

# Parent Orientation and Welcome

(2021 EDITION)

## Introductions

### Committee

### Around The Table introductions

(Handout 0 Contact Information)

## Health Forms

### Parts AB and ABC

(on website under Library)

Existing Scouts: 2 copies of A,B,C Forms due by July 1st.

Good for 1 yr, Tomahawk keeps a copy.

1st Year Scouts: Form A & B due for 1st Camp, will need Form C by July 1st.

## Medications

Medications that need to be taken by any Scout at camp must be administered by an adult leader. This leader can be an assistant Scoutmaster or Scoutmaster.

### *TOMAHAWK SPECIFIC*

Tomahawk can store some medications that need refrigeration.

Sending Medications to Camp- Medications must be in their original container with the camper's name, the name of the medication, dose, frequency and the physician's name. Please send a supply for 8 days, not the whole bottle. The dose and frequency on the bottle will be followed, so please ensure that all bottles convey the correct information.

Medications at Camp -Medications must be stored in a secure area and out of reach of Scouts. Troops should have a lock-box or a system in place to secure medications.

**Specifically, any allergies and maintenance medicines information ASAP to Scoutmaster Dan**

## Photo Release

(Opt Out Form on Website)

## Talent Survey

(Handout 3)

## Volunteering Opportunities

Volunteering opportunities. It is amazing how much life gets in the way of what we "want" to do.

However, as the saying goes, nobody ever looks back and says I wish I had worked more. The regret is not having spent the quality time with our family, children, and friends that we could have.

The opportunities to be involved range from cooking/purchasing snacks for a Court of Honor, to instructing the youth on a skill you possess, to assisting as chaperone on camping/field trips, to being an adult leader in the troop for meetings, to joining the committee. The list simply goes on.

## Summer Camp

We will require at least one parent of a first year scout in attendance for each day of summer camp to oversee and assist the "Brownsea" scout program with the first year scouts. More later.

## Training

A prerequisite to most of these is successfully completing the "**Youth Protection Training**" course. This can be located at (<http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>).

You do not need to be a registered leader, and I recommend each parent or guardian consider taking the training class (it is online and about 30 minutes, if I remember correctly). Your current adult leaders have taken it numerous times (in both online and in person settings). Look for the "Trained" emblem on our sleeves. This training is also given (after a fashion) each year to the youth members of our troop. We will be coordinating that in the coming months.

**It is a requirement to be Youth Protection trained if at camp for more than 72 hours. ( Tomahawk)**

## Communications

### How we communicate

- Typically email – google groups

  - Troop-parents / PLC / committee

  - Must be member to see / send to lists

- Paper handouts / In Person

- Phone calls

- Looking at Scoutbook messaging...

- Youth are interested in Apps and Text but there are hurdles....

- Slack

## Two-Deep

As a requirement for youth protection, we communicate to the youth members and always copy another adult. This may be the parent/guardian, it may be another adult leader. On phone conversations, we ask that an adult be in the room listening to the conversation.

## Youth Communication

We often have the need to communicate to both the youth, and the adults in a family. Due to this, it is often hard to ensure that the youth is getting access to the information they need.

Please make a special effort to show the communications to the scout - it is part of their learning experience to learn to care and be responsible for themselves. This will get "easier" as the youth begin to have their own email addresses, when you will be a "cc" recipient instead of a "to".

Believe me, we know they are young. It is simply easier to start the habit now of expecting them to be involved, then to change it later.

## Adult Communication

Adults must read and respond if asked.

We often have deadlines for registration and we need adult signoff on youth commitments in a timely manner. This can be a very stressful area of the leadership process. Please be mindful of the deadlines and do your part to assist in the process of planning and communicating, preferably through and with the younger scouts.

## Scoutbook

We are utilizing Scoutbook as our tracking tool primarily, but the tool has much more capabilities that we have not yet integrated into our troop operations. Our first area of investigation is the Calendar, which we have been using internally, but we are now exclusively using as our electronic calendar.

## Website

The best place to look for information on the troop is the troop website: <http://troop-692.weebly.com/> . In particular, there is a PDF version of the calendar, and a Scoutbook "ics" version of the calendar that you can subscribe to on your phone/calendar client. (<https://www.scoutbook.com/ics/33256.D5961.ics>)

(Handout Calendar - two sided and website)

## Meetings

### Where and When

Follow the Scoutbook calendar – we try hardest to keep that up to date

Currently St Marks on Monday Nights at 7:00-8:30pm

Adults leaders have difficulty getting there any earlier

### Who

Parents are *not required* to stay

As parents and leaders the “toughest” part is letting the scouts lead themselves with only guidance.

