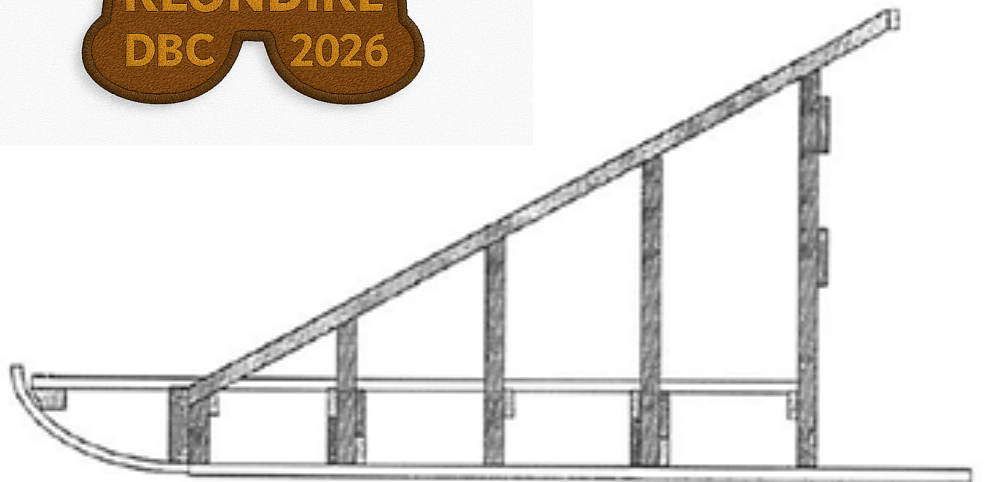


Camp Michaels

KLONDIKE DERBY

Leader's Guide

January 17th, 2026 (Weekend Camping Optional)
Camp Michaels: 3486 Hathaway Road Union, KY 41091



What is a Klondike Derby?

In cold climates, people race across the snow-covered wilderness by means of dogs and sleds. Scouting has embraced this idea in the form of the Klondike Derby. Each patrol builds a sled, collects materials and equipment and prepares to embark on the Klondike adventure and participate as a team in the derby. Camp Michaels has a long tradition of annual Klondikes.

This campout is for Scouts BSA and Venture Scouts. Webelos may attend if registered as part of a Troop. Sorry, no younger Cub Scouts at this event.

Bear Tradition

With Klondikes taking place in the winter, scouts can typically earn their Polar Bear Award in honor of spending the night in temperatures below 32 degrees. In honor of the polar bear camping, the bear had become the official mascot of the Camp Michael's Klondikes some years ago.

General Information

Registration Fee	\$15 per person (both youth and adult)
Additional Patches	May be purchased for \$5 each while supplies are available

Adult Leadership

Per BSA Youth Protection guidelines, each unit must have a minimum of two registered adult leaders in attendance; a responsible (age 21 or older) must be in camp at all times. You are responsible for your Scouts.

Camping

Camping Friday and Saturday nights is optional, not required. Units will camp in assigned campsites based on the number of registered youth and adults (Please register in advance. Sooner is better.) Each unit furnishes its own tents, food, equipment, etc. Campsites will be assigned at check-in.

Health and Safety

Please be prepared for cold weather and the potential for snow. In case of cold-related injuries such as frostbite, the Eagle's Lodge will be open with heat and additional first aid resources.

First Aid

All units are responsible for the health and safety of their scouts. Hence, all units must have their own first aid equipment and have them easily accessible for use. Emergencies and serious first aid incidents must immediately be reported to the Klondike First Aid officer.

BSA Medical Forms

All Scouts and adult leaders are required to have health forms on site. Units must have them available at all times.

Vehicles

All vehicles must be parked in the main parking lot. We allow each group to drop off trailers or large equipment using ONE vehicle at a time. Your vehicle is to be returned to the parking lot after unloading. Pending weather conditions, vehicles and trailers may need to stay in the lot.

Fires

Please use available firewood and gather any tinder/limbs around your campsite. We appreciate your help in preventing the spread of harmful pest insects by NOT bringing your own firewood onto Camp Property. Chainsaw use is not allowed.

Food

Each unit is responsible for making sure it provides enough food for all of its participants for the entire event. Patrol cooking is encouraged for all Troops, Crews, etc. for this event. Plan to cook on camp stoves or on charcoal at grilling pits.

