

Baden Powell hosting Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby)

All Districts Welcome

Event is Saturday January 24, 2026

Camp for the weekend of January 23, 24 and 25

Camp Hart and Camp Garrison are available.

Make camping reservations directly through Steve Hurst

Teams must report to parking lot of Hart or musser. Note: No unit parking at hart unless camping overnight at Hart.

Parking:

- There will be drop off at the Hart Parking lot - no unit parking at Hart parking lot
- ****parking will be directed on your arrival to other lots****
- Shuttle Van service will be available from those areas back to the program area.
-

No closing ceremony will be held.

Cost: \$18 per Scout/Venture and \$10/adult for Gold Rush patch, Event expenses, awards, snacks, camp rental and insurance. Lunch is included for all Scouts and adults. **We need all leaders to register and pay fees in order to keep costs low.**

For further information please call:

Steve Hurst, (C) 610-745-4575

Stuart Rosenberg, Governor (C) 215-519-2250

**** All event registrations must be done online. Camping registration and payment is to be made with:**

Steve Hurst

Make checks payable to "Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA"

Steve Hurst hurst.sr@verizon.net

Stuart Rosenberg sturose2004@me.com

Baden Powell District Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby)

What is an Alaskan Gold Rush? Well, many years ago people raced by means

of dogs and sledges across the frozen wastes of Alaska in search of gold. Scouting has capitalized on this theme, and has developed the Gold Rush as an activity for Scouts.

First of all, troops must be alerted! Patrols have to be prepared and sledges built. (See plans for the building of sledges). Incidentally, don't let the idea of sledges scare you. It is not essential to have snow for this event; many of our best gold rushes are held without the white stuff.

It's fun for the Scouts and interesting to the spectators. Each dog team (so-called because 4 to 7 Scouts act as the huskies), as a separate expedition, is checked for readiness, equipment, etc. On signal, three teams and sledges line up and, at the starting gun, race for the North Pole! As they arrive at the Pole, the team driver (patrol leader) is handed his **sealed orders** - which contain their instructions, course directions, map and "assay report" (patrol score sheet). Each team will take its "bearings" to their first "town" and start off, hauling their homemade sledges loaded with emergency materials over rugged trails. Along the trail they find Alaskan towns where the mayor and marshal meet them. The mayor always has a problem, which is unknown to the prospector and his team (patrol) until they get there. The team works on the emergency to the best of its ability. **This year to help alleviate large delays at some towns we have changed the klondike so that each team will be assigned a first town and an order for the remaining towns. There will be a 25 minute time limit at each town to complete the town with the exception being cook town.**

These problems involve Tenderfoot, Second Class or First Class skills and the mayor and his staff judge the results. The team gets its assay report marked and an appropriate number of gold nuggets. (The final score is computed for each team by multiplying the number of nuggets by 10, best overall time, handicapping & preparedness of patrol. Don't lose the assay report - it is your only record for a score). Scout spirit and teamwork will count too! *** (ONE) New town theme *** First aid will include merit badge level challenges***

After the last town the team is on the final stretch: flat out to check in area on the Quartermaster building of the Training Center front porch.

*****If a team chooses not to complete the event, Must still check in for safety and final time!!!*****

The team checks in with the judges who mark their final time for your patrol. Awards are determined accordingly and prepared for later presentation.

Baden Powell District

Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby)

Leaders - Please permit your Scouts to have the satisfaction of doing their best on their own. Practice with your teams from now on; hold special coaching sessions during the holiday vacation, come out and cheer for them but please, restrain yourselves – do not shove, push, pull or advise them during the competition! Your Scouts will be judged on how well they follow instructions, work together, work with fellow Scouts and Scouters, and develop Scouting skills and practice sportsmanship and Scout spirit!

Sounds good?!!! You're doggone right! Every Scout will want to be in on the Gold Rush. Get the patrols working now. The Gold Rush can be the best winter activity that's ever happened in our districts and helps us to emphasize Scouting skills with surprise challenges.

The Word on the Weather

We have never postponed. (Well, Almost Never !!!) On Saturday morning January 24th, 2026 snow, rain or shine, we go.

This will be an **Outdoor Ethics Event** – Please review with your scouts before the event.

Venturers and Leadership Corps: (leadership corps and troop officers other than patrol leaders) have a great opportunity to serve as "marshals." Scoutmasters and Venture advisors should give this information to their youth and file the enclosed form with Stuart Rosenberg - Governor, by January 20, 2026. Each marshal will receive separate instructions. Lunch is included for all paid scouts and adults.

