



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL

FISHAWACK/SKYLANDS DISTRICT FALL 2026 COOK-O-REE HUNGRY GAMES 2: FETCHING FIRE

To Be Held at:

Camp Somers

**Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation
750 Waterloo Road, Stanhope, NJ.**

Friday, September 25 - Sunday September 27, 2026

Plan for Overnight Tent Camping Friday Night and Saturday Night!
No Cabin Availability for Troop Camping

(Schedule is subject to change.)

(Pickup and dropoff times may shift based on the number of teams to avoid excessive wait times)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

6:00PM Check-in Starts at the Dining Hall. Scoutmasters and SPLs only
8:30PM Check-in Closes. Late check-ins @ OA Lodge (don't be late)
10:30PM Lights out / Quiet Time

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

8:00AM Check-in Starts at the Dining Hall. Scoutmasters and SPLs only
9:00AM Check-in Closes. No late check-ins (don't be late)
9:30AM Opening ceremony on the Parade Field
10:00AM Pick up Secret Lunch Ingredient at the Dining Hall
10:15AM Start of Lunch Competition at team sites.
1:00PM Lunch Turn-In at Cabin 5
2:30PM Pick up Secret Dinner & Dessert Ingredient at Cabin 5
2:45PM Start of Dinner / Dessert Competition.
6:00PM Dinner Turn-In at Cabin 5
7:30PM Dessert Turn-In at the Dining Hall
8:00PM Pot Luck Cracker Barrel at the Dining Hall with sampling of team's desserts (TBD)
10:30PM Lights out / Quiet Time

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

9:00AM Site Inspections Start.
All Troops must check out by 10:30 AM. (...or you will not get your Patches!)

COST: \$30 per Scout or Leader-includes patch! *The first three adult leaders that register per unit will be free to attend.* \$35 late fee begins on September 14-register early to avoid the late fee!
All units must be pre-registered no later than 11:59 PM, Sunday, September 20, 2026.

If you have a question about the event please contact:

Dan Kaufman dkaufarng@gmail.com - Cook-o-Ree Event Chairman

Robert Reidmiller rreidmiller@gmail.com - Skylands District Activities Guru

Robert Behan robert.behan@scouting.org (973)-765-9322 ext.257 – Skylands District Director

Shawn Trimmer shawn.trimmer@scouting.org (972)-765-9322 ext. 229 – Fishawack Senior DE

Registration link: <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA358&calendarID=468494>

Or Register via the council calendar: <https://ppcbsa.org/calendar/> Go to September 25-27.

Prepared. For Life.™



SKYLANDS DISTRICT FALL 2026 COOK-O-REE

Welcome to the Fall 2026 Cook-o-Ree!

We hope this Leaders Guide Package will answer 90% of your questions . 😊

The General Concept

- All units must check in at the Dining Hall (which will be our event headquarters) upon arrival. Once you check in, if you are camping, you may go to your reserved campsite.
- Each unit should send their unit leader and senior patrol leader to check-in.
- You must have a copy of your troop roster to submit at check-in indicating all participants at camp for the event.
- Also, please let us know how many teams your troop will have and their team names at that time. *Please also bring your cans to check in.*
- The cooking competition will consist of three separate cooking challenges: Lunch, Dinner and Dessert on Saturday.
- Teams should be divided by patrols similar to Klondike but there will not be a junior or senior division.
- **There will also be an adult division** to allow the adult leaders to compete against each other.
- Teams will be allowed to participate in one, two or all three competitions as they see fit. Teams must register accordingly upon check-in to allow the committee to plan accordingly.
- All Cooking shall be performed in the unit's campsite. Any unit attending only for the day will be assigned a location and they will be responsible for setting up and breaking down that site accordingly.
- Teams can start preparations anytime they feel necessary once they check in for the weekend. However, the secret ingredient will be provided at certain times so any preparation done before that time may be in conflict with the secret ingredient.
- All preparations **must** be accomplished on-site and cannot be prepared ahead of time off-site. No dehydrated meals will be allowed
- Teams will provide all ingredients (except the secret ingredient(s) as well as all cooking, storing and serving equipment necessary to prepare all three challenges.
- While teams could use any cooking method for lunch and dinner, dessert must be made in a Dutch Oven.
- Only one plate per challenge will be required, However, it should be of sufficient size to allow three judges to taste every item. Teams should also supply additional desserts to be turned in that will be used during the cracker barrel for all participants to taste and share their comments.
- Teams will be responsible for presenting the dish at the appropriate eating temperature and may need to plan accordingly for transportation. No motor vehicles will be used for transportation.
- Teams will be allowed 20 minutes past the turn in times where they will lose points. After that no entry will be accepted for that meal.
- Teams will be judged on the dish they present as well as in-camp operations.
- Awards will be given for each meal as well as best overall scores.
- All units must check out at the dining hall prior to departure...or we will keep your patches! ...

Secret Ingredient Specifics

- Each team shall submit a minimum of three cans of food (one meat, one vegetable and one fruit)
- The Committee shall consolidate all entries into a consolidate pantry, add some additional items and then determine what entries will be used as secret ingredients for each challenge.
- The Committee will have the final determination of whether they will use the items submitted or use other ingredients for the secret ingredient(s). All remaining cans after the event will be donated to a local food pantry.
- At the designated time, each team will send the team leader or a representative to either pickup or select their secret ingredient(s) which will be a blind selection.
- The team will be required to incorporate that ingredient(s) into that specific dish or lose points accordingly.



