

Scout Responsibilities

Introduction:

In this section are a number of items that discuss what Troop 105 expects of a Scout in terms of his behavior, uniform and participation. These items provide a clear set of expectations for each Scout.

Responsible to:

Each Scout is responsible to any, or all, of the following - his Patrol, Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, other boy leaders, Assistant Scoutmasters, Scoutmaster, and all members of the Troop Committee.

Behavior:

Every Scout is expected to behave appropriately at all Scout functions.

General:

Behavior problems can be either discipline or attitude related. We try to handle most behavior problems within the Troop structure, but there are times when we will contact parents about a problem. These times may include incidents that we feel are too serious to deal with on a Troop level, or repeated occurrences of the same problem. At those times we will contact the Scout's parents to have them discuss the problem with us. On campouts or other non-meeting events the parents will be called and told to come and take their son home. At Troop meetings the Scout will be given a letter requesting that he not attend any more meetings unless he brings at least one of his parents to discuss the problem with the Scoutmaster. This letter will be followed up by a phone call to the parents. If the problem is deemed serious enough (a fight, for example), the parents will be called immediately to come and get their son. In the most extreme instances, actions will be taken to remove a Scout from Troop 105. The general rules of the Troop are the Scout Law and the Scout Oath.

The Scout Oath is:

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

The Scout Law is:

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

(For full explanations of the parts of the Scout Oath and Law, see pages 45-54 in the *Boy Scout Handbook*.) Beyond that, we also have some behavior guidelines for both meetings and campouts.

At Troop meetings:

The leadership of Troop 105 tries to provide safe, fun, and educational Troop meetings every week. Every Scout is asked to observe the following for the good of all members:

- Be on time: Troop meetings start promptly at 7:00 PM which means that you are with your patrol, quiet, and ready to start at that time.
- Participate in every activity offered to you. If you don't like an activity, you need to contact your Patrol Leader (PL) and let him know so your voice will be heard in the Troop Leadership Council (TLC).
- Be attentive, which means pay attention to the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL), your Patrol Leader, program instructors, and adult leaders.
- Be cooperative. If asked to do something (within reason), do it. If asked not to do something, don't do it.
- Don't harass or hassle other Scouts, adult leaders, or instructors. Unless you have specific permission, do not touch, use, or take anything that does not belong to you (other people's stuff).
- Bring only Scout or meeting program related items with you to Troop meetings. Trading cards, toys, games, radios, and other non-Scout related items are not allowed and may be confiscated until the end of the meeting, if they pose a problem
- We also must remember that we are guests in the building and are only permitted in, and allowed to use, certain parts of it. Troop 105 is responsible for the building and any damage to

that building and its contents while we are using it/them. All Scouts are expected to adhere to the following rules concerning the building:

- If you arrive when no adult leaders are present and the building happens to be unlocked, **DO NOT ENTER!**
- At no time should you go around the outside of the building without an adult present.
- Eating and drinking should be reserved for those whose schedule didn't allow for dinner that evening.
- If you make a mess, please let an adult leader know so that it is cleaned up.
- Horseplay will not be tolerated.
- After each meeting or event make sure to clean/straighten up the room(s) that we used, picking up all trash (ours or not ours) and putting furniture back in its place (like the closet). No one is allowed to leave the room until the area is policed to the satisfaction of the Senior Patrol Leader and/or the adult leader in charge

On Camping events:

All of the above rules and guidelines apply on camping events with some changes and additions that are camping specific. These include:

- Arrive on time. Help is always needed to load the equipment prior to our departure. Departure times are established in order for the troop to travel safely and arrive at the campsite in a reasonable amount of time. If you are unable to make the departure time please discuss your problem with the Scoutmaster. If we are loaded and ready to go and you are not there at the established time we will leave without you.
- You *WILL* wear a seat belt at all times while traveling no matter what seat you are in.
- No one is allowed to ride in the back of pickup trucks at any time, in any place, under any circumstances, whatsoever. (Is that clear enough?)
- The driver of the vehicle you are riding in is the dictator of that vehicle. You are a guest in their vehicle and proper behavior is expected. Consumption of food or beverages in someone's vehicle is at the discretion of the driver, not the son of the driver. Please respect their wishes.
- You *WILL* be in full uniform (see UNIFORM below) while traveling. If you don't have one on, you will be asked to put one on. If you don't have it with you, you will be asked to go home and get it. If you don't get back in time see the first camping rule, above.. When we are coming home the same procedure applies.
- You will do as you are told by your PL, SPL, other youth leaders, and all adult leaders.
- Troop 105 uses the buddy system. A Scout is not allowed to wander around camp without a buddy. During most campouts your buddy is also your tent-mate. If you need to go somewhere and you don't have a buddy please see your Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader or an adult leader. **DO NOT GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT A BUDDY!**
- Each Patrol has a duty roster for campouts. You will do your assigned duties promptly; not at the next meal, or the next day, but at the time that you are assigned. You will not do anything else until your duties are completed.
- Along with this, you will not get in the way of someone else doing their assigned duty. Therefore, if you are not a cook for a meal, stay out of the cooking area.
- **NO FLAMES OF ANY KIND, IN ANY TENT, AT ANY TIME, IN ANY PLACE, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, WHATSOEVER!!!!!!!** (Again, clear enough? Unless, of course, you have a death wish, a fiery, very gory, horrific, and extremely painful, death.....get it?) This includes matches, cigarette lighters, open candles, candle lanterns, gas lanterns, stoves of any kind, heaters, campfires, etc.
- Quiet times are enforced, usually from 10:00 or 11:00 PM until 6:00 or 7:00 AM. Usually they are enforced by the Troop leadership, but when we are in state or federal parks the rangers

