

Troop 272

Ottawa District, Great Lakes Council

Parent and Scout Introductory Handbook REQUIRED READING FOR SCOUTS AND PARENTS



Troop 272

Milford Michigan

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Introduction

Welcome to Troop 272! As a new member of Troop 272, you are joining a group of boys who share your interests in the outdoors, adventure, and learning. As a Scout you will get the opportunity to acquire new skills, and you will be recognized and rewarded for what you have accomplished. You will have the opportunity to learn leadership, organizational, and outdoor skills that will help you later in life.

The "Troop 272 Handbook" is intended to act as an introduction to Scouting in Troop 272 and to give Scouts and Parents a better understanding about how Troop 272 works. Please take the time to read over this handbook. This along with our Troop Guidelines Booklet will answer a lot of your questions. Contact the Scoutmaster or one of the other Adult Leaders if you need more information, have any other questions or want clarification.

Troop Background

Boy Scout Troop 272 was formed in Milford, Michigan in March of 2007. Milford Presbyterian Church is our chartering organization. Troop 272 is comprised of boys from Milford, Wixom, Commerce, Highland, and surrounding areas. Troop 272 has already had two boys achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. In 2009, Troop 272 also started a Venture Crew within the troop.

Adult Participation

The adults who give their time, talent, and support to make Troop 272 a success are all volunteers. Mothers, fathers, and legal guardians are needed to assist Troop 272 to provide transportation for outings, serving on our troop committee, become merit badge counselors, serve as Assistant Scoutmaster, or other leadership positions.

If you are a parent or guardian of a boy in Troop 272, or an interested former leader, please take the time to learn about our troop. Attend some Troop and Committee Meetings, talk to the Scoutmaster, the Committee Chairman, and other Adult Leaders. You may have the skills, resources, or contacts useful to our troop.

Adults who register with our troop are considered to be part of our Adult Patrol. Our Patrol Name is **ICE AGE**. It stands for **In Case of Emergency - Adult Guidance and Education**. You can buy a patch with our logo on it.

Scout Handbook

Each scout is expected to obtain and keep a copy of the "Boy Scout Handbook". This book should be brought to all troop activities and campouts. Protective covers (available from the scout store) are recommended.

Troop Communications

Please make sure we have a valid phone number and email address. We do a lot of communication by email including meeting reminders, notification of available service projects, and transferring of information. You will need to check your email regularly. The success of our program depends on timely dissemination of information. Scouting is more than just a meeting once a week. If you want to send an email to the entire troop, use all@bsa272.org and our web-master will add your email address to the troop distribution so you receive emails. You can also check our troop website www.bsa272.org for calendar information, pictures, troop guidelines etc.

Don't have a computer?? Your scout should arrange to get an email address so they can check for troop emails at the school or public library. Preferably someplace they can go every day or so, especially before troop meetings. Another option would be to buddy up with a scout or family who will agree to call you & your family with all of the updates. A troop roster with phone and email contact information will be handed out separately.

Troop Structure

Boy Scout troops are organized using the patrol method. Patrols consist of four or more scouts, with one scout elected as a patrol leader and one as an assistant patrol leader. Patrol leaders learn how to manage troop activities by working under the direction of a Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) & Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL). Older, experienced Scouts serve as Troop Guides, to assist new Scouts in learning scout skills.

When the troop comes together for a meeting or activity, the Senior Patrol Leader is in charge. He appoints junior leaders and assigns responsibilities as needed (in consultation with the scoutmaster). It is our goal (and the concept of Scouting since its inception) to have scouts run the troop with the adults acting as advisors.

Sometimes it may seem that troop meetings have no structure or that little is being accomplished. There is typically an opening, a break out session where boys brain storm or work on advancement requirements from their book, a planning session and a closing. It is up to the scout to participate in these sessions in order to help the troop accomplish their goals and to accomplish personal goals that week. Be patient (your idea of a well-run meeting was years in formation). The PLC has planned what needs to be done for that week. Encourage your scouts to be attentive, prepared for the meeting, to participate and make appropriate goals/timelines.

Troop Committee

The responsibility of the Troop Committee is to support the Scoutmaster and the Troop leadership in running a successful, safe, and sound program. The committee aids the Scoutmaster in four areas, program planning, advancement, outdoor program and administration. We meet on the **THIRD** Tuesday of the month while the scouts are in their troop meeting, unless otherwise notified by the committee chairman.

All parents can become a voting member of the committee by registering as an adult member of the Boy Scouts and attending the meetings. The intent of the committee is to spread the work of the troop around and not to burden a few adults with an impossible task. Please contact our Scoutmaster or Committee Chairman for an adult application. All Parental concerns can be addressed at the monthly committee meetings.

Order and Discipline

Safe/Successful programs depend on Scouts conducting themselves with the Scout Law & Oath in mind.

Behavior at the Church

Remember, we are guests of our charter organization, Milford Presbyterian Church (MPC); all church property should be treated with respect. Running in the halls and yelling are not permitted. All of the rooms and classes used during weekly meetings should be kept clean with chairs & tables returned to the proper places before leaving. We operate under the leave no trace principle in our meeting areas as well as our camping areas. Scouts should only be in the fellowship hall when authorized by a Scout leader or during a Court of Honor. Rough housing is not allowed & when the Scout Sign is up everyone is expected to be silent.

If scouts violate these rules, the troop leadership will discipline them, in an appropriate manner. If a scout continues to have a problem following Troop rules, a parent will be called to remove them from the meeting. Parental follow up will be arranged as necessary.

