



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA NATIONAL COUNCIL

Theodore Roosevelt Council

Troop 201

<http://www.troop201ny.com>

TROOP 201 GUIDELINES (2023 – 2024)

I. MEMBERSHIP, DUES AND FEES

A. Renewal or September Enrollment:

1. Membership dues are to be paid during the month of September. The dues schedule is as follows:
 - a. One scout in the troop - (\$200.00)
 - b. Two or more scouts in the troop; (\$200.00) for first scout and (\$175.00) for each additional scout.
2. New Scouts pay an additional one-time charge of (\$50.00) for the Class "B" uniform (hooded sweatshirt, t-shirt) and Class "A" neckerchief. New scouts will also pay an additional \$25.00 for the BSA registration surcharge fee.

B. New Scouts Joining After September:

A pro-rated fee of \$16.66 per month through the following August, plus the \$50.00 uniform charge, plus the \$25.00 BSA registration surcharge fee, if applicable.

C. Arrears:

Scouts in arrears after October 1, will not be allowed to attend Troop meetings or participate in Troop functions due to insurance regulations.

D. Trip Fees:

Trip fees will be announced when the Trip permission slip is sent prior to each outing. Trip fees cover the costs of activities, food, and transportation.

II. FUND RAISING

A. Fund Raising:

The monies raised by the Troop's annual fundraisers are used to purchase supplies

and equipment as well as pay user fees for camping trips. Without each scout's full participation in these two fund raisers, the troop's annual dues would have to be significantly increased. Therefore, it is mandatory that each scout meet the minimum participation level indicated below. Those scouts that do not participate fully in each of the two fund raisers are expected to reimburse the troop for both costs incurred by the troop and the profit that would have been realized had the scout met the minimum participation levels. Scouts neither meeting the minimum participation level nor reimbursing the troop for sales not made will not be allowed to participate in future troop activities.

1. Holiday Wreath Sale - each scout is required to sell a minimum of 18 wreaths, or reimburse the troop the amount they would have sold, which includes the cost of the wreaths plus the profit that would have been earned. (30 wreaths for families with 2 scouts; 42 wreaths for families with 3 scouts)
2. Second Fund Raising event will be determined each year as needed. Fund raisers can include a car wash, selling a particular item, raffles, or any other event that will help support troop funds.
3. High Adventure Fund Raising – One event, typically a pancake breakfast will be held to raise funds to support the expenses of those who will be participating in the yearly high adventure trip each year. Scouts who are participating in the high adventure trips are required to sell 10 tickets each (and to work the full day at the breakfast). Other scouts are required to sell 5 tickets to the breakfast. Scouts will be required to participate the day of the event by helping prepare, serve and clean up during the breakfast. If a pancake breakfast is not held, another fund raiser will be decided upon based as necessary and all scouts will participate.

III. UNIFORMS

Uniforms are an important part of the scouting program; they identify us as to who we are and what we stand for. Scouts must wear the proper (Class A or Class B) uniform to all scouting functions. Wearing the scout uniform is an outward sign of "scout spirit". Records are maintained to show adherence to this requirement and will be used for purposes of rank advancement.

- A. Unless otherwise directed, Scouts must arrive and depart Troop functions in Class "A" uniform. The Class "A" uniform is required for weekly troop meetings, parades, summer camp and all official functions.
- B. Class "A" (formal) uniform will consist of an official B.S.A. dress shirt, pants/shorts, socks, belt, and neckerchief with slide: outer garment as appropriate.
- C. Class "B" uniform will consist of Troop T-shirt (and Troop sweatshirt or Troop fleece jacket as needed) jeans, shorts, or pants (NO sweatpants), boots or sneakers. [Sneakers are not permitted for hiking activities.]
- D. Scouts who reach the rank of Star Scout and attend a minimum of three overnight

backpacking trips with the troop, or who attend a high adventure trip are entitled to receive the troop high adventure fleece jacket.

