

BLACK ROCK DISTRICT 2026

KLONDIKE DERBY

Jan. 31st, 2026

Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation



BLACK ROCK DISTRICT KLONDIKE DERBY 2026

HAWK MOUNTAIN COUNCIL

Dear Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster,

The 2026 Klondike Derby promises to continue our great tradition of winter adventure in the Black Rock District! We have an exciting lineup of challenges and activities planned this year, and—as always—we're counting on your enthusiasm and support to make it a success.

First, please take time to review the attached booklet and become familiar with the event details. There are a few updates from past years, and understanding them will help ensure a smooth and fun experience for your Scouts.

This event is built around the **Patrol Method**—a chance for Scouts to lead, problem-solve, and work together without direct adult involvement. To keep that spirit alive, we ask that adults and leaders allow Scouts to navigate the course and complete challenges entirely on their own. Encouragement is always welcome, but please refrain from assisting or coaching patrols once the competition begins. This independence is where the true lessons of the Klondike are learned.

That said, we absolutely **want and need your help!** The Klondike can't happen without our dedicated leaders and senior youth. If you'd like to be part of the action, consider volunteering at a station or helping with event operations. **Scoutmasters, assistant Scoutmasters, and SPLs are encouraged to reach out to Chuck to learn what roles or responsibilities they can take on during the day.** Volunteers play a vital role in keeping the event running smoothly and ensuring every Scout has a great experience—it's also a fantastic way to see the Scouts in action.

Please don't hesitate to reach out before the event with any questions or suggestions. The Klondike is all about fun, learning, and teamwork, and your involvement ensures every Scout gets the most out of it.

At the end of the day, our goal is to help each patrol test its skills, build confidence, and learn where it can grow. Leaders may request a copy of their patrols' score sheets after the event for review and feedback.

Yours in Scouting,

Chuck Faust

Activities Chair

Phone: (570) 294-0794

Email: bsa03eagle@hotmail.com

Note: Adults are asked to allow Scouts to complete the course independently. If you'd like to see the Scouts in action, the best seat in the house is as a volunteer! Your help makes this event a success and ensures the Klondike remains a fun and rewarding experience for everyone.

BLACK ROCK DISTRICT KLONDIKE DERBY 2026

Basic Information

Date: Saturday, January 31, 2026 (Event held rain, snow, or shine)

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Place: Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/528-107106>

Registration closes on **January 25, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.**

On the day of the event, a Unit Leader or SPL must check in at the Administration Building with a completed Derby Roster listing all Scouts and adults in camp. Everyone on camp property must be checked in and wearing a wristband. All vehicles must remain in the parking lot. Any registration received after the deadline will be \$30. Day of event registrations will be \$35.

Starting Time: All Patrol Leaders must arrive at camp with their patrol and sled between 8:00 and 8:45 a.m. Teams are to arrive at this time as well. They must report outside the Administration Building for check-in.

Stations will last 30 minutes, and sleds will be given 15 minutes to travel between stations. Lunch will be 1 hour and 15 minutes. The Derby will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Administration Building. Stations will start at 9:15 a.m. If a sled does not follow the schedule, they run the risk of not completing stations.

Teams: Not fewer than 4 or more than 8 Scouts per patrol (We will make every effort to combine patrols to get the number of Scouts needed to participate, and extra sleds are available). One Scout is to be the driver of the sled (the driver steers and brakes the sled). All teams should be Scouts from the same Troop/Crew, but low-number patrols may combine if needed in order to participate fully.

NO MORE THAN 8 SCOUTS MAY BE WITH THE PATROL AND PARTICIPATE AT THE STATIONS. We encourage your troop to mix older Scouts and younger Scouts. This is a great training tool for your older Scouts to lead and teach. Recognition and awards will take place at the next district roundtable following the event.

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Skill Stations

- **Inspection:** Two inspections will be conducted—one before starting the trail (on patrol and personal gear) and one at the end (on sled construction and durability). All participants must always wear proper attire.
- *Scoring: Pre-inspection 15 points, Post-inspection 5 points.*
- **First Aid and Search & Rescue:** Will consist of a first aid scenario and a search & rescue scenario. Scouts will be required to rescue, treat, and explain why they treated them in that manner. *Scoring: 15 points.*
- **Lashings:** Patrol members should know all required lashings found in the Scout Handbook to complete an unknown task. *Scoring: 15 points.*
- **Crossover Exercise:** Scouts will use their leadership skills to lead other Scouts and Cub Scouts to complete a task. *Scoring: 15 points.*
- **Geocaching:** Scouts will be required to show ability to learn and use a common GPS unit to complete an assigned task. *Scoring: 15 points.*
- **The Yukon Tournament:** Scouts will get the opportunity to shoot a muzzleloading rifle, throw knives, and throw tomahawks. Scouts will not be judged on accuracy but on how well they listen and follow instructions. Bonus points will be available. *Scoring: 15 points.*
- **Surprise Station:** Scouts will be judged on leadership and participation while completing an unknown task. *Scoring: 15 points.*
- **Woods Tools:** Patrols must demonstrate the safe use and handling of various woods tools as shown in the Scout Handbook. Scouts should know the parts of the tools and their effective use. *Scoring: 15 points.*
- **Cooking:** Will be done at the station the patrol finishes at 11:45 a.m. *Scoring: 50 points.*
- **Anchorage Obstacle Challenge:** Scouts will have to pull and maneuver their sled over and around difficult terrain as a patrol. *Scoring: 15 points.*