Behavior at Campouts and Outings

- Properly use & care for troop equipment including follow up & cleaning of equipment after the outing. All scouts are expected to help load the trailer, clean the campsite etc., at each outing.
- Respect the property of other Scouts and the camp we are visiting.
- Treat other Scouts and visitors with respect in actions and words.
- Follow the instructions of the Troop leadership
- Food is not allowed in tents
- Personal food should not be brought to campouts unless to share. Check with the scoutmaster if unsure.

If Scouts have problems adhering to these codes of conduct, the Scoutmaster and his assistants may prohibit the scout from attending any further weekend campouts or outings until a parental meeting has been held.

Campouts

Troop 272 has an active outdoor program in addition to attending camp for a week in the summer. Parents must sign a permission slip for each activity. If your scout is not attending an activity or campout please circle "NO" and initial the permission slip. That way we know you have seen the sheet and are aware of the activity. Be proactive to learn what is going on. It is difficult to have to call or seek out every individual parent for consent.

Prior to each activity the dates and times are discussed at the troop meetings. You will know of these campouts and activities when your scout tells you from information at the troop meetings, from emails that may be sent out, by looking at the calendar on our website (www.bsa272.org), and by talking with other parents and attending committee meetings.

Transportation to and from campouts is provided by parents, the Scoutmaster, the Assistant Scoutmasters or Troop Committee members, and is often coordinated by the Troop. Parents who are interested in attending a campout should talk to the Scoutmaster and sign up on the permission slip for camping or driving. If you will be driving to an outing we need to have vehicle and insurance information on file for our tour permits.

We generally have a non-denominational church service on Sunday mornings when we are camping. (A scout is reverent). The service is usually held after the packing, clean up, and area policing are done. It is generally less than 20 minutes in length. Scouts must be in Class A uniform for the service. All scouts are encouraged to stay and parents are welcome to come early and pray with us.

Parent Responsibilities on Campouts

- There are many opportunities for parents to accompany the troop on campouts. Unfortunately we cannot accommodate siblings. Scout Parents who attend a campout are often confused as to their proper role. In general, the Scoutmaster or adult leader in charge of the outing defines the parents' roles. Leaders may request specific help from the parents to fulfill the outing's program objectives. Parents should be aware of the following information regarding all troop outings:
- Adults on campouts may offer Scouts advice and guidance, but should not actively assist the Scouts in performing their tasks such as, pitching tents, cooking meals, and working together as a patrol. In keeping with these goals, parents do not share a tent with their son. This is significantly different from the Cub Scout program where parents have a more participatory role. Parents who consider bringing family pets to visit a campout should consult our troop guidelines for more specific information.
- Parents also help assure that campouts are safe, and that every Scout has an opportunity to enjoy his weekend. If a parent observes any dangerous behavior they should immediately put a stop to it, and inform the Scoutmaster or adult leader in charge at the first opportunity. If a parent observes any un-scout-like behavior they should notify a member of the PLC, starting with the Patrol Leader where possible, and let them handle the situation. Remember our adult patrol name is ICE AGE (In Case of Emergency, Adult Guidance and Education)
- Transportation to and from campouts, outings and summer camp depends on all of the adults to help as much as possible. Parents who are attending as well as those not attending are encouraged to help. Please contact the Scoutmaster with your offer of assistance and indicate your availability to drive on the outing permission slip.
- At the end of our campout, troop gear (coolers or troop patrol boxes, cooking equipment) may be assigned to your scout for drying and/or cleanup. Please make sure this is done in a thorough and prompt manner and that the items are returned at our next meeting immediately following the campout or make arrangements with the quartermaster to get the gear back in the troop trailer. Non-perishable food left over is put back into inventory for future use. Food that can be frozen/ or refrigerated for future use needs to be properly stored. Check with the quartermaster for specific instructions regarding food that you may end up with at the end of a campout.

Equipment

Buying Scouting/camping equipment for your Scout does not need to be expensive. If you do not have camping experience, do not let a salesperson equip your scout for an assault on Mt Everest. Most of the camping Troop 272 does is relatively light. Before making any major purchases you are unsure of, such as tents, backpacks, or sleeping bags, please consult with Troop leadership for recommendations. Most of our scouts own tents and BSA requires the boys buddy up with two/three in a tent (until they are First Class or higher) so your scout can share a tent if necessary. The troop supplies each patrol with a camp stove, cooking pots and pans, cooking utensils like spatulas, dish-washing containers, and propane lamps and propane. The boys will need to provide their own mess kit, drinking container(s), tents, day packs, sleeping bags and a duffle bag to put clothing in.

If you want to purchase the tent that most of our scouts have it is a Timberline 4XT. Many in our troop purchased theirs from Campmor (www.campmor.com). Three sample gear lists are in this packet or see the troop website. Match the required gear to the outing. Example: Don't need long underwear at summer camp.

Scout names or an identifying mark should be placed on all items of clothing and personal gear. All of our Green Class B t-shirts in size medium look alike! Mess kits from Wal-mart or Dick's may all look alike. Protect your investments! Label your gear! Don't forget, label eating utensils or you may have to use your fingers. For summer camp it is a good idea to label underwear and socks.

Required Equipment:

For Weekly Meetings

1. Scout Uniform - see the troop guidelines for more details. A sample order form showing our available troop spirit wear is included. We have a few items in stock & generally place an order yearly for spirit wear. We have some "Recycled" uniform shirts available. Please contact the troop apparel person for these items. Scouts are encouraged to turn in outgrown uniform pants, shirts, and uniform shorts, for others to use. Gently used winter boots and hiking boots have been "recycled" among our scouts.
2. Scout Handbook with paper and pencil for taking notes during the meeting.
3. Supplies as designated by the PLC to bring or necessary items for working on advancement.

