**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

# Klondike Derby Fact Sheet

## What is the Klondike Derby?

For many years, the Housatonic Council has held an annual winter Council-wide Extravaganza for all Boy Scout Troops. This event has been known over the years by many names such as Operation Zero, Freez-O-Ree, and Tyrolean Festival. These titles suggest cold weather, snow covered hills and large groups of hardy, well prepared Scouts and adults out for a day of unusual Scouting Challenges. This year will be no exception. Scouts from across the Council will once again rendezvous with sledges and komatiks to compete by patrol, of at least four members, for top honors in this day-long event.

## How does the Klondike Derby work?

First, Units are alerted that everyone must **BE PREPARED.** Sledges or Komatiks must be constructed or repaired (skis if snow or wheels if no snow or mud). Each sledge team (Patrol of 4 to 8 scouts) has a separate expedition, following their map along the trail to various stations, where Scout skills are put to the test in a unique and challenging way. At the different stations, teamwork, Scout spirit and Patrol organization are coupled with knowledge and are put into action. The patrols will complete the requirements of the stations and earn the maximum points available. Before the action begins, each Team Driver (Patrol Leader) is handed a packet with the specific instructions for completing the events.

After a patrol/den completes all the stations, the Patrol Leader will check to make sure that their score sheet has been signed by each station master. They then return the sheet to the Klondike Headquarters area by 3:00 P.M. The points will then be tallied for all the competing patrols/dens. After the score sheets have been tabulated, the winners are determined and, at the awards ceremony will hand out ribbons and patches. Every Unit that participates will receive a special Klondike Derby Participation Ribbon for each patrol. All Individuals – Scouts/Adult Scouters - who have paid the registration fee will receive a colorful patch, commemorating the event.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND YOUR SCOUTS THERE!!!**

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

**For the Scout Masters:**
**** VERY IMPORTANT** Fires will be allowed as long as they are contained in a pit and not in direct contact with the ground.**

**ALL patrols need to be at their last station no later than 3 pm.** Stations need to close on time so that station sheets can be counted at Headquarters, located at the pavilion by the Redwing Pond House.

Lunch should be a hot lunch, cooked at your units "Base Camp" (located near your station.)

Registration: Payment and rosters are due before 12:00 pm on Friday January 9, 2026 for each patrols 5 bonus points. Registration must include contact info for at least 1 on-site leader. This is needed not only during the Klondike as well as if there needs to be a weather-related postponement (rain only).

Each patrol is being asked to bring 1 can of Chicken Noodle Soup and only Chicken Noodle Soup per member of the patrol. The cans collected will be turned into a local food bank as a donation on behalf of the council. If a patrol has 4 members, then they should turn in 4 cans of soup. The number of scouts need to match the registration so the Activities committee can verify the number of cans corresponds number of scouts to be able to award extra points to the patrols.

Things for the Station Masters to keep in mind:
Stations should be able to accommodate up to 3 patrols at a time. Your station should take each patrol up to 20 minutes to complete. Please, to keep patrols from "bunching up," stations should not take any longer than 30 minutes.

Station Masters, please mark your morning/afternoon sheet with the corresponding scores only. This helps to expedite the scoring process, which means we have a closing ceremony sooner rather than later. If you are going to mark the patrols who came to your station in the morning on your afternoon score sheet, please do so with a mark next to the patrol name to eliminate confusion.

Sledge on the Edge: In case the ground is not frozen the day of the event, we do not want to destroy the grounds at the Ansonia Nature Center, units should take precautions by adding wheels to the sledges. This will help mitigate our impact on the ground. In case there is extreme mud, patrols will be asked to park their sledge on a hard surface near the station and walk gear required to the station.

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Date:** Saturday, January 16-17th, 2026

**Place:** Ansonia Nature Center
10 Deerfield Lane.
Ansonia, Connecticut, 06401

**Time:** Check-in is on a troop basis starting at 6:00 PM for those coming Friday evening. Those planning to attend Saturday morning, please plan to arrive by 7:00 AM and Check-in by 8:00 AM to avoid the sledge inspection rush and ensure that Everyone will be able to start the Opening Ceremony at 9:00 AM.

