

# 2026 Turning Point District Klondike Derby Participant Guide



**February 7, 2026  
Camp Wakpominee  
185 Sly Pond Rd. Fort Ann, NY**

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<b>Steering Committee</b>	Bob Clark Marie Herrington Tony Leerkes Matt Randles Bryant Lawrence	Frank Usher Mike Vandenburgh Nick McDowell Ron Tremper Bridget Lent
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## Event Information

When	February 7, 2026 Start time at 7:30 AM and completed by 5:00 PM
What	Event's focus on team building, leadership development and fun ways to practice and improve your Scout skills.
Who	This event is open to all Scouts BSA, Venturers and Explorers
Where	Camp Wakpominee Scout Reservation 185 Sly Pond Road Fort Ann, NY
Register	Registration went live on 11/02/25. Register / pay online at <a href="http://trcscouting.org">trcscouting.org</a> . <b><u>Early registration ends 1/25/26.</u></b> Be prepared to record the number of patrol sleds that are being entered, along with Golden Skillet participation. Accurate early registration will ensure that the proper materials and supplies are in place for the day's events. As a reminder, <b><u>you must bring a patrol lunch for Saturday.</u></b>
Cost	\$20 per youth attendee, \$10 for adult when paid in full before 1/25/26. Late registration fees are \$25 per attendee. Fees include a patch, patrol awards, warming hut with hot chocolate / soup available all day, insurance and rental costs for the camp facilities. Lunch is provided for staff volunteers and judges.
Parking	Units will park in the lower parking lots on arrival. No parking will be allowed in the center of camp as this will be the staging area for all sleds. Units are encouraged to work with Ranger Bob and drop their sleds off at camp the week before the event. You can reach him at: <a href="mailto:Robert.McPherson@scouting.org">Robert.McPherson@scouting.org</a> or 518-792-0897.

## Honoring The History

In August 1896, prospectors discovered gold in the remote Klondike region of Canada's Yukon Territory. In July 1897, the S.S. Portland arrived in Seattle, Washington with more than a ton of Klondike gold on board. This event touched off the great Klondike Gold Rush as thousands of people who dreamed of becoming wealthy began booking passage on steamers heading north from Seattle and other West Coast ports to the Yukon. Upon arriving at the northern end of the Inside Passage, however, these adventure-bound stampeders found no easy route leading to the still distant Klondike region. Their progress was slow as each prospector made repeated trips over the rugged trail through the bitter cold.

Imagine pulling a sled loaded with three to six hundred pounds of supplies over a stretch of ice up a steep grade, strewn with boulders and logs, then crossing over a river bed on a couple of trees laid side by side and you get a picture of their labors. Facing 60 mile per hour winds in a minus 65 degrees below zero weather, the prospectors had to ascend the Chilkoot Pass – 1,000 feet straight up. With a steady stream of stampeders lining the path each day, it took forty trips to get a ton of supplies up the mountain. Those who survived the mountain then faced a treacherous passage by boat to the town of Dawson near the gold fields.

Since 1949, Boy Scout units have been participating in Klondike Derby's in a way to honor this historic time. Scouts pull a sled loaded with supplies from station to station and compete in various Scout skill-based events. Turning Point District is carrying on the tradition!

The Derby consists of a race between multiple stations where patrols will test their Scout skills and leadership abilities earning points toward a total score. Each team must transport their gear that will be necessary to complete the stations. After general assembly, sled teams will report to their starting stations. Each team will have between 20-30 minutes to complete the station event. Sled teams should consist of 4-8 Scouts, working out of one sled for the duration of the event.

Unit check in will be held in the Frost Center. A warming station will be provided for anyone who needs it. Health and safety support will be available if needed. No parking will be allowed in the center of camp. This area needs to be kept open for the general assembly.

