

National Capital Area Council, BSA

Potomac District Klondike Derby

Little Bennett Campground

2025 Leader's Guide



2025 Potomac District Klondike Derby Table of Contents

Schedule	3
General Information	4
Patrol Competition Guidelines (very important for PL's !).....	8
Patch Design Submittal Form	11
Winter Camping (Packing List, etc.)	12
MUST READS About Winter Camping	13
Camping Dishwashing Procedures.....	14
Hypothermia 101.....	15
Troop Roster & Final Payment Form (separate attachment)	

Highlights for 2025

- Campsite assignments will be emailed approximately one week before the event.
- Several Derby Stations are created and set up by specific Units. We are open to new Station ideas. If your Unit is interested, email Earl.Smith2@NIH.gov.
- Facilitating a Derby Station earns a \$50 Check-In credit. You must be able to dedicate a minimum of two (2) YPT trained adults from 9-12 & 1-4 pm sharp. Check "Yes" when prompted while completing the on-line registration to indicate a willingness / availability to run a Station. If your assistance is needed, you will be contacted in advance of the Klondike for confirmation + Station assignment. An offer to run a Station **MUST** be accepted / confirmed by Klondike leadership **BEFORE** the Klondike in order to receive the \$50 credit (i.e., simply indicating a willingness to run a Station during online registration does not mean that you **ARE** going to run a station).
- Registration, First Aid and Headquarters are on the lower level of the Little Bennett Camp Store. Follow signage. **Check or cash are the preferred methods of payment, although credit cards will be accepted at Check-In.**
- Vandalizing portable toilets will not be tolerated. No one is permitted to use the portable toilets to dispose of cooking scraps. Please relay this message to your Patrols.
- An optional Campsite Gateway competition is available for Patrols to earn extra points. Campsite Gateways will be judged during the lunch break on Saturday between noon and 1:00 pm. All Gateways must be dismantled and removed in their entirety before a Unit may pick up their patches and check out on Sunday morning. OA Staff members will be inspecting each campsite in-person for compliance with this requirement.
- The Catholic Mass this year will be outside in the amphitheater behind HQ. The non-denominational Scout's Own service will be held at the Loop A field campfire ring.
- **Any riders ON the sleds during the Sunday morning sled races **MUST** wear a helmet.**
- You may use the campground's dumpsters for your trash.
- **TENTATIVE** dates for 2026 Klondike Derby are Friday January 23rd through Sunday January 25th.

2025 Potomac District Klondike Derby Schedule

Friday 24th

5:00 – 9:00 pm	Registration – Camp Store Lower Level. This is HQ (Headquarters).
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Patrols check in Survival Kit, Sled, and Patch Design Forms to OA & receive License – outside HQ**
9:00 – 9:30 pm	Orientation – Amphitheater behind HQ (Scoutmaster & SPL only)
9:30 – 9:45 pm	Station Mayor Meeting (Station volunteers only) – Amphitheater.
10:00 pm	TAPS – Quiet in Camp. All lights out.

Saturday 25th

7:00 am	Reveille
7:00 – 8:00 am	Registration for Latecomers – HQ
7:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast at Your Campsite(s)
8:45 – 8:55 am	Flag Raising – Loop A Field
9:15 – 12:00 pm	Morning Station Sessions**
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch (no stations open during this hour) Campsite Gateway Judging**
1:00 – 4:00 pm	Afternoon Station Sessions**
4:00 pm	Flag Lowering – Loop A Field
4:30 – 5:30 pm	PL+1 submit Campfire Skit Entry to OA at amphitheater behind HQ**
5:00 – 7:30 pm	Dinner at Your Campsite(s)
6:30 – 7:00 pm	Dessert Contest - Patrol Leaders submit at HQ**
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Campfire & OA Call-Out – at amphitheater behind HQ
9:00 pm	Cracker Barrel – HQ (OA Staff Volunteers)
10:00 pm	TAPS – Quiet in Camp. All lights out.
1:00 – 4:00 pm	Webelos Invitational - Check-in at Entrance Gatehouse (Gate will be manned)

** denotes scored event

Sunday 26th

7:00 am	Reveille
7:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast at Your Campsite(s)
9:00 am	Worship Services: Catholic Mass at amphitheater behind HQ Non-Denominational Scout's Own Service at Loop A fire ring
10:00 am	Sled Races – Loop A Field Closing Ceremony – Loop A Field
10:30 – 11:30 am	Site Inspections (see Check-Out instructions)
12:00 pm	Park closes.

