

“This is the Sleigh”

KLONDIKE DERBY

February 15, 2025

Participant Guide

Lakes District - French Creek Council



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Welcome

In August 1896, prospectors discovered gold in the remote Klondike region of Canada's Yukon Territory. In July 1897, the S.S. Portland arrived in Seattle, Washington, with more than a ton of Klondike gold on board. This event touched off the great Klondike Gold Rush as thousands of people who dreamed of becoming wealthy began booking passage on steamers heading north from Seattle and other West Coast ports to the Yukon. Upon arriving at the northern end of the Inside Passage, however, these adventure-bound stampedeers found no easy route leading to the still distant Klondike region. Their progress was slow as each prospector made repeated trips over the rugged trail through the bitter cold. Imagine pulling a sled loaded with three to six hundred pounds of supplies over a stretch of ice up a steep grade, strewn with boulders and logs, then crossing over a riverbed on a couple of trees laid side by side and you get a picture of their labors. Facing 60-mile-an-hour winds in 65-degree-below-zero weather, the prospectors had to ascend the Chilkoot Pass -- 1,000 feet straight up. With a steady stream of stampedeers lining the path each day, it took forty trips to get a ton of supplies up the mountain. Those who survived the mountain then faced a treacherous passage by boat to the town of Dawson near the gold fields.

Since 1949, Boy Scout units have been participating in Klondike Derbies to honor this historic time. Scouts pull a sled loaded with supplies from station to station and compete in various Scout skill-based events. Custaloga Town Scout Reservation is carrying on the tradition! Webelos patrols may attend with a Scouts BSA unit.

This year, "This is the Sleigh", a Mandalorian themed Klondike Derby, inspired by the Star Wars Universe, where scouts will work together as teams (or clans) to prove their skills, earn points (Beskers), and complete challenges the Mandalorian Way. Each team must transport their gear that will be necessary to complete the stations on a homemade sled /razor crest pulled by the Scouts. We have prepared fun stations/planets for all Scouts to use teamwork, problem solving, Scouting skills, knowledge, and Scout spirit to excel at the challenges of the 2025 Klondike Derby. Please carefully read through this guide to get of the details for this year's event. If you have any questions, please contact the event organizers or our District Executive listed below. We also ask that you review the Klondike Derby details with your Scouts and adult leaders before the event.

Finally, please be sure to complete your on-line 2025 Klondike Registration no later than Tuesday, February 1st.

Registration information can be found at https://scoutingevent.com/532-OP_Klondike2025.

Interested in camping? There are cabins and sites available to rent. Visit the Catalog Town Scout Reservation system at <https://campreservation.com/532/Home>

Please do not delay! We need as accurate a count as possible of units and patrols so that we can prepare in advance for your arrival. Please be sure to fill out the registration form completely as it has some important information we need for the final planning.

Details

Who:	All Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Arrow of Light Scouts
What:	2025 Lakes District Klondike Derby
When:	Saturday, February 15, 2025
Where:	Custaloga Town Scout Reservation, Carlton, PA
Bring:	Klondike Sled, all required gear, equipment and forms as outlined in this guide
Registration:	On-line via the following link: https://scoutingevent.com/532-OP_Klondike2025
Deadline:	Friday, February 1, 2025
Fees:	\$12 per Scout / \$5 per Adult
Extras:	dinner \$5 per person
Camping:	visit https://campreservation.com/532/Home additional fees applicable
Hosted By:	Lakes District

Scout Executive- Steven Dunn

Event Chair – Ryan Adams

Awards Ceremony Troop Host (winner from 2024) – Troop 176

Schedule

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM	Check In	Dining Hall
8:45 AM – 9:00 AM	Opening/Announcements	Parade Field
9:00 AM - Noon	Stations	Lower Field
Noon – 1:00 PM	Lunch*	Lower Field Roadway Dining Hall for Volunteers
1:00 PM – 1:30:PM	Escape the Ice Spiders-Sled Race	Lower Field
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Stations	Lower Field
5:00 PM	Awards	Dining Hall
6:00 PM	Dinner**	Dining Hall

**Entries for the Beskar Skillet Award must be submitted before 1:15 PM at the AO Pavilion*

***Dinner is \$5/person*

Particulars

Volunteers:

The Klondike Derby is a traditional camporee format. Each Troop, Pack or Crew is requested to provide two adults to assist with the event. Names and phone numbers should be listed on the registration form. Volunteers should report to Headquarters by 7:30am on Saturday and should be available to serve until 4:00 pm. Volunteers should dress appropriately, as they will be outdoors all day. **All volunteers are very much appreciated!**

Check-In:

All sled teams should check-in Saturday morning between 8:00-8:45 AM. Sled rosters must be turned-in at check in. Only the Sled Team Leader will check-in at Headquarters (CTSR Dining Hall). At check-in, each Team Leader will be given a set of instructions, an assigned starting station and a map of the course and events. All events must be completed in the assigned order, which will be listed in the instructions.

Bonus for Camping

Bonus points will be awarded for any sled team the tent camps the night before the Klondike. All crew members must camp outside for the team to earn the bonus points.

Sled Inspection

Volunteers will inspect and check each sled and sled team participating in the Klondike. This will be done between 8:00 -8:45 AM and can be done simultaneously to the Team Leader completing check in. Sled and Team inspection must be done before embarking to their first station.

Dress:

Winter weather will be a challenge and concern for Scouts during the Klondike. As seen from past Klondikes, temperatures can range from 10 to +55 degrees, with wind chills as low as minus 10 degrees. The weather can include snow, rain, sleet, or sunshine, sometimes all in the same day. **All Scouts must be appropriately dressed for the weather, or they will not be allowed to participate.** Suggested attire includes long underwear, hats, and gloves (2 pairs), wool or synthetic socks, boots (NOT sneakers), and layers of outerwear. **COTTON is not safe and should not be worn.** Rain gear (raincoat, poncho, etc.) should be carried or be available for each Scout on the sled or in daypacks.