## Schedule

### All Units Check in at the Frost Center!

7:30 Adult Volunteer Check in at Gelder Hall  
8:20 to 8:40 General Assembly / Flag Ceremony in front of Administration Building  
8:45 Patrols report to their assigned 1<sup>st</sup> Station  
9:00 to 12:00 Morning Event Session  
12:00 to 1:30 Lunch and Clean Up (**patrols need to bring their own lunch**)  
1:00 Golden Skillet Sample due to Gelder Hall for Judging  
1:30 to 3:30 PM Afternoon Event Session  
3:45 Score Sheets are turned into Gelder Hall  
4:15 Awards Ceremony  
5:00 Departure

## Events

### Required:

1. Fire Building
2. Ice Rescue / Hypothermia Treatment
3. Snow Snake
4. Nerf Biathlon Sled Race
5. Knot Station
6. Curling
7. Bear Bag
8. Map and Compass
9. Team Ski challenge
10. A-Frame Challenge
11. Golden Skillet

All events are timed to be completed within 20 minutes and judging will be based accordingly.

## **KLONDIKE EVENTS:**

**Fire Building:** Showcase your fire-starting abilities using natural materials like wood and kindling. Demonstrate your knowledge of fire safety and techniques for building a roaring fire!

**Ice Rescue:** Exhibit crucial rescue techniques for icy situations. Use safety equipment like ropes, you will be judged on how quickly and effectively a victim is removed from the water. Consult tips and tricks in appendix

**First Aid Hypothermia:** Your victim from the ice is in early stages of hypothermia. You will be required to devise a system that will reverse the onset of hypothermia and aide in transport. Consult tips and tricks in appendix.

**Snow Snake:** Experience the wintry thrill of a traditional Native American game! Compete in sliding wooden "snakes" across the snow for accuracy and distance. Consult directions for creation in appendix

**Nerf Biathlon Sled Race:** Take part in an exhilarating combination of Nerf shooting and sled racing! Navigate the course, stopping to showcase your target accuracy.

**Knot Station:** Demonstrate essential knots for camping and survival. Master knots like the square knot and clove hitch. Showcase your mastery of advanced knots!

**Bear Bag:** Display proper food storage techniques to deter bears. Scouts will demonstrate hanging food bags out of reach of wildlife.

**Map and Compass:** Showcase navigational skills using a map and/or compass. Scouts will demonstrate finding specific locations using directional knowledge and terrain understanding.

**Curling:** Curling is a winter sport played on a sheet of ice between two teams of four players each, where the objective is to slide heavy, polished granite stones—also called rocks—toward a circular target

**Golden Skillet:** Demonstrate cooking skills with limited resources. Scouts will showcase creativity and adaptability in preparing a meal in outdoor settings.

**Team Ski Challenge** – The Team Ski Centipede Challenge is a team-building activity that involves participants standing on two long planks connected by ropes, requiring synchronized movement to navigate a course together.

**Team A-Frame Challenge** – The A-Frame Building Challenge is designed to develop teamwork, problem-solving, and practical rope and lashing skills.

## **Scoring Information**

Scoring is broken into 2 sections: Teamwork / Leadership and Task Completion. Each section is worth 20 points. Task completion scores will be specific to those tasks. Teamwork / Leadership scores will be based on the following criteria for all events:

20 Patrol works extremely well together. The Patrol leader is clearly in charge but all members show initiative and a willingness to contribute. Everyone is actively involved in completing the task.

12-13 Patrol works well together. The Patrol Leader is in charge and patrol members do what they are told. All members are involved in completing the task.

9-11 Patrol members are involved however some Scouts are doing the majority of the work and there doesn't appear to be a clear direction to their completing the task.

6-8 Everyone is attentive. Scouts with no work are paying attention. Two or three Scouts are doing the majority of the work. Other Scouts offer to help if asked.

3-5 Only one or two Scouts are doing the work. The rest are not paying attention or offering any help. Arguments over how to complete the task occur.

1-2 Patrol makes a minimal effort to work together and complete the task.

0 No one is working together.

While not being used as part of scoring for task completion, Scout Spirit will be judged to provide a tie breaker if needed for tasks and/or overall results. Scout Spirit will be based on having a Patrol name and flag. Having a Patrol cheer /

motto and overall showing Scout Spirit. Patrols will be scored on a low-medium-high scale.

## **Recommended Sled Equipment**

Each patrol sled should contain these items.

