



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL

# Raritan Valley District KLONDIKE TRAIL

Est. 1968



## Event Guide





January 01, 2024

Dear Event Attendees,

On behalf of the Raritan Valley District, we would like to welcome you to the 2024 Klondike Trail at Winnebago Scout Reservation. This is one of our District's premiere events each year where our Scouts get the opportunity to test their scouting skills and compete against other Patrols in a winter setting.

The RVD Klondike Committee has spent the last couple months and hundreds of hours planning and arranging for an event we know our Scouts will enjoy. Each year we collect feedback from our units and patrols and work hard to incorporate those changes into the following year's program. Our event will be accommodating both units that want to camp for the weekend as well as Saturday event only participants. We look forward to your participation this year.

Our goal is to provide our Scouts with a safe, well organized, and exciting weekend, full of memorable activities and experiences. Please take time to read through this Guide, it will provide valuable planning information and event logistics.

Steve Abramo – Klondike Governor

Keith Brogan – Klondike Logistics





## Raritan Valley District **IMPORTANT – Changes for 2024**

As always, please make sure to read this document in it's entirety, including the Patrol Guide and Webelos Den Guide. This page is intended only to highlight specific, high-priority changes from the previous year.

### Sled Design Rules Update:

Due to the majority of the Winnebago course being along the paved/stone road; wheels will be permitted this year to reduce damage to sleds. The following rules will be enforced.

1. Wheels must be easily removeable. In the event of adequate snowfall, event staff will announce if the event will be "wheels on" or "skis only".
2. Wheels may be no more than 12" outer diameter.
3. Wheels may not protrude more than 4" beyond the sled body.
4. Nothing may protrude beyond the wheel hub. (including axel, etc)
5. Sleds must ALWAYS be under control of the Patrol; sleds on "auto-pilot" down hills, or being ridden by patrol members, WILL result in a safety disqualification.

### Weekend Camping Update:

**Due to popular demand, Overnight camping will now be offered on FRIDAY AND SATURDAY nights.**





**Raritan Valley District  
2024 Klondike Trail**

**Location:** Camp Winnebago, 102 Timberbrook Road, Rockaway, NJ 07866

**Date:** Friday-Saturday; February 16-18, 2024

Cost (till Jan 26):	Late Registration (after Jan 26):
\$20.00 per Scouts BSA Scout	\$30.00 per Scouts BSA Scout
\$15.00 per Webelos / AOL Scout	\$25.00 per Webelos / AOL Scout
\$15.00 per Adult	\$25.00 per Adult

**Process:** Registrations should be completed by unit (Pack/Den or Troop), this is not an individual Scout activity.

**Schedule: (Estimate – schedule subject to change)**

**Friday, Feb 16**

- 6:00pm-9:00pm – Troop Check-in & Camp Setup
- 9:00pm – Camp Road Closes To Vehicle Traffic
- 9:45pm – SPL & Unit Leader briefing @ HQ

**Saturday, Feb 17**

- 8:00am-9:15am – Troop (Day only) Arrival & Check-in
- 8:30am-8:45am – Opening Ceremony / Posting the Colors
- 8:45am-10:00am – Sled Inspections
- 9:00am – Klondike Flights Start
- 10:00am-10:30am – Webelos Arrival & Check-in
- 4:00pm – Klondike Ends / Webelos Departure
- 4:30pm – Retiring the Colors

**Sunday, Feb 18**

- 09:00am Notify event staff that your site is ready for inspection.
- 10:00am Campsite inspection complete, check out & departure.





## Event Activities

The Klondike event consists of multiple “towns” where each town requires Scouts to display skills in areas including Planning, First Aid, Knots/Lashings, Map/Compass, Fire, Cooking, Shooting Sports, and Team Building. Each town has a mayor who acts as the focal point for that town. The mayor is assisted by older Scouts and/or adults who assign tasks to each patrol and then judge how well they achieve the assignment, including displaying appropriate leadership and good Scout behavior. Each Scouts BSA patrol builds (or reuses) their own Klondike sled and packs it with the equipment required for the various Klondike towns. The Scouts themselves act as the sled dogs, pulling their sled from town to town.

Scouts BSA troops are grouped into patrols. Scouts BSA patrols have their own elected patrol leaders and assistant patrol leaders, so they compete on their own without adult involvement. Webelos dens, however, will require two adult den leaders throughout the event.

