



Brownsea Program

First Year Camper Program



As summer approaches, we are looking forward to your Troop joining us here at Rodney Scout Reservation! As you prepare for your experience, we would like to update you on what to expect from our Brownsea program in 2026.

The ultimate goal of Rodney's Brownsea program is to teach your new Scouts the skills to succeed in attaining the First Class rank, while at the same time introducing them to the many exciting opportunities available to them through Scouting. Scouts will spend time each day completing requirements for the Swimming and Nature Merit Badges, while also working with our Camp Staff on a variety of rank requirements from Tenderfoot to First Class.

On Monday, Scouts will select their Period D activities as Patrols. Patrols will have the opportunity to participate in activities like Boating, Swimming, Handicrafts, Climbing, Archery, and Rifle. Each activity has been designed specifically to enhance the experience of the first-year camper. It is our goal to have every new Scout excited to return to summer camp at Rodney for years to come.

Scouts from your Troop will be in Patrols together. Each Scout should bring whatever materials they may desire to assist in creating a patrol flag during the week.

We ask that every Troop with Brownsea Scouts designate a Leader to participate in the program with those Scouts throughout the week. Detailed schedules for the week will be distributed to your Troop representative during the Brownsea Leader's Meeting on the Sunday night of your arrival, at 7:30pm in the Brown Lodge Leader's Lounge.

Attached is an overview of the requirements that participating Scouts may complete during their time spent with our staff at camp. Troop leadership will receive a completion record at the end of the week for all rank advancement work.

Yours in Scouting,
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Brownsea Director



Scout Rank

- 3a. Explain the patrol method. Describe the types of patrols that are used in your troop.
- 3b. Become familiar with your patrol name, emblem, flag, and yell. Explain how these items create patrol spirit
- 4a. Show how to tie a square knot, two half-hitches, and a taut-line hitch. Explain how each knot is used.
- 5. Tell what you need to know about pocketknife safety.

Tenderfoot

- 1c. Tell how you practiced the Outdoor Code on a campout or outing.
- 3a. Demonstrate a practical use of the square knot.
- 3b. Demonstrate a practical use of two half-hitches.
- 3c. Demonstrate a practical use of the taut-line hitch.
- 3d. Demonstrate proper care, sharpening, and use of the knife, saw, and ax. Describe when each should be used.
- 4a. Basic First aid (cuts and scrapes, blisters on the hand and foot, minor burns or scalds, bites or stings of insects and ticks, venomous snakebites, nosebleeds, frostbite and sunburn, choking)
- 5a. Explain the importance of the buddy system as it relates to your personal safety on outings and in your neighborhood. Use the buddy system while on a troop or patrol outing.
- 5b. Describe what to do if you become lost on a hike or campout
- 5c. Explain the rules of safe hiking, both on the highway and cross country, during the day and at night

Second Class

- 1b. Explain the principles of Leave No Trace and tell how you practiced them on a campout or outing. This outing must be different from the one used for Tenderfoot requirement 1c
- 2a. Explain when it is appropriate to use a fire for cooking or other purposes and when it would not be appropriate to do so.
- 2b. Use the tools listed in Tenderfoot requirement 3d to prepare tinder, kindling, and fuel wood for a cooking fire.
- 2c. At an approved outdoor location and time, use the tinder, kindling, and fuel wood from Second Class requirement 2b to demonstrate how to build a fire. Unless prohibited by local fire restrictions, light the fire. After allowing the flames to burn safely for at least two minutes, safely extinguish the flames with minimal impact to the fire site.
- 2f. Demonstrate tying the sheet bend knot. Describe a situation in which you would use this knot.



2g. Demonstrate tying the bowline knot. Describe a situation in which you would use this knot.

3a. Demonstrate how a compass works and how to orient a map. Use a map to point out and tell the meaning of five map symbols.

3c. Describe some hazards or injuries that you might encounter on your hike and what you can do to help prevent them.

3d. Demonstrate how to find directions during the day and at night without using a compass or an electronic device.

First Class

5b. Identify two ways to obtain a weather forecast for an upcoming activity. Explain why weather forecasts are important when planning for an event.

5c. Describe at least three natural indicators of impending hazardous weather, the potentially dangerous events that might result from such weather conditions, and the appropriate actions to take.

5d. Describe extreme weather conditions you might encounter outdoors in your local geographic area. Discuss how you would determine ahead of time the potential risk of these types of weather dangers, alternative planning considerations to avoid such risks, and how you would prepare for and respond to those weather conditions.

7c. Tell the five most common signals of a heart attack. Explain the steps (procedures) in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Merit Badges

Swimming Merit Badge (granted that the Scout is a swimmer or passes the swim test by Wednesday)

Nature Merit Badge

There are no prerequisites required for Swimming or Nature Merit Badges in the Brownsea program.