Leaders are required to complete a visual inspection of their scouts to make sure that they have the appropriate attire prior to arriving at camp. Our priority is to keep the Scouts safe!

Recognition:

All registered Scouts will receive a 2025 Klondike Derby Patch. Prizes will be awarded for Best Sled, Sled Team Spirit, The Baskar Skillet for the best lunch, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st place for the Klondike Derby. The highest placed team have the honor of hosting the 2026 Lakes District Klondike Derby Awards Ceremony.

Lunch:

Sled teams will compete for the coveted "Baskar Skillet". At lunch time all Sled Teams will be assigned a spot along the road between the lower fields. There, teams will prepare a fire and cook a hot lunch. A lunch portion should be presented to the Baskar Skillet judges, located in the OA

pavilion. Dishes will be judged on creativity, presentation, and taste. The basket Skillet Challenge is optional.

Dinner

Dinner is an optional purchase on top of the Klondike registration. The cost is \$5 per person, which can be paid at the time of registration.

Warming Station

The plan is to have a have some hot chocolate, coffee and water at OA Pavillion.

Klondike Derby Rules

The weekend will be filled with FUN and competition. Scouts will compete as a Patrol (4 to 8 Scouts). Several activity stations will be set up by throughout Custaloga Town. Scouts will compete by participating in a variety of activities which will require Scouts to demonstrate basic Scouting skills, teamwork, problem solving and most of all, show Scout Spirit! Scoring will be done with a normalized system as teams may not complete all stations on the Klondike Trail. Station themes are Cooking, Wilderness Survival, Outdoor Ethics, and Shooting Sports.

Read the challenges. Each team is responsible to have everything they will need on this trek, listed on the equipment list.

- Sleds are to be constructed by youth.
 - Sleds should be of the traditional Klondike derby style.
 - Sleds may have wheels attached if there is less the one inch of snow.
 - All sleds must be propelled only by Scouts or Wind (If you are that crafty).
 - No electrically powered devices are allowed.
 - Teams should be prepared to have sleds travel over rough terrain.
 - All Sleds will be inspected prior to the start of the race for safety.
 - Teams consist of a minimum 4 Scouts or maximum of 8 Scouts. Teams should finish with the same number of participants you start out with.
 - Teams must be at the starting line on time.
 - Teams must have everything secured on their sled or carried on their person.
 - Leadership rotates at each station.
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- **Important** - NO adult is to coach, help, or otherwise assist any Scout or Patrol while that Scout or Patrol is involved with Derby competition. (This rule may be waived by the Marshall for special needs Scouts only). Points will be deducted from any team receiving such help.

Planets / Stations:

There will be several stations that the teams will travel to throughout the day. Teams will be given a schedule at check-in indicating their schedule. We are planning on a “round-robin” format. In the event of more than 15 registered teams, we will switch to an open format. Schedule will be discussed at morning announcements. Planned stations are as follows (subject to change at the whims of the organizer)

- **Blaster Training** – Scouts will be able to shoot air rifles at this event.
- **Protect your Razor Crest** – Scouts will use sling shots to repel oncoming storm troopers.
- **Navarro- Protecting Grogu** – Build a fire quickly and boil 2 cups of water for bone broth to keep Grogu warm on frozen planet.
- **Great Forge Hill Climb Maneuver** – Tackle the climb to the heights as you get you team and sled to the top to escape.
- **Grogu Can Saw** – Two man saw, dividing wood using an axe, using a hatchet to make smaller wood. Scouts competing in this event must have Totin Chip. Cub scouts cannot compete in this event.
- **Covert Navigation** – Scouts move through a “danger zone” undetected (quietly maneuver through a course avoiding “imperial sensors”, communicate using hand signals or whispers.)
- **Sorgan- Ship Repair**– Scouts devise a bridge to cross crevasse to repair ship.
- **Ice Planet Survival** – Teams must assess and treat an “injured ally” (victim of a Wampa or crash landing) using proper first aid techniques.
- **Tatooine-Tracing the Bounty**– Scouts follow a set of coordinates or map clues to track a “bounty” hidden in the wilderness.
- **Mandalore-Shelter Building**- Construct your tent blindfolded as a result of an “Imperial Storm.” Not able to use pop up tents!

Stations may be added/modified depending on registration and volunteer levels

Required Sled Cargo List

- Boy Scout or Scouts BSA Handbook
- Notepad, Pencils
- Sled Team Roster
- Drinking Water
- First Aid Kit
- Axe and/or Hatchet with Sheath
- Empty 5 Gallon Bucket
- Two Team Members must have a Toting' Chip (with cards)
- Ropes: for hill climb (50-100 feet), shelter building, lashings, ice rescue
 - Including four ropes of equal diameter, three six-foot long, one twelve feet long
- 2 poles for stretcher building
- Blanket
- Tarp
- 3 dowel rods or sticks
- Lighter, flint & steel, hot spark, or matches
- Wood for fire building including tinder and kindling to start a fire
- Lunch for all team members and samples for judges
- Small bag for lunch trash
- Backpacking stove for cooking
- Pan and basic utensils for cooking
- Compass or two

Scouts are welcome to include anything else on their sled they think they may need based on the stations described above.

Sled Team Roster

Sled Team _____

Troop _____

Scoutmaster or Adult Leader _____

Cell _____

Sled Team Member	Age	Rank

All members should be dressed appropriately for the weather

**Each Sled team should turn in 1 copy of this Sled Team Roster at Check In
and carry at least 1 copy with them during the competition.**