Water

Water for the camping area is at the Eagle's Lodge and near the Yurts and maintenance shed. Shower houses are winterized and closed.

Volunteer Staffing

Each unit is asked to provide two volunteers (Parents or leaders) for the day on Saturday. Volunteers will be briefed after cracker barrel Friday night and provided instructions for their tasks. Names need to be turned in Friday night at check-in.

Klondike Derby Check-In Procedure

Upon arrival, one adult and the SPL from each unit should report to the camp office. Leaders should be prepared with the following: Troop Rosters, Health forms (remains with unit), Payment if any is due, Names of leaders/parents to run a station on Saturday. Campsite assignments will be made on the basis of Troop size and check-in time.

Competition and Activities

Scouts will compete as a Patrol (5-10 Scouts). Activity stations will be set up throughout camp. Scouts will compete by demonstrating basic scouting skills, teamwork, problem solving and by showing Scout Spirit! Patrols/Troops will compete in, and awards will be given for highest scores at the skills stations, sled inspection and most creative design, fastest sled, etc.

Contacts:

Shane Noem- Trailblazer Klondike Chair ShaneNoem@gmail.com (513) 969-4810

Will Kramer –Trailblazer Executive William.Kramer@Scouting.org (513) 577-7698

Tentative Klondike Derby Schedule

January 17-19, 2024

Friday – January 17

5:00 – 9:00 PM	Overnight Check-in at Eagle Lodge & Campsite Setup
11:00 PM	Lights Out

Saturday – January 18

7:00 AM	Reveille / Breakfast / Cleanup
7:30 - 8:00 AM	Check in for Saturday Arrivals
8:00 AM	SPL/Leader Meeting (Eagle Lodge)
9:00 AM	Opening Ceremony – Parade Field
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Stations/Activities – see map (Assigned Start Location)
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch in campsites or on sleds Adult Chuck Wagon Golden Spoon (Eagle Lodge)
1:00 – 4:00 PM	Stations / Activities
4:30 PM	The Great Sled Race—Ends at Parade Field
5:00 PM	Branding (Mugs, Hats, Wood, etc.) Eagle Lodge
6:30PM	Awards and Campfire (and skits) – Amphitheater
11:00 PM	Lights Out if Camping

Sunday- January 19

7:00 AM	Reveille / Breakfast / Cleanup / Police Campsite
10:00 AM	Last Checkout

*Check out with Klondike Derby Staff at Eagle’s Lodge before departing

SAMPLE Klondike Activities

Be Prepared! You do not need to complete the stations, however, you need to take your whole patrol and sled with you.

- 1 – Sled Inspection, Supply Inventory and Design Contest
- 2 – Shield Making
- 3 – Thor’s Hammer Throwing
- 4 – Valkyrie First Aid
- 5 – Viking Battle Ship
- 6 – Eric the Red Tug O War Tournament
- 7 – Oden’s Norse Knowledge & Trivia
- 8 – How to slay a Dragon (catapult lashing and launching)
- 9 – Troll Tossing
- 10 – Shield Design
- 11 – Lokies Trixter Challenge
- 12 – Lost at sea navigation

More to come...

- 15 – The Reindeer Run! The Great Race

What Your Patrol Needs on Its Sled!