Klondike Sled with Patrol Flag	Snow Snake
First Aid Kit	Eating utensils
10' x 10' tarp	2 - 30' ropes (1/4" - 1/2" in size)
8 rope sections - 10' in length	Cooking pots / utensils
1 Gallon of water for clean up	Trash Bag
Flint & Steel or hot spark fire starter	Waterproof Matches
Kindling and fuel for fire starting	Pencil and notebook
Scout Handbook in Ziploc for protection	1 Sleeping Bag
Compass	2 Blankets
Pocket Knife/ Totin Chit	1 Sleeping Pad
Golden Skillet extra ingredients	Container for skillet submission
	<b>Lunch for the entire patrol</b>

Personal equipment – each scout should have in a day pack.

1 – water bottle full	personal energy snacks
1 pair of extra gloves	1 pair of extra socks – no cotton
extra hat	sun glasses if required

## **Winter appropriate clothing**

Adult leaders should inspect all Scouts from their unit for appropriate cold weather clothing and proper footwear prior to arrival at the event. All Scouts should be dressed in layers. Avoid all cotton clothing, blue jeans, sweat pants or socks should not be worn on the Klondike trail.

## **Golden Skillet**

This event is optional event that will be completed during lunch. This contest does not contribute to the score of the Klondike Derby. This event is scored and judged as a separate award. The patrol will compete as a team.

**Safety** – Safety during preparation is paramount above all else. This includes fire safety, food safety, knife safety, etc. Any violation of safe scouting will result in automatic disqualification.

**Food** – This year's skillet will be a market basket competition. Each team will receive the following upon check in at the Klondike:

- 1 Protein
- 1 Starch
- 1 Vegetable
- 2 Mystery Components

Teams can bring additional items such as oils, seasonings, garlic, onions, etc to complete their meal. Teams will be given a maximum of 45 minutes to prepare and cook their meals. Scores will be given of 1-10 for taste and 1-5 for use of the 5 main ingredients. Points will be subtracted if a market basket item cannot be identified in the meal. If additional ingredients are used that distract from the main 5, points can also possibly be deducted.

**Cooking** – Cooking can be done on a propane camp stove or open fire. To maximize your time, all meal preparation should be completed in the location where you completed the 11:30 event station.

**Equipment** – The patrol must transport everything they need with their sleds. Don't forget to bring a small sample container to use for the judging.

**Time** – The lunch break starts at 12 pm. A sample of the golden skillet meal must be taken to Gelder Hall for judging by 1:00 pm. Patrols must be cleaned up and follow "leave no trace" standards by 1:30 pm.

Hygiene – All patrol members must have clean and sanitized hands. To enter the food for judging all proper hygiene and food safety rules must be followed.

## **Leaders Role / Event Staffing**

All units must ensure that they meet the BSA two-deep leadership requirements on arrival at the Derby. Each participating troop is being asked to supply at least two volunteers to assist with Judging for the day. These volunteers may be older scouts, parents or adult leaders. All adults (18+) must be current with Youth Protection Training in order to participate. Please register these volunteers under “staff / judging” on Black Pug.

Our goal is to provide two+ deep leadership at each station. Unless there is a specific supervisory need, it is recommended that unit leaders do not work the event stations with their Scouts. The patrol's will learn a lot more by working together and solving the challenges on their own. As a leader, you would be better served volunteering for staff events to ensure we are able to provide the best quality event stations possible.

Volunteers who are supervising events should report to the Frost Center at 7:30 am on Saturday morning for updated instructions. All event judges and volunteers will be provided lunch at Gelder Hall, starting at 12 pm.

## **Klondike Derby Rules**

No commercially manufactured sleds are permitted. In the interest of tradition, sleds should be fashioned to look like a traditional Alaskan dog sled. A harness for pulling the sled should be attached to the front of the sled. No electrically powered devices are allowed. In case of no snow, wheels would be allowed.

Teams consist of a minimum of 4 scouts with a maximum of 8 scouts. Teams must attempt all challenges. Teams must start on time and follow their

designated course. The Scout law is the main rule at all events. The buddy system is to be used to ensure safety during the entire event.

## **Health & Safety**

It is the responsibility of the unit to bring an updated annual health and medical record for each scout and adult participating in the Klondike. Medical forms will not be turned in at check in. All prescription drugs should be managed by the unit leaders.