KLONDIKE DERBY BASIC TRAIL REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

Personal Equipment:

- Mess kit & eating utensils
- Rain clothing
- Sled built to specifications (wheels allowed if no snow)
- Folding pocketknife (no fixed-blade knives)
- Cold-weather clothing, gloves, cap, extra socks in coat pocket
- Waterproof shoes or boots
- One can of **non-creamed beef or chicken-based soup** (donated to a local food pantry)
- Backpack to carry the Scout's share of patrol gear

Scouts must have:

- Stocking caps or hats that cover the ears
- Gloves or mittens
- Waterproof shoes or boots (**athletic shoes/sneakers are not permitted**)
- Hoods do not qualify as proper headgear but are recommended as additional protection
- Anyone not properly dressed will not be permitted on the trail. Judges' decision at the initial sled inspection is final.

Patrol Equipment:

- Sled designed to carry all patrol gear
- Patrol flag
- Patrol roster
- Cooking gear and fire pan (with matches, tinder, kindling, and firewood)
- First aid kit (including cravats, gloves, safety glasses)
- Padded splints
- Sled repair kit
- Water containers (2 gallons total)
- GPS or app (at least one Scout able to use it)
- Watch
- Two compasses
- 100 feet of rope
- Full-size blanket
- Paper, pencils, and covered clipboard
- Tarps for shelter and ground cover
- Three six-foot staves
- Scout Handbook
- Fire starter and kindling

Note: There will be an initial inspection of Scouts and Patrol gear at the welcome center before going on the trail and a final inspection after you finish. All equipment listed above is necessary for the Derby.

No cell phones except for GPS apps, or **walkie talkies** are permitted on the trail. Scout handbooks are allowed but be aware using them when at a station may result in points being deducted, that determination is up to the person running that station and may vary between stations. Patrol leaders should ask the person running each station their rules for that station.

Patrol Cook-Off Challenge:

Taste of Poland!

Get ready to fire up your pans and show off your camp cooking skills!

Cooking will take place at your third assigned station, starting at 11:15 a.m. sharp.

Your patrol lunch should include a main course, a warm drink, and a dessert — with bonus points for standout entrées!

Theme: Polish Cuisine!

Meals will be judged blanket-style, so every patrol gets a fair shot. Judges aren't required to taste your masterpiece, but making a little extra is always a good idea!

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The Registration Cost this year is:

- Scouts BSA: \$20.00
 - The fee for youth is for participation in the klondike, materials used in the klondike and participation sticker.
 - Late registration after January 25, 2025: \$30
 - Day of registration: \$35
- Cub Scouts: \$15.00
 - The fee for youth is for participation in the klondike, materials used in the klondike and participation sticker.
 - Late registration after January 25, 2025: \$25
 - Day of registration: \$30
- Units AND Staff must register on <https://scoutingevent.com/528-107106>
 - Please contact Chuck Faust at bsa03eagle@hotmail.com 570-294-0794 if wishing to staff the event. Help is needed

Units will have a chance at earning the yearly trophies. 1st 2nd 3rd place, Overall and 1st place for each event. Awards will be announced following email and social media and will be presented at our February Roundtable.

Schedule of Events

- 8 am to 8:45 check in and sled inspection at Welcome Center
- 9am to 9:30am event “A” on your map
- 9:45am to 10:15am event “B” on your map
- 10:30am to 11:00am event “C” on your map
- 11:15am to 11:45am event “D” on your map
- 11:45am to 1pm lunch located at event “D” on your map
- 1:15pm to 1:45pm event “E” on your map
- 2pm to 2:30pm event “F” on your map
- 2:45 to 3:15pm event “G” on your map
- 3:30 to 4 pm event “H” on your map
- 4:15 final sled inspection at Administration building
- 4:30 depart for home or campsite/cabin (no dinner)

BLACK ROCK DISTRICT KLONDIKE DERBY

TROOP / CREW ROSTER

Troop / Crew (please circle one) # _____

Unit Leader _____

Sr. Patrol Leader _____

Patrol Name: _____

Scouts:

Patrol Name: _____

Scouts:

Patrol Name: _____

Scouts:

Patrol Name: _____

Scouts:

Adult Leader: _____

Adult Leader: _____

Adult Leader: _____

Adult Leader: _____

Adult Leader: _____

Adult Leader: _____

Adult Leader:_____

Adult Leader:_____