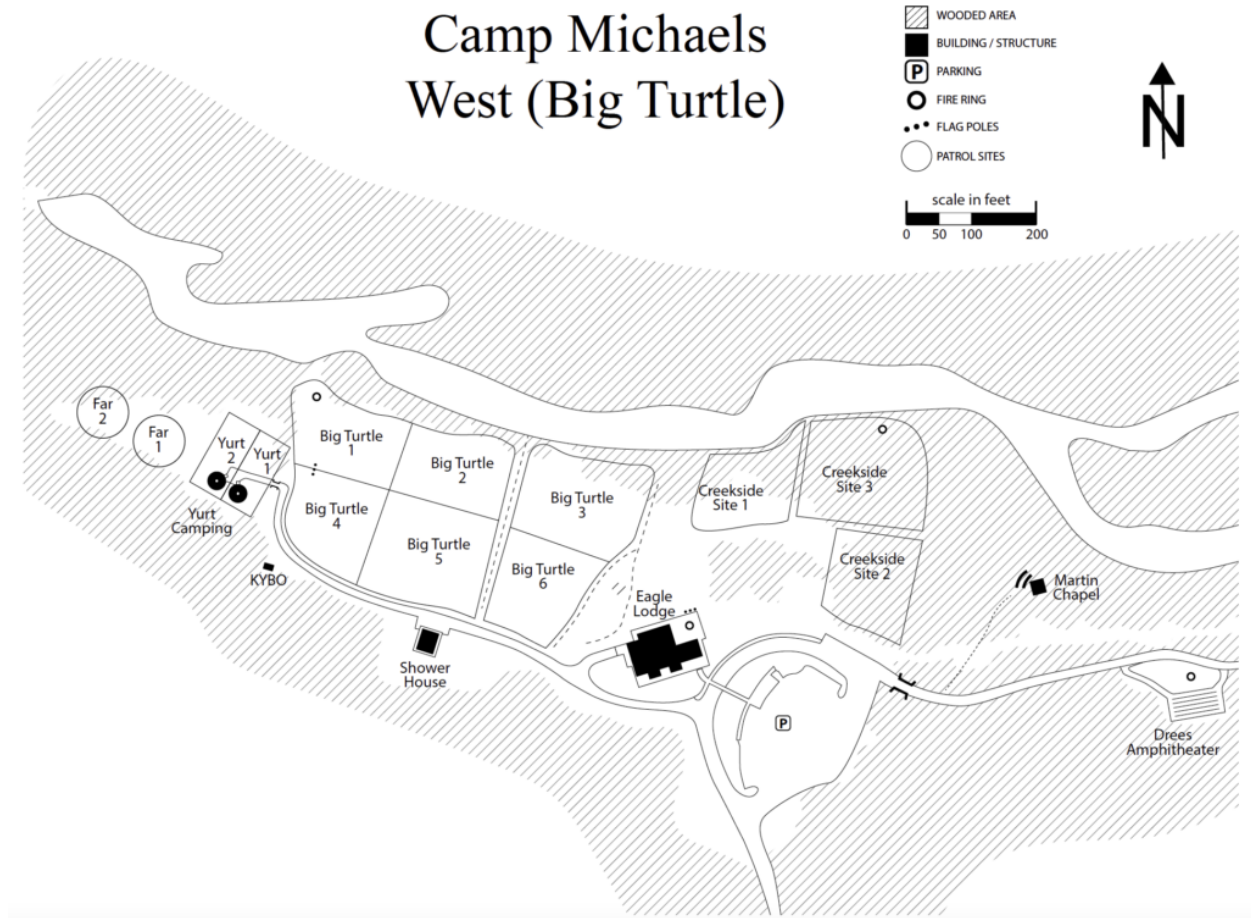
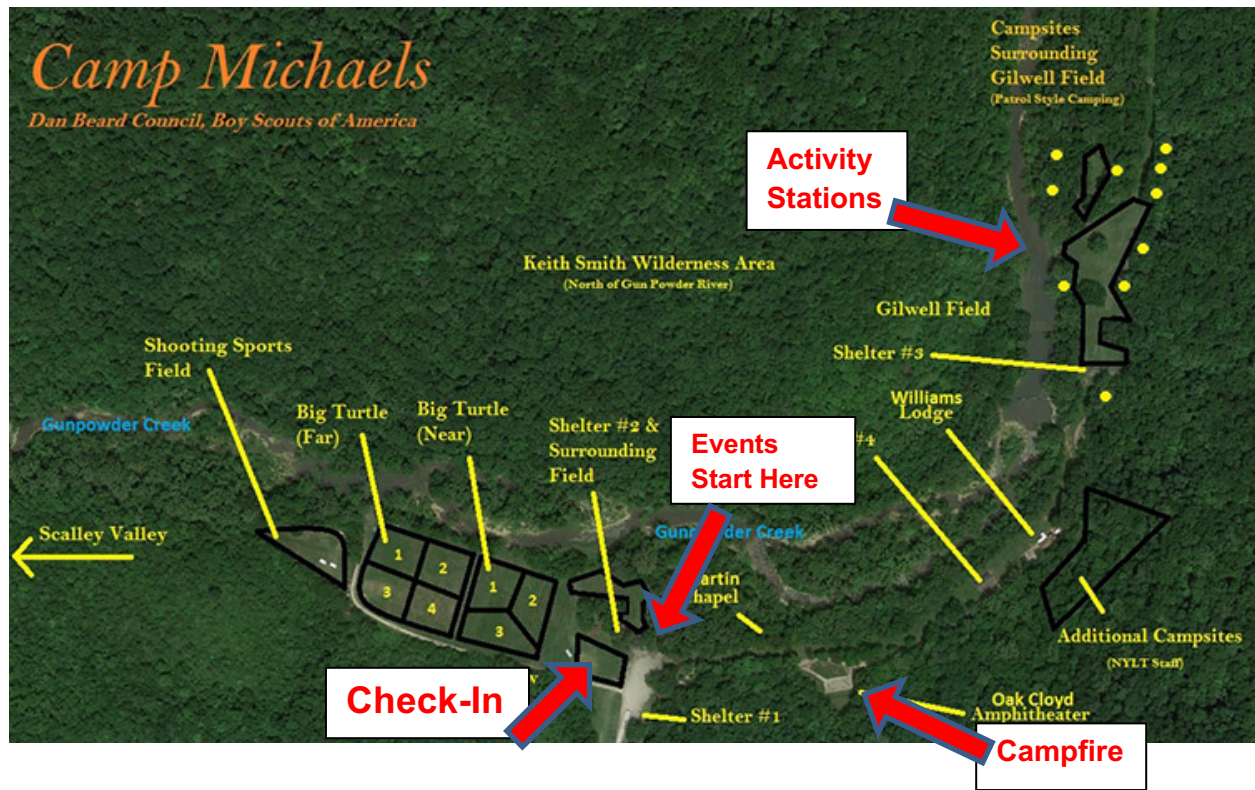
Scouts should be able to carry nearly all their equipment both on their sleds and in daypacks. Sleds will be inspected, judged, and inventory of supplies will be taken.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ 1 All terrain sled | ☐ Water bottle per scout |
| ☐ Scouts BSA Handbook | ☐ 1 -10x10ft Tarp |
| ☐ 1 pair of safety glasses | ☐ 50ft of 3/8 inch rope |
| ☐ Patrol or Troop Flag | ☐ 1 copy of this leaders guide |
| ☐ Pocket knife | ☐ Totin Chip card per scout |
| ☐ 1 Blanket | ☐ Compass |
| ☐ First aid kit | ☐ Teddy Bear attached to sled (Bonus) |
| ☐ Leather gloves per scout | |