2025 Potomac District Klondike Derby

General Information

- When** 5:00 pm Friday January 24th to 11:30 AM Sunday January 26th, 2025.
- Location** Little Bennett Campground, 23705 Frederick Road, Clarksburg, Maryland 20871.
- The first entrance you come to is the Maintenance Yard, which is the parking for the Webelos event. All Scouts BSA Troops should proceed to the second entrance which is the Campground Entrance, and go directly to their campsite(s).
- Invitees** Scouts BSA Troops & Venture Crews in the National Capital Area Council and surrounding Councils / Districts.
- No specific physical conditioning, experience, or training is required to successfully complete a Klondike Derby. Knowledge of basic Scouting skills, and how to recognize and treat cold weather risks such as hypothermia is helpful. Those risks are discussed elsewhere in this Leader's Guide.
- Reservations** Each campsite is \$175, due at time of online reservation.**
- Campsites are reserved in advance on a first come, first served basis. No on-site reservations. In the spirit of Leave No Trace and to maintain our relationship with the Montgomery Department of Parks, attendance will be limited to the number of available campsites.
- **The site registration fee covers the cost of the campsite, latrines, awards, station supplies, and some organizational expenses. Link to register: <https://www.ncacbsa.org/calendar/> and navigate to the date of this event (January 24, 2025).
- Questions?** Email KlondikeDerby@Gmail.com
- Campsites** Units will be notified of their campsite assignments by email approximately one week before the event. Sites will be allocated according to the size of the units and is done at the sole discretion of the Klondike Derby Registration Team. Specific campsite requests *may* be accommodated, *if possible*, but are NOT guaranteed.
- Vehicles** Because parking is very limited, make every effort to carpool. **Vehicles must be parked on the parking pad at the campsite. No parking off the gravel parking pad, or on the road. Emergency vehicles must have unobstructed access to the sites.** Unit leaders are responsible for informing other drivers they must park in designated areas. To assure the safety of participants during the event, drivers must not drive to nor park their cars at or near the playfields. Cars parked on the side of any road will be subject to a parking ticket and towed. No parking is allowed on the playfields. Drivers must observe and obey speed limit signs posted in the park. Be mindful of pedestrians on the roads.
- Patrols** The ideal size for a Patrol is 8 Scouts. We will allow Patrols between 2 and 10 Scouts. If you have more than 10 Scouts, they MUST split into separate Patrols. Patrols should not be organized on the basis of experience or age. The older Scouts should help the younger Scouts up the Scouting Trail. **When not with their Patrol, Scouts should use the buddy system.**
- Attire** The Scout uniform is to be worn at all events. Supplement the Scout uniform with additional layers of clothing.
- It is critical that each individual knows how to keep warm and dry. Changing conditions necessitate being prepared for almost any condition. Cold weather camping requires adequate layered clothing and waterproof boots to protect the camper yet be versatile enough to prevent sweating during activities and to retain warmth during idle periods. A second and third change of inner clothing will be required for a Scout's personal safety and comfort. Prior to dinner, leaders should ensure that Scouts with wet or damp inner clothing change to dry inner clothing. Wearing damp or wet clothing next to the skin during idle periods, such as dinner time and the campfire activities, is a prime time for the body to become cold and could result in hypothermia. A winter cap or hat is necessary during the day and at night in the sleeping bag. Before arriving at the Derby, leaders should review the important principles of winter dressing with all participants to ensure a safe and rewarding experience for all. **Share "Winter Camping" (page 12), "MUST READS About Winter Camping" (page 13) & "Hypothermia 101" (page 15) included in this guide.**
- No tennis shoes/sneakers will be permitted.**
Campers improperly prepared for the weather will be asked to leave.
- Unit Check-In** Friday Night - 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm (preferred)
Saturday Morning - 7:00 am to 8:00 am (backup)

After arrival at your campsite(s), have **one** adult bring a copy of your completed "Troop Roster & Final Payment Form" plus payment (cash, check, or credit card) of \$10.00 per person for both Scouts + adults to HQ. Adults working as Klondike Staff, OA and Station Mayors must asterisk (*) their names on the Roster to receive a **Staff** patch. Units that provide Station Mayors will be given a \$50 credit towards their participant fees at this time. The participant fee covers the Klondike Derby patch and year-round Council support necessary to run this event and others around the District.

Make checks payable to: "NCAC-BSA". Memo on check "Cost Center 679 / Klondike Derby 2025."
Credit cards will be accepted at Friday Check-In (but probably not Saturday morning).

Medical Forms

This is a Unit-based event. Each leader of a unit must have for each camper and adult leader an up-to-date BSA Annual Health and Medical Record form, just as you would for any campout. These will **NOT** be collected at Check-In. However, they must be kept in a secure location (to protect participant privacy) and be available to both the unit leader and camp staff if needed. If you have any campers with limitations, special needs, or life-threatening circumstances, your unit leader should inform the health officer / first aid unit at Check-In.

Sled & Survival Kit Check-In

Friday Night, 7:30 – 9:00 pm at HQ.

Patrol, with Sled and Survival Kit, must line up in the designated area near HQ. Patrols should wait while their kit and sled are judged by the OA, then turn in their Patch Design Forms and receive a Patrol License to be carried during the Derby events, then return to their campsite with all gear.

Orientation

Friday Night, 9:00 – 9:30 pm at amphitheater behind HQ.

Scoutmasters, Senior Patrol Leaders and OA Staff are strongly urged to attend for updates to the program.

Station Mayor Meeting

Friday Night, 9:30 - 9:45 pm at amphitheater behind HQ.

Only unit adults working as Station Mayors Saturday must come to a short but mandatory meeting where you will be given Station-specific information and scoring gear.

Derby Staff

Klondike Derby Staff include District Leaders, HQ Admin. / registration staff, Order of the Arrow volunteers and Station Mayors. Staff members may receive the "Staff" version of the Klondike patch by putting an asterisk (*) next to their name on the Roster & Final Payment Form.

Order of the Arrow volunteers serving as Klondike Derby Staff are invited to attend OA Cracker Barrels following Orientation Friday evening, and after the Campfire on Saturday evening.