For Weekend Camping/ Summer Camp

1. Scout Uniform
2. Sleeping bag rated to 0° (zero) degrees minimum (mummy type with stuff sack preferred)
3. Foam pad for use under sleeping bag
4. Raingear (the rain coat for school is usually sufficient)
5. Shoes (hiking boots or work boots offer much more protection from the elements than sneakers)
6. Flashlight
7. Consult the Boy Scout Handbook for a list of personal items or see the enclosed gear lists
8. Duffel bag to hold all of the above
9. Plastic totes may be advisable if wet weather is expected and are great for summer camp.

Desirable Equipment (not required)

1. Backpack- Consult Troop leaders, especially if your Scout is small and growing rapidly.
2. Folding Pocketknife, after Totem Chip Card is earned, (Non-folding, sheath-knives not allowed per BSA).

For summer camp or wilderness outings the Scoutmaster or trip leader will inform Scouts of equipment needed. Additional items may be needed for particular Merit Badges your Scout works on.

Things not allowed

Electronic devices/games are not allowed on campouts with the exception of the January electronics weekend. Scouts are discouraged from bringing cell phones. Scoutmasters and leaders have cell phones for emergency use. See the Troop guidelines for more specifics. Any illegal items and items not allowed per BSA regulations are banned. Guests are not allowed with the exception of registered parents unless approved by the Scoutmaster. The use of foul and mean spirited language is also prohibited.

Troop Dues

Monthly troop dues (\$10) cover things like the Scout's BSA membership fee, Troop re-chartering fees, merit badges, advancement awards, "Boy's Life" magazine (optional), some food for courts of honor and troop equipment (stoves, lanterns, propane, cooking equipment etc). Please make sure dues are paid monthly so we can meet our financial responsibilities and your son can participate in all Troop Activities. Make all checks payable to Troop 272. They may be brought to the Troop meeting or mailed to our Treasurer. Campouts and outings are on a pay as you go basis. These costs are set by the Scoutmaster, Committee Chair and Treasurer.

Registered Adult Leaders need to pay yearly re-chartering dues of \$15.00. No fee is required for Merit Badge Counselors if you are already a registered Adult with any BSA organization. (Merit Badge Counselors do need to fill out an Adult Application form and information sheet once each year). Adults attending campouts and outings need to pay for food and the activity fees the same as the scouts.

Scout Bucks (Scout Accounts)

Our Treasurer keeps separate line items and entries for each scout. Any money paid over and above the monies that are given for dues and pay as you go outings are listed as a credit to each individual account. For example the percentage profit that a scout earns on selling popcorn is listed as a credit in Scout bucks and can be used to offset future expenses for dues or outings. Scouts can add money to their scout bucks at any time. This is a good way to encourage saving for summer camp. Individual summaries of expenses and credits to a scouts account are printed monthly. A sample monthly summary sheet is enclosed. More specifics on dues, collecting dues and scout bucks can be found in our troop guidelines.

Fundraising

Troop 272 participates in the Milford Memories Summer Festival, which is generally held the second weekend of August. Funds from this activity go to the troop general fund to help support things like the cabin for the January electronics campout. All families are expected to participate as much as possible. See the Troop guidelines for additional information on Troop Fundraisers for the General Fund. The PLC will decide throughout the year if other general fundraisers are to be held. The annual Boy Scout popcorn sale is generally a good way for the boys to earn money for their individual scout accounts. All of the boys are encouraged to be entrepreneurial and find some way to earn money to pay their own dues. Many scouts collect bottles and cans in their neighborhood regularly or have a paper route or do lawn services to help offset the cost of scouting.

Rank Advancement Procedure

- Each rank has a list of required elements to be completed prior to earning a particular rank. Boys work at their own pace and are encouraged to be self motivated to achieve the next rank. Some meeting time may be allotted to requirements but not always. Boys may request clarification or guidance from other scouts or adult leaders.
- When Scouts feel that they have completed a requirement, they should:
 1. Take the scout handbook to one of the Scoutmasters.
 2. Ask scoutmaster or other qualified adult leader, "...can you please sign off on requirement number xxx or xxx rank...?" The Scoutmaster or adult may ask the Scout to show his understanding of the requirement and then initial and date the requirement if he believes that it was achieved.
 3. If a parent witnesses a requirement outside of the meeting or campout they may initial the requirement in the body of the book, but only the Scoutmaster and qualified leaders can sign off the requirement in the back of the books.
- We have some items like rope, which Scouts can use to achieve or demonstrate their requirements. However, if a Scout thinks that they want to work on or demonstrate a certain requirement they should "BE PREPARED". This means bring gear, knowledge, papers etc. to meetings or outings to ensure the ability to work on or demonstrate knowledge or skill to a Scoutmaster.
- After an achievement is signed off, the Scout should take his book and show the Advancement chair. This will be recorded in hard copy and in our computer software (designed for tracking scouting advancements). This is how we keep track of your status and know you are ready to advance to the next rank.
- When a Scout thinks they are ready to RANK ADVANCE to the next level, first see the Advancement Chair with your handbook. If all requirements have been completed, the Advancement Chair will contact the Scoutmasters and arrange for a Scoutmaster Conference with the Scout. (This is the 2nd to the last requirement for every rank). It may be the same night or it may need to be the next meeting night or at an upcoming campout.
- After passing the scoutmaster Conference, the scout then goes back to the Advancement Chair so a Board of Review for that Scout can be arranged. (This is the last requirement for every rank). Typically this is set up for the next time the troop meets as a group because at least three committee members must perform the board of review.
- Council must verify eligibility before the board of review can take place. If the council computers are down or other scheduling issues arise it may be a week or more before a board of review date can be set. We want the scouts to be successful and are committed to getting them recognition in a timely manner. We appreciate your patience.
- At the end of each board of review the scout will be asked to fill out a goal sheet (included in this packet) that will be reviewed at the next board of review. These sheets will be kept with the advancement chair for reference.

