

2026 Gold Rush

Cub Pack Leader and Participant Guide

Friday, October 23 – Sunday, October 25

Westminster Park, Rock Hill, SC

Purpose of this Guide

This guide was prepared to help address the rules, expected behaviors and ever-present questions for this annual Cub event for York District. It is expected that, at a minimum, each Cub Pack leader planning or attending this event with their unit will have read its content prior to their participation. It is also expected that the content of the guide is communicated to all participating Scouts and parents. It is hoped that at least one copy of this guide is present onsite with the unit during the event as a reference guide.

Some rules specified in this guide may be more stringent than BSA policy but will be enforced for this event. If there are conflicting opinions on rules for the event, the written rules within this guide will be the determining factor. Any ambiguity in these rules will be clarified by a consensus of the event planning committee.

ALL participants are expected to adhere to the event rules.

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Table of Contents

Event Description.....	5
Event Date & Time	5
Location.....	5
Event Registration.....	5
Registration & Fee Payments.....	6
Participants with Special Considerations.....	6
Onsite Unit Contact.....	6
Participant Roster	6
Extra Patches.....	6
Event Health & Safety	6
Two-Deep Leadership	7
The "Buddy System"	7
Waterfront / River Access.....	7
Cub Scouts with Sharp Edged Tools.....	7
Heat Sources	7
Heat Sources & Tents.....	7
Other Fueled Devices	7
Use of Motorized Vehicles	8
Tobacco / Smoking Policy	8
Alcohol and Drug Use.....	8
Firearms & Weapons	8
Attire for the Event	8
Event Schedule	9
Unit Leader "Cracker Barrel".....	9
Park & Event Access	9
Participant Arrival	9
Event Parking Stickers.....	10
"Early Entrance" Parking Slots	10
Travel Within the Park	10
Event Parking	10

Parking & Trailers.....	11
Vehicle Loading & Unloading.....	11
Vehicles in the Camping Areas.....	11
Trailers in the Camping Areas	12
Vehicles, Trailers and Passengers	12
Type of Camping Available	12
Camping Areas	12
Camping Area Boundaries.....	13
Camping Area Assignment.....	13
What About Tent Size?	13
Meals & Water	13
Toilet Facilities.....	13
Camp Fires.....	14
Firewood	14
Leave No Trace	14
Trash Disposal & Recycling	15
Camp Area Cleanup.....	15
Event Emergency Procedures	15
Emergency Alert System	15
Event Assembly & Assembly Point.....	16
At the Assembly Point.....	16
Lost Person Response	16
Evacuation Plan.....	18
Helicopter Evacuation.....	19
Weather Emergencies.....	19
Fire Emergencies.....	19
First-Aid & Medical Emergencies	19
Medical Forms	20
"Gold Rush" Game Event.....	20
Don't Forget the Gold	20
Game Guidelines.....	20

Game Awards.....	21
FAQs (a.k.a. "Frequently Asked Questions")	21
What is Gold Rush?	21
When is it?	21
Where is it?	21
What does it cost?	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Do I have to camp?	21
Are tents provided?	21
Are there restrictions on the size of tent I should bring?	21
How will we know where to camp?	21
Where can I park?	22
Do I need to bring food?	22
I don't have a camp stove or other piece of equipment. What should I do?	22
What bathroom facilities are available?	22
What kind of weather should I expect?	22
Is there in-park transportation?.....	22
What type of shoes are recommended?	22
What types of clothes?	22
REMEMBER: Plan ahead and be safe!.....	22
Suggested Packing List	23
Location Map.....	24
Event Schedule	24

Event Description

This annual York District event is the largest Cub Scout event in the Council. It is open to all registered Cub Scouts in the York District, their sibling and their families. Its purpose is to provide a safe, fun atmosphere for Cub Packs to associate with each other and help introduce some of the fun aspects of Cub Scouting to new families. Family camping is offered as part of the event. In a single event, you can fellowship, work on rank skills & requirements and enjoy some good outdoor cooking. Saturday's events culminate with a campfire program and includes skits and songs to make you laugh.

Pre-registration is required.

Event Date & Time

The event is scheduled to open at 4:00 PM on Friday. The event is scheduled to conclude after the Scout's Own Service at 10:00 AM on Sunday. See title page for this year's exact dates.

Saturday's main "Gold Rush" event (the games) will be held from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM Saturday afternoon.

Location

This year's event will be held at Westminster Park in Rock Hill.

Park address is:

4000 India Hook Road
Rock Hill, SC 29732

Event Registration

Cub Packs will be asked to complete the registration form and pay all fees in advance. Registration and payment information are listed at the Council website. Registration at a later date will be for Saturday event only (no camping) and a late fee applies.

