

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills [IOLS]

S11 Participant Packet

Who: Future Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters & other registered adults interested in improving their basic Scout Skills

What: Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills

When: Friday May 8, 2026 until 5:00 PM on Saturday May 9, 2026. Check-in: Weytrex Cabin (5:00 PM – 7:00 PM PLEASE ARRIVE ON TIME TO COMPLETE CHECK-IN BEFORE 7:00 PM to help us to maintain our schedule!

Where: Camp Minsi Scout Reservation

Price: free for Minsi Trails Council adults
\$35 for out of council adults

Course Director: Irwin Lebo

Email: leboirwin@yahoo.com

Phone: 610-295-8539

Welcome to the Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) Course

Thank you for your commitment to delivering a great Scouting program. As Baden-Powell said, “Scouting is fun with a purpose.” Additionally, there is no “Scouting without outing.”

As Course Director, I sincerely hope your experience will provide you with the confidence and basic skills to bring your Unit’s outdoor program to life. Specifically, this hands-on program offers a practical introduction to the patrol method and the Scout skills necessary to lead Scouts in an outdoor setting.

Our instructors will help you learn:

- How to set up camp
- How to cook
- How to work with wood tools
- How to tie knots and lashings
- How to read a map and use a compass

They will also discuss:

- Hiking and backpacking
- Plant and animal identification
- Outdoor ethics
- Campfire program planning

Given the compressed timeframe, you may not master all these skills, but you will be on your way to becoming more confident and aware of areas where you may need additional experience. This program will also allow you to work with other Scout Leaders from your area, make new friends, and enjoy the outdoors.

Thank you again for being people of high-character who are committed to developing the next generation of Scout leaders.

IOLS Course Prep

Note: Prior to taking this IOLS Training course (S11), future Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters should complete the following on-line training:

1. Youth Protection Training (must be current) Required every 2 years.
2. Scouts BSA — Scoutmaster Position Specific Training (S24)
3. Hazardous Weather Training (SCO_800) Required every 2 years. All 3 of these trainings are available online, and with IOLS are required for you to be trained in your position. To access these trainings please log into your account at my.scouting.org and select the BSA Learning Center image on the right side of the home page. The IOLS course will not be covering these trainings during the course. Scouters who have completed these required trainings, plus the completion of IOLS (S11) are then eligible to receive their 'Trained' patch from their Scouting Unit.

What We Will Cover

This IOLS course will include hands-on lessons, lectures and patrol group-based instruction/discussion/activities. You will learn from skilled, experienced instructors, Troop Guides and from your fellow patrol members.

- Campsite Selection
- Outdoor Ethics
- Fire Site Preparation and Building
- Outdoor Cooking Skills
- Ropes—Whipping, Tying, and Lashing
- Woods Tools—Knife, Camp Saw, and Ax
- Plant Identification
- Animal Identification
- Finding Your Way—Map and Compass Reading
- Packing and Hiking Techniques
- Campfire Program

This Training Course utilizes the “Rules to Safe Scouting.” Please use common sense and follow the direction given by the training staff. If available, a Scout Handbook is a good reference for the skills we will cover.

Course Location and Check-In:

Directions to Camp Minsi: 106 Camp Minsi Road, Pocono Summit, PA 18344

GPS Coordinates N41 07.231' W75 25.475'

From PA Route 22:

Follow Interstate 22 east or west. Exit onto Route 33 North towards Stroudsburg. Follow Route 33 for approx. 20 miles. Exit onto Route 80 West towards Hazelton. Follow Interstate 80 for 9 miles exiting on Route 380 North. Take Exit 3. At the stoplight at the top of the ramp, turn left. Follow route 940 West for 1.1 miles. The camp entrance is on the right across from the Pocono Mountain Regional Police station.

From PA Interstate 80:

Follow Interstate 80 east or west. Exit onto Route 380 North. Take Exit 3. At the stoplight at the top of the ramp, turn left. Follow route 940 West for 1.1 miles. The camp entrance is on the right across from the Pocono Mountain Regional Police station.

From PA Route 476 NE Extension:

Follow the NE Extension of the PA Turnpike to Exit 95 (I-80 and Route 940). Follow Route 940 East for approx. 20 miles. The camp entrance is on the right across from the Pocono Mountain Regional Police station.

