

# Bighorn District Troop Showcase



Leader Manual

Bighorn District Spring Showcase

April 24-26 2026

## BASICS AND SCHEDULES

### Friday

5:00pm-8:00pm	Check-in	Coral Rock Lodge
8:30pm	SPL/Scoutmaster Meeting	Coral Rock Lodge

### Saturday

8:00am	Flags	Coral Rock Lodge
8:30am-11:30am	Morning Program	Climbing and RATA areas
	IOLS and BALOO	Kola Lodge
	WFA Training	Coral Rock Lodge
11:30am-12:30pm	Lunch	Troop Campsites
12:30pm-3:30pm	Afternoon Program	RATA and Climbing areas
3:30pm-4:30pm	Showcase prep	Troop Campsites
4:30pm-6:30pm	Troop Showcase	Troop Campsites
6:30pm-8:00pm	Dinner	Troop Campsites
8:00pm-9:00pm	Campfire and OA Callout	Campfire Ring
9:00pm	OA Candidate Meeting	Kola Lodge
10:00pm	Lights Out	

### Sunday

8:00am	Scouts' Own Service	Chapel
9:00am	Check-Out (participants)	
	WFA Training	Coral Rock Lodge

Registration: \$45 youth (inclusive of all RATA and Climbing fees)  
\$15 Adults (for time/space reasons, no RATA or climbing for adult participants)

Sign up at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA062&calendarID=617475>

BALOO Registration: \$25 (includes Saturday breakfast/lunch)  
IOLS Registration: \$10 if also attending Showcase (eating with Troop); \$25 if not  
WFA Registration: \$100 (does not include food, more details below)

BALOO, IOLS, and WFA REGISTRATIONS SEPARATE: SEE AWC CALENDAR PAGE FOR LINKS

For More Information, please contact:

Matt Rogers, District Camping Chair

970-988-5434 (vorticity@gmail.com)

A Troop Roster, Medical Forms, and Releases are required at check-in

Troops will keep medical forms at their camps.

**Welcome to the 2026 Bighorn District Not-A-Camporee Spring Showcase!** We are hoping your Scouts are excited to come up to BDSR, have a blast doing RATA and climbing activities, and then show off your Troop to the rest of the District!

We're mixing up the theme a little this year – after years and years of stations and first aid scenarios and building fires with things only found in cereal boxes and, well, the same stuff our Scouts are all already good at, we wanted to do something that would make everybody in the Troop want to participate.

Shotguns, rifles, archery – climbing and rappelling – opportunities for Scouters to finish those pesky IOLS and BALOO requirements – a full Wilderness First Aid course actually taught in the wilderness! – and a new way to show off your Troop to all other Troops – let's make this Not-A-Camporee a blast!

**Morning and Afternoon Program Opportunities** – at check-in, Troops and Crews will be assigned a morning or afternoon slot for RATA and climbing activities. Half of the units will start with RATA in the morning and switch to climbing in the afternoon; the other half will start with climbing in the morning and switch to RATA in the afternoon. Wristbands will be distributed to keep groups organized.

Given the timing and number of RATA and Climbing Committee volunteers available to support the event, and in order to maximize youth participation, we are not offering RATA or climbing activities to adults for

this program; there will be opportunities to talk with the Council RATA and Climbing Committees, who will certainly appreciate volunteers signing up to help staff future events! We will also not have time to complete Climbing or RATA-related merit badge requirements – these activities will be for fun and recreation!

Units may also use their time in camp to work on basic camping skills, and other Troop activities. Adult leaders who are not escorting groups to RATA and Climbing areas will be free to sign up for BALOO and/or IOLS, or the Wilderness First Aid course run concurrently with the program.

**Troop Showcase** – probably the most experimental thing we’re trying this year, is an event designed to showcase the pride you have for your unit. At the heart of this activity is this: what do you love best about your Troop? How do you see your Troop as different – are you the best campers, or have you been to the most interesting places? Are your Scouts master chefs, or hilarious skit performers, or engaged with their community?

At the Troop Showcase, you will present all of this to selected judges from the Order of the Arrow who will get to see the best of every Troop at the Showcase. The judging corps will comprise youth members of the Order, one each from every Troop participating, who will score Troops on three categories:

1.) *Scout Cooking*: prepare a dish that showcases your Troop’s ability to dish up the noms in the woods. Do you have an amazing Dutch oven lasagna recipe? A camp stew that knocks your socks off? Figured out a way to make an angel-food cake with implements found in your patrol box? Anything goes here – make your best dish and have it ready to share when the judges arrive!

2.) *Pioneering Challenge*: most Camporees give you enough time to knock out a crummy tripod or get a few square lashings going. At the Showcase, you can let your creativity go wild. Can you make a swinging porch swing that seats six? Got a trebuchet you know how to build? Frank Lloyd Wright-style cabin? Hit the books and show us how the Pioneering Merit Badge could go viral.

