

***The Hunt for Gold
Klondike Derby & Cub Yukon***
Leader's Guide



Sponsored by the Fort Orange & Yankee Doodle Districts



**Saturday, January 31, 2026
Lawson Lake County Park
(293 Lawson Lake Road, Feura Bush, NY 12067)**

**Early Bird Registration by January 23, 2026 (for bonus points)
Registration closes on January 28, 2026**

**Scouts BSA: \$15
Cub Scouts: \$15
Adults (with patch): \$5
Adults (no patch): free**

The Hunt for Gold *Klondike Derby & Cub Yukon* **Parking**



The Hunt for Gold

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Events at a Glance

Klondike Derby

The Klondike is a challenge to test a patrol's scouting skills and teamwork with the materials they bring along with them on their Klondike Sled. Troops field up to 8 scouts in each patrol, who record time for points at each event station. The patrols compete in several categories to win prizes and overall Klondike Champion.

Waldman Lodge will be open as a warming station with hot chocolate and ramen noodles. There is limited space inside Waldman Lodge, so Troops should plan on needing to make their own lunches outside with their sleds.

Cub Yukon

A Cub Yukon is a winter fun day for dens or families to enjoy activities in winter weather. This year (weather dependent), the Cub Scouts will use snow shoes, the nerf shooting range, build fires and make s'mores, participate in scout games, and build winter-themed legos.

The Cub Yukon **opens at 11:00 AM**. Cub Scout leaders can plan to park at the nearest parking lot, as Troops will be asked to park in a farther parking lot. While hot chocolate and ramen is available in Waldman Lodge, Cub Scouts should bring their own lunches, bring extra water, and be dressed in snow gear with hats, gloves, boots and snow pants.

Register for the Cub Yukon on its event page, found here:
<https://scoutingevent.com/364-99355>

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Important Information

- **Medical Form** to be kept by the troop leader.
- Wear warm layers. See "Cold Weather Tips"
- **Bring your own lunch.** Many troops heat up an easy meal using a camping stove outside for cooking rank requirements.
 - **Hot Refreshments** - At Waldman Lodge, there will be complimentary hot chocolate and Ramen cup of noodles. Participants are encouraged to bring their own cups and forks/spoons.
- **Parking for the Klondike Derby** - All Troops are required to park at the Information Center (293 Lawson Lake Road).
- **Trash** - Please be prepared to carry out what you carried in!
- **See Sled Inspection for the materials all troops must bring with them to compete at stations.**

Adult Volunteers

In order for the Klondike Derby to be successful, we need adult volunteers. Units are required to provide at least one adult leader to assist in the Klondike Derby. Volunteers are needed to assist with parking at arrival, keeping the warming station refreshments stocked, and running stations.

Volunteers should contact Stacey Stump at sstump80@gmail.com prior to **January 6th**. On January 6 at 8 PM, a Klondike planning meeting is scheduled for all volunteers to attend. At this meeting, people can volunteer for the positions they would like and understand what their responsibilities are prior to arrival to the Klondike.

Link to January 6th, 8PM Klondike volunteer meeting:

<https://calendar.app.google/HnbKAebBvzW4tWq86>

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Cold Weather Tips

- **Wear warm layers** - hats, gloves, boots and snow pants are a must!
- Bring a bit more than what you think; you'll need – water, food, and clothes
- Stay hydrated. It's easy to get dehydrated in the winter.
- **Bring extra WATER.** 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!
- Eat plenty of carbs to stay warm
- Eat a hot meal for lunch. Prep your lunch at home in the warmth of the kitchen so all you need to do at Lawson Lake is reheat it.
- **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 for easy temperature control.
 - D = Dry - wet clothes lose their insulation.
- **COTTON KILLS!** Do NOT bring/wear clothing made of cotton. Staying dry is the key to staying warm. Air is an excellent insulator and by wearing several layers of clothes you will keep warm.
- Remember the 3 W's of layering -
 - Wicking inside layer - Wicking should be a polypropylene material as long underwear and also sock liner
 - Warmth middle layer(s) - Warmth layer(s) should be fleece or wool
 - Wind/Water outer layer. The Wind/Water layer should be Gore-Tex or at least 60/40 nylon.
- Wear snow pants over your regular clothing
- Bring extra hand covering - working hands get wet easily.
- 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!