There will be a first aid / health and safety available at Gelder Hall during the event. In addition, we will be providing a warming station for anyone who needs it. The warming station will include hot drinks and soup during the duration of the event. Any scout needing assistance should advise their leader and stop by with their buddy to warm up.

No scout should leave the event unless such departure is arranged with the unit leader and Klondike staff and youth is signed out.

As at any Scouting event, recreational drugs, illegal substances, tobacco, alcohol, and firearms may NOT be on the premises at any time. Possession of aforementioned items are grounds for immediate dismissal from the event.

# Appendix

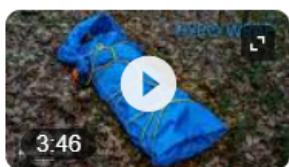
## Tips and Tricks



YouTube · Boreal River  
6K+ views · 2 years ago

⋮

### How to do a hypothermia wrap (hypo wrap) - YouTube



In this [video](#), Alex Traynor with Boreal River explains how to do a **hypothermia wrap** (or **hypo wrap**). **Hypo wraps** are known to be used in ...



YouTube · Jeremy T. Grant  
3.3K+ views · 1 year ago

⋮

### Ice Rescue - YouTube



In this [video](#), I want to share with you what to do if you fall through the **ice**! This year in Maine the weather has been wild rain and snow ...



### Basics of Curling Strategy

Chess on Ice  
139K views · 7 years ago

5:10

A-Frame building video: <https://tinyurl.com/4sardyfz>

## Appendix

### COLD WEATHER

1. When you wear a hat, your feet stay warmer. Fact: 70% of heat loss from the body is through the head.
2. Waterproof your boots with a waterproofing spray before your camping trip.
3. Always bring at least one extra pair of wool socks for emergencies.
4. If you are cold or get wet, talk to your leaders. Don't wait until you are numb or until the early morning hours. Learn what hypothermia is before going winter camping and learn to prevent it.
5. Eat lots of fat, complex carbs, and protein (i.e., meats, pasta, bacon, sausage, fruits and veggies, butter, nuts, peanut butter, cheese, salami). Sweets will not sustain you.
6. DRINK LOTS of water to avoid dehydration. Warm drinks can keep you warm. Energy Drinks are the opposite of helpful.
7. Be prepared: • Dress Warm • Keep Warm – Feet, Head and Hands • Sleep Warm • Eat and Drink Warm

**Think Warm: Keep a Positive Mental Attitude!** Keeping warm is the most important part of cold weather camping. Use the C-O-L-D method to assure staying warm.

**C – CLEAN** Since insulation is only effective when heat is trapped by dead air spaces, keep your insulating layers clean and fluffy. Dirt, grime, and perspiration can mat down those air spaces and reduce the warmth of a garment.

**O – OVERHEATING** Avoid overheating by adjusting the layers of your clothing to meet the outside temperature and the exertions of your activities. Excessive sweating can dampen your garments and cause chilling later on.

**L – LOOSE LAYERS** A steady flow of warm blood is essential to keep all parts of your body heated. Wear several loosely fitting layers of clothing and footgear that will allow maximum insulation without impeding your circulation.