Merit Badge Procedure

Scouts can start on merit badges as soon as they join our troop following the procedure below.

1. Scout selects a merit badge they would like to work on.
2. Ask Advancement Chair to help find a counselor for that merit badge.
3. Scout calls the Merit Badge Counselor to verify they are willing to be his counselor.
4. If the counselor says yes, go to Scoutmaster and ask permission to work on the particular merit badge.
5. Scoutmaster will verify he has a counselor and make sure the merit badge is appropriate for his age, rank and skill set, and will issue a blue card to the scout. The blue card is authorization to start working. Blue cards are very important. Merit badge counselors will not sign off on any work completed without one.
6. Scout can work on his merit badge under the counselor's direction. (Scout may have to have several meetings with the counselor to show completed work or demonstrate items.)
7. Scout contacts counselor when he feels he is finished. Arrange meeting with counselor to go over the merit badge requirements and get blue card signed off. The counselor will return two of the three parts to you.
8. Turn those two blue card sections into the Advancement Chair for processing.
9. Advancement Chair will return one section to you after going to council to process the final paperwork and purchase the badge. This may take up to two weeks depending on scheduling and availability.
10. Merit Badges will be presented once earned and available at the next troop meeting and may be recognized again at the next Court of Honor.

When blue cards are returned, you should keep them in a safe place! If there is a mix up or somehow council records do not show you having earned a certain merit badge this is your only proof that you completed the badge. This could be the difference between getting your Eagle Rank in the future and being denied!

Merit Badge Books

Our troop maintains a library of merit badge books that scouts may borrow and then return. See the Troop Librarian for a listing of available books. New books are available at the Council Scout Store. Scouts may also go online to various websites for a listing of the requirements. Scouts should always verify the current requirements if using an older book from the troop library or using a requirements list from on line.

Here are two sample websites that list the requirements for various merit badges:

www.meritbadgeworkshop.com
www.ussscouts.org/mb/worksheets

Medical Forms

In an effort to provide better care to those who may become ill or injured and to provide youth members and adult leaders a better understanding of their physical capabilities, the Boy Scouts of America established minimum standards for providing medical information prior to participating in various activities.

Form 34605 is the new "Annual Health and Medical form" - it replaces ALL previous forms. The description included tells you when you need which portion of the form. Copies of the form are included in this packet and may be found on the council web site. Every scout should have parts A and C complete and on file with our Troop before going on any outings with the troop. Go to www.glcscouting.org to get the latest medical form

Additionally our Troop maintains health history and insurance information in our troop database for scouts and adults participating in our events. Those forms are also included in this packet. Please copy them if needed, fill them out and return them as soon as possible.

Training

The new Basic Leader Training program is the culmination of more than two years of work by professionals and volunteers from throughout the nation. Their goal was to revise and update the volunteer leader training materials for the Boy Scouts of America. The result is a seamless training program that helps leaders easily graduate through the courses quickly and with little duplication.

The package provides the district training committee with tools to achieve 100 percent trained unit volunteers. It begins with the existing Fast Start training, continues through New Leader Essentials, and is followed by Leader Specific training for each adult's role in the unit.

Here is a brief overview of the components of the training continuum.

Orientation/Fast Start Training

Fast Start training is the first step for any new volunteer and needs to be taken after a new leader registers and before he or she meets with any youth member. Youth Protection Training (YPT) is our highest priority for the safety and well-being of our youth members and participants. YPT training will teach every leader and parent the rules of child protection in the Boy Scouts of America. Youth Protection training and Fast Start training are both available online, see the online section below for the link.

Basic Leader Training

The new Basic Leader Training comprises two parts: New Leader Essentials for all unit-level leaders and Leader Specific training, which is based on the leader's unit-level position.

Leader Specific Training

These training courses include leader specific training for Boy Scout, and Venturing leaders; an introduction to outdoor leader skills; and the new Wood Badge course.

Outdoor Training

This training is required for Basic Training Status in some programs.

Online Training

Various training sessions are available from BSA for Boy Scout, and Venturing Fast Start as well as Youth Protection Training. There are also online components for Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat Training. You will need to create an account and your BSA person ID number will be needed.

(<http://www.scouting.org/Applications/MyScoutingFull.aspx>)

What Makes a Trained Leader?

- **Scoutmasters and assistant Scoutmasters** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials, Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training, and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.
- **Troop committee members** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials and the Troop Committee Challenge as their Leader Specific training.
- **Varsity Scout leaders and assistants** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials, Varsity Scout Leader Specific Training (available April 2002), and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.
- **Venturing crew Advisors, assistant Advisors, and crew committee members** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials and Venturing Leader Specific Training.
- **Commissioners** are considered trained with New Leader Essentials and Commissioner Basic Training.

What Leader Specific Trainings are offered?

- Boy Scout Leaders:
 1. Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Training
 2. Troop Committee Challenge Training
- Venturing Leaders:
 1. Venturing Crew Advisors Training
 2. Venturing Crew Members Training
- Commissioners:
 1. Commissioners Basic Training
- District Committee Members:
 1. District Committee Training

Supplemental Training listed below is available for the leaders within the program.

Introduction to Outdoor Skills = Outdoor Training for Boy Scout leaders. (Required for Basic Training certification) This is also recommended for Venturing Leaders but not required.

Powderhorn = Specialized Supplemental Outdoor Training for Venturing Leaders

21st Century Woodbadge Training = ADVANCED Training for all Scout Leaders. This training is encouraged for any Scouter within the first two years in the program and requires only Fast Start and Basic Training to have been completed as pre-requisites for attendance.

Who's Who in Troop 272?