3.) *Camping Showcase*: Has your Troop ever been to the Arctic Circle? Are you the masters on the trail at Philmont, or afloat at Sea Base, or fighting mosquitoes at Northern Tier? Or do you just know the best quiet place to be away from ‘civilization’ and live the Scouting life the best you know how?

Tell it to the world: bring a diorama of artifacts from your trip, or come up with a skit recalling your wildest or best time at camp. Sing a song, recreate the Tooth of Time in your camp – this one will rely on your creativity, but the end goal is simple: show the OA judges that your Troop is where it’s at for camping.

These three events you will host at your campsite, and OA judge groups will roam from camp to camp to evaluate the events. You’ll want to designate a group of Scouts to staff your showcase, but your other Scouts and leaders will be free to visit other Troops and see their best as well.

We will reach out to units after registration to borrow an OA member to serve on the judging corps – we want every Troop represented for this. More details will be available at the SPL and Scoutmaster meeting on Friday night. And we will welcome any/all feedback on this new event – the overall goal is to increase participation for all age ranges in the Troop, and your feedback and ideas on this are a gift!

**Camping and Cooking** - Scouts will need to provide their food and cooking equipment. Saturday dinner will be separate from your Showcase meal (unless you make a \*lot\* of it!) and will be cooked and served after the Showcase concludes.

The water at BDSR will *not* be on for this event; make sure your Troop brings sufficient water to support your unit for the duration of this event.

Except for the meals being made by BALOO participants, food is NOT provided at this event for participants. RATA and Climbing staff will be provided meals and staff lodging in the cabins as a courtesy for their volunteering for the event; Troops are responsible for their own meals and tent camping.

Campsites will be determined prior to registration based on group size and composition of participating units; requests should be made ahead of time and may or may not be accommodated depending on circumstances.

**Scouts and Leaders** - Health forms are mandatory for all attending, and registration forms have a roster of names for youth and adults. The cost will be \$45.00 for Scouts and \$15 for Adults, including patches, camping, and awards for the events. You must register online before April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Standard spring campout conditions should be expected; bring gear appropriate to the conditions, using the Scout Handbook as a starting point. In the event of inclement weather, a decision will be made prior to noon on April 24<sup>th</sup> and the unit leader who registered will be notified.

Logistics and other details will be provided at the Friday night SPL/Scoutmaster meeting, which will include a mandatory safety talk by the RATA committee. Please plan on being prompt when attending this meeting. The Saturday night campfire will feature skits and songs; details on how to sign up for a Troop slot will also be provided at the SPL/Scoutmaster meeting.

Candidates for the Order of the Arrow will be called out at the end of the campfire and will be escorted to Kola Lodge for an orientation in preparation for their Ordeal weekend; other units may host their own cracker barrel events and wind down from a great and successful day!

**BALOO** is designed to be the in-person second half of the leader training, designed to teach you the basic skills for outdoor camping with Cub Scouts and their families. The training will begin at 6:00 pm on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of April and finish about 4:00 on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Participants must be at least 21 y/o, and currently registered with Scouting America and have a current SYT certificate. Cost is \$25 and includes Saturday Breakfast and Lunch, awards and a bunch of fun. Leader-specific training should be taken online prior to taking this course.

**IOLS** is a hands-on, mandatory weekend training for Scouts BSA Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters to learn essential camping, cooking, tool, and navigation skills, often paired with Scoutmaster Position Specifics training and help give confidence to new leaders in teaching Scouts up to the rank of 1st class.

Participants must be at least 18 y/o, and currently registered with Scouting America and have a current SYT certificate. The Cost is \$10 if you are eating with your troop at the Showcase or \$25 with breakfast and lunch with the course. Leader-specific training should be taken online prior to taking this course.

**Wilderness First Aid** is a fully accredited 16 hour course, with a fee of \$100. No food is provided – if you are coming up with a unit participating in the Showcase, please eat with your unit, or bring your own food for the course.

The WFA course will run parallel to any other activities; participants will not also be able to participate in Showcase activities. The course will run all of Saturday and most of Sunday. This course certification fulfills the WFA requirement for high adventure. All participants must be 14+ and have a current CPR certification. Reach out to Zoe Bolger ([zoeffbolger@gmail.com](mailto:zoeffbolger@gmail.com)) for more details!

**RATA Notes:** The beginning of the SPL/Scoutmaster talk will comprise a safety talk from the RATA committee – please plan to be prompt to this meeting so critical details are not missed.

**Climbing Notes:** Participants will use camp-issued climbing gear; personal gear should not be brought for climbing (insufficient time to inspect and certify personal gear.)