IV. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

- A. Attendance and participation in troop meetings, outings, trips, and other troop related activities is a sign of “scout spirit”. Attendance records are maintained for all scout events. Participation in scout events, and wearing the proper uniform for each event, is required. A 50% minimum attendance of troop meetings, a 50% minimum attendance on outings, and a 50% minimum attendance on all “regularly scheduled” troop activities are all required to be maintained throughout the year in order to advance in rank, attend summer camp, and participate in other high adventure activities. [“Regularly scheduled” troop activities are those that appear on the troop’s annual calendar.] Scouts will be given extra credit for attendance of special activities [these are activities that are not on the troop’s annual calendar] but will not be penalized if they cannot attend. Attendance at all troop events is highly encouraged.
- B. Scouts who find that school, sports, or other activities prevent them from full participation in the scouting program through the course of the year must provide the Scoutmaster with a written explanation before their attendance falls below the minimum attendance level. Each scout’s situation will be reviewed to determine whether the scout is participating at a required minimum attendance level. Participation in outside scouting events, such as Order of the Arrow, that directly conflict with troop related activities will be considered the same as participation in troop events.
- C. Scouts must notify their Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, or an adult leader if they are unable to attend meetings. After two missed meetings, the Patrol Leader will contact the scout and update the Scoutmaster.
 - 1. Failure to notify the Troop may preclude that scout from participating in the next scout function.
 - 2. These measures are to ensure a scout’s safety, so that everyone knows the whereabouts of a scout on meeting nights.

V. ADVANCEMENT

- A. All scouts should check regularly with the Troop Advancement Chairperson to ensure all merit badges, etc., are properly recorded with the troop and council.
- B. All scouts should review the attendance and participation charts that are posted at weekly troop meetings, so they are aware of where they stand regarding the minimum expected attendance and participation requirements.

VI. GUIDELINES FOR BOARD OF REVIEW

- A. Scoutmaster Conferences are required prior to the date of a Board of Review. It is the scout's responsibility, upon completing all the requirements for advancement, to schedule a Scoutmaster's Conference with the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster will review attendance and participation records with the scout to make sure the scout is meeting the minimum requirements before the scout moves on to the Board of Review.
- B. The Board of Review will consist of 3-5 Troop Committee Members. It is the scout's responsibility, upon completing his Scoutmaster's Conference, to schedule a Board of Review Conference. Provided there are enough Troop Committee Members available, the Board will meet as needed. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters do not participate in Boards of Review. The Board of Review follows the Scoutmaster's Conference: both cannot be held on the same night.
- C. Purpose of Board of Review:
1. To make sure the Scout has fulfilled the necessary requirements for rank advancement and that he is making an effort to live up to the values of scouting.
 2. To determine if the scout is having a good experience in the troop. The Board is looking for "Scout Spirit", which includes troop meeting attendance, participation in outings, trips, Eagle projects and other troop related activities, and whether the scout has been wearing the proper uniform for these activities.
 3. The Board is also looking to obtain ideas from the Scout as to how the troop program and activities could be improved.
 4. To encourage the scout to continue on the trail to Eagle.
- D. Eagle Scout Service Project

Project Requirements:

The Eagle Scout Service Project must show sufficient evidence of planning and development of the project plan and it must also demonstrate leadership while providing some form of service to a worthy institution other than the Boy Scouts. The scout must choose a project that is of value to the community, church, school, or other institution, and it may not include routine labor such as cutting the grass at the church or picking up trash along the road. Also, the project may not benefit any business or an individual. Fundraising is only permitted to obtain the money that is needed to pay for materials that are required for the project; the project may not be a fund-raiser in itself.

For more details regarding the Eagle Scout Service Project, refer to the BSA "Guide to Advancement 2019", Section 9 – The Eagle Scout Rank. Additionally, the new BSA "Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook" provides additional information for choosing a project. Both documents are available online at <http://www.scouting.org/>.