Flag Raising

Saturday, 8:45 – 8:55 am, Field A.

Derby Stations

Descriptions of the various stations run during the Saturday competition will **NOT** be detailed. Stations test traditional Scouting skills: pioneering, compass reading, fire building, knots, lashings, Leave No Trace, Nature and first aid. Other stations will require problem-solving or initiative games.

Warming Stations

Warming Stations with hot chocolate (and coffee for adults) will be located near A Field and E Field.

Adult Participation

Adults are prohibited from accompanying / helping Patrols during the Saturday Patrol competition. **The only exception to this is for Scouts with special needs and/or disabilities.** A great way to see all the action is by volunteering as Station Mayors. Observe Patrols from other units in action and pick up tips from the collective intellect of the Patrols at work.

Webelos Participation

Webelos may observe the older Scouts in action but may not participate in these activities, nor camp overnight. A separate Webelos Invitational will take place on Saturday 1:00 - 4:00 pm. See the separate registration link online for Webelos Invitational.

Competitions

In addition to the Derby Stations, the coming year's Patch Design Competition, the Campsite Gateway competition, the Dessert Contest, and Skit participation are all counted in the overall Patrol score. The traditional Sled Race is optional and will be held Sunday morning at 10:00 am in Field A.

Flag Lowering

Saturday, 4:00 pm, Field A.

Skits

Audition with OA, 4:30 – 5:30 pm Saturday at amphitheater behind HQ.

Patrols are encouraged to prepare skits and/or songs for the Campfire. Send PL and one other person to HQ, and present idea to the OA after the Flag Lowering Saturday. Participation points will be awarded to those units who pass OA approval and perform in the Campfire Program. Skit approval will include compliance with BSA guidelines found here: <https://pdscouting.wenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NCS-Ceremonies-and-Campfire-Guidance-1.pdf>

- Dessert Competition** Turn in desserts at HQ 6:30 – 7:00 pm Saturday at HQ.
See [Patrol Competition Guidelines](#), on page 6.
- Campfire & OA Call-Out** Saturday, 8:00 pm, at amphitheater behind HQ.
Members of the Order of the Arrow will lead the Saturday night Campfire at the amphitheater and will conduct programs for both the skits to be performed by Patrols and an OA Call-Out.
- Worship Service** Sunday, 9:00 am.
There are two worship services: A Catholic Mass in the amphitheater behind HQ, and a Non-Denominational Service in the Loop A field, around the campfire ring.
- Check-Out** Sunday, 10:30 – 11:30 am. **A Klondike Derby Staff member must sign out every Unit.**
After your unit has completed site clean-up and has packed away unit gear, a representative should find the OA Representative stationed near the middle of each camping loop (A, B, C, D, and E) and ask them to inspect the site(s). Once inspection is completed, the OA Representative will provide a signed card to be taken to HQ where Klondike Derby patches and a participation ribbon will be issued to the Unit leader. Early check-out can be arranged. **Troops leaving without being checked-out by a Staff member will not receive Klondike Derby patches.**
- Food** This is a Unit-based event, meaning that each Troop is responsible for providing their own food, including transportation, storage, and preparation. Patrol cooking is encouraged, including a hot portion for each meal.
- Fires** Fires are permitted in the fire ring only. Fires must not be left unattended. **Always have a shovel/rake and water or other extinguishing materials handy.** Due to the spread of tree-harming invasive species, firewood may not be brought into the campground. Wood may be obtained from any downed trees. Firewood may also be purchased at the Camp Store. Cutting any standing tree is considered the destruction of property and subject to criminal penalty. The use of chain saws for any reason is prohibited.
- Water** Water will be available from spigots located throughout the campground and will be operable. **DO NOT WASH DISHES AT THE SPIGOTS! Please emphasize this with Scouts.** Dishes should be washed at your campsite. See "Camping Dishwashing Procedures" on page 14.
- Latrines** Restroom buildings ("Bath Houses") throughout the campground are **closed and locked** for the winter. Portable toilets (aka "Port-a-John's") will be provided. Please have Scouts use them with respect. Vandalizing portable toilets will not be tolerated, nor should they be used to dispose of cooking scraps. **Please emphasize this with Scouts.**
- First Aid** A First Aid Station will be open 24/7. It is located in the lower level by HQ. All injuries, however slight, must be reported to the First Aid Station.
- Trash** Troops are responsible for leaving Little Bennett better than upon arrival. Units may use the campground dumpster: which are located at the Exit of Loop A, where it rejoins the main campground road; at the entrance to Loop D; and at the entrance to Loop E.
- Lost & Found** HQ will serve as the repository for found items. To minimize lost gear, Scouts should label all personal gear with their name and unit number.
- Cancellation** The event will NOT be postponed. If there is a major blizzard, the event may be cancelled altogether. Updates will be made via email to unit contact given at the time of online registration.
- Refunds** Campsite refund requests must be made 15 days **before** the Derby, as costs are committed by then. Refunds may be granted for all but 15% of the fee under certain circumstances. No refunds will be made at the Klondike Derby site. Send requests for refunds to Geoffrey Thomas, Potomac District Director, Geoffrey.Thomas@Scouting.org
- Reminders** Two YPT trained adult leaders MINIMUM (at least 21 years old), must always be present with the unit (except with Patrols during the competition). ALL adults staying overnight must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the position(s) they are serving in. Registration solely as a merit badge counselor does not meet this requirement. As always, drugs, alcohol, fireworks, etc. are not allowed.

