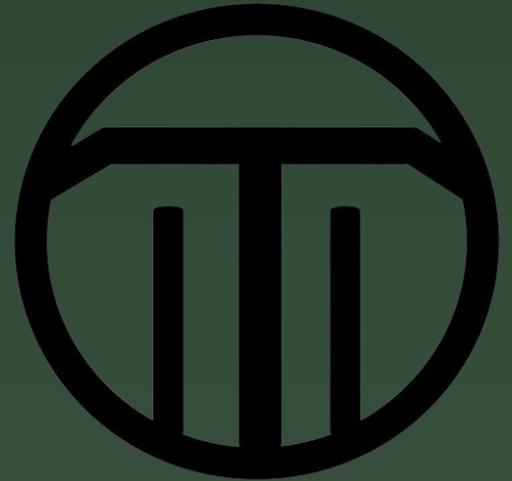




# New Scout Parent Orientation

Troop 11  
March 2025

[www.troop11tx.org](http://www.troop11tx.org)



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# Welcome New Parents

- Troop 11 Started in September 2002
- Meets on Mondays at 7 pm year-round
- Strive to be a Youth Lead Troop focused on the Patrol Method
- Youth Leaders are Elected every Six Months
  - Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) held after each election for youth leaders



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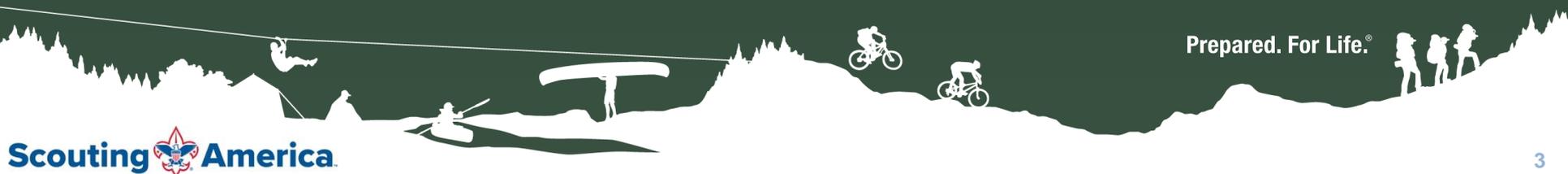
# Aims of Scouting

**Character Development**

**Leadership Development**

**Citizenship Training**

**Personal Fitness**



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# Cub Scouts vs Scouts BSA

## Cub Scout Methods

1. Living the Ideals
2. Belonging to a Den
3. Advancement
4. Family Involvement
5. Activities
6. Serving the Neighborhood
7. Uniform

## Scouts BSA Methods

1. Ideals
2. Patrol Method
3. Outdoor Programs
4. Advancement
5. Association with Adults
6. Personal Growth
7. Leadership Development
8. Uniform



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# Eight Methods of Scouting

- Ideals
  - The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout motto, and the Scout slogan. A Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve.
- Patrol Method
  - Patrols are small groups of Scouts who camp together, cook together, play together, and learn together. Where Scouts learn citizenship at the most basic level, they also take on responsibilities within the patrol and learn teamwork and leadership. Patrols elect their own leaders, and through these patrol leaders, they have a voice in what activities the troop will put on its calendar. Patrols are one component of what we call youth-led Troop.

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# Eight Methods of Scouting

- Outdoor Programs

- Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. We camp. We hike. We get dirty. Our program is largely built around outdoor activities.

- Advancement

- Scouting has a system of rank in which Scouts learn progressively more difficult skills and take on progressively greater responsibilities. The highest of these ranks is Eagle Scout.
- Advancement is the most visible of the Scouting methods and the easiest to understand, but it is only one of the eight methods.