Registration & Fee Payments

All registrations and payments are through the Council website at the event link.

Participants with Special Considerations

If your unit has an event participant with special considerations, especially physical considerations, please include this information in your registration so that the event committee may work with your unit and the participant or participant's parents to ensure our ability to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Onsite Unit Contact

Each unit will be asked during registration to identify a primary and secondary onsite contact person for the event. This person will be the primary point of contact for the unit for any parking issues, emergencies, etc. This person is expected to arrive at the event as early as possible Friday evening and be onsite for the duration of the event, including camp breakdown Sunday morning.

Should it be necessary to change the contact person, you must notify the event staff with a new contact name and phone number.

It is expected that this contact has reviewed the content of this participant's guide prior to the event.

Participant Roster

Each unit is asked to keep a participant roster so that it is possible to quickly identify participants that are present. This will also allow an accurate accounting of participants from your unit in the event of an emergency roll-call. It is preferred that the onsite unit contact hold this list in case it is needed.

At a minimum, each unit, specifically the onsite unit contact, should have an accurate count of participants, both Cubs and family members.

Extra Patches

If available, extra patches will be sold for \$2 each. If interested, inquire with a member of the event staff for details.

Event Health & Safety

Please ensure that you and all participants from your group are familiar with the safety rules for the event.

ALL participants are expected to adhere to the event rules.

Two-Deep Leadership

At ALL times during the event, the BSA policy of "two-deep leadership" will be expected and required. Please familiarize yourselves and everyone in your unit with this requirement to ensure full participation and safety for everyone.

The "Buddy System"

At ALL times during the event, all Cubs and siblings are expected to utilize the "buddy system". No Cub should be out and about in the park area without at least one "buddy". Please ensure that all Cubs and families participating understand the system, how it works and why it is important. If found, "lone" Cubs may be returned to their unit leaders for help with buddy assignments.

Waterfront / River Access

Due to the nature of the event and lack of appropriate monitoring personnel, the river access area of the park will be closed. NO GROUP should be in the water area of the park at any time during this event. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Cub Scouts with Sharp Edged Tools

During the event, no Tiger or Wolf Cub Scout should carry or use a knife. Bear or Webelos Scouts that have earned their Whittling Chip and have their signed Whittling Chip card with them may carry or use a knife, provided that they use the knife in accordance with published safety guidelines.

Cub Scouts are not allowed to use axes, hatchets or wood mauls. Only Webelos Scouts may use non-motorized saws and only under direct adult supervision.

Heat Sources

The use of liquid fueled heating sources is not allowed. This would include kerosene fueled heaters.

Heat Sources & Tents

Only flashlights and battery operated lanterns are allowed inside tents.

NO ITEMS THAT GENERATE FLAMES ARE TO BE USED INSIDE TENTS.

The use of liquid fueled stoves, heaters, lanterns, lighted candles, matches or other flames are NOT allowed in or near tents. This would include compressed propane powered heaters.

Other Fueled Devices

Cub Scouts (all ages) are prevented from using "fueled devices" during the event. This would include fueled camp stoves and lanterns as detailed in the "Guide to Safe Scouting".

Use of Motorized Vehicles

Use of motorized vehicles such as golf carts, ATVs, go-carts, etc, by participants are not allowed during the event. Use of electric scooters for physically challenged participants or visitors is allowed. However, no passengers of any age may be carried on the scooter during use.

Powered carts may be utilized by event staff to facilitate transporting staff and equipment in the performance of the duties required by that position.

Tobacco / Smoking Policy

In accordance with BSA's policy, the use of tobacco products is not allowed.

In addition to the BSA policy, the park does not provide a segregated smoking section.

Use of tobacco products is prohibited.

Alcohol and Drug Use

In accordance with BSA's policy, the use of alcohol and controlled substances is not allowed.

Use of medications prescribed by a state recognized medical professional are allowed. These medications must be stored in a safe location to prevent unauthorized access. All medications must be stored in their original containers reflecting the prescription number, prescribing medical professional contact information, contact information for where the prescription was filled and the instructions for use. This information may be needed if you are involved in a medical emergency.

Firearms & Weapons

No firearm should be brought to the event. This includes firearms used for hunting or personal protection that may be carried on your person or in your vehicle. An exception would be made for active duty law enforcement personnel or off duty personnel that are required to possess a firearm as part of their job.

No vehicle will be allowed to enter the park carrying a visible firearm.

Other weapons such as stun guns, brass knuckles, nunchucks, pepper spray, etc. should NOT be brought to the event.

Attire for the Event

Please keep in mind the large number of children present at the event. During the Gold Rush games, each Scout (and leader) is asked to dress in official uniform or other shirt that identifies their unit.