Why Do We Do Why do we offer a winter campout Patrol competition like the Klondike Derby?

This?

- It's a chance to learn and test our winter camping skills, and more importantly help reaffirm a major lesson we teach in the Scouting Program - you can overcome anything with planning, leadership, cooperation, and practiced skills.
 - It helps us teach basic Scouting skills. Lashings can be tough to get Scouts to do as an abstract exercise. Tell them to make a catapult, though, and lashings go to the top of the list of neat things to do.
 - And finally, it's VERY FUN (and a little crazy)!
- Our goal is that by participating in this event, Scouts will advance their personal fitness, leadership development, and character development, resulting eventually in more resilient, self-sufficient adults.

2025 Potomac District Klondike Derby Patrol Competition Guidelines

Patrols must check-in their survival kit and sled at the designated area outside Headquarters 7:30 to 9:00 pm Friday evening and receive their Patrol License.

Scenario: The Survival Kit has been dropped by an airplane to sustain the Patrol through their adventures. Below is a list of items necessary to successfully compete at this year's Klondike Derby. Survival Kits will be judged and scored against the following criteria:

- Visible Patrol name + Troop number
- Completeness of contents
- **Durability**
- Portability / compactness / usability

Survival Kit Contents

- Waterproof sleeve to hold 8.5" x 11" certificate
- Tinder, kindling, and fuel for 1 fire
- Matches
- Bottled water (1 qt.)
- Duct tape (1 roll)
- Compass
- Pencils & paper (2 sets per Patrol member)
- First aid kit
- Blanket (not space blanket)
- Tarp, approximately 6 ft x 8 ft
- Rags (6 or more, useful as bandages, splinting material, or blindfolds)
- Rope - at least 8 which are 8 feet or longer, 1 should be 12 feet long
- Twine (lots) or parachute cord (at least 50 ft)
- Knife – to cut twine, cord, or rope
- Trash bag
- At least six (6) staves, each 5 feet or longer
- Personal reusable cups/mugs for hot drinks at warming stations**
- Tape measure (6 feet minimum)
- 2 hammers
- 6 tent stakes
- Clothesline (100 feet)
- 1 Pan or skillet, for popping popcorn. **NEW**
- Oil (e.g., vegetable/canola/olive) for popping popcorn. (Only a small amount is needed.) **NEW**

Optional:

- Bungee cords, disposable hand warmers, trail mix or other "sled dog" food.
- A "Klondike Candle" (also known as a Canadian Candle or Swedish Torch). This candle may be appropriated by the comfort stations if needed for extra points.

Sleds

The use of sleds by the Patrols at the Klondike Derby is strongly encouraged.

- Sleds should have Troop number and Patrol name on them.
- The sleds will be judged by the following system: 6 points for having a sled, and up to an additional 4 points for: having the unit number & patrol name on sled; having a patrol flag; and for being extra creative (e.g., originality, craftsmanship, etc.)
- If a Patrol already has a sled, that sled may be used. Even a child's plastic sled will do!
- All competing participants are expected to operate and manage sleds in an appropriate Safe Scouting manner and to prevent hazards that would result in bodily injury.
- Sleds should be designed to navigate the trails and roadways in both snow and dry conditions because we are uncertain if the order that was placed for at least a foot of snow will be processed in time for the Derby.

Derby Patch Design Contest

Patch designs are turned in to the OA by Patrol at the time of Sled and Survival Kit judging on Friday night, so Patrols are encouraged to prepare this work ahead of time. See [Patch Design Submittal Form](#) on page 9.

Patrols are awarded 8 participation points (turning in a thoughtful design—scribble on paper will **NOT** count towards participation). Additional points are awarded for the winner (2 points) and the runner-up (1 point). The OA Chapter will judge the contest. Submissions should be in keeping with the Scout Oath and Law and in good taste; the Klondike Director reserves the authority to disqualify submissions without appeal.

This year's patch was the winner of last year's Patch Design Competition! See the winning design on the front cover of this packet!

Campsite Gateway Contest

An optional Campsite Gateway competition is available for Patrols to earn up to 15 extra points. Campsite Gateways will be judged during the lunch break on Saturday between noon and 1:00 pm. **Participating gateways must be assembled / ready for judging by noon on Saturday.** The judging criteria are:

1. Free standing
2. Easily observed from the road
3. Clearly identify the Troop (extra points if Patrols/location/sponsors are listed)
4. Made in part by local materials (branches/vines/rocks/squirrels/Yeti)
5. The judges purely subjective opinion as to which looks the best.

All Gateways must be dismantled and removed in their entirety before a Unit may pick up their patches and check out on Sunday morning. OA Staff members will be inspecting each campsite in-person for compliance with this requirement

Sled Race **Sunday, 10 am Field A.** Not part of the Patrol scoring competition, but just for bragging rights.

Sled plans: <http://www.inquiry.net/outdoor/winter/gear/sleds>

- Tow ropes or leads on sleds should be limited to a length that will allow the sleds to be used in a safe manner.
- Tow ropes or leashes deemed unusually long by the judges will be disqualified from participating in the races.
- Racing Scouts must be prepared to prevent falling and to respond appropriately in the event they slip and fall.
- **RIDERS ON THE SLEDS MUST WEAR A HELMET.**

Stations Traditional Scouting skills will be tested, such as: orienteering, fire building, knots & lashings, rope tossing, nature identification, first aid, Leave No Trace, and a number of problem-solving or initiative games. A Patrol must follow instructions carefully in order to complete each event.

