



**Pathway to Adventure Council
Iron District**



Klondike Derby

Save the Date!

**February 13th and 14th, 2026
Friday night through Saturday Afternoon**

Save The Date

**Location: Goodenow Grove Nature Preserve
(Formerly C.A.C. Camp Crete)
27064 Dutton Rd
Beecher, IL 60401**



Me (left) at Woodland District Klondike Derby, 1970's

Important Notes

Patrol size should be 8 or less scouts.

In order to qualify for race:

- 1) Sled must be similar to sketch (Dog Sled Type), no exceptions! Non conforming sleds will not be allowed to race.
- 2) 8 or less scouts must pull sled with all patrol equipment listed in packet.
- 3) Patches will be dispersed after the event at Round Table

DRAG RACE

1. All sleds must be pulled from start to finish.
2. 2-8 scouts for one patrol qualifies you to race (sled crosses finish line when last scout crosses finish line)
3. All patrol equipment must be on the sled and STAY on the sled during racing.

All rulings and decisions made by the Klondike committee are final-----Good luck

Patrol drag race may be 9am depending on weather (better to race on frozen tundra in the morning than melted mud in the afternoon).

KLONDIKE 2026 IRONHORSE DISTRICT

Location: Goodenow Grove Nature Preserve
(Formerly C.A.C. Camp Crete)
27064 Dutton Rd
Beecher, IL 60401
Directions with map included in packet

Dates: Friday February 13th and Saturday February 14th, 2026

For Additional Information:

John Nelson: 312-320-6547 jnels10@yahoo.com

Winter Camping!!! Be Prepared for Anything!!

Register on line at PTAC Website

Online Registration closes on February 11th, 2026

Register on-site if registering after Feb 11th, 2026

About the Klondike Race:

The Klondike race is a winter skills timed event.

The Ironhorse Traveling Trophy will be awarded to the patrol that totals the most points with your unit number, patrol name and year etched on the trophy for all to see!

Link to Goodenow Preserve webpage -

<https://www.reconnectwithnature.org/preserves-trails/preserves/goodenow-grove/>

Special Information

We have the preserve reserved for Friday and Saturday.

Plum Grove Nature Center is a heated Nature Center with flush toilets and is located behind the sledding hill. It will be open from 10-4 Saturday and you are encouraged to visit as time allows. Note that sledding hill is only open when snow covered.

Sledge: [Klondike Derby Sled "Sledge" Example](#) – Page 9

Trailers: There are multiple overflow parking areas if you'd like to bring a trailer, but parking in the camping area itself is limited and we'll be carrying equipment to sites (depending on where you chose to camp) If you are in the camping area there are lantern hangers and fire pits. If you are camping on the field, you'll need platforms for above ground fires. You might use a wagon to move equipment.

Shelter: Plum Grove Nature Center is open Saturday, 10am to 4pm (seem map on page 8)

Toilets: There are 2 single pit toilets in the camping area, 2 pit toilets just behind the sledding hill and 2 pit toilets on the other side of the preserve (and flush toilets in the Nature Center (open Sat 10-4).

Water: **Be prepared to supply water for the weekend!!** There is water; however, it WILL be very limited. Be prepared. BYOW

Trails: Trails interconnect with the Will County Forest Preserve Trails for additional adventure after event..

Wood: You cannot bring firewood out of Cook County to any other county in Illinois due to various pests (<https://www.dontmovefirewood.org/map/illinois/>) No raw tree firewood can be brought into the park. Lumber, including skid lumber is allowed, as long as there is no bark. (No raw tree wood is allowed, even if it does not have bark.) There is NO wood for sale .

Clothing: **All scouts must wear appropriate winter clothing at all times. Appropriate clothing includes: winter hats, gloves, boots (NO SNEAKERS!!!), winter coat, snow pants, scarves, etc. (Avoid cotton such as jeans)**

Firewood:

- Firewood **CANNOT** be moved from Cook county to another county in Illinois. [Processed lumber with no bark is OK]
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/maps/plant-health/european-gypsy-moth-quarantine>
- Quarantined Counties include Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Will, Lake, McHenry, LaSalle, Boone, Winnebago Counties
- **Firewood from these locations can be confiscated and campers may be subject to steep fines for violating the law!**

REGISTRATION FORM

Date:	UNIT#	
Scoutmaster Name:	Scoutmaster Phone#	
Email:	Station Name:	
SCOUT/ADULT NAME	AGE	RANK
SPL:		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
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15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
KLONDIKE FEE \$10/\$15 PERSON (INCLUDES PATCH) (Note Fee increases after February 5th)	\$10 or \$15 x _____ =	\$ _____
PLEASE REGISTER AT DISTRICT SHELTER UPON ARRIVAL	Total	\$ _____

(Please duplicate for more than 20 attendee's and total on one sheet)

Please make checks payable to PTAC

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

6-9pm	Check-in at District Headquarters
9-9:30pm	Cracker Barrel @ checkin – SPL's and Unit Leaders
10:00pm	Lights out

SATURDAY

7-8:30am	Late Check-in
7:8:30am	Units cook breakfast in campsites
8:45-9:00	Flag Ceremony
9:00-12-00	Patrol events at troop sites
12-12:45pm	Units cook Lunch
1:00-3:30pm	District Klondike Derby Events
Immediately after Derby Events	Patrol Drag Race

KLONDIKE OVER!

If we have snow, there is a sledding hill ➡

Winning patrol will be announced at round table with IRONHORSE traveling trophy to be awarded at next in-person round table.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Nelson @ 312-320-6547

Email: jnels10@yahoo.com

Important Klondike Information

Patrol Sledge Equipment List

Each patrol should not exceed eight scouts and should have a patrol flag attached to their sledge. The following is the list of items needed for the sledge:

- Firewood, tinder, and kindling (**you will need to start a fire that you will cook on**)
- One fire-starter will be allowed but it must be home-made (i.e. newspaper dipped in wax, lint) or natural. No accelerants allowed. **“Primitive” fire-starting methods are highly encouraged (flint & steel, will receive extra points)** and should be carried on the sledge. Matches may also be carried on the sledge but only used if primitive methods are unsuccessful. Event leader will not supply patrols with matches.
- A pot or container to boil water
- Drinking water to keep your patrol hydrated.
- Hot pad/glove
- Blanket
- **Three** 6 foot pieces of wood (2 for stretcher ends)
- Plastic Tarp (approx. 6'x8')
- Patrol Winter First-Aid kit
- Paper and Pencil
- 30 feet of 200# strength rope
- Five 10ft. pieces of rope for lashing (will be used in conjunction with 3 poles).
- Patrol flag
- Compass
- Scout handbook (to be used for reference, not as a fire starter)
- Scout Spirit

About the Traveling Trophy

The patrol that accumulates the most points at the end of the day will have their number and name etched onto the traveling trophy. Each patrol should try to participate in as many events as possible to accumulate as many points possible. Their [sled](#) should be constructed by the patrol and resemble the [sled](#) from the handout. More instructions on sleds may be searched online.

About the Troop Events

Troop should run a scouting skills or team building activity in the morning. For help on activities please see scout handbook or search team building activities online.



- Take Interstate 294 South from 127th and Cicero or I-57 south
- Use IL-394 Danville exit
- At Goodenow Road, turn left
- At Goodenow Preserve sign, turn left.
- After passing a small lake, at next road turn right for camping area

Goodenow Grove Nature Preserve

27064 Dutton Rd
Beecher, IL 60401

Klondike Derby Sled "Sledge" Example, OK to modify. There is a weight limit of 50 lbs.