For the Webelos, the Klondike is not a competitive event. It is intended as a fun activity which will hopefully get them excited about “crossing-over” to Scouts BSA. Thus, it is not required that the Webelos dens prepare for town skills. The towns will be structured to help teach skills as necessary.

The Klondike “towns” are set up to challenge Patrols with a set of scout skills and the Patrol method. The towns support a scaled-back challenge, for Webelos Scouts, focused on teaching and learning. Since the Webelos challenges will be done at the same towns used by the Scouts BSA Scouts, the Webelos will also be able to observe the older Scouts in action.

The Klondike is a “team-oriented” activity, not an individual Scout activity. That is, Scouts BSA members participate in their patrol groupings. Similarly, it is expected that each pack will use their Webelos dens as their teams.

Program Specific details are documented in the Program Guides:

- Patrol Program Guide – Raritan Valley District 2023 Klondike Trail
- Webelos/AOL Program Guide – Raritan Valley District 2023 Klondike Trail

We will be offering various shooting sports activities, weather dependent, at this event including tomahawk throwing and shotgun shooting for Scouts BSA Scouts and BB Gun Target shooting for Webelos & AOL Scouts. Participants can bring their own eyes & ears protection, it will be checked by staff prior to use. These programs will be under the guidance of a well-trained and dedicated group of shooting sports certified staff. No different than any activity we offer in Scouting, unit leaders should review these activities with their Scout families and secure activity permission.

Weekend winter camping is offered as an extended program opportunity for our Scouts to practice and experience camping during the winter.





## Additional Event Activities

### Fellowship

- Friday Cracker Barrel - There will be a meeting at Headquarters on Friday night for the key Adult Unit Leader and Youth Unit Leader (SPL) to review event policies and procedures and seek clarification on the weekend's plans.
- Saturday Cracker Barrel – Unit SPL's and key adult leaders to review this year's event, check-out procedures, etc.

### Ceremonies

- Opening Ceremony – There will be an event wide opening ceremony on Saturday morning where we will post the colors and review last minute event day procedures.
- Closing Ceremony – There will be a camp-wide closing ceremony on Saturday evening after the end of the race.
- Results will be announced at the March District Roundtable.

## Logistics

It is the responsibility of all unit leaders in charge to make sure that everyone in their unit is aware of the policies, information, and reminders in this guide. All adults are asked to please help ensure that these guidelines are always adhered to by all. The Guide to Safe Scouting must be followed at all times.

### Adult Leadership:

Adequate adult supervision must be maintained at all times. Each unit must have at least two BSA registered adults, age 21 or over, who are current in Youth Protection Training, including having one registered female adult or each unit serving female youth. The unit leader should have no other duties that would detract from responsibilities as the unit leader.

All adults (other than Webelos/AOL leaders) on premise for the event are expected to work the event. Those adults that do not have assignments supporting a Klondike town should check-in with HQ staff who will provide an assignment for the day. The primary unit leader for a unit attending the event should not be the primary individual running an event program.

### Friday Arrival (Weekend camping participants):

Event check-in will open at 6pm on Friday night for units planning to camp for the weekend. Once a unit checks in for the weekend, your leaders will be responsible for ensuring late arrivals are met at the entrance to camp.

Vehicles should proceed directly to the parking lot, DO NOT park on the entrance road in front of the check-in building. Due to the (hopeful) presence of snow in the parking lot, there will be limited space available, park as efficiently as possible starting at the back of the parking lot.





### Friday Arrival (continued):

One unit leader and one youth leader should proceed to check-in with their paperwork:

- At check-in, your unit must **CONFIRM the unit camping roster and each patrol roster**. These rosters will be completed online. (link from the District event registration page).
- Please note that if the unit leader is leaving camp, HQ staff must be notified, and another adult or registered leader must be placed in charge of the unit. If an individual scout or the entire unit leaves for any reason, HQ staff must be notified.
- The Unit leader must have in their possession the **Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A & B) for each person attending the event**, this will be verified at check-in. To assist the onsite Medical Staff, these forms should be accessible at all times. These forms can be found at: [https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001\\_AB.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf).
- Unit leaders are responsible for maintaining all permission slip and emergency contact information for each Scout & Adult, as required by Scouts BSA rules and their unit Committee.
- As part of the check-in process, the unit leader must inform the health officer or designee of any campers with limitations, special needs, or life-threatening circumstances.
- One campsite car permit will be issued upon request, see Parking section for more information.