Official BSA uniforms are expected for Scouts and leaders for the following events:

- Campfire program Saturday night
- Scouts Own Service Sunday morning

Event Schedule

A schedule of events for the weekend will be published at the registration page. Before leaving for the event, print the most up-to-date copy as a guide.

Unit Leader "Cracker Barrel"

A "Cracker Barrel" will be held Friday evening at the event (not at the Cracker Barrel restaurant). In addition to food and fellowship, we will review safety and general rules for the event, cover any last minute schedule changes and communicate any important news.

At least one leader from each unit is expected to attend this gathering.

Park & Event Access

Admission to the park will begin Friday as stated. The road into the park is secured with a gate. Although the gate will help prevent unauthorized access into the park, any vehicle already in the park can leave at any time as the gate will automatically open when tripped from the inside.

The park gate will close by 11:00 PM Friday. The gate will remain open Saturday from around 7:00 AM until 11:00 PM. The gate will reopen Sunday around 7:00 AM. Should you need access to the park outside of these hours, you will need to coordinate with your unit to have someone meet you at the gate to let you in.

In the event of an emergency, the gate and event access will be opened for emergency vehicles only to allow immediate access. Any other vehicle attempting to enter during an emergency will be asked to park and wait.

Participant Arrival

Arrival for registered participants is scheduled for 4:00 PM on Friday. No general admittance is allowed prior to this time.

A limited number of "Early Entrance Slots" will be available for each unit. Participants registered for one of these slots may arrive as early as 2:00 PM on Friday. Additional information on these passes is found later in this guide.

Onsite "day registration" for Saturday's events will be available beginning at 9:00 AM Saturday. Please ask for the event leader at the gate when coming in.

Please understand that **each vehicle entering the park for the event will be stopped** to ensure that the driver is directed to the correct location and that the occupants have a legitimate purpose for their attendance. **This includes any vehicle that may previously have been directed into the park.** It takes only a few seconds to stop and let the check-in personnel confirm that you have the information you need. Some traffic patterns or locations may change during the event, so everyone's courteous cooperation in this will be appreciated as we ensure that all participants are aware of the changes.

Event Parking Stickers

All participant and staff vehicles that enter the park during the event must have either a staff parking pass or display an event sticker or have a glass pen marking applied, regardless of how long the vehicle will be in the park. This is a safety measure in the event that you need to be contacted to move your vehicle in an emergency.

Before you will be allowed to enter the event, even for a short visit, your vehicle will receive an event sticker/mark at the registration/check-in area.

If you leave your vehicle unattended, including in the designated parking areas, without this identifying sticker or marking, your vehicle may be entered in an attempt to identify the owner to make contact. Unattended vehicles that are not marked appropriately and are locked may be towed at owner's expense.

"Early Entrance" Parking Slots

A number of participants from each unit will be allowed early entry. The purpose of this is to allow participants from a unit to arrive early, get setup and then function as ambassador to the rest of their unit arriving later – to assist with equipment unloading, tent placement, setup, etc. The unit leader may designate any participant to this role as it does not have to be a unit leader. The number of available slots per unit will be based on criteria set by the committee prior to the event. Each unit participating will have at least one early entrance slot.

The holder of this pass will be allowed to enter the event as early as 2:00 PM on Friday.

Travel Within the Park

The speed limit within the park boundaries is 16 MPH. All participants are expected to observe this rule – feel free to drive at a slower speed.

Remember that due to the larger number of kids at the event, one may "pop out" from around trees and vehicles at any moment. Driving safely while in the park will help prevent accidents and injury.

All vehicle operators are expected to follow event and parking staff directions. Parking and travel rules for the duration of this event may be different from park rules outside of the event.

Event Parking

Parking is allowed in event designated parking areas **ONLY**. These areas may be different from normal parking areas within the park. Regardless of any previous participation in park events, including previous Gold Rush events, the use of the gravel parking area near the park flagpoles is reserved and it not available for general parking use.

The primary goals of the parking and traffic staff are to ensure the safety of all participants, the safety of your vehicle and the ability to safely park several hundred vehicles during the event. In addition, we are

responsible for all vehicle movement in the park during the event, including arrival, unloading, travel within, loading and park exiting.

Parking is not allowed within campsite boundaries. If you believe you have a need for your vehicle to be close to your campsite, you must discuss this with event staff and be issued a special parking pass.

If you are asked to move your vehicle to another location, we expect a prompt, courteous compliance with the request.

Do not lock the car doors while parked next to the camp area for loading/unloading. The car should not be left unattended long enough to need to be locked. When cars are left unattended and no one claims the car, we check the glove box for registration to find the owner without calling a tow truck.