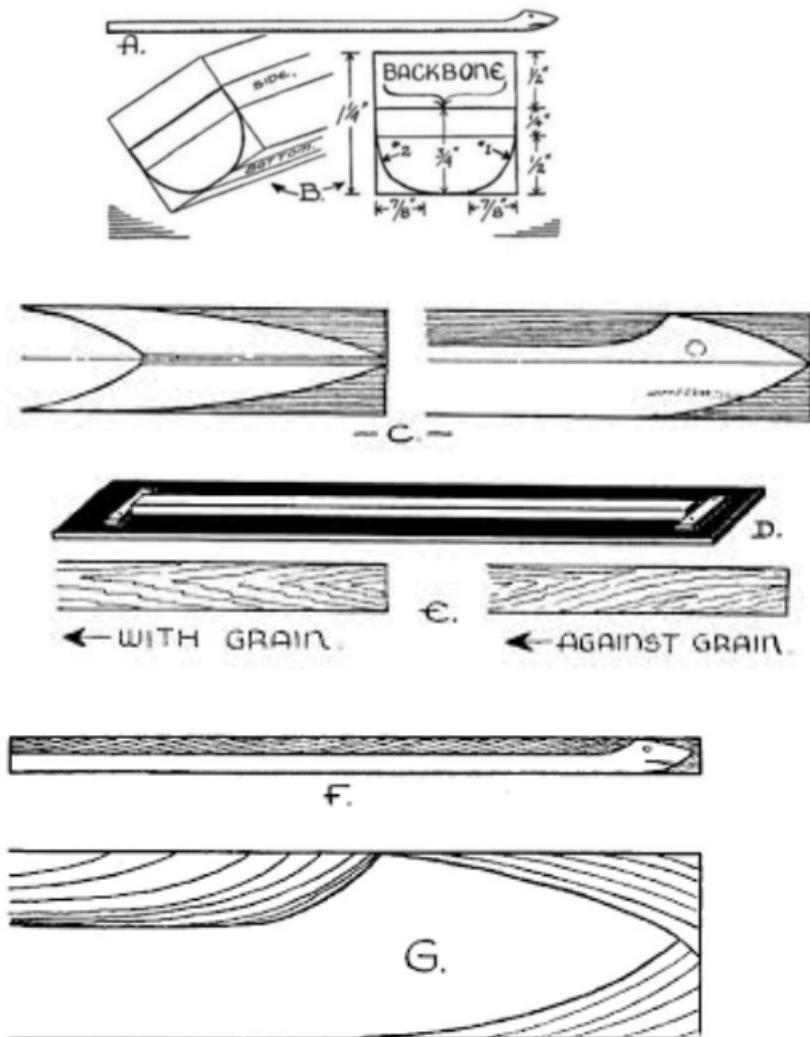
**D – DRY** Damp clothing and skin can cause your body to cool quickly, possibly leading to frostbite and hypothermia. Keep dry by avoiding cotton clothes that absorb moisture. Always brush away snow that is on your clothes before you enter a heated area. Keep the clothing around your neck loosened so that body heat and moisture can escape instead of soaking several layers of clothing.

# Appendix

## Snow Snake

### Snow Snake

- The snow snake must be made of wood.
- The snow snake must be similar in shape to the one shown below. Spears, modified skis or pointed sticks are not allowed.
- The snow snake must be painted, waxed or sealed in some way.
- Any kind of wax, ice, snow may be added to the snow snake.