We can always use help – two deep leadership, etc.

We have had to cancel meetings because we could not guarantee two leaders in attendance

*With our increased numbers, side conversations can distract the Scouts during meetings. Parents are encouraged to join us but if you must have conversations please use the space outside the scout room. If you are not actively involved in supervising or presenting to the scouts, we ask that you do not attend meetings to minimize distractions.*

## Finances

### Dues / Fees

Recharter Fees

- Up until 2019, We have not charge dues contingent on effective fundraising.
- It was announced that starting with the 2020 re-charter process there would be a significant increase in scouting fees for youth and adults. There has been no official discussion within the troop committee, but I anticipate this will requiring changes going forward. We welcome your participation in this discussion.

Friends of Scouting

Activity Fees

### Fundraising

Popcorn – harder as they get older (maybe?)

Wreath – consistent and reliable at all ages

Other options ...

Since we are dependent on this, it “needs” to be successful at a certain level.

We will need an adult to be the “point person” for the effort and report progress

Davanni's, Dairy Queen,

Coordination w/ Legion/St Marks: Spaghetti Feed, Pancake Breakfast, others?

## Friends of Scouting

### Scout Accounts

We have segregated accounting in the troop account representing individual scout accounts for our troop. We have had the good fortune of Pack 692 generously transferring the portion of fundraising, pro-rated, for the year to the Troop for our scouts who transitioned. We must remember to be thankful. Funds from Cub Scout Pack 692 individual scout accounts will soon be transferred to your Troop 692 scout accounts. You will receive a statement of your account at that time.

### Troop Funds

- Troop / Patrol Equipment
- Troop Supplies (training / books)
- Activity Expenses
- Subsidies for Camps
- Trailer Insurance

## Troop Equipment

Doing OK currently

Purchased a trailer/outfitted in 2016

Trailer could use interior lighting upgrade.

Three patrol kits outfitted

Working on a fourth now - Have started but not yet fully stocked

Purchased 8 identical tents in 2016, 5 more in 2017, 7 more in 2018

Need to purchase large canopy stakes

Some "wear and tear" damage to tents above expected. Need to monitor.

Excessive damage to tents/equipment may require scouts/families to pay for repairs.

## Future Efforts

### Summer Camp

(On website under Activities- Tomahawk)

For the Boy Scout level, there are numerous opportunities for camping, and the highlight of the year is likely the Summer Camp. As a troop, we currently have chosen to attend Tomahawk Scout Reservation (<http://www.camptomahawk.org/>) in Wisconsin. This is a full week camp, and planning is typically done a full year in advance. We will be in attendance on August 01-August 08 this year. Please place these dates on your family calendar, it is highly recommended for the youth.

We will be getting the updated information for this year's camp (typically) in early February and will provide a message via the troop mailing list that the information has been updated when we have had time to process the changes.

### Summer Camp Swap

We can swap with another troop at the Many Point location for one year without losing priority reservation

Do the Scouts want to do this?

When? 2020? 2021? 2022?

This would likely mean a change of week but would allow us to return to our "Mingo" camp site the following year.

## High Adventure Trip

Possible in 2021? 2022?

Not planned, not budgeted, but this will need about a year to coordinate  
Philmont, SeaBase, Northern Tier, Summit Reserve,...

Partner Troop / District / Council Contingencies

I have been approached by Troop 232,  
Available SeaBase and Philmont opportunities in 2021

Jamboree

National Jamboree 2021 – Next Opportunity

Troop Planned Destination

High Adventure Working Group (HAWG) working on a trip to Moab, UT 2020/2021  
Black Hills?  
Boundary Waters?

Troop Preparation activities

Canoe trips, backpacking, hiking, ...

National Order of the Arrow Conference

August 3-8, 2020, at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI  
This conflicts with our scheduled Tomahawk Summer camp week  
Scouts and Adult leaders are planning on attending

Order of the Arrow High Adventure opportunities

“Earn A Trip” opportunities  
Work for a week, camp for a week  
Special “off the menu trips”, typically

## Behavior Expectations and Discipline

## Other Topics

### Co-Ed BSA Packs and Troops

Pack is in Early Adopter program and begin in 2018.

