.

## The following are Troop 18's uniform requirements

Scouts Responsibility	Provided By the Troop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tan Boy Scout shirt</li> <li>Class A Uniform</li> <li>● Green shoulder epaulets</li> <li>● Pine Burr Area Council Patch</li> <li>● World Scouting Crest</li> <li>● Troop numerals (18)</li> <li>● Arrow of Light patch if earned as a Webelos Scout</li> <li>● Green Pants or Shorts           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Official Boy Scout Pants or Shorts</li> <li>Optional</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Green Socks           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Official Boy Scout socks</li> <li>Optional</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Merit badge sash at COH and special ceremonies as designated by the Scoutmaster</li> <li>● Troop 18 Class B shirt           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Ordered by Troop</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Earned rank patches and badges</li> <li>● Awards earned by Scout and presented at Courts of Honor</li> <li>● Journey To Excellence Patch</li> <li>● Patrol Emblem Pach</li> </ul>

## Required Uniform and Materials

Field Dress (Class "A") Uniforms: New Scouts are expected to have their full Field/Class "A" uniform ready within one month of joining the Troop. Class "A" uniforms are to be worn: (1) At all Scoutmaster Conferences and Board of Reviews (2) when traveling to and from summer camp and outings, (3) as designated during campout activities or meals, and (4) at Courts of Honor. The Merit Badge Sash is to be worn at Courts of Honor and other occasions such as community flag ceremonies.

Troop 18 observes the official placement of insignia which is found on the inside cover of the Scout Handbook. A detailed instruction on the proper placement of patches can also be found in the 'BSA Patch Placement Guide' which is available for download at the Troop Website.

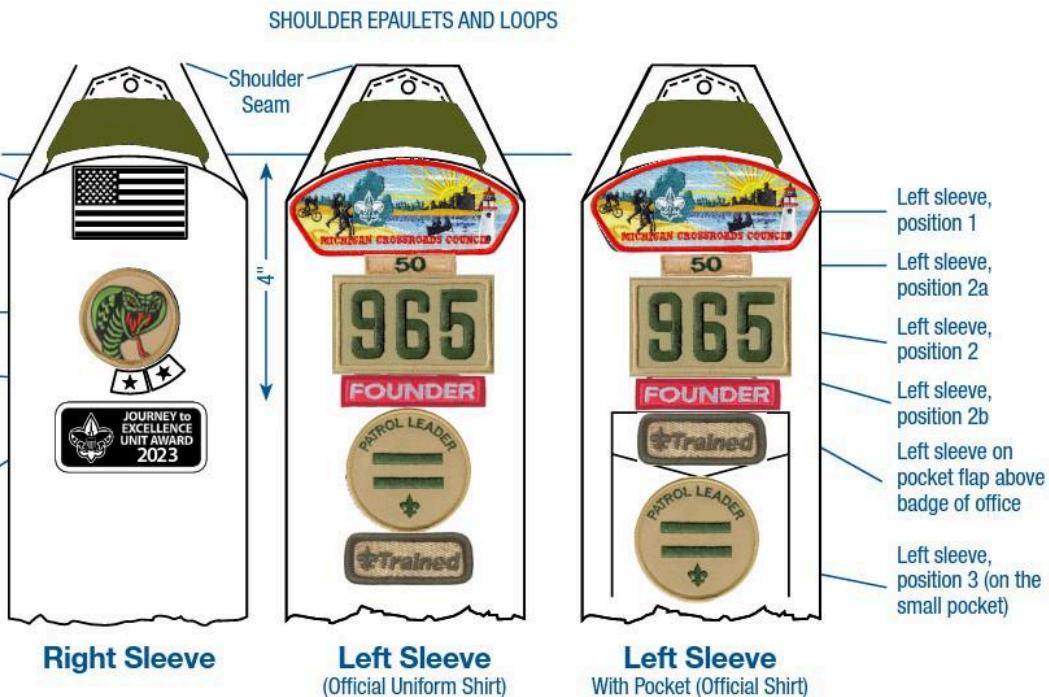
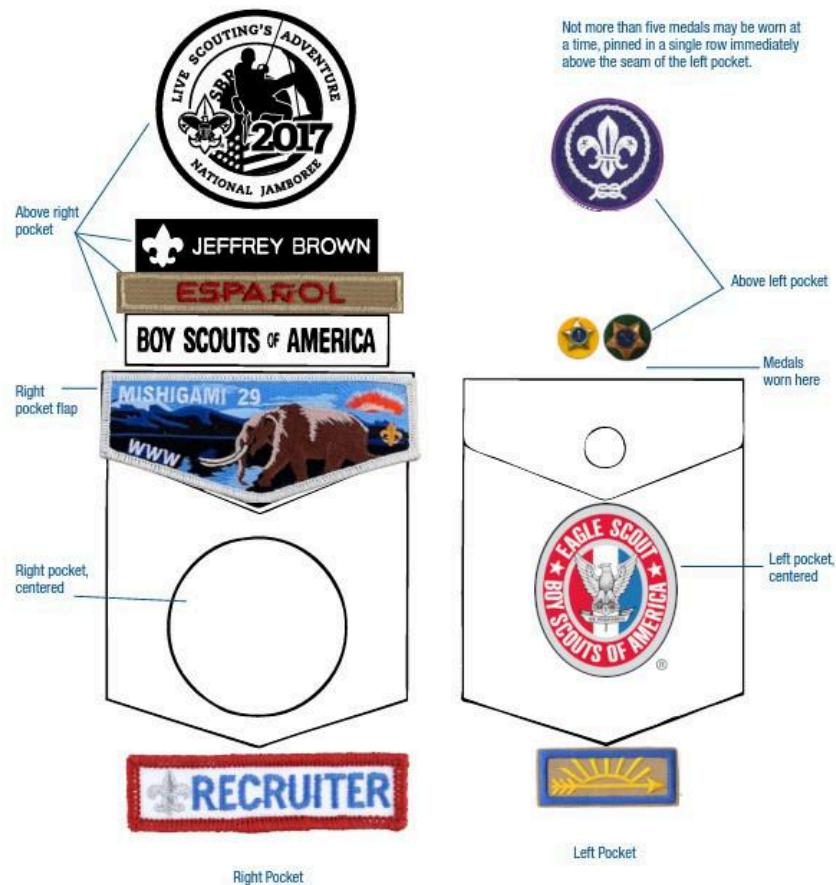
Event patches such as those received for Camporee, Summer Camp, and special events may be worn on the right pocket as a temporary patch. They do not belong on the back of the uniform shirt. Event patches may also be worn on the back of the Merit Badge Sash. If you have any questions on the proper placement of insignia please ask one of the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster.