The following general instructions apply to each Station:

1. **Patrols may only attend ONE Station at a time, as a fully-intact Patrol. This means you may NOT split a Patrol into smaller groups to attend multiple Stations simultaneously, or to wait your turn / hold a place at other stations.**
2. When a Patrol reaches a Station, park the sled in the designated parking area and greet the Station Mayors with Patrol Yell / Cheer.
3. Patrol will show Station Mayors their License received at sled check-in. **A Patrol without a License will not be allowed to compete at the Station. If the License has been lost / destroyed, they must return to HQ to obtain a new one.**
4. Patrol should follow the instructions of the Mayor.
5. When a Patrol is given instructions, they should perform those required actions. The Patrol should use learned skills but may also be creative. If the Patrol thinks they have a better solution, they may use that solution and explain why it was used. Teamwork is critical. If good results are obtained despite bickering and uncooperativeness, the score will be worse than a poor result that is achieved with teamwork, positive attitude, and real effort.
6. The Patrol shall tell the Mayor when they complete the Station assignment.
7. The Patrol Leader should ensure the Mayor records results and places scorecard in the score box. Station Mayor will then dismiss the Patrol or give further instructions.
8. The start time for all Patrols will be 9:15 am.
9. Stations will close for lunch from 12:00-1:00 pm. If Station Mayors determine there is not enough time for a Patrol to start and finish the station right before noon, the Patrol will have to begin at 1 pm.
10. Stations will be open from 1:00-4:00 pm.

Station Starting Position **Saturday morning after Flag Raising, 9:15 am:**

Units camping in Loops A, B or C start at Field E.

Units camping in Loops D or E start at Field A.

Saturday afternoon after lunch, 1:00 pm:

Units camping in Loops A, B or C start at Field A.

Units camping in Loops D or E start at Field E.

Mayors will enforce this rule until 10:30 am and 2 pm.

Station Scoring Scoring for each station emphasizes teamwork and the group Patrol method as opposed to the specific Scouting skill being tested. If a Patrol cooperates with each other and shows good Scout Spirit, they will do well in the competition no matter how new they are to Scouting. Patrols are rewarded for understanding what Scouting is all about – doing your best while living by the Scout Oath and the Scout Law.

How the Patrol is scored at each station:

- 1-5 Participation (DOING, not just attending)
- 1 Patrol Spirit (i.e., acting as a group of one, and *not* one of a group)
- 1 Patrol Yell/Cheer (unsolicited)
- 1 Correct answer to program provided BSA trivia question
- 1 Patrol Leadership (does the PL take charge and direct, and make use of his or her resources?)
- 1 Demonstrating sportsmanship or teamwork (depending on the activity)
- 1-5 Completing the activity/problem
- 15 Maximum Points

Skits /Songs **Audition with OA, 4:30 – 5:30 pm Saturday at amphitheater behind HQ**

Patrols are encouraged to prepare skits and/or songs for the Campfire.

Send two people from Patrol to HQ and present idea to the OA. Participation points will be awarded to those units who pass OA approval and more points given to those asked to perform in the Campfire Program. Skit approval will include compliance with BSA guidelines found here: <https://pdsouting.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NCS-Ceremonies-and-Campfire-Guidance-1.pdf>

Dessert Turn in desserts 6:30 – 7:00 pm Saturday at HQ

Contest

- Each Patrol should make a dessert from scratch while at the Derby.
- A legible copy of the recipe must accompany each dessert entry, and **each entry must be identified by the Unit Number and Patrol Name.**
- The Patrol Leader and one other Patrol member will preface their presentation with a Patrol Yell/Cheer.
- Points will be given for participation, presentation, difficulty, and taste (maximum of 15 points).

Desserts will be judged by the specially trained palates of the OA members of the Klondike Derby staff. Any leftovers will be available during Cracker Barrel. **Don't forget to reclaim Dutch ovens or other non-disposable containers after Cracker Barrel Saturday night.**