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# Eight Methods of Scouting

- Associations With Adults
  - Boys learn a great deal by watching how adults conduct themselves. Scout leaders can be positive role models for the members of the troop. In many cases, a Scoutmaster, a merit badge counselor, or one of the troop parents, who is willing to listen to the boys, encourage them, and take a sincere interest in them can make a profound difference in their lives.
  - Adult association is also part of what we call a youth-led troop. Adults understand that their role is to create a safe place where boys can learn and grow and explore and play and take on responsibilities and fail, then get up and try again. If you were involved with Cub Scouting, this is a very different role that can take some time getting used to.

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# Eight Methods of Scouting

- Uniform
  - Like most sports teams, Scouts wear a uniform. Like most sports teams, we expect our scouts to wear the uniform when they are doing Scouting and to wear it properly. It is a symbol of who we are and what we do.
- Personal Growth
  - As Scouts plan their activities and progress toward their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. Probably no device is as successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn.



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# Eight Methods of Scouting

- Leadership Development
  - The Scout program encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Scout has the opportunity to lead in some way, whether as part of a team, or as the leader of his patrol or as the senior patrol leader of the troop. Leadership development is another component of the youth-led troop.



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# 2025 Program

- 29 Mar           Cycling Day Activity
- 4-6 Apr           Camporee
- 2-4 May           Scout Skills Campout
- 23-27 May        Canoeing Float Trip
- 15-21 Jun         Summer Camp @ Camp Strake
- 26 Jul            Water Park Day Activity
- 15-16 Aug         Annual Planning
- 12-14 Sep         Whitewater Campout
- 17-19 Oct         Shooting Sports
- 15-16 Nov         Overnight on Ship
- 5-7 Dec           AOL Invitational

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# Scouting Terms

- PLC - Patrol Leaders Council
  - Monthly meeting for all Youth Leadership to plan upcoming meetings and activities.
  - Held in place of the Monday after each campout
- COH – Court of Honor
  - A Special Evening is held every three months to recognize achievements in rank advancements and completed merit badges.



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# Rank Advancement



- Scouts progress through levels of rank, starting with Scout through Eagle Scout.
- Individually Paced, not as a group, unlike Cub Scouts
- Each Rank Advancement has a list of requirements that need to be signed off
  - For Scout through First Class requirements signed off by any First Class or higher Scout
  - For Star through Eagle signed off by an Assistant Scoutmaster or Scoutmaster
- All of the requirements and information needed are in their scout Handbook.

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# Rank Advancement



- Scoutmaster Conference
  - Required for each rank advancement. It is an interview with the Scoutmaster or an Assistant to review the requirements for that specific rank
  - The Scout should request in advance on the Troop Website
- Board of Review
  - Required for Tenderfoot though Eagle after a Scoutmaster Conference is completed. It is an interview with three or more Committee Members asking the scout questions about his scouting experience, skills, future plans, and how the scout can be of value to the troop
  - The Scout should schedule in advance on Troop Website



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# Rank Advancement



- Turning out Eagle Scouts is not what the Scouting program is all about
- We strongly encourage advancement, but we never force it - advancement is the Scout's choice, and he sets his own pace. We don't do "lock-step" advancement. Many great Scouts, and great men, never became Eagle Scouts





# Merit Badges



- Scouts learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers as they earn merit badges
- More than 135 merit badges
  - Eagle Required / Not Eagle Required
- To Start a Merit Badge, the Scout talks with Scoutmaster who will give them the contact information for a Merit Badge Counselor
- We need parents to register as Merit Badge Counselors



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# New Scout Program

- New Scout Patrol
  - Each March-May Breakout sessions on skills and knowledge for each scout to earn Scout Rank
  - The Troop's goal is to train, lead, and inspire scouts to achieve their Scout Rank
  - Individual Scout's Responsibility to demonstrate the skills and knowledge for their rank requirements to be signed off
- New Scout Campout – 2-4 May
  - Introduce new scouts to camping as a Patrol
  - Encouraged to let new scouts camp independently
- Join Regular Patrol after Summer Camp in June

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# Membership

- Youth
  - Application are required for all new scouts as well as those transferring from a Pack
  - Your Pack Key 3 or the Parent can initiate a transfer application in [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org)
- Adults
  - Application be completed and turned in (whether new or transferring) with a completed copy of Youth Protection Training. Your applications will then be looked over, approved, and sent in. A background check is completed for every adult application processed.