# Appendix

## Klondike Sled Plan

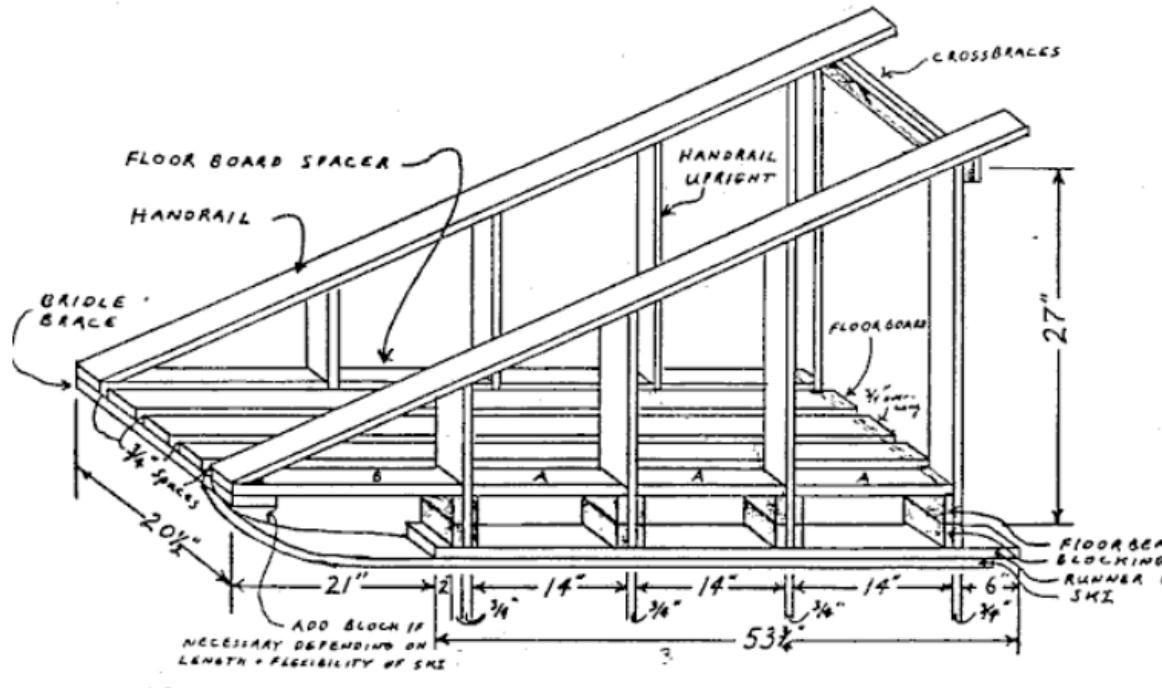
All wood is 1" x 4" or 1" x 2" #2 Pine

1" x 4" 80 ft. 10 / 8 ft. pc.  
 2 pc. - 78" handrails cut one end at a 70° angle  
 (Length is the long side)  
 2 pc. - 53 3/4" runner base \* see note  
 3 pc. - 66" Floorboards  
 6 pc. - 14" Floorboard spacers (A)  
 2 pc. - 21" Floorboard spacers (B)  
 1 pc. - 20 1/2" Bridle Brace  
 8 pc. - Handrail uprights 2 - 27", 2 - 21 5/8",  
 2 - 16 3/8", 2 - 11" cut one end at 20° angle  
 (length is the long side)

1" x 2" 24 ft. 3 / 8 ft. pc.  
 2 pc. - 20 1/2" Crossbrace  
 7 pc. - 20 1/2" Floorbeams  
 14 pc. - 3 1/2" Blocking

Other materials - one pair of old skis without  
 bindings, nails or wood screws (1 5/8" and 1 1/4"  
 all weather screws), wood glue.

Approximate Cost \$42.



**Construction Hints** - pre-drill all holes near the ends of boards and **GLUE** all joints. Begin by assembling rear uprights, crossbraces, floorbeams and blocking. Next attach floorboards (don't forget to overhang floorbeam 3/4" in the rear) and the bridle brace. Attach the handrails in the front and tack them with 1 nail to the rear handrail upright in their approximate position. Now work from front to rear assembling floorbeams, blocks, handrail uprights and floorboard spacers. \* **Note:** If your skis will extend the entire length of your sled, you may screw them directly to the handrail uprights and eliminate the runner bases. Finish your sled by painting or staining to seal the wood. **MUSH!!**

## 2026 Klondike Derby Unit Check In Form

Submit completed form when registering

4 Digit Troop #\_\_\_\_\_

Adult Leader #1\_\_\_\_\_

Community\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone\_\_\_\_\_

District\_\_\_\_\_

Adult Leader #2\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone\_\_\_\_\_

# Registered Scouts\_\_\_\_\_

# Registered Adults\_\_\_\_\_

# Total Participants\_\_\_\_\_

Balance Due\_\_\_\_\_

### Troop Roster of Participants

Patrol\_\_\_\_\_

Golden Skillet:

YES

NO

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank\_\_\_\_\_

Patrol\_\_\_\_\_

Golden Skillet:

YES

NO

\_\_\_\_\_ Rank\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Staff\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Staff\_\_\_\_\_

## 2026 Klondike Derby Evaluation Form

**Please rate the following on a scale of 1-5 (5 being the best)**

Location (site & facilities)	1	2	3	4	5
Participant Guide (overall)	1	2	3	4	5
Did it help the preparation?	1	2	3	4	5
Was it available in time to help?	1	2	3	4	5

**Was anything missing? Please elaborate below.**

Staffing (overall)	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of registration	1	2	3	4	5
Was staff responsive?	1	2	3	4	5
Activities (overall)	1	2	3	4	5
Challenge level of events (overall)	1	2	3	4	5
Event interest (overall)	1	2	3	4	5

**Would you like to help plan the next Klondike?**

Yes, count me in

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Don't know, call me when its time

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I might be able to help in a limited capacity

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

**Suggestions: (What did we do wrong? What did we get right? How can we improve?)**