1. **Eat Dinner prior to arrival.**
2. **Check-in at the Wytrex cabin** just before 1st bridge.
3. **Please Park** in the Camp Minsi Activities Field Parking Lot. (Participant Vehicles are not allowed in the camp).

Please bring a printed copy of your BSA Annual Health and Medical records (med forms) parts A and B — also, a photo copy of your insurance card. (Having documents on your cell phone will not help if we have to get to the ER. Health Forms will be returned upon course completion.

Medical Form Link <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/>

a. Please bring any medications you may need

b. All Vehicles remaining in the Activities Field parking lot will need to be checked-in as well. Make, Model, Color and License Plate Number and State. (If Carpooling, please let us know at check-in.) Please pre-fill in the Parking Voucher in this document.

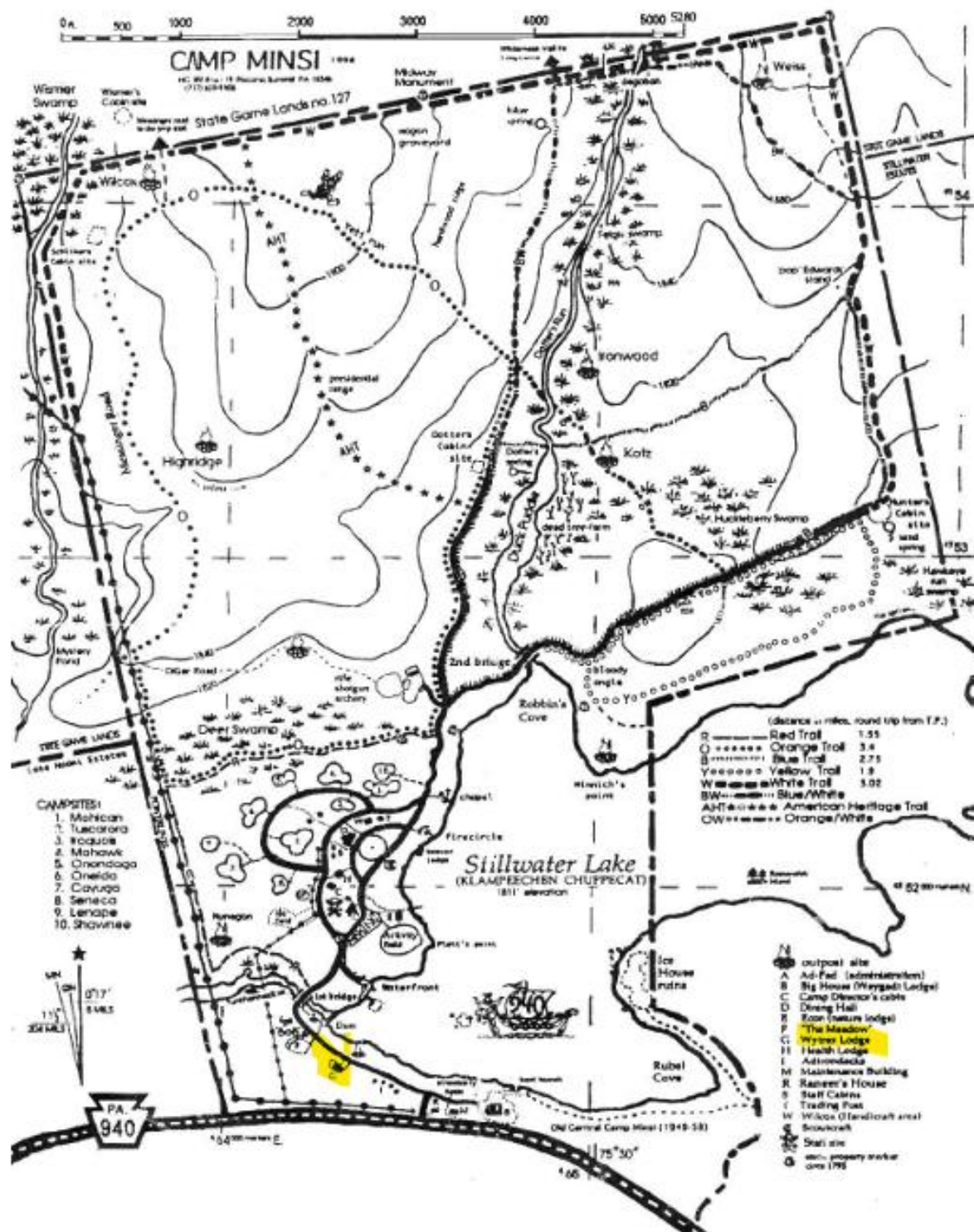
NOTE: To discuss any special medical needs prior to the course, please contact the IOLS Course Medical Officer Donna Rex-Frantz (EMTeagle1@gmail.com)