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Objective

Complete the Hunt for Gold in the shortest time possible.

Rules

- Senior patrol leaders record their troop's/patrol's time at each station on their provided Klondike Passport; A Scout is Trustworthy.
- Each patrol/troop has 20 minutes to complete the station.
- 15 minute time run-offs are taken for failure to complete the station in the time limit.
- 5 minutes per scout not included time run-offs are taken if ALL patrol/troop members do not participate in/complete a station.
- Minimum time per station is 0 (i.e. deductions cannot take you below 0).
- Patrols/troops **get an additional 5 minute bonus time deduction** IF they complete registration/payment on Black Pug by January 23, 2026.

Winners

Best Overall Score

- 1st Place – Trophy and eight (8) \$10 gift cards (1 per scout in patrol)
- 2nd Place – eight (8) \$10 gift cards (1 per scout in patrol)
- 3rd Place – eight (8) \$5 gift cards to Dunkin (1 per scout in patrol)

Additional Rankings: **Fastest Sled Pull** and **Most Scout Spirit**

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Klondike Derby Schedule

8:30 - 9:00 AM - Scout Check in @ Lawson Lake Main Parking Lot (The senior patrol leader from each klondike sled patrol/troop as well as Adult leader with med forms).

After your Troop's/Patrol's registration is confirmed, your sled is inspected, and your senior patrol leader is given your Klondike Passport, you may proceed to the Gilwell Field for your first clue to start the Hunt for Gold.

By 3:30 PM - Closing - senior patrol leader turn in the The Hunt for Gold Passport to tabulate your time.

Winners will be announced and celebrated on Fort Orange and Yankee Doodle Districts' Facebooks, and sent out to all registration contacts. Winning Troops can pick up their prizes at the council office or request it delivered to a Scout Meeting for an awards ceremony.

What skills will the Klondike stations challenge?

- Simple Pioneering (square lashing, tripod lashing).
- Fire building skills (lighting in wet weather).
- Cooking on a camp stove in the cold.
- First aid
 - Cold Weather Injuries (frostbite and hypothermia)
 - Bone and Joint Injuries from a fall (splints and carries).
- Orienteering (how to orient a map North).
- Common local plant and tree identification.
- Knowledge of Leave No Trace and Outdoor Ethics.
- How to build an emergency shelter in/next to your Klondike Sled.
- Campfire skits and songs - bring a skit or song to perform, or try one of ours!
- Teamwork!

Scouts can use their Scout Handbook at any time as a reference for any skill!

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Sled Inspection



This year's **Klondike Derby** will be a test of **scouting skills and teamwork**. Are you ready? Before you can race, you must pass a Sled Inspection checkpoint. In your sled, your patrol should have all the materials you will need to be successful. Are you prepared? Let's find out.

Patrol / Sled Name:

of Scouts:

Unit #

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patrol Flag
<input type="checkbox"/> Scout Hand Book
<input type="checkbox"/> Frying Pan, Nonstick Spray, Spatula
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Stove & Fuel
<input type="checkbox"/> Plates or dishware for patrol
<input type="checkbox"/> Box of Wood Matches
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire building / lighting materials
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Optional:</i> Fire pan to build fires off the ground
<input type="checkbox"/> Tarp, rope & any materials needed to build shelter to fit the entire patrol
<input type="checkbox"/> Knot tying rope for each scout (soft nylon or paracord)
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Clothing for each scout | <input type="checkbox"/> Troop/Patrol First Aid Kit
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 lashing poles 6-8 feet long
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 lashing ropes 6-8 feet long
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Clipboard
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Pencil / Pen
<input type="checkbox"/> Stopwatch (or app on cell phone)
<input type="checkbox"/> Large blanket
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 orienteering compasses |
|--|--|

Proper Gear Per Scout:

Scout	Warm Boots	Snow Pants	Winter Coat	Warm Hat	Gloves/ Mittens
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					