Unit leaders will be provided a wristband for each registered participant at check-in. These must be placed on participants before entering camp and must be worn at all times.

Unit will then proceed to their assigned campsite and setup camp for the weekend.

### Saturday Arrival (Day participants only):

Vehicles should proceed directly to the parking lot, DO NOT park on the entrance road in front of the check-in building. Due to the likely presence of snow in the parking lot, there will be limited space available, park as efficiently as possible starting at the back of the parking lot.

One unit leader and one youth leader should proceed to check-in with their paperwork:

- At check-in, your unit must confirm **each Patrol or Den roster**. These will be filled out online via a link from the district event registration page.
- Please note that if the unit leader is leaving camp, HQ staff must be notified, and another adult or registered leader must be placed in charge of the unit. If an individual scout or the entire unit leaves for any reason, HQ staff must be notified.
- The Unit leader must have in their possession the **Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A & B) for each person attending the event**, this will be verified at check-in. To assist the onsite Medical Staff, these forms should be accessible at all times. These forms can be found at: [https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001\\_AB.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf).
- As part of the check-in process, the unit leader must inform the health officer or designee of any campers with limitations, special needs, or life-threatening circumstances.

Unit leaders will be provided a wristband for each registered participant at check-in. These must be placed on participants before entering camp and must be worn at all times.

Patrols will then proceed with their Sleds to McNair Field for opening ceremony (8:30am) and the start of activities. Dens will proceed to McNair Field for their first activity, a Klondike Sled race.





## Parking

- All Parking at Winnebago must occur outside the entrance to the Campground. There is significant space to ensure free movement of vehicles, but some vehicles in the parking lot **may be blocked** for the entire weekend.
- All vehicles must fill out a parking permit visible in their windshield with complete contact information of the driver/owner. If not completed in advance, these permits are available at check-in.
- Vehicle access to campsites is limited and may be completely inaccessible based on weather conditions, it is highly recommended to establish plans to transport unit equipment from the parking lot to your unit campsite. Based on weather conditions it is possible that vehicles will be restricted from camp roads.
- If conditions permit, one vehicle per unit (no trailers) will be allowed to drop off gear at the campsite and can remain at the site if room permits. No vehicles at any time can be parked on camp roads, they must remain open to allow for emergency vehicle access. One permit for a "campsite car" will be provided per campsite at check-in and must be displayed on the vehicle dashboard and be visible.
- The vehicle owner will assume responsibility for their own vehicles, vehicles entering camp will do so at their own risk. This event includes significant movement by Scouts and their sleds.
- All vehicles moving beyond the parking lot into the campsites must have an adult or Scout ground guide walking alongside the vehicle to prevent speeding and alert the driver for passing youth. Under conditions of twilight or darkness, ground guides must use a flashlight.
- Handicapped accommodations: Special permits can be issued for handicapped vehicles upon request.
- There will be no vehicles other than authorized vehicles on camp roads. Authorized vehicles will transport troop gear to the campsites only at the beginning (Friday before 9:00 PM) and the end (Saturday 5:00 PM) of the camping event.
- All pick-up and drop-off of Scouts and their equipment will be made from the parking lot.
- An EMT-designated emergency vehicle is for emergency use only. No vehicles past barriers. ALL authorized vehicles must utilize camp roads and parking areas while in camp.

Commented [KB1]: Do we want to put specific times in here?