4. After you are checked in you will be directed to carry your gear to a designated participant campsite where you will set up your tent.
5. If you are using a C-Pap machine, please bring a battery. If you need electricity, please contact the course director

After setting up your tent, please report to Weytrex Lodge to meet your fellow participants and grab a cup of coffee. Check-in needs to be completed no later than 7:00 PM to stay on schedule. Please Note: If you need special assistance, please let the Course Director know prior to the course dates so arrangements may be planned. In the event of inclement weather, alternate campsites may be utilized. Participants should bring their own tents for pitching in the assigned campsites. Tents may be constructed on top of wooden platforms.

Camp Map





Weytrex Campsites



Meals:

IOLS Course Included Meals:

Friday: (eat dinner prior to arrival), Cracker barre will be provided

Saturday: Breakfast, Luch and Dinner will be provided.

If you have any special dietary needs, please let the Course Director know prior to the weekend so arrangements may be planned. The course will endeavor to provide water at all times.

What to Bring:

DAY PACK

- Water Bottle
- Notebook
- Pen / Pencil

- Snacks
- Personal First Aid Kit
- Rain Gear
- Flashlight / Headlamp
- Extra Toilet Paper
- Sun Screen

PACKING LIST

- Backpack/ Duffle Bag
- Personal Tent [TBD if any Adirondacks are available]. Tents should be set up on tent platforms
- Sleeping Bag (weather specific)
- Ground Pad or Air Mattress
- HIKING BOOTS* (Rough Rocky Terrain, Axe Yard, Two 1-Mile+ Hikes)
- Rain Gear
- Seasonal Clothing
- Jacket / Sweatshirt
- Pocket Knife [what a Scout would use]
- Camping Chair [comfortable and transportable]
- Class A or Field Uniform [prefer patches sewn on]

PERSONAL ITEMS

- Water Bottle
- Hand sanitizer
- Toiletries
- Watch
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Glasses [specs / contacts]

- Ear plugs / headphones
- Insect repellent
- Phone with a few of your favorite apps (Google Maps for Orienteering)
- Phone Charger with Power Cell [No electric immediately available]
- Personal Drinking Container for coffee, tea or hot chocolate [Cups available, but best to have an insulated container]. All hot liquid containers must have a lid, including disposable cups.
- Collapsible wagon or other gear delivery optional
- Hanger for uniform
- Optional: Orienteering Map Compass [Clear/Rotating Dial] *PLEASE NOTE: Camp Minsi is rocky terrain. NO OPEN-TOED FOOTWEAR IS PERMITTED. All guests of the Reservation must wear appropriate footwear for their safety. Participants must be wearing boots for the Wood Tools portion of the course.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Alcoholic Beverages of ANY kind
 - Narcotics
 - Real or toy firearms or ammunition (pistols, shotguns, rifles are only to be used on a BSA range)
 - Sling shots
 - BB guns of any shape or size
 - Bows or arrows
 - Crossbows
 - Throwing or stabbing weapons (pocketknives permitted*)
 - Explosives
 - Fireworks
 - Model rockets
 - Hazardous materials
 - Drones of any size
- ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**
- Campfire Program: Bring your ideas for Scout appropriate entertainment — this includes playing a musical instrument, skit ideas, song and more.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Irwin Lebo

Spring 2025 IOLS Course Director

leboirwin@yahoo.com 610-295-8539

Parking Voucher

Vehicle Identifier

Carpooling or drop-off is highly encouraged. All participants who will be parking a vehicle for any duration of the program, must provide the needed information. Please submit during Registration. Only the driver of the vehicle needs to submit this information. If carpooling or dropped-off, please let us know during Registration.

Vehicle

Driver Name: _____ Color: _____

Make: _____ Tag/License Plate ID: _____

Model: _____ State: _____