



TROOP 480

Boy Scouts of America
Woodbury, Connecticut 06798

Troop Information And Code of Conduct

Victor L. Losure, Scoutmaster
Paul Bucciarelli, Asst. Scoutmaster
Tom Sorrell, Asst. Scoutmaster

Glen Dunham, Committee Chairman
Isobel Moore, Advancement & Charter Org. Rep.
Steven Giuffre, Troop Treasurer

Troop Meetings

Troop meetings will be held on Thursday evenings (7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) in the basement of St. Paul's Church. There will be ***no Troop meetings*** whenever school is ***canceled*** because of inclement weather, holidays, or for any other reason. Troop meetings start ***promptly*** at 7:30 p.m.

Uniforms

Class A uniforms are to be worn to all meetings and scout sponsored events. At the discretion of the Scoutmaster, Class B uniforms will be substituted for certain events and or meetings. Our class A uniform consists of a Boy Scout shirt (long or short sleeve) with all proper insignia and rank patches, troop neckerchief (with BSA slide or crafted slide: no rubber bands), and a scout belt, as well as tied sneakers, shoes, or work boots. Scouts are encouraged to wear scout pants or shorts, scout socks and for outdoor events the Troop 480 scout cap as well. Our Class B uniform consists of a red Troop 480 T-shirt, a scout belt and when outdoors, a scout cap.

No scout will be presented for a Board of Review unless they are in the Class A uniform specified above.

Class B uniforms will only be worn at the direction of the Scoutmaster.

Troop Class B shirts can be purchased from the troop at a cost of \$10.00 each; Troop hats at a cost of \$6.00 each; and Troop neckerchiefs at a cost of \$10.00 each. Each Scout is provided one of each of these at no cost upon joining the Troop.

Boy Scout Handbooks

Scouts must bring their handbooks to **all meetings, and campouts.** Scouts should also have a note pad, and pen or pencil.

Inspections

Inspections will be done by Troop leaders at each meeting. These inspections will cover: uniforms, essential accessories (BSA handbook, note pad, and pen or pencil), personal hygiene, tardiness, attendance, etc. Points are awarded for patrol competition.

Registrations and Dues

Troop 480 renews its Charter yearly at the end of March. In order to streamline this process, registration fees for all Scouts will be collected at the beginning of each September.

Troop Dues

Troop dues are \$40.00 a year. This fee will be paid either in September or when a scout joins the troop.

The purpose of the dues is to offset Troop expenses and pay for badges, awards, etc. By paying dues, each Scout shows a personal commitment to his Troop.

All additional fees for events must be paid in full prior to the event.

Equipment Fee

New Scouts will pay a one time equipment fee of \$40.00 when they join the Troop.

Scout Participation

Every Scout should attempt to attend all meetings and *be on time*.

If expecting to be absent or late, **please have the courtesy to advise your patrol leader or Senior Patrol Leader** so events and activities can be planned accordingly. Each Scout is expected to participate in all special activities (camporees, outings, fund raising, etc.). **Ideally, Scouts should plan to attend all events and outings.**

Note:

- *Attendance at the meeting just prior to an activity is required in order to be permitted to attend that activity, unless excused in advance by the Scoutmaster. Attendance at 70% of the meetings throughout the year is required in order to go to summer camp and special activities.*
- Scouts having to leave during summer camp, or any other planned activity, outing or Troop sponsored event **must present a written request to do so**, signed by their parent or legal guardian and addressed to the Scoutmaster. This request must be presented at the meeting just prior to the event. ***Parent(s) must coordinate directly with the Scoutmaster prior to taking out their Scout as well as upon returning with their Scout to the event. No exceptions!!***

Electronic Devices & Cell Phones

Any and all electronic devices to include cell phones are prohibited at all Troop meetings, events and campouts. The adult leaders will have cell phones in the event of an emergency. Any such device will be confiscated immediately and returned at the conclusion of the event.

Emergency Medical Consent Forms/ Permission Slips

A permission slip signed by the Scout's parent(s) or legal guardian, supplied by the Troop, is required for participation in all Troop events and activities. ***No exceptions will be made regarding this requirement!*** Failure to turn in this slip in advance of event will make the Scout ineligible to attend or participate in the function.

All Scouts will receive yearly a ***Medical Form***, which will be required to be filled out and signed by the Scout's parent(s) and returned to the Troop. Failure to have this ***Medical Form*** on file with the Troop will cause the Scout to be ineligible to participate in ***any and all Troop activities***, including weekly meetings.

This requirement is demanded by the BSA, our insurance carrier, and is required by hospitals and physicians prior to medical treatment being administered to your son, should he require it.