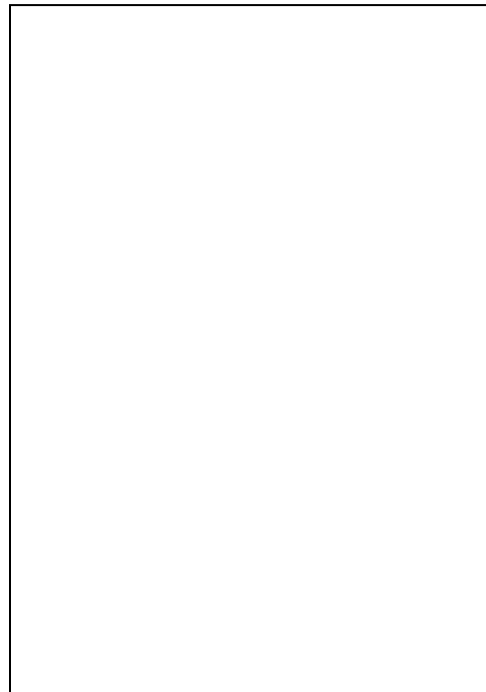
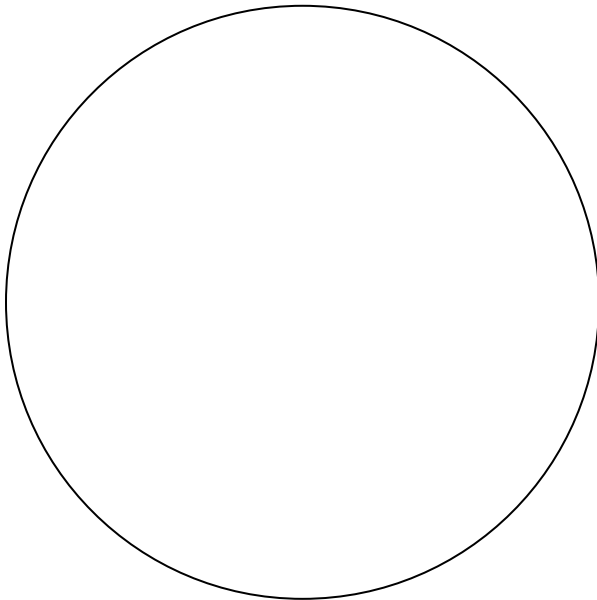
2026 Potomac District Klondike Derby Patch Design Submittal Form

Unit: _____ Patrol Name: _____
(write artist's name on BACK of entry sheet)

The event organizers prefer that a Scout design the Klondike Derby patch. Therefore, points will be awarded to Patrols as part of the Patrol competition. See "Derby Patch Design Contest" in the Patrol Competition Guidelines.

Patch Requirements:

- Shape: either 3" round, 2-1/2" x 3-1/2" rectangle, in either orientation--portrait or landscape. See samples below.
- Colors: maximum of nine (9) colors
- **Required wording and logo:**
 - BSA logo (i.e., Fleur-de-lis)
 - "Klondike Derby"
 - "2026"
 - "Potomac District"
 - "STAFF" (on some patches)



Winter Camping

(2 nights)

Packing List

Clothes

- Long underwear (2-3 pairs, no cotton)
- Many layers of fleece and wool
- Water and Wind-proof jacket (preferably w/hood)
- Insulated Pants (fleece)
- Water and Wind-proof pants (ski or rain pants)
- Clean pants and torso layers for nighttime activities
- Clean clothes **for sleeping in ONLY**
- Waterproof gloves / mittens (1-2 pairs)
- Wool Hat (2)
- Sock liners
- Wool socks (5 pairs)
- Waterproof boots (2 pair)
- Class A Uniform (Shirt only)

Sleep System

- Sleeping Bag
- Thick wool blanket or fleece liner
- Closed-cell Foam Pad (not an air mattress)
- Space Blanket (thick kind, not the foil ones)
- Extra Blanket

Before Going to Bed

- Take the Patrol for a walk around the loop
- Eat some trail mix
- Visit toilet (do it now rather than at 3 am)
- Change **ALL** clothes, including underwear (your old ones are wet/dirty)
- Put on a dry wool hat
- Put clothes for the next day in your sleeping bag
- Open your tent a little
- If you need to leave the tent at night, you **MUST** wake up your tent mate!



Camping Gear

- Water bottle (w/water)
- Mess Kit in mesh bag (plastic is best; metal cools too fast)
- Insulated Mug w/handle
- Flashlight + spare batteries
- Knife
- Kleenex (keep dry in zip-top bag)
- First Aid Kit

Miscellaneous

- Money (\$1's, 5's, 10's for camp store. NOT 20's)
- Watch
- Paper and Pencil [pens will freeze]
- Zip-top bags for clothes (keeps moist air out)
- Pillow
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloth, etc.)
- Trail Mix
- Scout Book (under 1st Class, should always have)
- Plastic trash bag for wet clothes
- _____

Tent

- Space blanket under everybody (shiny side up)
- Sleeping bag and wool blanket combo
- Wool blanket on top of everybody

Key Points

- * It's easy to get cold; it's very hard to warm back up
- * If you get wet, you *will* get cold. So Stay Dry!!!
- * Don't overheat – sweat gets you wet and cold, fast
- * You warm the sleeping bag, it does not warm you!
- * Poor Planning = Poor Performance
- * If you get cold, tell somebody!