Review

Please read this bulletin carefully – your Gold Rush committee has tried to put all necessary information in your hands with this one bulletin.

Fees

A registration fee of \$18.00 is charged for each Scout and \$10 for each adult for the Gold Rush patch, expenses, awards, snacks, Lunch for all for the event and insurance. All reservations must be made online.

Gold Rush Staff

Each troop entering one or more teams should lend one or more adults to the Gold Rush staff. These Scouters will be assigned positions acceptable to them on the staff. Enclosed are Troop Reservation materials, sledge plans, Town Marshal reservations and Patrol Team reservations. An Order of the Arrow service team will be part of staff.

Additional information

All troops sign in at bay under dining hall of Camp Hart. Note: Due to limited parking at Hart, all scouts and sleds can be dropped off at Hart main parking lot and then move vehicles to nearby lot. Transportation to and from lot is provided.

All questions should be directed to:

Steve Hurst (C) 610-745-4575
Stuart Rosenberg, Governor (C) 215-519-2250

Baden Powell District
Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby)
Rules and Regulations
Registration

Teams must be registered by calling or emailing troop and patrol "team" reservation sheets and fees to Steve Hurst or Stuart Rosenberg

Deadline: January 20, 2026 for confirmation of unit number with scout and adult counts. We will accept guaranteed phone reservations and payment at the event.

Time: All teams should arrive between 8am and 8:30am. First flights of 4 teams will start at 9:00am or as early as staff are available - last group on or before 10:00 a.m.

Sledge Specifications - See Notes Below

1. Sledge may resemble a Klondike dog sledge. (See plans (last two pages), or an encyclopedia
2. Provide waterproof envelope-type packet on sledge for your assay report.
3. Sledge must be about 6 feet long and 18 inches wide.
4. Height of handrail - minimum 3', maximum 3 1/2' at rear.
5. Wheels are NOT permitted!!!

Team specifications

- A. "Natural patrols" of 4 to 8 registered Scouts - 11, 12 and 13 years of age, and older Scouts if they are an integral part of the natural patrol. No "special patrols" please. Exception - Very small (2 or 3 or 4) patrols may be combined into one patrol of 4 to 8 registered Scouts. Larger patrols allowed, up to (10), but will be handicapped accordingly.
- B. **All Scouts should be properly clothed, wear waterproof footwear, heavy socks, warm coats, winter hats, etc. Inadequate clothing will disqualify the team. The Risk Management and Health & Safety Committees have advised the Alaskan Gold Rush Committee that the following information must be sent to all potential unit leaders on this event: NO SNEAKERS ARE PERMITTED!!!!!!**
- C. Teams not appearing at HQ on the day of Gold Rush will forfeit registration fees, since patches and other expenses will have already been incurred.

Handicaps

To make it a fair competition between Scouts of all ranks, the "handicap" system will be applied. As of this writing the handicaps are for each rank from Scout to Eagle. The handicaps are very large for lower ranks to compensate for new recruits.

A Sledge Is Required to Compete

A patrol may not carry equipment on back or in hands, or in pockets, unless equipment is meant for pocket or to be around the neck. If help is needed building a sledge, call the governor for assistance. **"No Wheels On Sledges."**

Baden Powell District

Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby) Rules and Regulations (continued)

Needed by Each Team - Each team carries this equipment, on sledge only:

- Water Proof Envelope (type) packet for assay and nuggets
- Tote "n" Chip card (2 per patrol)
- Untreated wood for their lunch-cooking fire
- Scout handbook
- Flint and steel set (homemade OK)
- Notebook and pencil
- 1 pot with cover (4 quart)
- Compass
- Two 6' poles. No aluminum. No Scout staves.
- Patrol first aid kit (homemade OK) to include at least Two padded (2) foot splints and Two padded (4) foot splints, along with at least (12) cravats, four 4x4 covered gauze pads, roll of first aid tape, roll of gauze and at least one set of exam gloves, and a mask.
- Water, minimum 4 quarts, for putting out fires.
- 2 "camp type" blankets
- Homemade "fire starters" (or commercial) – non-liquid
- Drinking cups, each scout - non-disposable - camp type
- Two pocket knives
- Eight 6' lengths of rope - should be $\frac{1}{4}$ " hemp, sisal or strong sash cord, "broken in" (can be 8' lengths of rope)
- Patrol flag lashed on sledge
- Hot pot gloves, tongs or pliers
- Small camp shovel for fire
- Matches
- Extra socks in Ziploc bag for each patrol member
- Large Tarp/Ground Cloth

Note: Nothing is to be carried in the hands, pockets or backpack except pocketknife or compass, pencils or pocket size notebooks.