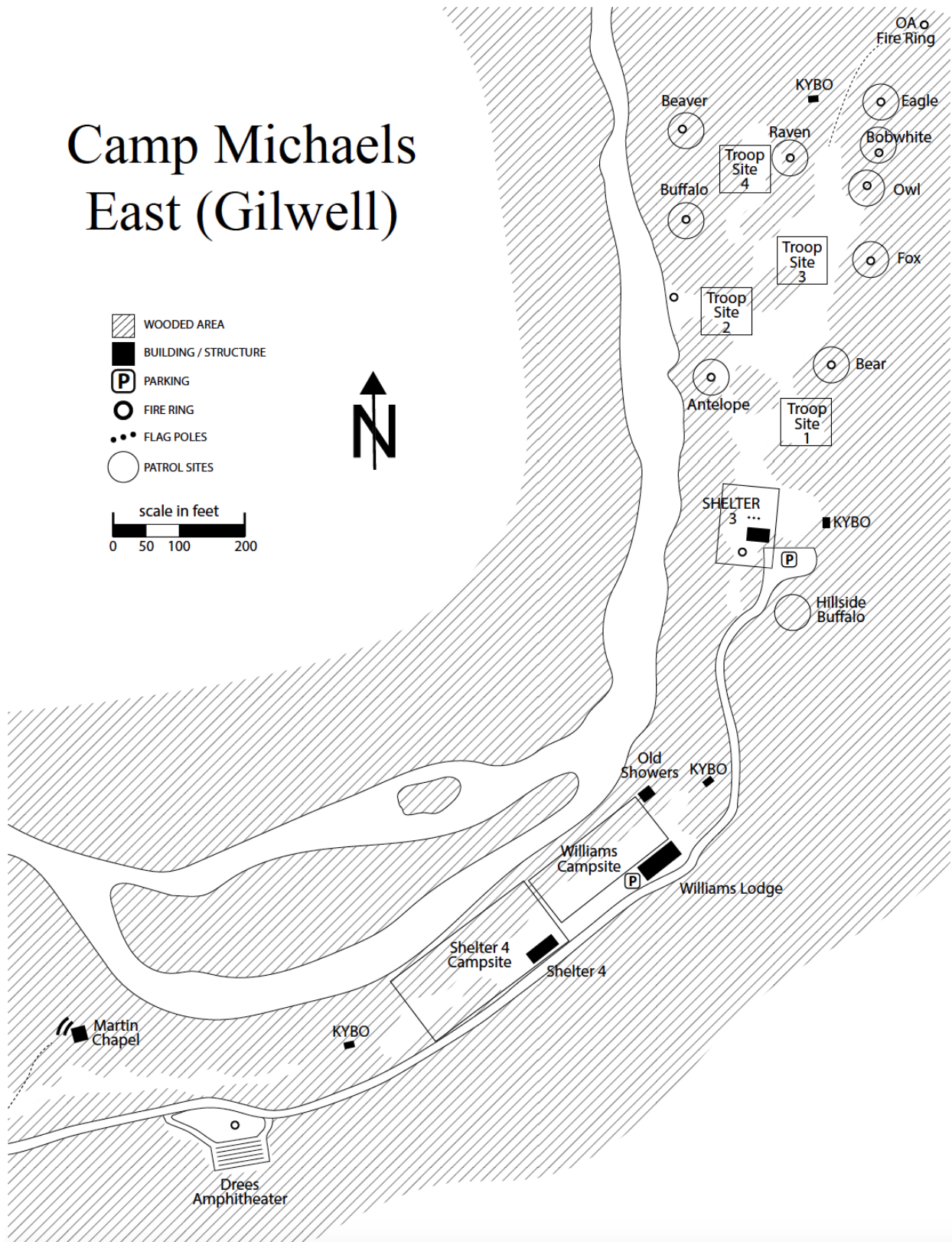
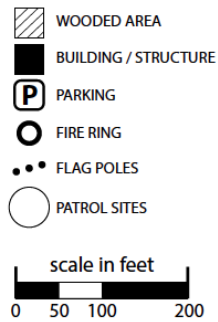
Klondike Sled Design Guidelines