Troops eligible in 2019

Our Chartered Org (American Legion) is open to possibility

We have not initiated this process-

will require need (5 youth) and resources (additional adult leaderships)

## How is a troop run?

(Youth join Adults at this topic)

### Troop Organization Chart – Boy Lead, Adult Leader Advised

(on website under Library)

Adult Leaders

Committee

Patrol Leaders Conference

### Aims and Methods

(on website under Library)

#### Ideals

Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan, Outdoor Code

#### Patrols

"The patrol system is not one method in which Scouting for boys can be carried on. It is the only method." - Lord Baden-Powell, Scouting's founder

#### Advancement

All scouts are now using the 2016 version of the handbook.

(on website and in the back of each Scout Handbook)

#### Outdoor Program

Once per month (targeted) for Camping / Outing

Needs to be relevant, interesting, attended

Forms need to be verified and provided for each activity

“Summer” Camp

Week-long (Health Form ABC) Camp

May require some “specialized” equipment to have a safe/enjoyable experience

(on website under Library and Forms)

May require adult permission to participate

Shooting sports – Legal restrictions

(on website under Library & Forms)

Facility Permission forms

#### Ranks

(on website under Library & Troop handouts)

Numerous achievements per rank, similar to Cubs.

Do not need to fully complete prior rank to work on later achievements, different than Cubs

Sign-Off process-

demonstrate by scout and sign off by scout leader (PLC/SM/ASM)

if Scout/Tenderfoot/Second Class/First Class, should have fellow scouts sign off

(signee must already hold rank, ask for demonstration of skill)

if Star/Life/Eagle must be SM/ASM signoff

Record Keeping

Youth book is “master” record  
Requirement lies with Scout to have book signed  
We keep records to report to BSA (Scoutbook website).

## Merit Badges

(on website under Library)

Strongly *Not Recommended* until at Tenderfoot Rank \_simply\_ to encourage the adoption of the patrol method and rank advancement process.

Blue Cards required from Scoutmaster *prior* to beginning a merit badge.

(Must be approved- merit badge counselor list will be provided)

Excellent opportunity to get feet wet while at Tomahawk

## Service

Becomes a larger part of rank advancement in higher ranks

(On Website under Library and Forms)

Some recent examples:

- St Mark's Bazaar assistants
- St Mark's Fall Cleanup
- American Legion Memorial Day Service
- American Legion / Blue Heron Days Parade
- Toys For Tots collections
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- Scouting for Food
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Milkweed Harvest
- Feed My Starving Children volunteers

## Special Training

Totin' Chip

Firem'n Chit

Leadership Skills Training (NYLT / GreyWolf)

## Recognition

Court of Honor (formal)

Immediate Recognition (“informal”)

## Association with Adults

Scoutmaster / Assistant Scoutmaster interaction

Committee interaction (PLC)

Board of Review

Merit Badge Counselors

## Personal Growth

This is the goal, but delivered as a by-product. Ask for testimonials from the Parents that have been here a while. All I'll say tonight is I am proud of this troop and the fine young scouts that it has.

## Leadership Development

“Second Phase” of scouting program. We have been growing into this phase, but it is solidly

## Order of The Arrow

" The Order of the Arrow (OA) is the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts of America"  
Focused on Youth leadership, Service, and Adventure.

## Uniform

(on website under Library)

### **It is expected that the Scout keep their Shirt Clean and Updated**

Field Uniform – also known as “Class A” Shirt,

Activity Uniform – also known as “Class B” shirt

We purchased a Tomahawk shirt last year

Neckerchief, may be optional with woggle (slide)

Long pants, “Belted Style”

Shorts

Good Socks/Shoes/Boots as appropriate

Other as appropriate for weather

Other as appropriate for activity

**Remove all Cub Scout insignia except Arrow of Light and Religious Emblems (if earned)**

## How is this Achieved

### Meeting Attendance

(meeting template form on website)

Encourage a Balanced life (Home, School, Sports, and Scouts)

Attending meetings is “optional” after all,

However: **Involvement → Advancement**

We will not go back because something is missed.

Scout will need to ask and work on achievement on your own

We \_may\_ cover items again periodically for review and “sharpening the saw”.

### Electronics “Policy”

As a troop we do not specifically prohibit electronics in meetings or outings, but we request that they be used as tools. Excessive communications, playing games, being disruptive, etc. will not be tolerated and we reserve the right to confiscate electronic items to be returned at the Adult Leader discretion during activity and they may be retained until returned to a parent.