No borrowing of supplies is permitted to improve scores!!! Supplies and equipment must be on sled when checked at HQ by inspectors. No additions!!!

Note: Dietary concerns should be directed to the governor prior to January 20, 2026

Staff hats or Red Jackets are worn by staff members. They are the law of the North. Obey their instructions. Don't hesitate to approach them for help.

Collapsible Sledge

A third way to build the sledge is a collapsible sledge that can be stored very easily.

Baden Powell District Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby) Saturday, January 24, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

Troop Reservation

Each troop should arrive between 8:00 and 8:30am. for check in. Please do not arrive later than 10:00am.

Note: Each troop is required to return a registration fee of \$18.00 and \$10 for adults (for the Gold Rush patch and expenses, etc.) for each team member and Scouter with this reservation. Reservations are to be made online at COLBSA.ORG. Note: Lunch is included for all scouts and adults.

Detach here

Troop # _____ Sponsor _____ is entering the following patrols

Name of Patrol:

Name of Patrol:

Note: The patch is to be awarded only to Scouts and Scouters who attend and/or participate in the Alaskan Gold Rush. All adults registered with troops should register for the event and receive the patch. Guests observing for the day may also register and receive a patch. Lunch included for all.

(Name and Phone number) of _____ will serve as staff on the Gold Rush.

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(Name and Phone number) of _____ will serve as staff on the Gold Rush.

We enclose \$_____ for fees (\$18.00 each) for _____ scouts and (\$10.00 each) for _____ scouters
Total people attending: _____

Date _____ Name _____ Phone _____ Troop _____

Baden Powell District Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby) **Town Marshal Reservation**

Dear Governor:

The following young people, having attained a ripe old age and troop leadership position, or Explorer status, and being too old and mature to engage in prospecting - have hereby volunteered to act as town marshals during the Gold Rush days known as the Alaskan Gold Rush.

They understand they are to report at 7:45 a.m. with the Scoutingers serving on staff, the morning of the Gold Rush. In the meantime, I know they will be helping our prospectors and teams to practice and get in the best possible shape for the big Gold Rush.

You can count on the following Marshals: (Adults wishing to be on staff may also be listed.)

	NAME	ADDRESS & ZIP CODE	PHONE NUMBER
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Sincerely,

Scoutmaster/Explorer Advisor

Phone Number

Unit

Baden Powell District Alaskan Gold Rush (Klondike Derby) **Patrol Team Reservation**

Troop # _____ Patrol Name _____

We, the "husky team" of the _____ Patrol, Troop _____ hereby challenge any and all other gold prospectors and their husky teams to find more gold nuggets than anyone else in the Gold Rush!

We promise, on the gold prospector's code, that ours is a natural team, with no "strange" huskies among us - except in a case where, because of size, very small teams (patrols) combine to make one team.

Please print all names:

Prospector (Patrol Leader) 1. _____

Team members:

2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____ 7. _____

8. _____

Note: Teams are from 4 to 8 registered Scouts of the "natural" patrol. No "special" patrols please. Other senior Scouts and Explorers are eligible to act as town marshals (see Marshal Reservation Form). Larger patrols are acceptable with scoutmaster approval

This form is to be filed with Steve Hurst or Stuart Rosenberg by January 15, 2026. For additional patrols, please put the information on the back of this sheet.

All reservations must be made online.