Review and Approval Procedure:

Upon reaching the rank of Life Scout, a scout is encouraged to begin developing an idea for his Eagle Scout Service Project. The scout must discuss his idea with the organization that will benefit from the project, and ultimately obtain their approval. After having spoken with the organization about his idea, the scout should then discuss his idea with the Scoutmaster to determine if it meets with the Eagle Service Project requirements. If the Scoutmaster determines that the idea meets those requirements, the scout should then begin to develop the Project Proposal using the new Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook. Following the scout's written preparation of the Project Proposal in the workbook, he must again meet with the Scoutmaster to review the Proposal. It is common for the scout to have several meetings with the Scoutmaster before a Proposal is approved. After obtaining the Scoutmaster's approval of the Project Proposal, the scout must then present it to the Troop's Board of Review for their review and approval. The Troop's Board of Review may make further suggestions to improve upon the Project Proposal before it is ready to be submitted to the Shelter Rock District's Eagle Board of Review. The Troop's Board of Review strongly recommends that scouts complete a Project Plan as part of its approval process. Completing a Project Plan at this stage typically paves the way for easier approval by the Shelter Rock District Eagle Board of Review. More importantly, completing a Project Plan increases the likelihood of a successful project execution. It is common for a scout to meet with the Troop Board of Review several times before approval.

Once approved by the Troop's Board of Review and upon receiving the Committee Chair's signature, the final step in the project approval process is for the scout to contact the District's Eagle Board and submit his project workbook to them for review. The District Eagle Board may assign a Project Coach to work with the scout and assist him in developing the final Project Plan. At the conclusion of this portion of the approval process, the Project Plan will be sufficiently detailed that someone unfamiliar with the project would be able to pick up the Project Workbook and carry out the project.

When the scout is ready to actually execute the project, he must schedule the project dates with the Scoutmaster, who will then coordinate the dates with the Troop Committee. Dates for the project will be assigned based upon available dates within the troop's calendar so that at least one adult troop leader can be present to observe the scout's leadership of the project as it is carried out.

It is not unusual for an Eagle Scout Service Project to take several months or longer from the beginning of the planning stage to its final completion. Therefore, scouts are advised to allow adequate time to properly plan, obtain approvals and complete their Eagle Scout Service Project. The Life Scout should also review all other Eagle requirements, well in advance of their 18th birthday to ensure that he can meet his goal.

VII. ELECTIONS, LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Elections for Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders will be held as necessary and those elected will serve for a period of not less than six months but usually for one year.

A. Patrol Leader (PL)

1. Must be the rank of First Class or higher.
2. Should be JLOW, or equivalent Troop approved leadership trained.
3. Must be an active scout and be able to fulfil the responsibilities of the position.
4. Must be elected by a majority of the patrol members present at the election.
5. Must be subject to the approval of the Scoutmaster.

B. Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) must;

1. be at least 14 years old.
2. be the rank of Star Scout or higher and advancing.
3. be JLOW, or equivalent Troop approved leadership trained.
4. be an active scout and be able to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.
5. have previous experience as a Patrol Leader or as an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader in Troop 201.
6. be elected by a majority of the scouts of the Troop present at the election.
7. be subject to the approval of the Scoutmaster.

C. The Senior Patrol Leader, with the guidance of the Scoutmaster, will appoint the following positions:

1. Assistant Senior Patrol Leader(s). Note, that an ASPL must meet the same qualifications as the SPL, except for the election requirement.

D. Each Patrol Leader, with the guidance of the Scoutmaster, will appoint the following:

1. Assistant Patrol Leader

E. Removal from Leadership positions:

1. A scout holding any position of leadership in the troop, who, in the opinion of the Scoutmaster, is not fulfilling the responsibility of that position or is not regularly attending at least 50% of all Troop Leadership Council (“green bar”) meetings, troop meetings, outings, trips or other troop related activities will be removed by the Troop Leadership Council.