Scouts	As of February 2010
Senior Patrol Leader	
Assistant Senior Patrol Leader	
Patrol Leader Arrows	
Assistant Patrol Leader Arrows	
Patrol Leader Indians	
Assistant Patrol Leader Indians	
Patrol Leader Sharks	
Assistant Patrol Leader Sharks	
Troop Guide	
Chaplin Aide	
Den Chief	
Den Chief	
Den Chief in waiting	
Quartermaster	
Scribe	
Liberian	
Historian	
Quartermaster	
Web Master , Assistant Senior Patrol Leader	

Scout positions are voted on about twice annually to give all of the boys a chance for leadership, as ranks require it. Names will be provided separately at meetings.

Adults	As of February 2010
Troop Committee Chair	
Scoutmaster	
Assistant Scoutmaster	
Assistant Scoutmaster	
Assistant Scoutmaster	
Quartermaster	
Advancement Chairman	
Recruiting & Chaplin	
Recruiting	
Recruiting	
Fund-raising	
Fund-raising	
Training	
Troop Apparel	
Adventure Scouts Advisor	
Treasurer	
Committee Secretary	
Charter Organization Representative	

Adult positions are voted on at the Annual All Parent Meeting in October (see the Troop Guidelines for more about this meeting). Names will be provided separately at meetings.

(FAQ's) Frequently Asked questions? Where to go for the answers

Questions	Go To Resources
What equipment do I need?	Quarter master, Scoutmasters, Web site, other scouts
What if I think I am ready for my next rank?	Advancement Chair
How do I get started on a merit badge?	Advancement Chair
What if I want to go over some requirements today?	Scoutmaster, Asst. Scoutmaster, Other scouts
When do I get my rank badge?	We strive for immediate recognition. As soon as the paperwork can be processed through council the advancement chair will go get to council to purchase the badge (usually within two weeks). The badge will be presented at a regular Tuesday meeting. You will also be recognized at the next court of honor with a candle ceremony for your achievement.
What if I don't understand what to do at meetings?	PLC, other Scouts
What is PLC?	Patrol Leader Council (Scouts that have positions, such as Patrol Leader, Asst Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader etc.)
What if I am having problems with a certain scout?	PLC and if need be, work your way up as necessary for resolution.
What if I don't understand a requirement? (example: I don't get how to tie this knot)	Other Scouts, Troop Guide, PLC

More FAQ's like what to Do If....?

My Scout wakes up ill the morning of a campout or event?	Call the adult running the event or the Scoutmaster. If unable to reach someone go to the meeting place to inform them of the situation.
My Scout will be unable to attend the weekly meeting?	HE should notify his patrol leader of his planned absence and make arrangements to get updated after the meeting
My Scout misses a weekly Troop meeting?	HE should call his Patrol Leader to get any information that he might have missed and check his email for any announcements.
My Scout brings home patches and you don't know where to sew them?	Consult the BSA Handbook or ask the Scoutmaster. See the included sample "Uniform inspection sheet" for additional help.
I don't sew?	Find a friend who does, teach your scout to sew, or buy the badge magic product available at the council store. (Especially good for merit badges on the sash since it is washed infrequently.)
My Scout is unsure of the requirements for his next rank?	HE can consult BSA Handbook or the Scoutmaster
My Scout earns the next rank or Merit Badge?	Attend all Courts of Honor to show your support for the Scouts and the troop and your pride in their achievements.

What can I do as a parent to help?

- Encourage regular, prompt meeting attendance.
- Help plan or assist and chaperone on a weekend outing or day event.
- Become a Registered Adult with our Troop and Attend Committee Meetings.
- Volunteer for one of our troop committee positions at our annual parent meeting in October.
- Get Trained: Youth Protection is required for all registered adults and anyone spending time with the boys (Available on Line). Be familiar with the two deep leadership concept.
- Get More Training: Risk Zone, Safety Afloat, Leadership Essentials, Leader Specifics, Climb on Safely (All are available on Line).
- Help with the paperwork for Summer Camp or Help with popcorn sales in the fall.
- Volunteer to coordinate the rides to and from Summer Camp.
- Save some vacation to attend Summer Camp or split the week with another parent or your spouse
- Fill out the enclosed Troop Resource Form & also use your skills to be a merit badge counselor
- Become an Assistant Scoutmaster.
- Chair a troop fundraiser and/or come up with a great fundraiser for the troop.
- Volunteer to drive for various outings and campouts.
- Help your scout learn the scout oath, law, outdoor code etc. and help him learn the scout laws. These are required and will be tested verbally at all Board of Review sessions.
- Volunteer to take your scout to shop for the groceries for the patrol for a campout or activity.
- Teach your scout to shop wisely and within budget when they do the group shopping.
- Remind your scout about healthy foods & well-rounded meals when planning meals with the patrol or troop
- Assist with coordinating/ decorating/ bringing food for the quarterly court of honor celebrations.
- Support your scout through their scouting adventures.

Gear Lists

A Scout is Always Prepared! Use any and all of these lists when getting ready for an outing.

General Camping

GENERAL CAMPING GEAR LIST	This list is not meant to be all inclusive or exclusive.
tent	plate/bowl
ground cloth	spoon, fork, knife
camp chair	thermocup
Sleeping/Mummy Bag	canteen/waterbottle
emergency blanket	scout handbook
pillow	notebook/pencil
Backpack/Daypack	kleenex
scout uniform	pocketknife
scout/troop hat	*whistle/mirror
extra socks	compass
extra underwear	money if needed
clothing	sunscreen
hat to sleep in	insect repellent
hiking boots	fire starters
rain poncho	foam pad
name stake	trail food
OPTIONAL:	EQUIPMENT TO BRING
camera	walkie talkie
	seasonal clothing as needed

Note: No personal food is allowed in tents on any campout. If you bring food to share leave it in the troop trailer.
*Whistle is required for emergency procedures on all campouts.