Cradle of Liberty Council

Boy Scouts of America

HUNT FOR GOLD IN THE ARCTIC

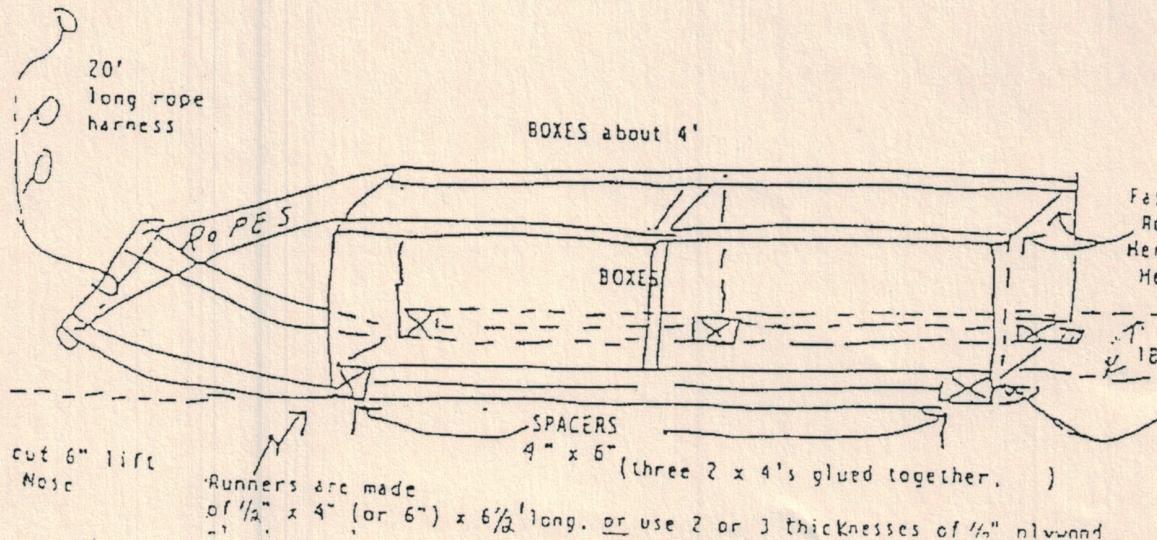
Hi Scouts!

Whether you and your patrol get a late start and build a make-shift dog sledge out of a few planks and wooden boxes, or whether you pitch in and build an authentic arctic dog sledge - be SURE and get ready for the GOLD RUSH in January by learning your Tenderfoot, Second and First Class skills thoroughly. First Aid town problems are based on merit badge level skills. By doing this, starting NOW, you will be in fine shape to challenge every other patrol in the districts. By the way - a hint for you - do a little extra work on your First Aid, and your personal physical fitness, because that is where the winners in past years made their most GOLD NUGGETS, and won the GOLD RUSH!

Here is a small sketch of a "throw together" sledge. It isn't too beautiful and it isn't authentic, but it will probably last for you for one year's Gold Rush. If you are a new patrol or a new troop, it might be just what you need to build so that you will be able to race with the rest of the districts in the very next Gold Rush.

GOOD LUCK, GOOD SCOUTING AND GOOD PROSPECTING!

Take one or two wooden boxes and fasten together securely so that they are about 4 feet long by 18 inches wide. Next, securely fasten three "spacer" blocks on each of the long sides of the TOTAL box as shown (to lift it at least 6" above the ground level.) Next turn the whole thing upside down and fasten two "runners" of $1/2" \times 4"$ or $1/2" \times 6"$ (about six and a half feet long) to the spacers, leaving about 3'6" sticking out from the front end. Next fasten a 1×4 to the very front of the runners, and drill a $1/2$ inch hole in each end (centered on the runners, as shown. Run a strong rope from the BACK of the sled box, DOWN through one hole, across, UP through the other hole, and back to the BACK of the sled box. SLOWLY increase tension of this rope to produce the UPTURN of the front of the runners. (Soaking runners - or steaming them - sometimes helps bending). Fasten your TOW ROPE around the crossbar and make your harness loops. You're READY!!



Cradle of Liberty Council

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KLONDIKE SLEDGE

While your own design is ENCOURAGED, this diagram shows an authentic sledge. You may paint them bright colors but varnish or wax the bottom of the runners. Accessories may be added, canvas snow guard for front and sides. Use bolts or screws instead of nails - drill first to avoid splitting. Make towing bridle of rope, about 20 feet. Use GLUE freely.

Bill of material

Pl.	Qty.	
1	2 - 4" x 1/2" x 6'-6" - runners	
2	6 - 1" x 1" x 1" x 18" - cross sup.	
3	4 - 1/2" x 4" x 5"-0" - floor cover	
4	8 - 1" x 2" x 6" - upright support	
5	2 - 1" x 2" x 40" - rear upright	
6	2 - 1" x 2" x 30-1/2" - 2 nd rear upright	
7	2 - 1" x 2" x 21-1/4" - 2 nd front upright	
8	2 - 1" x 2" x 12" - front support	
9	2 - 1/2" x 2" x 6'-0" - hand rail	
10	1 - 1/2" x 2" x 30" - front curved guard	
11	1 - 2" x 2" x 18" - rear handrail	
12	1 - 1/4" x 10" x 18" - pocket holder	
13	2 - 1" x 2" x to suite - bracing	

Envelope type pocket, tack or staple, so Assay Report (6x3) can be slipped in.