VIII. TROOP PROGRAM

- A. The troop program for the coming year will be discussed and planned at the August Troop Committee Meeting and Green Bar Planning Meeting. The Troop calendar runs from September through August.
- B. When holidays or school closings prevent the holding of a Monday night troop meeting, the meeting will be cancelled for that week unless otherwise announced.

C. Camping/Outings:

1. Reimbursement is available for parents/guardians who drive to and from weekend outings with either troop equipment or scouts, in addition to their own son.

Under normal circumstances, for all destinations outside of Long Island, the reimbursement is \$20.00 per driver, per direction. There is no reimbursement for destinations within Long Island.

2. All scouts are to leave for and depart from an activity/camping trip together as a troop. This allows for proper assignment of drivers and troop equipment. It also provides for each scout to do his fair share of preparations for the trip, and for the clean-up and breakdown of camp. Any exception to this requirement should be discussed in advance with the Scoutmaster.
3. Any parent staying overnight at any scouting event must complete the BSA Youth Protection Training (available online at no cost). This is in line with BSA requirements for Youth Safety. A copy of the certificate of completion for the course is to be submitted to the Troop Committee's Committee Chair.
4. The annual spring whitewater rafting outing is intended as a high adventure outing to complete our scout year. New scouts that have not attended at least one weekend camping trip with the troop are not eligible to attend this outing. All participants must be capable swimmers, to be verified by their parent or guardian. If a scout is not a swimmer, he must be accompanied in the raft by a parent or guardian who is a swimmer.
5. Backpacking trips such as to Harriman State Park are also high adventure trips. Except for the swimmer requirement, the same requirements as for the whitewater rafting trip apply. New scouts that have not attended at least one weekend camping trip with the troop are not eligible to attend this outing.

D. Parents are requested to limit their son's use of cell phones while at camp and at scouting events to emergency use and scouting purposes only. As current cell phones double as cameras and also provide access to an array of "scouting appropriate" apps, phones are no longer outright prohibited. But it is expected that the use of cell phones and other electronics will be limited to scouting appropriate activities, used in accordance with the Cyber Chip agreement, and subject to the approval of the scoutmaster, who reserves the right to restrict (and secure) phones from certain events or when they become a distraction. In the event of an emergency, parents can contact an adult leader by cell phone, or a scout can use an adult leader's cell phone to contact parents.

- E. Registered adult leaders may request a stipend from the troop, not to exceed \$25.00, toward the cost of the Class A uniform
- F. Registered adult leaders may request reimbursement from the troop for all training program fees.

IX. ADULT LEADERSHIP

- A. The Troop activities are overseen by the Troop Committee which consists of all registered adult leaders and is headed by the position of Committee Chairperson. All parents are encouraged to participate in monthly Troop Committee meetings and are invited to volunteer and become a registered adult leader.
- B. The Committee Chairperson is in charge of delegating authority to two groups:
 - 1. Committee Member Positions
 - 2. Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters
- C. All National BSA required training must be completed in order to be registered as an adult troop leader. Training varies depending upon the adult leadership position that is held. Training requirements for Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Committee Members can be found on the Council's website. Copies of all training certifications must be given to the Troop Committee's Training Coordinator.

X. PANDEMIC PROTOCOLS

- A. During the COVID-19 pandemic, and for as long as state government required, Troop 201 will follow "Before We Gather" protocols before each Troop activity and outing. These protocols will include a temperature check and answering a COVID-19 questionnaire. All participants must wear face masks, maintain social distance when possible and bring their own hand sanitizer (in addition to hand sanitizer provided by the Troop) at all activities and outings. If Troop activities, meetings or outings cannot be held in person then these events will be conducted virtually, when possible, and will count towards attendance requirements.
- B. Scouts and adults are expected to follow the latest health safety protocols as distributed by the troop. In-person events that are missed because of COVID-related quarantine will be considered excused absences and not counted against the minimum attendance requirements. If a scout or other participant takes becomes ill or is tested subsequent to an in-person scouting event, he should contact the scoutmaster immediately.

Any of the above mentioned activities may be modified based on need and guidance changes as necessary.