Winter Camping

Troop 272 camps even in colder months throughout the year. During the months of October thru March, each camping member of the troop, adults and scouts needs to have gear suited for cold weather. Our intentions are to provide the best possible outing for our campers. Experience has shown us that the following list of gear provides FUN and SAFE camping experiences. In addition to the general gear there are several items to make sure to have for colder weather.

- Foam Pad -- closed cell foam, full length.
- Emergency Blanket -- Reflective on one side.
- Sleeping Bag -- rated at a minimum of 0° F.
- Cold Weather Boots -- Water resistant hiking boot.
- Spare Pair of Shoes -- To be worn only if needed.
- Wicking Socks -- 3 pair total -- 2 to use -- 1 spare -- (polypropylene)
- Hiking Socks -- 3 pair total -- 2 to use -- 1 spare -- wool, thermax, etc.. ...
- Thermal Underwear -- 2 pair minimum -- polypropylene inner/ wool outer.
- Thermal layer -- Fleece slacks and tops, etc. ... -- 3 sets -- 2 to use -- 1 spare
- Outer layer -- Rain/water protection -- Rain suit (waterproof/breathable), or Snow pants, etc.
- Winter Coat -- Should be water resistant and have a hood.
- Winter Hat and Gloves -- 2 pair each -- 1 each to use -- 1 each spare
- Neck warmer...(i.e. turtle fur or balaclava)
- Hat to sleep in

Outdoor Camping Mantra--**Cotton Kills**—It absorbs too much moisture and takes too long to dry out!

Summer Camp Gear List

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT LIST:	<i>Please use a water-resistant marker to identify all personal items. (Label all equipment with name & T 272)</i>
Complete Scout Uniform Pant/Shorts, Socks & Belt) (Shirts -Two , Class A and at least one Class B	Sunscreen
	Tennis Shoes
Extra Pants	Extra Shirts
Hiking Shoes	Extra Shoes-- Open Toe shoes are not allowed
Underwear/Socks for week	Swim trunks
Sweater/Sweatshirt/jacket	Three Towels (Swimming, Shower, Extra)
Fleece Blanket	Bathroom Kit (soap, toothpaste, watch shampoo)
Sleeping Bag	Small pillow
Canteen/Water Bottles	Mess Kit
Scout Handbook	Merit Badge Books with completed prerequisites
Notebook, paper and pencils	Nylon Cord
Flashlight (extra batteries)	Spending Money (Snacks at camp, Lunch to and from camp)
Fishing gear (if applicable/desired)	Rain gear (poncho)
Ground Cloth or small cot	Pocketknife
Back Pack/Day Pack as needed	Insect Repellent
OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT TO BRING:	
Pocketknife	Hat(s)
Bandanas	Sunglasses
Compass	Camera/Film
Binoculars	Sewing Kit
Bible	Musical Instruments (bring at your own risk)
Personal First Aid Kit/Band Aids	Hangar for Class A Shirt inside tent
Plastic Tote (clothes stay dry, makes a tent table)	
DO NOT BRING:	
Fireworks	Shooting equipment
Walkmans	DVD players
IPOD's or Radios	Other personal valuables
Cells phones	Food in your tents

Scout Bucks Monthly Summary Sheet...SAMPLE

Scout Bucks Account YE 09 30 10						
Troop 272						
<u>SAMPLE - John Doe</u>						
BALANCE	Date	10/1/009	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance / (Amt Due)	Comment
	10/01/09	33.75			33.75	BOY Bal
	10/31/09			(10.00)	23.75	Dues - 2009 10
	11/30/09			(10.00)	13.75	Dues - 2009 11
	12/31/09			(5.00)	8.75	Merit Badge Day Lunch
	01/05/10		15.00		23.75	Dues - 2010 91
	Total / Proof	33.75	15.00	(25.00)	23.75	
	MONTHLY DUES	Troop Dues				
Month		Date	\$	\$ / SB TRF		
Oct		10/31/09	10.00	SB TRF		
Nov		11/30/09	10.00	SB TRF		
Dec		12/15/09	10.00	\$		
Jan						
Feb						
Mar						
Apr						
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
BALANCE						
o Similar to a bank statement.						
o Positive Amount is your balance, Negative Amount is what you OWE.						
o Payments you make that do not include advice as how to apply payment (campouts, dues, troopwear, etc) are deposited into Scout Bucks account, or you can make a deposit for future expenses.						
o Expenses incurred (Dues, campouts, troopwear, etc) and not paid, are taken out of Scout Bucks at the end of each month.						
Monthly Dues						
o Tracks payment of monthly dues and how they are paid as follows:						
- Paid by check prior to month end and payment is identified as Dues.						
This payment would be applied directly to the troop and may not flow in and out of Scout Bucks.						
The monthly dues section will indicate this was paid via check or cash by "\$" - similar to December 2009.						
- Payment not received by month end, and needs to be taken from Scout Bucks						
is indicated with "SB", similar to October and November above.						

Troop 272 Individual Scout Goal Sheet

Troop 272 Individual Scout Goal Sheet		
Name:	Date:	
Age:		
Current Rank:		
Rank:	Goal Date:	% Done
Rank:	Goal Date:	% Done

Merit Badge	Target Start Date	Progress as of (Date)	Target Completion Date

Other Personal Goals:

TROOP LEADERSHIP POSITIONS Desired (with Date)
TROOP IMPROVEMENTS I can help with:
SCOUT LAWS I need to address or work on:
SKILLS I need help with or want to improve:
SCHOOL or GPA Goals:
LIFE or CAREER Goals:

Troop Spirit Wear Order Form –SAMPLE

Please indicate the quantity of each size for each item in the boxes below. The pricing of each item is shown in the table. Orders will be placed on a group basis. In order to keep the prices low we typically do not order on an individual basis.