**Registration:** Registration can be done online thru BlackPug via the following link: https://scoutingevent.com/069-109033 until **Friday, January 9th, 2026**.There will be an additional 5 point bonus for each patrol registered by this date.

There is a registration fee of $20.00 per person, each scout and adult in attendance. This will cover the cost of patches, ribbons and porta-johns.
The total fee for all names on the registration form must be paid by **January 9th, 2026.** Please be sure that forms are complete and that the unit number, and patrol names are listed. **If patrol names are not submitted and a unit has multiple patrols, we will be using patrol A, B, etc. The Council and Activities Committee will not change them the day of the event. If scouts would like their patrol names on the participation and placement ribbons, it must match the registration form.** We use this information to prepare the paperwork for the event. An accurate registration also allows us to hand out the correct number of patches to each unit. Adults who are not registered for the event will be asked to leave or pay to attend.

**Weather:** The Klondike Derby will be held snow or no snow, but in the event of rain, it will be held on **Saturday, January 24th, 2026** at the same location if possible.

**Footwear:** **Anyone attending the Klondike Derby found to have improper footwear will be sent home no questions asked.** This includes sneakers, street shoes and similar footwear. Suitable boots for winter are an absolute must. Be sure that everyone has re-waterproofed their boots prior to the Klondike Derby.

**Clothing:** There is a 99% chance that the temperature will be cold. **Ensure that all scouts, Leaders, parents, and siblings** are dressing appropriately for the weather. If not properly dressed its recommended to stay in a vehicle. Scouts found during sledge inspection, or even during the day, to be inadequately dressed i.e.… **Anyone wearing shorts will be sent home, no questions asked.**

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

**Awards:** A Klondike Derby participation ribbon will be awarded to each Patrol that competes in the event. Placement ribbons will be awarded to the top nine scout patrols and Webelos dens.

**Patrols:** Webelos – Youth aged scouts who are registered in Pack as a Webelo or AOL. Patrols – Youth aged scouts who are registered to a Troop, 4-8 members.

**Sledges:** Sledges or Eskimo Komatiks are required for each patrol.

**Stations:** Stations are expected to accommodate 3 patrols at a time to prevent "backups" so stations can be completed timely.

**Judges:** The word of the adults serving as the Station Master at the station or elsewhere at the Klondike Derby is final.

**Scoring:** The points awarded at each station will be left to the discretion of the station masters at each station. Each station will have either a maximum of 10 points and a bonus point or a timed score. Webelos should be scored on the basis of "do your best".

**Adults:** Adult leaders will not participate with the Scouts; they may encourage or assist Webelos. Patrol Leaders over see the Scout and Webelo patrols.

**Visitors:** Visitors are welcomed and encouraged. The Ansonia Nature Center is open to the public. If your unit will have visitors make sure they check-in with your unit and Headquarters.

**Injuries:** Report all injuries to the nurse at Headquarters. Nurse Karen will be available as well as several other individuals certified to handle injuries located at stations. If there is any doubt, **Do Not Move the Injured Person.** Someone should immediately retrieve one of the individuals responsible for administering First Aid so that, if necessary, First Aid Trained Personnel can be sent to the scene.

**Lunch:** Patrols are recommended to cook a hot lunch (ie… hot dogs, hamburgers, or foil meals, and a hot beverage) Cooking should be done in or near the units' station location using a fire or contained stove. Firewood will not be available to use within the Ansonia Nature Center. Each unit will need to provide their own wood, food, means for cooking, and clean-up supplies.

**Clean-up:** Lunch areas should be left cleaner than they were found. **All TRASH, CHARRED WOOD, AND ASHES MUST BE PACKED OUT.**

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

**Smoking Policy:** All Housatonic Council Scouting events are designated as non-smoking events by the Executive Board. Please do not smoke or vape around the Scouts.