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# Youth Protection Training (YPT)

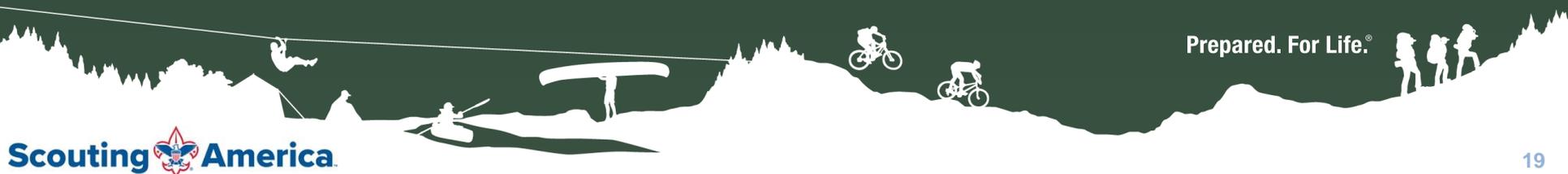
- BSA has a very strong program in place to protect our youth.
  - We require all leaders and merit badge counselors be YPT trained and to renew every training every year.
  - You will hear phrases like “two deep leadership” and “no one-on-one contact”. This is all part of the YPT program in place with Troop 11 and Scouting.
  - To attend Campouts or any Overnight Activity all adults must be registered with the Troop, background checked, and current with their Youth Protection Training
- Youth Protection Pamphlet Exercises and Personal Safety Awareness Video
  - Completed at Home for Scout Rank

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# Medical Forms

- It is BSA policy for every person attending (youth and adult) to have current medical forms on file with the Troop
  - Must also be filled out every year
  - Part A & B forms are needed for weekend events and Part C is needed for anything longer than 72 hours (Summer Camp).
  - Part C is a physical that must be completed by a physician. A portion of Part B needs to be signed by a physician and the parent if medications are to be taken while at the activity.



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# Uniforms

- It is required for the youth members to wear a Field Uniform Shirt, Neckerchief and Slide, and a Scout Belt.
  - Referred to as the field uniform
- A Troop 11 T-shirt for activities and weekend campouts
  - Referred to as the Activity uniform
  - Blue and Red Shirts
  - Summer Camp includes 3 additional colors
- Uniform Closet
  - If your scout is in need of uniform parts, the troop has some used uniforms available

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# Equipment

- Scout Handbook
- Basic Camping Gear
  - tent, sleeping bag, ground pad, day pack, water bottle, first aid kit, flashlight, or headlamp, mess kit, cup, rain gear, extra clothes, camp chair, etc.
  - This is by no means an inclusive list. Some scouts bring much more..., and some bring only the very basics.
- Footlocker Preferred
  - 32" x 17" x 13" to fit in Troop Trailer
- We have troop tents and extra gear that can be loaned
- We will discuss summer camp gear requirements at a future meeting

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# Finances

- Scout Account
  - Each Scout and Adult Leader has their own account where dues, activity fees, and payments are tracked
  - Fundraising credits
  - Tracked in Scoutbook
- Monthly Dues
  - The monthly dues to the troop are \$10 each month (or \$100/year). Dues are used to pay for training supplies, patches, camping equipment, fees and anything the committee votes on as a necessary expense for running a successful Scout troop.