MUST READS about Winter Camping

- You warm the sleeping bag; it does not warm you! Plan to dress lightly by changing into **clean, dry** clothes (even your underwear) when you retire for the night. The clothes you wear during a regular day contain about a pint of moisture from normal perspiration and increases your risk of hypothermia.
- You should place **all** clothes into heavy-duty sealable Ziploc bags before you pack them. Natural moisture in your clothes when you are camping can be uncomfortable when you get dressed in the morning. Backpacks and duffels are not waterproof and they do absorb moisture, therefore clothes in unsealed bags are damp.
- A closed-cell sleeping pad does **not** absorb moisture. Open-cell pads absorb moisture. An air mattress is useless in winter, actually wicking cold air from the ground to you! If you do not have a backpacking-type sleeping bag rated to at least 10-15 degrees F., bring an extra wool blanket. A fleece liner in your sleeping bag provides an extra layer of warmth.
- Wearing a **wool** watch cap when you sleep is helpful; remember the chimney effect. A scarf or neck gaiter also helps hold in the heat.
- Waterproof your shoes or boots with a “Sno-Seal” **before** your camping trip. Two or three treatments several days apart are useful. Mink oil does not waterproof.
- Putting some of the clothes you will wear the next day inside your sleeping bag when you go to bed will warm them up. Always bring at least one extra pair of **wool** socks and mittens or gloves for emergencies. Plan on using several pairs of socks each day.
- Ventilate your tent at night. A closed tent allows condensation to build up on the roof of the tent and it might “snow” or “rain” inside your tent.
- If you are cold or get wet, talk to your leaders. Don't wait until you are numb or until the early morning hours. Learn what **hypothermia** is before going winter camping and learn to prevent it.
- No one will have extra clothes or equipment to loan to you should yours gets wet. Take a few precautions **before you leave** to go winter camping, so you stay warm and dry. If you have questions, get answers to those questions before you leave. Keep an extra set of clothes in the car just in case; it's good insurance.
- Avoid overheating by adjusting the layers of your clothing to meet the outside temperature and the exertions of your activities. Excessive sweating can dampen your garments and cause chilling later on.
- Damp clothing and skin can cause your body to cool quickly, possibly leading to frostbite and hypothermia. Keep dry by avoiding cotton clothes that absorb moisture. Always brush away snow that is on your clothes before you enter a heated area. Keep the clothing around your neck loosened so that body heat and moisture can escape instead of soaking several layers of clothing.
- A steady flow of warm blood is essential to keep all parts of your body heated. Wear several loosely fitting layers of clothing **and footwear** that will allow maximum insulation without impeding your circulation.

BASIC COLD WEATHER CLOTHING LAYERS

- 1) The **base layer** is basically your underwear—the layer next to your skin. Synthetic and merino wool fabrics work best (avoid cotton). They wick perspiration away from your skin to outer layers so it can evaporate. They dry quickly so you spend minimal time in wet clothing. When snow camping, it's common to wear 2 base layers: a lightweight or midweight layer, then a thicker heavyweight layer.
- 2) The **middle layer** is your insulating layer. It is primarily designed to help you retain body heat. Consider wool, fleece or microfleece shirts, pants, and jacket and/or a goose down jacket.
- 3) The **outer layer**, or shell, is your waterproof/windproof/breathable layer. Laminates such as Gore-Tex, eVent or REI Elements offer premium protection. Less expensive alternatives use polyurethane-coated fabrics that are equally waterproof but somewhat less breathable. Look for core vents and underarm vents that expel excess heat and moisture.

CAMPING DISHWASHING PROCEDURES

For individual camper health and for the good of the natural environment use these procedures at Little Bennett Campground and anywhere else you may camp!

ABSOLUTELY NO DISHWASHING AT WATER SPIGOTS OR BATH-HOUSES!!!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Container for garbage
- Paper towel or napkin (from meal)
- 3 dishpans, tubs, or buckets
- Detergent (preferably biodegradable)
- Dish scrubber
- Bleach
- Plastic grocery bag

BEFORE SITTING DOWN FOR MEAL: Put large pot of water on to heat.

PRIOR TO WASHING DISHES:

- Set up container for garbage.
- Using small piece of paper towel or napkin, wipe **ALL** food particles into the garbage container:
 1. Wipe utensils first, cups second and plates third. This order ensures that items going into one's mouth are as clean as possible.
 2. After all personal gear is wiped, use the same steps for the Patrol cooking gear.



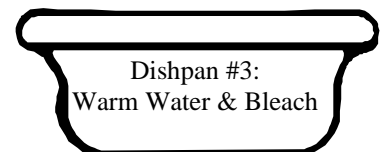
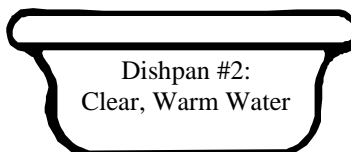
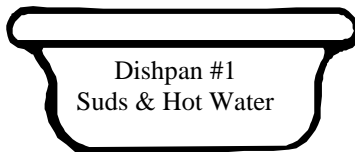
DO NOT ALLOW any gear that HAS NOT been wiped free of food particles into Dishpan #1.

PREPARING DISHWATER:

Dishpan #1 – wash water: small amount of liquid detergent in first, then add hot water

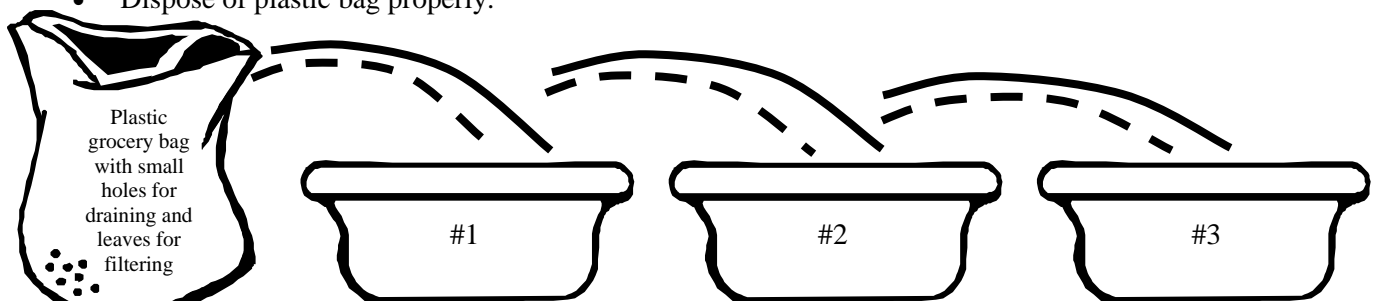
Dishpan #2 – rinse water: clear, warm water

Dishpan #3 – sterilize: lukewarm water with 1 tablespoon bleach for every gallon of water; add 1 tablespoon of bleach after every eight campers. Gear stays in this tub for one minute.