**Pets:** Please leave your pets at home. This goes for any visitors or leaders wishing to attend the event as well. If everyone in the Council brought a pet to the Klondike, there would be no room for the scouts. The council also takes on the risk that someone will eventually get injured.

**Parking:** Please look at the provided map of the Ansonia Nature Center for parking. We are asking that unit's park in one of the two parking lots closest to their station. Due to the limited amount of parkin, the activities committee is asking units to consider carpooling patrols to attend this event. Headquarters will located at Pavillion #2 which is next to the Redwing Pond House. **Caution should be taken in parking areas as the Ansonia Nature Center is still open to the public the day of our event. Remember scouts are friendly, courteous, and kind to others.**

**Questions:** If anyone has any questions concerning the Klondike Derby, please contact the council Activities Committee (Kim Plourde), Scout Service Center in Derby, or Council Program Coordinator (Chris Kellogg). Questions can easily be answered at council Roundtable, **January 12th, 2026.** If you are unable to attend the roundtable meeting for further information please contact Kim Plourde or Chris Kellogg.

**Soup Stations:** There will be two soup stations at the Klondike. Troop 51 will be hosting one at Pavillion #1 by the soccer field and Troop 7 will be hosting the other at their Station near Pavillion #2. These are available to everyone attending the event to get a warm beverage throughout the day.

**Firewood:** One firewood log per scout is required to be turned into Headquarters at the time of sledge inspection. Sledge inspection will be done at Headquarters at Pavillion #2. If your patrol has 4 members you will need 4 logs to turn in. Sticks off the ground are not considered a log. Scoutmasters/ Patrol leaders, please make sure your patrols have the appropriate logs for the sledge inspection or they will not receive the full complement of points.

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

## Points to Remember:

1. The fee for the Klondike Derby is **$20.00** per person. Scouts and Adults attending the event.

2. Dress Properly – but not in Scout Uniform

3. Watch out for frostbite and hypothermia. Stay hydrated.

4. Bring wood or charcoal for cooking fires. Coleman style and propane stove are also appropriate. All units should cook a hot lunch in an area close to their station.

5. Take your trash home with you.

6. Remove all residues from the cooking fires. Fires should not be on the ground and Should be in a container or firepit above the ground.

7. All vehicles should be parked in designated parking areas. Please see the map for where your vehicles should be parked. Parking is limited and car-pooling is suggested.

8. There is no RAIN DATE for this event

9. All injuries need to be reported to the Nurse at Headquarters. This is important for the Council insurance coverage.

10. Please meet the registration deadline of **Friday, January 9th at 12 pm**.

11. Do not forget the firewood and soup per scout for sledge inspection, first aid kit, water bottle per scout, properly dressed for the event. **NO SNEAKERS or SHORTS.**

12. BE PREPARED and HAVE FUN.

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

## Schedule for the Day
**(Times are subject to change and weather)**

### Friday

| | |
|---|---|
| **6:00 PM** | Units staying over Friday night can arrive for Check-in any time after 6:00. Please park vehicles and trailers in the parking lot by pavilion #2. |
| **10:00 PM** | Lights out. |

### Saturday

| | |
|---|---|
| **7:00 AM** | Units may begin arriving and getting stations ready. Please park in specified parking lot. |
| **8:00-8:45 AM** | Patrols should make their way to Pavillion #2 for sledge inspection. |
| **9:00-9:15 AM** | Patrols and Leaders should assemble at Pavillion #2 for the Opening Ceremony, we would like to start promptly at 9 AM. Each patrol/den will be given their station at this time which will include the map of the Ansonia Nature Center, score sheet, surveys, and schedule for the day. Patrols will start stations at 9:15 AM. |
| **9:15-12:00 PM** | Patrols will proceed to their first station which can be found on the top right corner of their score sheet. Patrols should verify that their score sheets are signed by the station master at each station. |
| **12:15-1:00 PM** | Lunch. Stations closed and Station Masters turn in morning scores sheets to HQ. |
| **1:15-3:15 PM** | Stations will resume for the afternoon. Upon completion of stations patrols should go back to their units to complete the patrol and leader surveys, then turn them into HQ at Pavillion #2. |
| **3:15-3:45 PM** | Time for scouts and leaders to pack up stations and get ready for the closing ceremony at Pavillion #2. |
| **4:00 pm** | Closing ceremony, patches and ribbons are handed out, everyone goes home after. |