All patrols competing need to prepare/bring their own sled. There is no “**exact**” sled design that will be required, only a few guidelines. See the leaders guide for some sample designs.

Length	5’ to 6.5’
Width	1.5’ to 2’
Frame Construction	Wood (not PVC or metal)
Support Materials	Screws, Nails, Rope, Twine, Glue, Skis are all allowed. No wheels.
<i>Patrols without sleds will still be able to participate, but will miss points in inspection and race.</i>	



Camp Michaels East (Gilwell)



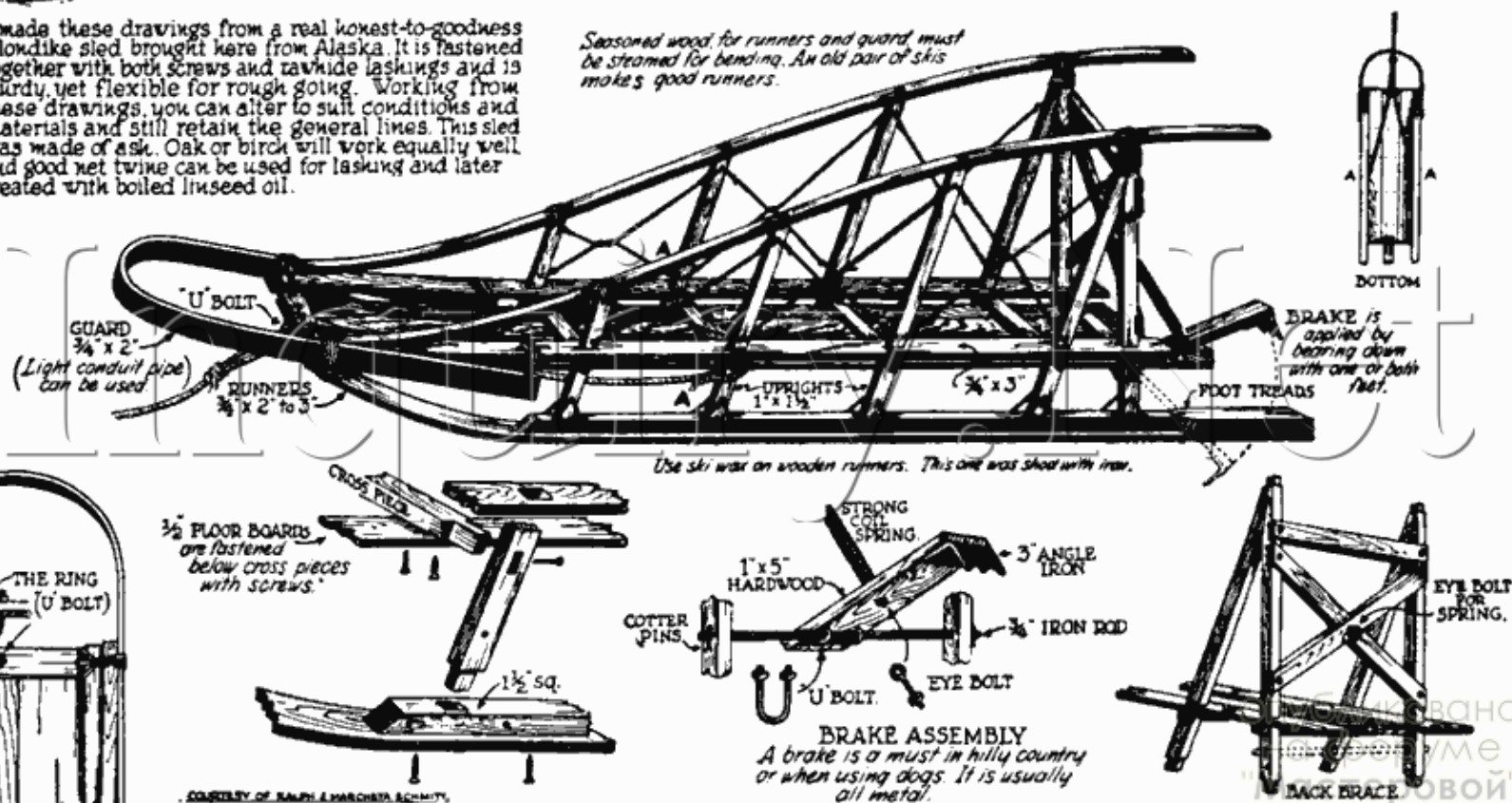


KLONDIKE SLED

20" wide x 6' or 7' long is a good size for scouting.

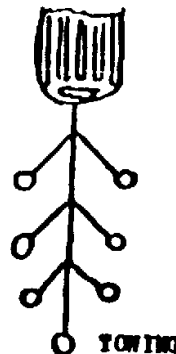
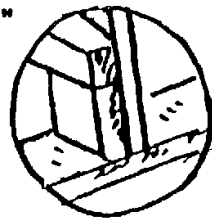
I made these drawings from a real honest-to-goodness Klondike sled brought here from Alaska. It is fastened together with both screws and rawhide lashings and is sturdy, yet flexible for rough going. Working from these drawings, you can alter to suit conditions and materials and still retain the general lines. This sled was made of ash. Oak or birch will work equally well and good net twine can be used for lashing and later treated with boiled linseed oil.

Seasoned wood, for runners and guard, must be steamed for bending. An old pair of skis makes good runners.



Use your imagination!!!

Hand-drawn diagram of a bridge structure. It features a central arch and two side arches. The central arch is labeled "1/2 hole for bridge".