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# Finances

- Weekend Campout Fees
  - The regular weekend camping fee is \$15 per Scout and \$20 for adults. This covers food and some expendables used while camping
  - Fees must be paid before the activity
  - Sometimes, we have an activity that has additional fees added
    - Examples: Top Shot, Caving, Whitewater, Zip Lining
- Cancellation Policy
  - If you cancel by Wednesday evening before the event, you can get a credit on your account for the campout fee.
- Cancellation Policy with Per Person Reservations Made
  - If the troop has to pay in advance for a special activity and that payment has already been made, we cannot issue a refund

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# Finances

- Finances are not a reason for a Scout not to participate in Scouting
- Fundraising
- Clothing, Uniform, Gear and Equipment Recycle Program (CUGER)
  - Experienced uniforms and equipment to be used by scouts.
- Financial Assistance is available
  - If you have any questions, please talk with Angela Vu or Mike Robia



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# Fundraising

- A Scout is Thrifty
  - There are many benefits to fundraising. The most obvious is raising money for the troop. But there are other benefits, like teaching the scout monetary responsibility and accountability, interaction with other people, and salesmanship
  - The Troop has several fundraisers set up throughout the year.
  - They of course are voluntary
  - Profit shared between Troop and Scout Accounts
  - Currently, we are ramping up for the Flags Fundraiser.



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# 2025 Summer Camp

- Highlight of the Scouting Year
- Camp Selected by Scouts During Annual Planning
- 2025 Camp Strake, Sam Houston National Forest
- Leaving 15 Jun – returning 21 Jun
  - Cost \$465.00 Scouts \$235.00 Adults
  - Includes Camp Fee, Travel, and Camp Shirts
- Sign up at [www.troop11tx.org/summer-camp](http://www.troop11tx.org/summer-camp)



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# Scoutbook

- **Troop Uses Scoutbook to Track**
  - Calendar
    - **RSVP**
  - Advancement
  - Merit Badges
  - Service hours, Camping Log, Hiking Log
- **Scout account**
  - Finances
- **Communication (Emails and Text)**

[advancement.scouting.org](http://advancement.scouting.org)

[scoutbook.scouting.org](http://scoutbook.scouting.org)

The screenshot displays the 'My RSVP Status' section of the Scoutbook interface. At the top, there is a dropdown menu currently set to 'MAYBE'. Below this is the 'My Scouting Connection(s) RSVP Status' section. It shows 'My Youth Connections (1)' with a dropdown arrow. The status summary indicates 0 'Yes' (green checkmark), 0 'No' (red X), and 1 'Maybe' (yellow question mark). A list of connections follows, showing one entry for 'Jeremiah Young Child' with a 'Maybe' status and a dropdown arrow.





# Troop Website

- Information from this presentation plus much more
- Is used to schedule Scoutmaster Conference, Board of Review for Rank Advancement, and Start a Merit Badge

[www.troop11tx.org](http://www.troop11tx.org)



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# Adult Roles

- Make sure that the activities happen and that the achievements take place
  - In Scouting, the role of the youth is to have fun activities and generate achievements.
  - Our responsibility as adults is to promote the “process” of Scouting.
  - What is important for the Adults is:
    - Not the food on the campout, but that the boys cooked it
    - Not a sharp-looking flag ceremony, but that the boys put it together
    - Not who would make the best patrol leader, but that the boys elect one
    - Not that Johnny learns first aid, but that Billy teaches him
    - Not that we cover everything on the meeting agenda, but that the senior patrol leader is in charge

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# Adult Roles

- Our goal
  - Is not to get things done, but to create a safe and healthy environment with the training and resources that the Scouts need. And then let them do it. It can be a very messy business and painful to watch. Meetings where the boy leaders are in charge can be very chaotic. And it can be very tempting for adults to jump in and sort things out because that is what we (adults) do.
  - But we must remember that this is the process of Scouting. That is how they learn, even from disorganization and failure. We must remember that our business as adults is not the same as the business of the boys. It is up to the scouts to get things done. It is up to us to ensure they have what they need, but not what they do with it (within the bounds of health and safety).

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# Where the Troop Needs Help

- Merit Badge Counselors (MBC)
  - Only have councilors for 60% of Badges in Troop
  - Which ones do you have experience from a hobby, profession, or education that you could share with scouts?
- Troop Committee
  - Committee Members
  - Treasure
  - Membership/Recruiting
  - Transportation Coordinator
- Registered Adults to Camp



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# Closing

Thank You for Your Time Today

Questions?



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