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

## Scouts/ Webelos Equipment List

1. Sledge
2. 1 log and 1 can of Chicken Noodle Soup per will be checked for at sledge inspection. Logs will be collected at HQ and soups will be collected at the Troop 3 station.
3. Water Bottle and or mug for soup and liquid consumption.
4. Patrol Flag
5. Properly dressed for cold weather. **NOTE:** Unprepared patrols observed to be having a difficult time with the weather or cold will be sent to Headquarters or their unit based on severity.
6. Lunch to be done within the unit near the station location.
7. Recommended – 2 or more compasses
8. Watch or some other time device, not a cell phone.
9. Fire starting implements (no lighters)

## Klondike Notes:

1. **Scouts spending the night should be prepared for cold weather camping and Units should have the means to keeps scouts warm in case of emergency.**
2. **No water – Units must bring their own water.**
3. **No RV's, pets, smoking/vaping.**
4. **Fires must be don't in fire pits not directly on the ground.**
5. **Units planning to stay on Friday should park in the parking lot by pavilion #2**
6. **All other attendees for Klondike should park in the main parking lot.**

# 2026 KLONDIKE DERBY
## The Yeti Goes Back to Basics
## Ansonia Nature Center
## Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026

**Camporee Registration: Troop/Pack/Crew Number _____**

**Patrol Name:_____**
**PL** _____
**APL** _____
**3.** _____
**4.** _____
**5.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Patrol Name:_____**
**PL** _____
**APL** _____
**3.** _____
**4.** _____
**5.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Patrol Name:** _____
**PL** _____
**APL** _____
**3.** _____
**4.** _____
**5.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Patrol Name:** _____
**PL** _____
**APL** _____
**3.** _____
**4.** _____
**5.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Patrol Name:** _____
**PL** _____
**APL** _____
**3.** _____
**4.** _____
**5.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Patrol Name:** _____
**PL** _____
**APL** _____
**3.** _____
**4.** _____
**5.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Junior Leaders not participating in event:**

**1.** _____
**2.** _____
**3.** _____
**4.** _____
**5.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Adult Leaders for the weekend:**