may also enforce this. Quiet time means that you are in your tent, asleep. If you are not, you will be warned once, then sent home. The Troop cannot afford to be kicked out of a camping area because of one boy's foolishness.

- A Scout's tent is his home on a campout. Just as you wouldn't go into someone's home without knocking or ringing the bell, you don't enter someone else's tent without their permission.

Uniform:

All Scouts are expected to wear correct uniforms to all Troop and Patrol events. Correct uniforms, and guidelines for wearing them, are:

- "Class A": Consists of a Scout long or short-sleeved shirt with proper earned insignia (including Merit Badge sash/Order of the Arrow sash if a formal event), Scout long or short pants, Scout-type belt, troop hat, Scout socks, neckerchief and slide (BSA or handmade). Check with the Scoutmaster or SPL if you are unsure if it is needed.
- "Class B": • Consists of the Troop activity t-shirt and Scout pants/shorts, blue jean pants/shorts or khaki pants/shorts.

Scouts *must* wear the Class A uniform to all Courts of Honor, Scoutmaster Conferences, Boards of Review (see below), all Troop meetings, while traveling to and from campouts and other events, and to all other events requiring it (typically one's in public).

Scouts must wear the Class B uniform on all other Scouting events where the Class A uniform is not required, except on long-term camping events, where packing and carrying considerations are paramount. When in doubt, ask.

Participation:

Each Scout should participate in as many Troop and Patrol functions as possible. This includes Troop meetings, Patrol meetings, campouts, hikes, civic events, treelot fundraiser, and conservation & service projects. We realize that there are sometimes conflicts with other family, school, church, and sports events but it is to your advantage to be as active as you can be in Scouts. Make it a top priority instead of a secondary one. When you are at a Troop or Patrol event we ask that you be there not only in body, but in mind and spirit as well. We also ask that you do your best at all times to be a team player, thinking of what is best for your Patrol and Troop not just for you.

There will be a cold, rainy morning on a campout (we guarantee it) where you are your Patrol's cook for breakfast. You won't even want to get out of bed, but no one will eat unless you do. This is where being a team player really counts, doing your part even when you don't feel like it. (When that morning comes - and it will - please remember to put a smile on your face ... no one likes a grumpy cook!)

Everyone likes the fun events - campouts, hikes, swimming, canoeing, high adventure, etc. - but you really show your stuff on the things that aren't as much fun - treelot, service projects and the like. But a Scout is Helpful, therefore EVERY Scout is expected to participate in the treelot in equal amounts, since the benefits (new/replacement Troop equipment, badges and awards, summer camp, and registration costs) are for all Scouts. You should also participate in service and conservation projects because we help others outside the Troop at those times. Every Scout should be faithful in paying dues since that money comes back to him in the form of better program. In addition any Scout who is not sufficiently active may not be registered for the following year unless he shows intent to become more active.

Safety:

The safety of all Scouts in Troop 105 is of primary concern to the Troop leadership. Some safety items have already been mentioned, but there are a couple more: Sheath knives, fireworks, and martial arts weapons (throwing stars, butterfly knives, nun-chucks, etc.) will not be permitted at any Troop or Patrol functions. In addition, firearms and archery equipment are allowed only at those events specifically scheduled for the use of such items, and even then only under qualified adult supervision. For more information see the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

Information:

This section is for items that don't fit neatly into the categories already listed.

Scoutmaster Conferences:

To have a Scoutmaster Conference, a Scout must have completed all but the last two requirements for the rank he is working on. He must then make a request to the Scoutmaster. Conferences are generally conducted at Troop meetings, but may be held at any other Troop function, or by appointment when there is time. The Scout is expected to be in Class A uniform (including neckerchief, slide, belt and socks), and have his Scout Handbook with him

Boards of Review:

Once a Scout has completed his Scoutmaster Conference he should contact the Advancement Coordinator to schedule an Advancement Board of Review. Once a date has been determined the Scout is required to be in complete Class A uniform, have his Scout Handbook with him and have received sign off on the Scoutmaster Conference. Boards of Review may also be called by the Troop Committee or Advancement Coordinator for Scouts who are not advancing in rank.

Lost & Found:

Many items are left after Troop activities, meetings and campouts. Ask about items you have misplaced. We will not search for people to match up the lost items. Any items unclaimed for more than two months are subject to being thrown away, given away or used as Troop equipment.