Normally we will order if we get a large group at cross over time and then maybe again just before summer camp. Orders may be placed before Christmas if enough families are interested.

Shirts & Fleece	(Adult Sizes)	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	\$ each	XX-Large	\$ each	
Bright Green T-Shirt with logo						\$6.00		\$8.00	
Bright Green Hooded Sweatshirt with logo						\$14.00		\$16.00	
Red Full Zip Fleece Jacket w/embroidered logo						\$22.00		\$24.00	
Hats & Caps									
Black knit hat w/ embroidered logo (one size)				Hat Qty		\$7.00			
Black baseball cap w/ embroidered logo (one size)				Cap Qty		\$8.00			
						Total \$	<input type="text"/>	Total \$	<input type="text"/>
Name _____									
Phone # _____									
Please make all checks payable to Troop 272. Any questions?? Please call Lisa Ferrari @ (248) 624-8561.									
Thank you.									

Scout Personal Data Collection Form (TroopMaster)

Scout Personal Data Collection Form

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

BSA ID#: _____ Sex: M / F

Address: _____ Mailing: _____

_____ School Sports _____

Phone(s) Home: (____) _____ DOB: __/__/__ Grade: ____ School: _____

Work _____: (____) _____ Cell _____: (____) _____

Email: _____ Joined Unit: __/__/__ Boys' Life: Y / N

Cub From: __/__/__ Cub To: __/__/__ Highest Cub Badge: _____

Health form on file: Y / N Date

Emergency Contact(s): _____ Phone: (____) _____ Health Form A: __/__/__

_____ Phone: (____) _____ Health Form B: __/__/__

Doctor: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Health Form C: __/__/__

Insurance: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Tetanus: __/__/__

Insurance Policy: _____ Group: _____

Medications: _____

Allergies: _____

Other: _____

Prior Experience: From To Level Unit # Council #

__/__/__ __/__/__ _____

Father: _____ Guardian: Y / N Mother: _____ Guardian: Y / N

Phone(s) Work: _____ Phone(s) Work: _____

Email: _____ Email: _____

Drivers Lic: _____ ST: ____ Drivers Lic: _____ ST: ____

Employer: _____ Employer: _____

Occupation: _____ Occupation: _____

Insurance (in thousands)

Vehicle(s) (year/make/model)	# Belts	Lic Plate	Hitch	Per Person	Per Accident	Property
_____	_____	_____	Y / N	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	Y / N	_____	_____	_____

Remarks: _____

Adult Personal Data Collection Form (TroopMaster)

Adult Personal Data Collection Form

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

BSA ID#: _____ Sex: M / F Spouse: _____

Address: _____ Mailing: _____

Phone(s) Home: (____) _____ DOB: __/__/__

_____: (____) _____ Drivers Lic: _____ ST: ____

_____: (____) _____ Employer: _____

_____: (____) _____ Occupation: _____

Email: _____

Boys' Life: Y / N Highest Scout Rank: _____ Eagle Date: __/__/__

Joined Unit: __/__/__ Became Leader: __/__/__

Health form on file: Y / N Date

Emergency Contact(s): _____ Phone: (____) _____ Health Form A: __/__/__

Phone: (____) _____ Health Form B: __/__/__

Doctor: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Health Form C: __/__/__

Insurance: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Tetanus: __/__/__

Insurance Policy: _____ Group: _____

Medications: _____

Allergies: _____

Other: _____

Insurance (in thousands)

Vehicle(s) (year/make/model) # Belts Lic Plate Hitch Per Person Per Accident Property

_____ Y / N _____

_____ Y / N _____

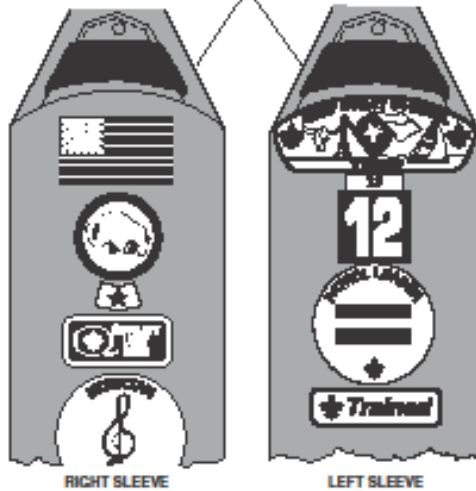
Prior Service: From To Level Unit # Council #

__/__/__ __/__/__ _____

Remarks: _____

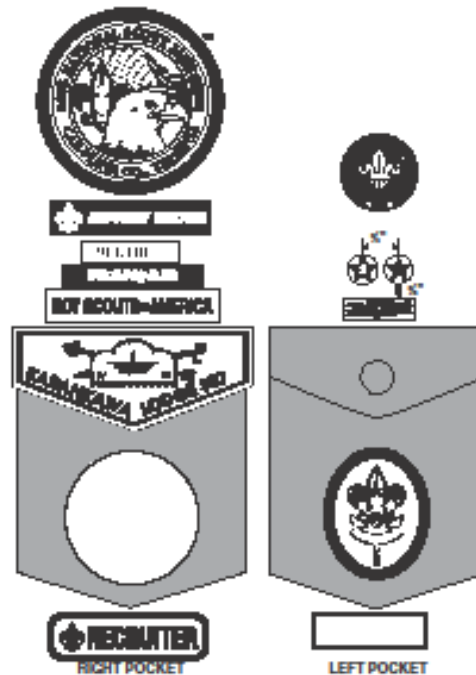
BOY SCOUT/VARSITY SCOUT UNIFORM INSPECTION SHEET
OFFICIAL PLACEMENT OF INSIGNIA

SHOULDER EPAULETS AND LOOPS



RIGHT SLEEVE

LEFT SLEEVE



RIGHT POCKET

LEFT POCKET

Conduct uniform inspection with common sense; the basic rule is neatness.