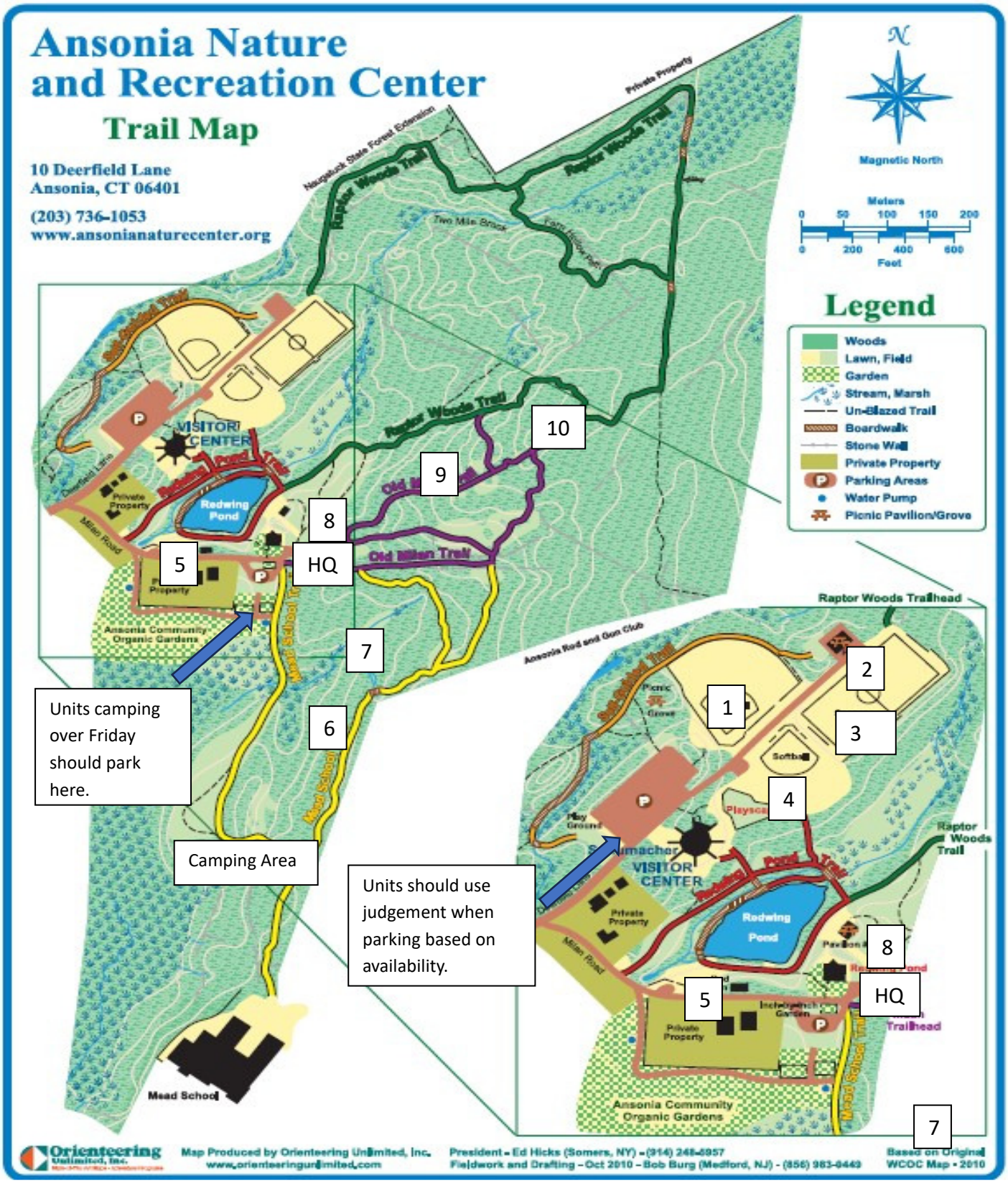
**SM.** _____
**ASM.** _____
**ASM.** _____
**ASM.** _____
**ASM.** _____
**6.** _____
**7.** _____
**8.** _____

**Registration/ Office use only**

**Total Scouts Registered:** _____
**Total Leaders Registered:** _____
**Total Registered:** _____
**Station Unit is running:** _____

**Total Registered x $20.00:** _____
**Cash/Check Paid:** _____
**Bill Account:** _____
**Scout Master:** _____
**Email:** _____
**Phone #:** _____

**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**



**2026 KLONDIKE DERBY**
**The Yeti Goes Back to Basics**
**Ansonia Nature Center**
**Ansonia, CT. Jan 16-17, 2026**

## STATIONS

| | ***Station*** | ***Description/Location*** | ***Station Master*** | ***Webelos*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1.** | Troop 3 – Yeti Walk | Softball Field | | Y |
| **2.** | Troop 51 – Dutch Ovens & Soup Station | Pavilion #1 | | Y |
| **3.** | Troop 101 – Canoe across the River | Soccer Field | | Y |
| **4.** | Troop 13 – Tomahawk | Across from the Softball Field | | Y |
| **5.** | Troop 55 - Axe Safety | By the Pond | | Y |
| **6.** | Troop 65 - Tracking | Upper Field | | Y |
| **7.** | Troop 28 – Lashings | Entrance to Upper Field | | Y |
| **8.** | Troop 7 – Fire Building & Soup Station | Small field above HQ @ Pavilion #2 | | Y |
| **9.** | Troop 25 – Orienteering | Lower field behind HQ | | Y |
| **10.** | Troop – First Aid | Keep going past station #9 | | Y |