Meal Scoring

Each Meal will be scored based on the following criteria

- Presentation (Overall visual Appearance, plating creativity)
- Taste (Flavor Balance, Seasoning, Texture)
- Use of Secret Ingredient
- Submitted on time
- Creativity (Uniqueness of dish)
- Balanced Meal (Food Pyramid)

In Camp scoring

The Team's activities during each meal preparation will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Menu Planning
- Ingredient List / Shopping List
- Proper site safety / layout
 - Each team will have a first aid kit easily visible and reachable.
 - Each team will have a fire extinguisher displayed outside so it is visible.
 - Perishables will be stored in a cooler until ready to use. A safe storage temperature is 40°F.
 - Non-perishables will be stored in covered containers when not in use.
- Duty Roster Use / Adherence
- Use of EDGE Method
- Proper Sanitation
 - Garbage will be kept at a distance of not less than 10' from the food preparation area.
 - Washing your hands is especially important after bowel movements and just before handling food.
 - Handwashing Stations: Encourage everyone in your Scout unit to wash regularly by setting out a pot of water and a small plastic bottle of biodegradable soap. Dispose of washwater by broadcasting it at least 200 feet away from any campsites, trails, and sources of water.
 - Wash hands often
 - Work surfaces should be washed with warm soapy water then sanitized with a solution of 2 tablespoons of household bleach to a gallon of water
 - Keep raw and cooked foods away from each other to avoid cross-contamination Fully cook all foods to kill harmful bacteria
 - Hot foods should be stored at 140° in insulated containers
- Cooking methods (Dutch oven, backpacking stoves, foil, box oven, open fire, etc.)
- Camp Gadgets (Build one or more kitchen gadgets to use for cooking. Site made and used)

Awards

- Top Three Lunches
- Top Three Dinners
- Top Three Desserts
- Best Overall

Rules:

The Scout Law, Promise, and Oath are the rules that we follow. We remind all teams that this is a Scouting event, and that we cannot allow the competitive spirit to compromise our guiding principles - the Scout Oath and Law.

Weather Concerns

The Cook-o-Ree will be held rain or shine. Unless the Council or the governor deems travel too hazardous and the camp gets closed, we'll be having the event. Your Scouts should be prepared for whatever the weather may be. On that note – know your unit's limitations and reduce risk.



COVID-19-protocols

The plan is for a traditional scouting experience. Any participants (youth or adult) should plan to stay home if ill or known recent exposure.

Camping:

- Camp Site assigned at check-in.
- Your unit **MUST** check in at the Camporee HQ - before setting up camp.
- Each camping area will be managed by the Camporee staff.
- The unit should properly mark their site with their unit's flag.
- Be sure to follow the rules in The Guide to Safe Scouting.
- Follow the "Leave No Trace" Philosophy while camping.
- Respect other units around you.
- It is suggested that each unit provide their own water to start off.
- No restrictions on cooking or campfires unless directed by Camp Ranger.
- Be sure to have in public view a first aid kit and fire extinguisher in your site.
- Scouts and Scouters should show respect in using Latrines. Please do not throw trash in the Latrines.
- Each unit will be allowed TWO designated gear vehicles at their campsite.

Parking & Traffic:

- With the exception of the gear vehicles, all vehicles will park in the Camp's parking lot
- Each vehicle will post the owners contact information on the dash. Please follow all parking rules.
- Carpooling is imperative. Please limit the number of vehicles parking at the event as much as possible.

Youth Protection / Security

Per Scouting America rules, we must ascertain that any adult (including 18+ Venturers) attending the event has completed Youth Protection Training via their my. Scouting account. Accordingly, each unit will be required to submit a roster approximately 1 week before the event including BSA Membership Numbers for each adult so that we can confirm that they have current Youth Protection Training and are registered in their unit. Adults who are not properly registered in a unit will not be allowed to camp overnight. Please use the blank excel roster included in the registration. Copies will be emailed to unit leaders prior to the event as well.

UNIT ROSTERS MUST BE EMAILED TO ROBERT BEHAN @ robert.behan@scouting.org NO LATER THAN MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026.

Medical Forms

Since this event is an official overnight event, medical forms are collected from units for every participant at check-in. A paper medical form is required for each participant both youth and adult with parts A, B1 and B2 filled out completely, including the immunization records. A copy of both the front and back of the participant's insurance cards shall also be submitted with the medical form. Medical forms will be returned to the unit at check-out. If not picked up at check-out, the medical forms will be destroyed after the event unless the unit makes prior arrangements with the medical officer that meet all appropriate regulations.

Additional Competition Opportunities

During the Fishawack/Skylands Fetching Fire Fall Camporee a friendly sports competition is open to all troops. Events in Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, and Touch Football will be available. Sign up for one event or all. Games are self-refereed by the Scouts, teams will be adjusted for equivalent number of players, substitution of players to be agreed upon by the teams. Games will be scheduled around working times for the cooking competition.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL

Once again, we thank you for your longtime support in making our event known throughout not only the council, but also with out of council units. We look forward to your continued enthusiasm and support.

If you have any questions, please contact any of our event staff:

Dan Kaufman dkaufarng@gmail.com - Cook-o-Ree Event Chairman

Robert Reidmiller rreidmiller@gmail.com - Skylands District Activities Guru

Robert Behan robert.behan@scouting.org (973)-765-9322 ext.257 – Skylands District Director

Stay Hungry my friend