

NNJC BALOO & IOLS Participant Packet

What is BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation)?

This in person course is designed as an introduction to the Cub Scout outdoor program for leaders interested in adding a camping component to their Pack activities. **BALOO training consists of an online prerequisite component** in addition to a **comprehensive overnight** hands-on in person practical. BSA's Cub Scout level camping policies will be taught along with the discovery of the necessary tools to help units carry out a successful camping experience.

- **Online component:** (*MUST DO FIRST*)
 - The online portion of BALOO is available 24/7 on the BSA Learn Center. Just log in to My.Scouting.org to begin.

What is IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills)?

This course is intended for every adult leader in every Troop/Ship/Crew. It is designed to provide a working knowledge of the basic outdoor skills necessary to succeed as a Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. Outdoor skills are critical to the success of the Scouting program, and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills will provide leaders with the basic outdoor skills information needed to start a program right.

IOLS is the required outdoor training for all Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Venturing Crew Advisers (if the crew is engaged in outdoor programs). The skills taught are based on the outdoor skills found in The Scouts BSA Handbook. The course is also ideal for Venturing leaders because it focuses on skills that build confidence and competence in leaders conducting outdoor camping experiences.

Frequently asked questions:

1. Q. Is this an overnighter and do I need to stay the whole time?
Yes. You will be sleeping over Friday and Saturday nights and must attend all the sessions outlined in the syllabus.
2. Is camping required for BALOO and IOLS?
Yes. This is a policy set by the National BSA.
3. Do I bring my own food?
 - a. No. Your registration fee will cover all the food cost for the weekend.
 - b. Yes, if you have special dietary requirements that cannot be accommodated. Please discuss this with the course director at least 1 week in advance.
4. Do I need a tent and what type should I bring?
Yes, you will need to bring your own tent. But if you do not have a tent ask a local Scouts BSA Troop if you could borrow one of theirs for the weekend. Your tent should ideally be designed for 2-3 people but should not be larger than a 6-person tent.
5. What do I need to bring for the weekend?
See the packing included in this packet
6. I am an Eagle Scout, can I test out versus taking the outdoor portion of this course?
No. Even though we will be teaching all the skills you learned as an Eagle Scout, the purpose of this training is to teach you how to teach the scouts in your unit.
7. Is a uniform required?
This is a uniform activity, so the BSA Uniform (Class-A) is highly recommended. If you do not have a uniform, please wear (Class-B) scouting appropriate apparel.
8. I have physical disabilities, how can I be accommodated?
We will make every effort to accommodate your physical needs. Please note your disability on the registration form and a staff member will be in touch with you before the course.
9. Can I earn both BALOO and IOLS on the same weekend?
While we are offering both courses at the same time, because of the significantly different content and course material, you can only earn ONE of the certifications this weekend.

Arrival Information:

Parking:

Parking will be in the parking lot. There are no EV charging stations at camp. Upon arrival, please go to the Campmaster to check in.

Check In:

Check In starts at 7:00pm on Friday evening. So please arrive early and have some extra time to settle in. There will be very little time during the day to visit your site and you will return to your sites around 9pm. Once you park, please leave your gear at your vehicle while you register. Once you check in, that is the time to unload your gear.

Medical Forms

Reminder that you should bring your completed medical forms with you to expedite check-in.

Medical A&B: https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf

Uniform:

As with all training sessions, Scouters are expected to wear their Class-A uniforms on Saturday and Sunday. Class-A uniforms are not required for any Friday night activities.

Campsites:

We will have one campsite available for BALOO, and three sites for IOLS. All sites have platforms, but you are welcome to pitch your tent directly on the ground

Flush toilets and latrines are available around camp.

IOLS and BALOO Gear List

- Medical Form - Part A and B
- Tent
- Sleeping bag
- Sleeping pad or mattress (this is very important if you'd like to stay warm!)
- Sturdy shoes or hiking boots (recommend that you bring an extra pair to keep in your car)
- Change of clothes (ideally, a spare scouting uniform, if you have one)
- Extra socks (at least 2 per day). Cotton socks are not recommended for outdoor activities.
- Sleeping attire different from daytime clothing
- Cap and gloves
- Mess kit (plate, cup, bowl, utensils)
- Soap (preferably liquid), washcloth, towel
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Sunglasses
- Camp chair
- Notebook, pen, pencil
- Coat or jacket
- Rain gear
- Hand sanitizer
- Medicine
- Daypack

A few nice-to-haves:

- Your own trolley to carry your gear to/from the campsite
- Foam pad to make sitting more comfortable
- Pillow
- Extra paracord (to attach your tent to the platforms, in case your cord is missing or breaks)
- Solar charger for your devices
- Tarp/ground cloth
- Trash bags

When you organize a camping trip with your unit, this could be a handy guide to distribute to the families: <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34-49.pdf>