Troop 18 Activity T-Shirt Class "B" Uniforms: New Scouts are expected to have their Troop 18 Activity T-Shirt Class "B" uniform ready within one month of joining the Troop. Class "B" uniforms are to be worn: (1) during all regular troop meetings, unless otherwise specified by the Scoutmaster. (2) during any outdoor activities, such as Hiking, Camping, Canoeing, etc.

Troop 18 Activity T-Shirt Class "B" Uniforms can be Purchased from the Troop Website.



## Patch Placement



# Troop Finances, Health Forms, and Internet Site

## Dues

The Troop collects from each Scout dues which cover the cost of Recharter, Scout Registration, Scout awards and other Troop related expenses.

- All Youth Scouts pay \$90 for recharter yearly dues.
- All Adult volunteers pay \$60 for recharter yearly dues

\*All Checks go out to Wiggins Prespyterian Church

If financial hardship makes the timely payment of dues difficult, the Troop Treasurer will confidentially discuss a payment plan or discuss the possibility of financial aid with the Scoutmaster & Committee Chair.

## Fundraising

All Scouts are required to participate in Troop fundraising or use the buy out option. Troop 18 participates in Council wide fundraising as well as Troop fundraisers. Pine Burr Area Council holds a annual popcorn and camp card sale. Scouts are encouraged to sell popcorn and cards as a way of developing their public speaking skills. The Troop utilizes the funds raised to buy and maintain Troop equipment, subsidize Troop events/parties, and otherwise build up the Troop's financial resources.

## Health Forms

After joining, and annually thereafter, each scout will complete and return the Health & Medical Form Parts A, B & C and provide a copy of their Health Insurance Card. Part C must be completed by a health care professional.

A link to the Health and Medical Form can be found on the Troop website.

## Troop 18 Website

The Troop's website is <https://scouttroop18.com/>

# Youth Protection

## Parents Guide

The Boy Scouts of America has developed materials for use in the Scouting program that provide essential information to members and their families. A detachable booklet in the front of The Boy Scout Handbook, "How to Protect Your Child from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parents Guide," provides information to help families to increase self-protection skills.

