Scouting America

National Capital Area Council

36th Annual Potomac District Klondike Derby

@ Little Bennett Campground

January 22 - January 24, 2027

SPL and Patrol Leader's Guide



2027 Patch Design by Jake Hill, Troop 461

2027 Potomac District Klondike Derby
Schedule

Friday 22nd

5:00 – 9:00 pm	Registration – HQ (Camp Store Lower Level) .
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Patrols Check in – OA Inspect Survival Kit and Sled and accept 2028 Patch Design proposals (Parking Lot outside HQ****
9:00 – 9:30 pm	Orientation – Amphitheater behind HQ (**Scoutmaster & SPL only**)
9:30 – 9:45 pm	Station Mayor Meeting – Amphitheater (**Only unit adults working as Station Mayors are to attend this short but mandatory meeting where they will be given Station-specific information and scoring gear**).
10:00 pm	Taps – Quiet in Camp. All lights out.

Saturday 23rd

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 24th

7:00 am	Reveille
7:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast at Your Campsite(s)
9:00 am	Worship Services (Location to be determined):
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.

2027 Potomac District Klondike Derby
Patrol Guidelines

Patrol Size:

The ideal size for a Klondike Derby Patrol is 8 Scouts. We will allow Patrols consisting of between 2 and 10 Scouts. If you have more than 10 Scouts, the Scouts MUST be split into separate Patrols. Patrols should not be organized on the basis of experience or age.

When not with their Patrol, Scouts must use the buddy system.

Attire:

A Scout uniform is to be warn at all events. Depending on the weather, please supplement the Scout uniform with additional layers of clothing.

Before arriving at the Derby, all participants must review the Winter Camping Guide which includes:

- **"Winter Camping Packing List",**
- **"MUST READS About Winter Camping" &**
- **"Hypothermia 101"**

No tennis shoes/sneakers will be permitted at the Klondike Derby. Campers improperly prepared for the weather will be asked to leave

Check In:

Each Patrol or Crew MUST check in on Friday night between 7:30pm and 9pm in the parking lot in front of HQ.

The Patrol or Crew must bring their Sled and their Survival Kit and are strongly encouraged to submit a 2028 Patch Design.

Once they have been successfully checked in they will receive a **Patrol License** that must be carried on the sled during the Derby events.

How Can Your Patrol Win the Klondike Derby?

Simple: Work as a team and participate in as many Scored Events as possible.

What are the Scored Events?

1) Sled/Survival Kit Check In **(up to 40 points)**
2) Submission of a 2028 Patch Design Entry **(up to 10 points)**
3) Enter the Campsite Gateway Contest **(up to 15 points)**
4) Submit at least one Skit or Song for the Campfire **(up to 9 points)**
5) Submit at least one Dessert in the Dessert Competition **(up to 15 points)**, and
6) Participate in as many stations as possible in the Scouting Competition **(each station is worth up to 15 points).**

The Sunday Sled Race is NOT a Scored Event – it's for bragging rights only.

1) Sled Check in and Survival Kit:

Each patrol should have a Sled that will be evaluated by the OA at Check In as follows:

- **6 points** for having a functioning sled (any sled counts – even a child's plastic sled),
- **up to an additional 4 points** for:
    - having the unit number & patrol name attached to the sled;
    - having a patrol flag; and
    - for being extra creative (e.g., originality, craftsmanship, etc.)

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.

The sleds must be operated at all times in an appropriate Safe Scouting manner and to avoid hazards that would result in bodily injury

Every Sled must have a **Survival Kit** which will be judged and scored up to a **maximum of 30 points** for:

- for having the contents of a Survival Kit be in a portable/useable container
- the container must be durable (Please be aware that the OA has been known to test the durability of the containers by dropping them from some height & we have never seen a soft duffel bag break!).
- whether the container has a visible Patrol Name and Troop Number affixed to the container
- for having the following Survival Gear:

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Oil (e.g., vegetable/canola/olive) for popping popcorn. (Only a small amount is needed.)

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 – look it up!). This candle may be appropriated by the comfort stations if needed for extra points.

2) 2028 Klondike Derby Patch Design Competition:

Each Patrol should turn in one or more Patch designed to the OA 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. The Patrols are awarded **up to 10 points** as follows:

- **8 points** for submitted a reasonably thoughtful design (a scribble on paper will NOT count towards participation).
- **2 points** for the design winner
- **1 point** for the runner-up.

The OA Chapter will judge the contest and their decisions are finable/non-appealable. Submissions should be in keeping with the Scout Oath and Law and in good taste; the Klondike Director reserves the authority to disqualify submissions.

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!

3) Campsite Gateway Contest:

Patrols can **earn up to 15 points** for the Campsite Gateway competition. Campsite Gateways must be assembled/ready for judging **NO LATER THAN NOON on Saturday**. The Points are awarded on a purely subjective basis using the following criteria:

Is the Gateway?:

- free standing
- easily observed from the road (if the judges don't see it, its zero points)
- Clearly identify the Troop (extra points if Patrols/location/sponsors are listed)
- Made in part by local materials (branches/vines/rocks/squirrels/Yeti)
- Does it look good?

All Gateways must be dismantled and removed in their entirety at the end of the Klondike Derby

4) Skit Competition

Patrols are encouraged to prepare skits and/or songs for the Campfire – Skits are worth **up to 9 Points** (2 for simply submitting a skit, up to 2 points for originality and 5 points if they are used in the campfire). To do so, the Patrol must send at least two people to the amphitheater behind HQ to present the idea to the OA on **Saturday from 4:30 – 5:30 pm.**

Skit approval will include compliance with Scouting guidelines found here:
https://pdscouting.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NCS-Ceremonies-and-Campfire-Guidance-1.pdf

5) Dessert Competition

Patrols are encouraged to make a dessert from scratch while at the Derby. Desserts submitted to the OA for the Dessert Competition are worth **up to 15 Points**. The Patrols should **turn in desserts between 6:30 – 7:00 pm Saturday at HQ**

- **Each entry must be identified by the Unit Number and Patrol Name and each dessert should have a descriptive and/or entertaining 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.**

6) THE COMPETITION:

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. Stations will be open from 9:15 am until 12 noon and from 1pm to 4pm
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.

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 these rules for the morning competition until 10:30 am and for the afternoon competition until 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.

Each Patrol can earn up to 15 Points per Station. Please note that 2/3rds of the Points (10 points) awarded at each station are for teamwork and acting as a Patrol and 1/3 of the Points (5 points) are for completing the activity.

How the Patrol is scored at each station:
5 points for participating (DOING, not just attending)
1 point for showing Patrol Spirit (i.e., acting as a group of one, and *not* one of a group)
1 point for the Patrol Yell/Cheer (unsolicited)
1 point for correct answer to program provided Scouting America trivia question
1 point for Patrol Leadership (does the PL take charge and direct, and make use of his or her resources?)
1 point Demonstrating sportsmanship or teamwork (depending on the activity)
Up to 5 points for completing the activity/problem
Total of up to 15 Maximum Points per Station

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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.

2027 Potomac District Klondike Derby

Patch Design for the 2028 Klondike Derby - Submittal Form

Artist: _____

Unit:_____ Patrol Name: _____

Up to 10 points will be awarded to Patrols for a Patch Design 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:**
  - Scouting logo (i.e., Fleur-de-lis)
  - "Klondike Derby"
  - "2028"
  - "Potomac District"
  - "STAFF" (on some patches)