## Event Policies

- **BUDDY SYSTEM** is in effect 100% of the time. That means that under no circumstances are any scouts to be walking around by themselves. They must have a “buddy” with them at all times.
- **Durham Pond and all open water areas are OFF LIMITS at all times!** Anyone found near or on the Pond at any time will immediately be expelled from camp.
- **Adults** – All adults entering camp (registered leaders, parents, guardians, youth over 18, etc.) must follow the requirements of current BSA YOUTH PROTECTION training. All BSA registered adults should have valid YPT dates. Youth Protection training is available at <https://my.scouting.org>
- **“Zero Tolerance”** – regarding the possession and use of illegal drugs and alcohol in camp at any time. Anyone found to be in violation of this Boy Scouts of America policy will be expelled from camp.
- **Use of tobacco products is prohibited** while in view of Scouts. If smoking is necessary at camp you must be out of direct site of youth and properly dispose of the waste.
- **Smellables** – Do not leave any food or smellables out in your campsite. Make sure that everything is put away properly, especially at night. Never put food in tents.
- **Campfires** – A large bucket of water and a shovel must be placed near the fire pit in order to have a campfire. The ashes and coals must be cold enough for you to run your hands through the ashes before you retire for the night or prior to leaving. No smoke or steam! Campfires are not “bonfires.” In general, the flames in your campfire should not exceed 2-3’ in height. If the event staff determine your campfire has become a bonfire your troop will be required to knock it down or put it out immediately.
- **Tool safety** – All uniformed leaders have the obligation and responsibility to confiscate or hold any tool or pocket-knife being used improperly (as a weapon or to damage property).
- **Accidents/Injuries** – Any accident, injury, missing adult/youth or other emergency must be reported to the event EMT staff. It is also required that an incident report be completed for each occurrence. Incident Reporting: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/>
- **Lights Out** – **Quiet hours are 11:00 pm. - 6:00 am.** Please do not allow your Scouts and others to run around, make loud noises, play musical instruments, etc., within those hours.
- **Departure** – Everyone must be out of camp no later than 6:30 pm on Saturday. Properly clean up your campsite and have your site inspected by the event staff.
- **Medical Forms** – Please be aware that camp policy is that all camporee participants are required to have medical release forms. Your unit leader should maintain these forms, and have ready access to them in the event of a medical situation.
- **Outdoor Ethics** – The camp practices and follows the BSA Outdoor Ethics program including the Outdoor code and principles of Leave No Trace; Units and participants are expected to follow these principles; details can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/outdoor-ethics/>
- **Garbage** – Carry your garbage out of the camp, and dispose of it properly, at home. Any dumpsters in camp are not for general usage. Dumpsters **MUST** be kept closed and barred.





## Cold Weather Activity

**This is a cold weather activity, plan accordingly.** Leaders should ensure every Scout is prepared and dressed for the time of year. This includes winter boots appropriate to the weather conditions, as well as dressing in layers, with non-cotton under-layers. **This is NOT a uniformed event, i.e., Scout uniforms are typically not designed for cold weather.** A clothing/footwear check will be made during check-in / inspections. **Any Scout or Adult Scouter who is not appropriately dressed will have to be removed from the event for his or her own safety** (we REALLY don't want that to happen, so please prepare).

The following is some basic information on staying warm/safe in cold weather:

**Remember C O L D:**

**C** (Clean) - Dirty clothes lose their loft and get you cold.

**O** (Overheat) - Never get sweaty, strip off layers to stay warm but not too hot.

**L** (Layers) - Dress in synthetic layers (especially close to your skin) for easy temperature control. Air is an excellent insulator and by wearing several layers of clothes you will keep warm.

**D** (Dry) - Wet clothes (and sleeping bags) also lose their insulation. Dry is the key to staying warm.

- **COTTON KILLS!** – Do not wear cotton clothing, especially close to the skin.
- **Remember the 3 W's of layering** – Wicking inside layer, Warmth middle layer(s) and Wind/Water outer layer. Wicking should be a polypropylene material (upper/long underwear and sock liner). Warmth layer(s) should be fleece or wool. The Wind/Water layer should be Gore-Tex or at least 60/40 nylon.
- **Snow Pants** – If you are camping in the snow, wear snow pants over your regular clothing.
- **Bring extra hand covering** – mittens are warmer than gloves.
- **Keep your hands and feet warm** – Your body will always protect the core, so if your hands and feet are warm, your core will also likely be warm. If your hands or feet are cold, put on more layers, and put on a hat!
- **First Aid** – Leaders make sure you have a good knowledge of the signs of frostbite and hypothermia. You should be able to recognize it in others and in yourself. Teach Scouts to tell someone right away if they or someone else is showing signs of cold-related problems.
- **Stay hydrated** – It's easy to get dehydrated in the winter. Drink liquids and eat plenty of carbs.
- **DRINK WATER** – It's easy to get dehydrated in the winter. You aren't visibly sweating, so you don't think to drink water, but since the air is so dry, you lose a LOT of water through breathing. Drink lots of water!