## Troop 18 and the Youth Protection Program

Troop 18 seeks to maintain the standard of a Journey To Excellence award troop, which requires among other things requires that Youth Protection policies, are followed and that all Leaders are BSA trained. Troop 18 is committed to following all guidelines of the Youth Protection program. "Two deep" leaders and the "buddy" system are always enforced for all Troop and Patrol activities. Parents are welcome and are encouraged to participate in our activities but must complete BSA Youth Protection Training before attending any overnight activities.

## Attachment A - Sample Pack Lists

### CAMP OUT PACK LIST

PACK LIGHT! SCOUT MUST BE ABLE TO CURL THEIR PACK..

- BACKPACK FITTED TO THE SCOUT (loaner packs are available)
- SLEEPING BAG & GROUND PAD (Recommend: Thermarest Z-Lite)
- PILLOW
- CLOTHING appropriate for weather conditions both expected and unexpected. Check Weather.com

#### COLD WEATHER

- LONG SLEEVED SHIRT
- LONG PANTS
- SWEATER
- LONG UNDERWEAR
- SOCKS (wool)
- EXTRA UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS
- JACKET WITH HOOD
- BEENIE
- GLOVES
- RAIN GEAR

#### HOT WEATHER

- DRY FIT CLOTHING
- T SHIRT OR SHORT SLEEVED SHIRT
- SHORTS
- EXTRA UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS
- LIGHTWEIGHT LONG SLEEVED SHIRT
- BRIMED HAT
- RAIN GEAR

- PERSONAL HYGIENE (TOOTHBRUSH / TOOTHPASTE / SOAP)
- TOWEL
- COMPASS
- WATCH
- POCKET KNIFE / MULTI-TOOL (w/ Tot'n Chip)
- FLASHLIGHT (lightweight LED headlamp preferable)
- PERSONAL FIRST AID KIT (PATROL FIRST AID KIT CLEARLY MARKED)
- MATCHES / FIRE STARTERS (w/ Firem'n Chit)
- LARGE ZIPLOCK OR GARBAGE BAG TO STORE WET/DIRTY ITEMS
- WATER BOTTLE (NALGENE) or CAMELBACK

## New Parent's Guide

### Troop 18

- MEDICATION
- SCOUT BOOK
- PENCIL AND PAPER

### WEAR

- BOOTS or TRAIL SHOES
- FIELD UNIFORM & TROOP 18 CLASS B SHIRT UNDERNEATH
- SCOUT PANTS W/ SCOUT SOCKS
- HAT

### PATROL

- SHARED TENT & GROUND CLOTH (load to be distributed)
- FOOD
- COOKING GEAR
- PLATES/BOWLS/SILVERWEAR

### BACKPACKING PACK LIST

PACK LIGHT! TARGET TOTAL PACK WEIGHT < 30% OF SCOUTS BODY WEIGHT.

- BACKPACK FITTED TO THE SCOUT
- SLEEPING BAG & GROUND PAD (Recommend: Thermarest Z-Lite)
- CLOTHING appropriate for weather conditions both expected and unexpected. Check Weather.com

PACK FOR 1-2 DAYS ONLY

COLD WEATHER

- LONG SLEEVED SHIRT
- LONG PANTS
- SWEATER
- LONG UNDERWEAR
- SOCKS (wool)
- EXTRA UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS
- JACKET WITH HOOD
- BEENIE
- GLOVES
- RAIN GEAR

HOT WEATHER

- T SHIRT OR SHORT SLEEVED SHIRT

## New Parent's Guide

### Troop 18

- SHORTS
- EXTRA UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS
- LIGHTWEIGHT LONG SLEEVED SHIRT
- BRIMED HAT
- RAIN GEAR
- LIGHTWEIGHT TOWEL
- PERSONAL HYGIENE (TOOTHBRUSH / TOOTHPASTE / SOAP)
- COMPASS & MAP OF AREA
- WATCH
- MESS KIT (Plastic bowl, sierra cup and spork)
- FLASHLIGHT (lightweight LED headlamp preferable)
- FIRST AID KIT
- MATCHES / FIRE STARTERS (w/ Firem'n Chit)
- LARGE ZIPLOCK OR GARBAGE BAG TO STORE WET/DIRTY ITEMS
- WATER BOTTLE (NALGENE) or CAMELBACK
- BUG SPRAY/SUN SCREEN
- MEDICATIONS
- LIGHT TRAIL SNACK

### WEAR

- BOOTS
- TROOP 18 CLASS B UNIFORM
- SCOUT PANTS/SHORTS W/ SCOUT SOCKS
- HAT

### PATROL

- SHARED TENT & GROUND CLOTH (load to be distributed)
- COOKING GEAR

## BOATING PACK LIST

PACK LIGHT: DONT BRING ANYTHING YOU DONT WANT TO GET WET!