Merit Badge Sash. If worn, merit badges are attached to front (and back, if needed) of sash. Venture/Varsity letter is attached at bottom front corner. Temporary insignia may be worn on back.

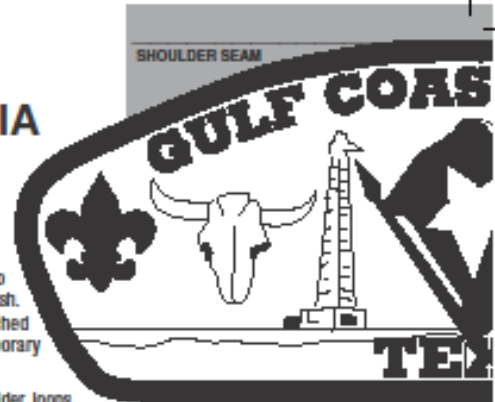
Shoulder Epaulets. Red shoulder loops identify Boy Scouting (all members of a troop). Blaze (orange) loops identify Varsity Scouting.

Left Sleeve. Council patches, unit numeral, and badge of office are worn as shown snug up, and touching each other. Badge of office is centered below and touches unit numeral. The veteran unit bar (25, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, or 80 years) is positioned above and touching troop numeral and in turn touching council patch. Den chief cord is worn over the left shoulder and under epaulet.

Left Pocket. Service stars above the pocket. If a medal or embroidered knot for youth members is worn, service stars are raised. Embroidered square knots are worn centered above the pocket in rows of three. Not more than five medals may be worn, pinned centered immediately above the pocket (extending over knots if both are worn). The wearing sequence for knots or medals is at the wearer's discretion and lead color is to the wearer's right. Badges of rank are worn centered on the pocket above the Arrow of Light Award. Flap buttoned. The World Crest is worn centered horizontally over the left pocket and vertically between the left shoulder seam and the top of the pocket.

Right Sleeve. U.S. flag. Only the most recently earned Quality Unit Award may be worn below patrol emblem or below National Honor Patrol star. Musician badge, if in band or drum corps, is worn 1/2 inch below patrol emblem.

Right Pocket. Jamboree insignia (only one) worn above BSA or interpreter strip. Order of the Arrow lodge insignia worn on pocket flap. Temporary insignia worn centered on the pocket. Flap buttoned. The Varsity or Venture strip is worn above the BSA strip or above the interpreter strip. Nameplate, if worn, is centered above the BSA strip, interpreter strip, and Venture or Varsity strip.



SHOULDER SEAM



Position above diagram on left sleeve to guide you on proper placement of insignia.



The Scouting Seal
 Is Your Guarantee of
 Quality, Excellence,
 and Performance.

OVER

Directions

Great Lakes Council Local Office (www.glcscouting.org)

248-338-0035

1100 County Center Dr. W.

Waterford, MI 48328-1903

Directions to Kensington Group Camp

96W. to Milford Rd North.

Left on General Motors Road (by the McDonalds)

Left on Martindale Rd.

Right on first road into group camp area.

Follow the signs to the designated group campsite number being used by the troop for that outing.

Directions to Island Lake Rustic Cabins

12950 E. Grand River, Brighton, MI 48116 810-229-7067

Four miles SE of Brighton from I 96. Take I-96 W. to Kensington Rd.

Left on Kensington Road

Left into Island Lake State Park

Right at the road split just past the guard shack.

Follow the road a long way past Spring Mill Pond

Left at the sign that says Rustic Cabins

Left at the Dumpster and follow the road back to one of two cabins as designated for the weekend.

Directions to Highland Recreation Area Group Camp

5200 Highland Road, White Lake, MI 48393 248-889-3750

Milford Road or Duck Lake Road North to M-59 (Two miles east of Highland on M-59)

M -59 East to Highland Recreation area on the South side of M 59

Right into Highland Recreation State Park. Go past the Ranger Station on the right.

Keep on that road heading straight back into the park.

The road will end at a Historic Barn. Park there or turn right depending on road conditions

Group Camp sites are in the open grassy areas as marked.

Directions to Proud Lake Group Campsites

About 4 miles southeast of Milford from M-59 or 6 Miles North of I-96

Wixom Road North to the light at Glengary/Wixom Trail Road.

Left on Wixom Trail

Right into Proud Lake Main entrance...almost across from Heavener Canoe Rental

Follow the road to the first parking lot on the left past the park office

Park and carry gear to designated campsite along the river.

Directions to Proud Lake Cabin

Same as above but keep going and follow the road further back into the park.

Pass up the lodges on the left. Follow the road around the curve to the left.

You will see the lodge up on the hill to your left.

Keep to the left around the curve, (the river will be on your right).

Go up the hill to the Cabin and park in the lot.

Parent and Scout Sign Off

**Please fill out, sign this sheet in the appropriate places,
Return to Scoutmaster or Advancement Chair ASAP**

We have read and agree to follow the Troop 272 Scout / Parent Handbook and Troop 272 Guidelines

Print Scout's Name _____

Scout Signature _____ (Date) _____

Print Parent Name/Names _____

Parent Signature _____ (Date) _____

I give my permission to Troop 272 to use pictures of my son on the Troop's Internet website, pictures and/or names in magazine or newspaper articles about the troop and our activities, or media used for troop recruiting.

Print Parent Name/Names _____

Parent Signature _____ (Date) _____

I give my permission to release my phone number and email address to the members of Troop 272 for contact and communication purposes only.

Print Parent Name/Names _____

Parent Signature _____ (Date) _____