DISPOSING OF DISHWATER:

- Prepare a plastic grocery bag for straining any food particles that may have sneaked into the dishpans.
 1. Punch several small holes into the corner of the bag.
 2. Fill the corner with a small amount of leaves and/or pine needles to act as a filter.
- Carefully empty the dishpans into the bag in the following order and allow the bag to drain after each addition *in a different part of the woods each time:*
 1. Dishpan #1 into the bag.
 2. Dishpan #2 into #1, swish water around and then into the bag
 3. Dishpan #3 into #2, swish water around, then into #1, swish water around and then into the bag. This will ensure that all three dishpans will have an opportunity to be sterilized.
- Dispose of plastic bag properly.



HYPOTHERMIA 101

As the temperature dips, hypothermia can threaten survival for backwoods adventurers unaware of its warning signs.

Hypothermia is an abnormally low body-core temperature caused by exposure to a cold environment.

Caution: First-aid management of hypothermic victims should not be based solely on measurements of body temperature because it is often difficult to obtain an accurate temperature in the field.

Mild Hypothermia

When core body temperature drops below 95°F, mild **hypothermia** sets in.

- Person feels cold and shivers at maximum level.
- Person maintains normal consciousness level, remains alert, and has normal or slightly impaired coordination.
- When core body temperature drops below 93°F, the person develops slurred speech, memory loss, poor judgment, and carelessness.

Mild Hypothermia Treatment:

1. Move the person from the cold environment to a sheltered environment.
2. Replace any wet clothing with dry, insulated garments.
3. Give the person warm food and lots of sugary hot fluids (an average size adult needs about 60 kilocalories of hot drinks or about 2 quarts of highly sugary liquids such as drink mixes) to elevate core temperature 10 F.
4. Slow heat loss by wrapping the person in a sleeping bag, plastic bag, or tarp. Huddling with the person in a sleeping bag will help slow heat loss.
5. Resist the urge to use hot water bottles or heat packs. They can turn off the body's shivering mechanism, and they add very little heat to the body core. Instead, bring water to a boil and have the person inhale the steam, or build a fire.

Profound Hypothermia:

When core body temperature drops below 90 degrees F, profound hypothermia develops.

- The person becomes weak and lethargic.
- The person has an altered mental state (is disoriented, confused, combative or irrational, or in a coma).
- The person is uncoordinated.
- When core body temperature drops below 88 degrees F, person stops shivering.
- When core body temperature drops below 86 degrees F, person's heart pumps less than two-thirds the normal amount of blood. Pulse and breathing are half their normal rates.
- When core body temperature drops below 83 degrees F, the heart is very irritable and unstable, and likely to develop abnormalities. The person is in danger of cardiac arrest. Rough handling of the person increases the potential for cardiac arrest.

Profound Hypothermia Treatment:

Treatment in the backcountry is aimed at stabilizing the person and preventing any further cooling.

1. Handle the person very gently. Rough handling may cause his heart to fail.
2. Place the person in a sleeping bag, or place blankets or clothing underneath and on top of him. Any heat that you can provide will probably not rewarm the person but will help prevent further cooling.
3. A person with significantly altered mental state should not be allowed to eat or drink because of the potential for choking or vomiting.
4. Rewarming is best done in a hospital, because of the potential complications associated with profound hypothermia. Professional assistance is usually needed to evacuate a profoundly hypothermic person.

It may be difficult to distinguish whether a person is profoundly hypothermic or dead. The profoundly hypothermic person may have a pulse and respirations that are barely detectable. Double-check carefully, feeling for the carotid pulse (it is found on either side of the center of the throat where the carotid artery goes to the head). Check this for at least one minute since the heart rate may be very slow. Place a glass or plastic surface next to the person's mouth to see if it fogs up.

When to perform CPR: If the person is breathing or has any pulse, no matter how slow, do not initiate CPR, as this may cause the heart to stop beating completely. If there is no sign of a pulse or breathing after one minute, what to do next depends on your situation:

1. If you are alone or with only one other person, cover the hypothermic person and place him in a protected shelter (place insulation beneath and on top of him). Both rescuers should go for help and stay together for safety.
2. If there are multiple rescuers, and it is safe to stay with the victim, begin CPR. Chest compressions should be done at one-half the normal rate. At least two people should go for help and stay together for safety.
3. If the person can be easily transported out of the backcountry on an improvised stretcher, the rescuers may elect to do this while performing CPR during the transport as best as possible.

Never assume that a profoundly hypothermic person is dead until his body has been warmed thoroughly and there are still no signs of life. It is possible, though rare, that one without detectable signs of life will recover when rewarmed.

Adapted from *Wilderness 911: A Step-by-Step Guide for Medical Emergencies and Improvised Care in the Backcountry*, Eric A. Weiss, MD