Any Scout not properly prepared for an activity (hike, campout, etc.), will not be allowed to attend that particular function. Remember the Scout motto: **"Be Prepared"**

Scout Advancement

Advancement is a sign that the ***Scout is taking part in at least 70% of the Troop's programs and learning Scout skills***. Awards are recognition of his accomplishment. The National Scouting Organization has set requirements and procedures for advancement which the Troop must follow to maintain the quality of these awards. The procedures and requirements can be found in the Boy Scout Handbook and Merit Badge booklets. Each boy should strive to advance at least one rank per year. All training, classes, and opportunities, along with all necessary written materials will be made

available to each Scout, *but it will be the individual Scout's responsibility to seek out these advancement aids as well as seeking out adult help if needed in his quest to advance.*

All requirements for advancement must be met prior to a Scout's Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review. No scout will be presented for a Board of Review unless they are in the full Class A uniform as specified by the troop. Failure to meet any requirement will make the Scout ineligible for advancement!

Leadership Positions

Scouts in a position of leadership (Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Scribe, etc.) will accept their responsibilities and perform them to the standards set by the National Scouting Organization and the Troop, *or they will be removed from the position.*

Equipment

Because Troop funds are used to purchase and maintain equipment (such as books, tents, cooking equipment, tarps, etc.) each Scout must give this equipment the best of care at all times. If an item is lost or damaged beyond normal wear and tear, the Scout(s) admitting responsibility will be required to pay the Troop for the cost of replacement or repair. If no Scout(s) accept(s) responsibility or it cannot be determined who is responsible, then the Scouts known to have used the damaged equipment will have the cost of repair or replacement divided equally among them.

NOTE:

Any decisions on responsibility, cost, or restitution will be determined by the Troop Committee, and restitution will be due by the individual(s) deemed responsible within 30 days of this judgment. Parent(s) of Scouts found responsible for said damages will be notified by the Troop Committee as to the amount owed.

Discipline:

All Scouts will have a Discipline file maintained by the Scoutmaster and his assistants. The Troop Committee will continually monitor this file. All discipline infractions will also be noted on the individual Scout's

advancement records to be considered, along with many other variables, at the time of the Scout's Board of Review and Scoutmaster's Conference. Any Scout whose behavior is not meeting the standard of behavior befitting a Boy Scout as stated in the Scout Handbook or by Troop 480 will receive:

First Offense: *Verbal Warning by Scoutmaster*

This will include advising the Scout that he is on report and that his offense will be recorded.

Second Offense: *Written and Telephone Notification by Scoutmaster*

This will include advising the Scout that his offense will be recorded and that a written notification of the offense will be sent to the parent. This note must be signed by the parent and returned to the Scoutmaster. In addition, the Scoutmaster will make phone contact with his parents, advising them of his behavior.

Third Offense: *Ineligibility to Participate in the Next Major Outing or Event*

This will include advising the Scout that his offense will be recorded, and that written notification will be sent to his parents for their signature, advising them that their Scout will not be eligible to participate in the next *major* event or outing as decided by the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee.

Fourth Offense: *Appearance Before the Troop Committee*

This will include advising the Scout that his offense will be recorded, and that his parents will receive a written notification to appear with the Scout before the Troop Committee. ***Troop Committee will send out any such notice.*** Troop Committee will review Scout's discipline record with parents, and decide the fate of the Scout. Expulsion from the Troop is possible.

ANY SCOUT WHOSE BEHAVIOR BECOMES DISRUPTIVE TO THE POINT OF JEOPARDIZING THE SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF HIMSELF OR OTHERS, WHOSE BEHAVIOR IS DISRUPTIVE TO ANY EVENT OR OUTING, OR WHO IGNORES OR DISOBEYS ANY ADULT LEADER'S INSTRUCTIONS, WILL HAVE HIS PARENTS NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY BY THE SCOUTMASTER. NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE MADE WHENEVER THE NEED ARISES. ONCE PARENTS HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED, IT WILL BE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO PICK UP THEIR SCOUT NO MATTER WHERE THE EVENT IS BEING HELD.

All possible criminal violations or serious infractions will be dealt with immediately by the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster will also contact the Troop Committee Chairman as soon as possible to advise him/her of the particulars surrounding the incident(s). The Committee Chairman will convene a meeting of the Troop Committee and the Troop Leaders to review and discuss the incident. The Troop Committee will vote on a final determination regarding actions to be taken against the offender(s). Step #4 (Fourth Offense) will then take place as spelled out under the title: "Discipline".

Possession of alcoholic beverages or narcotics of any description will be cause for immediate dismissal from this Troop. Possession of *any* type of tobacco product is not allowed by any Scout. Any Scout in the possession of the same will be sent home.

Because of the times in which we live, and because of Troop liability, and more importantly because of the responsibility we feel towards your child, we believe it is necessary to address these more serious situations. We have devoted much time, energy, and money towards building Troop 480. Our reputation was built on a lot of hard work by many dedicated people. It has evolved steadily over the past years. Reputations are hard to establish, difficult to maintain, and almost impossible to repair. We cannot afford to allow anyone's child to disrupt the balance needed to maintain a safe and pleasant environment. We will, therefore, not tolerate such behaviors and we ask your support in this endeavor.

My Scout and I have read and discussed this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its rules and the provisions contained therein.

Name of Scout *Date*

Signature of Parent *Date*

Return this form to the Scoutmaster ASAP.