- KAYAK/ CANOE
- PFD LIFE JACKET
- PADDLE
- DRY BAG/ DRY BOX
- CLOTHING

## New Parent's Guide

### Troop 18

- DRYFIT CLOTHING
- 1-2 LIGHTWEIGHT LONG SLEEVE SHIRT
- 1-2 SHORTS
- SWIM TRUNKS
- 2-3 PAIRS OF QUICK DRY UNDERWEAR
- DRY CLOTHING
- WET SHOES
- WATERPROOF BOOTS
- 2 PAIRS DRY SOCKS
- RAIN GEAR
- LIGHTWEIGHT TOWEL
- PERSONAL HYGIENE (TOOTHBRUSH / TOOTHPASTE / SOAP)
- COMPASS & MAP OF AREA
- WATCH
- MESS KIT (Plastic bowl, sierra cup and spork)
- FLASHLIGHT (lightweight LED headlamp preferable)
- FIRST AID KIT
- MATCHES / FIRE STARTERS (w/ Firem'n Chit)
- LARGE ZIPLOCK OR GARBAGE BAG TO STORE WET/DIRTY ITEMS
- WATER BOTTLE (NALGENE) or CAMELBACK
- BUG SPRAY/SUN SCREEN
- SUNGLASSES WITH STRAP
- WIDE BRIMMED HAT
- MEDICATIONS
- BABY POWDER OR GOLD BOND POWDER (to reduce chafing)

### WEAR

- CLOSED TOED WATER SHOES/WATERPROOF BOOTS
- DRYFIT SHIRT
- SWIM TRUNKS
- WIDE BRIMMED HAT
- SUNSCREEN

### PATROL

- DRY BAG/ DRY BOX
- SHARED TENT
- COOKING GEAR

## Attachment B - Shopping List

### Uniform

- Tan Boy Scout shirt  
Class A Uniform
- Green Pants or Shorts  
\*Official Boy Scout Pants or Shorts Optional
- Green Socks  
\*Official Boy Scout socks Optional
- Merit badge sash at COH and special ceremonies as designated by the Scoutmaster
- Troop 18 Class B shirt  
\*Ordered by Troop
- Green shoulder epaulets
- Pine Burr Area Council Patch
- World Scouting Crest
- Troop numerals (18)
- Arrow of Light patch if earned as  
a Webelos Scout

### Provided By the Troop

- Journey to Excellence Award patch
- One Patrol Emblem

### Other

- Boy Scout Handbook  
Note – recommend spiral bound version. Immediately  
write scout's name on the handbook.

Pine Burr Scout Shop  
Hattiesburg  
1318 Hardy St. Suite A Hattiesburg, MS  
39401  
(601) 582-2326  
Tabitha.Lester@scouting.org

Monday - Thursday 8 am - 4:30 pm.  
Friday 8 am - 4 pm  
Saturday & Sunday - Closed

Pine Burr Scout Shop Biloxi  
MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST SCOUT  
SHOP  
719 Howard Ave, Biloxi, MS 39530  
228-967-7074  
msgulfcoastscoutshop@gmail.com

Tuesday - Friday 12 pm - 6 pm  
Saturday 9 am - 1 pm  
Sunday & Monday - Closed

National BSA Scout Shop  
<https://www.scoutshop.org>

## Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact us.

### Troop 18 Contacts

#### Committee Chairman

Chris Gollott

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Email:  
[Chris.gollott@gmail.com](mailto:Chris.gollott@gmail.com)

#### Scoutmaster

Nathaniel Hardy

Phone:  
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Email:  
[Nathanhardy2000@gmail.com](mailto:Nathanhardy2000@gmail.com)

#### Chartered Organization Representative

William Thoms

Phone:  
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Email:  
[Texasglobalnurse@gmail.com](mailto:Texasglobalnurse@gmail.com)

**Troop 18 Email**  
[wigginsboyscouttroop18@gmail.com](mailto:wigginsboyscouttroop18@gmail.com)

**Troop Website**  
<https://scouttroop18.com/>

**Troop Social Media**  
[Instagram](#)  
[Facebook](#)