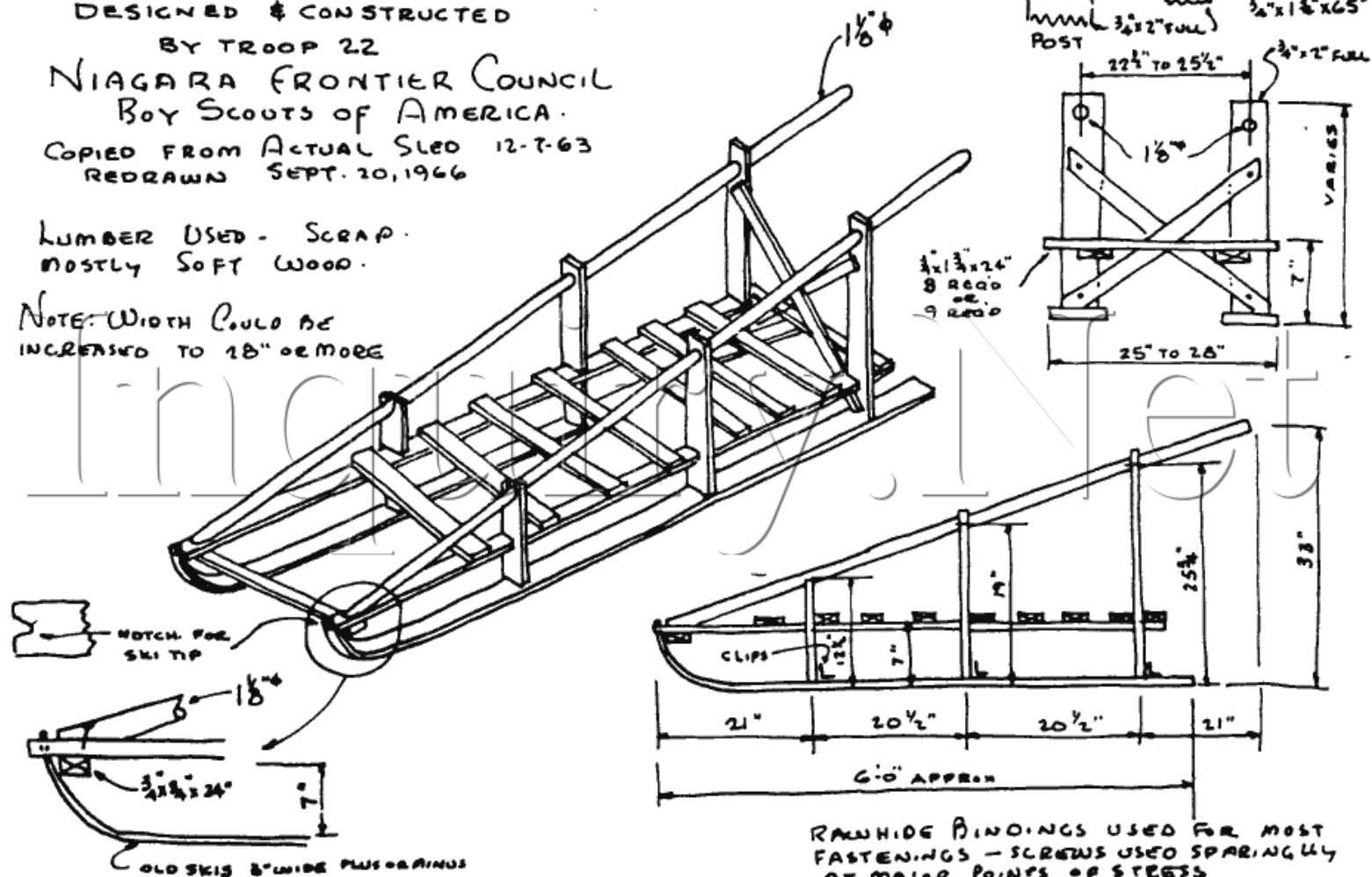
**TOWING
BRIDLE**

2 pcs. 4" x $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6'6" -
Runner
6 pcs. 1" x 1" x 13" -
Cross Support
4 pcs. $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4" x 5' -
Floor Cover
8 pcs. 1" x 4" x 4" -
Upright Support
2 pcs. 1" x 2" x 40" -
Rear Upright
2 pcs. 1" x 2" x 36" -
2nd Rear Upright
2 pcs. 1" x 2" x 26" -
2nd Front Upright

- 2 pcs. 1" x 2" x 12" -
Front Upright
2 pcs. 1" x 2" x 6" -
Hand Rail
1 pc. 1" x 2" x 30" -
Front Curved Guard
1 pc. 2" x 2" x 18" -
Yow Bar

DESIGNED & CONSTRUCTED
BY TROOP 22
NIAGARA FRONTIER COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA.
COPIED FROM ACTUAL SLED 12-7-63
REDRAWN SEPT. 20, 1966

NOTE: WIDTH COULD BE INCREASED TO 18" OR MORE



RAWHIDE BINDINGS USED FOR MOST FASTENINGS - SCREWS USED SPARINGLY AT MAJOR POINTS OF STRESS

THIS DRAWING REISSUED FOR KLONDIKE DERBY IN CONJUNCTION WITH WINTER FESTIVAL 1967