## Camp procedures

### Medication

- Unit leaders should be in possession of medication of participants while on camp property
- Medications must be secured at all times
- Medications must be kept in their original containers
- Prescription medications must be administered and/or dispensed in accordance with the prescribing health care provider's directions or a parent/guardian's signed summary thereof
- OTC medications must be administered and/or dispensed in accordance with the original label, or a prescribing health care provider's directions, or a parent/guardian's signed summary thereof

### Medical Emergencies/Serious Accidents/Injuries

- Do not move the injured person unless a life-threatening situation exists
- If alone, do not leave the injured person, but begin calling for help
- If available, send a runner to the Health Lodge to notify the EMT staff
- Event EMS personnel will assess the situation and decide what further actions are to be taken
- If there is no alternative, administer basic first aid
- Injuries should be reported to EMS staff to allow for proper documentation, if an injury occurs and is not reported to EMS staff then the unit leader is responsible for following proper procedures to report injury via BSA policy.
- Incident Reporting: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/>

### Missing Persons

- IMMEDIATELY report the incident to the HQ Staff.
- HQ staff will check the sign out logs
- ALL UNITS AND STAFF will respond to the emergency signal and assemble on the parade field for an attendance check. Unit leader will question members of the unit about the possible whereabouts of the missing person, mental condition and where he was last seen. Event staff will search the immediate unit site.
- A camp-wide search, including the waterfront, shoreline, camp roads and trails will be conducted under the direction of the camp director or commissioner on duty.

### Waterfront Emergency

- IMMEDIATELY report the incident to the HQ Staff.
- ALL UNITS AND STAFF will respond to the emergency signal and assemble on the parade field for an attendance check.
- All appropriate camp staff will be sent to the waterfront to assist in the "Lost Bather" procedures.
- Camp director or commissioner on duty will verify unit attendance and send the attendance report to the waterfront.

## Camp procedures (continued)





#### **Fires**

- All campfires must be attended at all times.
- Campfires should use existing designated fire rings.
- Follow standard unit fireguard plan as practiced.
- If an out of control fire is observed, send a runner for the camp director or commissioner on duty.
- Fire alarm will be sounded and fire will be reported to the local fire department.

#### **Severe Weather Event**

- ALL UNITS AND STAFF will respond to the emergency signal (siren) and assemble on the parade field for an attendance check.
- Await further instructions of the camp director or commissioner on duty.

#### **Evacuation Plan**

- The emergency signal will sound.
- ALL UNITS AND STAFF will respond to the emergency signal and assemble on the parade field for an attendance check.
- Scouts, leaders, staff, and guests will proceed to the parking lot.





## Council Policies

### Handicapped Accessibility Statement

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Patriots' Path Council, Boy Scouts of America will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities at its meetings. Please call Javier Juarez, District Executive 973-765- 9322 Ext. 257 with your request.

### Photo Release

I understand that by attending this program, sponsored by the Patriots' Path Council, Boy Scouts of America, I consent to the use of photographs, film, videotapes, electronic representations and/or sound recordings made of me during that time by the Boy Scouts of America, at their discretion, and I hereby release the Boy Scouts of America from any and all liability from such use and publication.

### Guide to Safe Scouting

**All participants in official Scouting activities should become familiar with the Guide to Safe Scouting,** applicable program literature or manuals, and be aware of state or local government regulations that supersede Boy Scouts of America practices, policies, and guidelines. The Guide to Safe Scouting is an overview of Scouting policies and procedures gleaned from a variety of sources. For some items, the policy statements are complete. Unit leaders are expected to review the additional reference material cited prior to conducting such activities. The guide is available at <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>

### Rules for Acceptance and Participation in the Programs

Rules for acceptance and participation in the programs are the same for everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, or handicap.

### Cancellation Policy

In all programs offered by the Patriots' Path Council, BSA, a great deal of planning and purchasing takes place in advance. These plans include, but are not limited to, staff, food, program materials, patches and awards, rental and purchase of equipment, and in some cases, items of clothing are part of a program fee. When an individual or group makes a reservation for an activity or program, these items are included in ordering of materials and staffing for that event.

### Refunds

Reservations must be canceled 30 days prior to the date of the event to receive a refund of fees paid, less a 15% administrative charge. No refunds will be made after the 30-day cancellation deadline unless there is a medical or other emergency. All cancellations must be made in writing and sent to [Javier.juarez@scouting.org](mailto:Javier.juarez@scouting.org)





**Appendix F – Community Service Activities**

Commented [KB2]: To be updated with diapers information and new contact information

At this year's Klondike we will be collecting

### **Canned Goods**

*Donations Support Local Food Banks In Our Communities*

- 1 can per patrol member.
- Collected at Sled Inspection
- Part Of Sled Packing List

### **Diapers**

*Donations Support 'Summit Health Cares'*

- We are asking each Patrol to donate one BOX of diapers.
  - Donations Can Be Turned In At Sled Inspection