Parking & Trailers

So that we can better control parking and conserve space, vehicles with attached trailers may be directed to a specific, designated parking area. This will help ensure that you are not "parked in" and that we are able to make maximum use of the available space.

If you would prefer to drop your trailer while at the event, please use a designated parking area and parking spot for that purpose. Parking staff will be glad to assist you in determining a safe and secure location. Trailers may not be left in non-parking areas (with the exception of camping trailers as detailed in this guide).

Vehicle Loading & Unloading

During your arrival at the event, we understand that you will need to offload your camping gear, food, etc. at your designated camping area. For this, you will be allowed to temporarily park along the boundary to your camping area and unload your vehicle. Immediately afterwards, we ask that you move it to a designated parking area. This should take no longer than 15 minutes or so, especially since others in your unit who have already arrived will be able to assist you. In plain words, you should pull alongside your camping area and unload, then move your vehicle to a designated parking area. *This means that you do not leave your vehicle near your camping area as you setup your tent, etc.*

NO VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED WITHIN THE MARKED CAMPSITE BOUNDARIES FOR UNLOADING PURPOSES. Drivers that ignore this will be asked to leave the event.

Understand that there are hundreds of participants that need to do the same thing so we have to keep the travel lanes open for those coming behind also.

Vehicles in the Camping Areas

During the event, **no motorized vehicles are to be driven into or left in the designated camping areas.** This is a safety hazard that is not acceptable. Delivery of supplies is not a sufficient purpose to negate this rule.

Trailers in the Camping Areas

Units will be allowed a maximum of two (2) trailer spots inside their camping areas. The units must accept the following criteria for this opportunity.

The following **MUST** be met to leave the trailer in the camping area:

- No motorized vehicles may serve as “trailers” for this event
- Must be an enclosed cargo trailer with a solid top, solid walls and lockable doors
- NO CAMPING TRAILERS
- Maximum trailer size allowed is 8 ft X 12 ft
- If possible, trailers must be placed so that they are not directly beside of or uphill of tents
- When parked, wheels/tires on both sides of the trailer must be chocked in front of and behind the tires
- Cubs should not be allowed to play in or on the trailer
- No participants are to use the trailer for sleeping quarters
- Trailer owner assumes all liability and responsibility for trailer and its content

Vehicles, Trailers and Passengers

A reminder to all participants that under no circumstances are passengers to be carried in the bed of or towed behind a pickup truck in any type of trailer. Trucks may not be used for transporting passengers except in the cab. Trailers must never be used for carrying passengers. Passengers should not ride on the rear deck of station wagons or similar vehicles. Additionally, BSA policy is that every passenger be seated with an available seatbelt. As such, you may be limited to the number of passengers that your vehicle is able to carry safely. Overloading of passengers in a vehicle, even for a short travel distance, is not allowed.

Type of Camping Available

All participants are invited to stay at the park for BSA Cub family camping. As a reminder, Cub camping requires that a parent or guardian be with the Cub. Please review the "Guide to Safe Scouting" for other details on Cub camping.

For this event, primitive tent camping only is allowed. No campers are allowed for the event.

Camping Areas

Camping areas will be marked for each group based on estimated space required for the number of tents, canopies and trailers registered. The camping areas will be distributed around the park property to allow us enough space to safely and comfortably place all participating units.

Camping Area Boundaries

Boundaries of the camping areas adjacent to the traffic lanes will be staked out and marked with caution tape (or similar material) for safety reasons. Boundaries between units may only be designated by paint markings on the ground. We don't want to create a feeling of segregating units by use of stakes, ropes, etc between units.

Please understand that the tape is placed where it is for a reason. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in not moving, breaking or driving under the tape material.

Camping Area Assignment

All camping area assignments will be made by the committee based on required space for the number of participants registered for each unit. No special preferences will be given to any group.

Other than requests for placement due to a medical or physical need, no placement requests will be entertained from any participating unit.

What About Tent Size?

There are no size restrictions, but keep in mind that for planning purposes, we calculate space based on an average tent size of 10 X 10. Remind your participants that larger tents are more difficult to keep warm in. Also remind them though that their tent should be large enough to offer some amount of gear storage – it might be a long walk to their parked vehicle in a cold rain shower.

Meals & Water

There will be no centralized food service. Meals and snacks are the responsibility of each unit or family. Keep in mind that families new to Scouting may not be fully equipped for self-sustained camping – especially for meal preparations. This is a great event to offer den or Pack "communal" meals to help assimilate everyone without having to have 30 cooking stoves setup.

Also, each unit or family should bring in their needed supply of water. Although there is a potable water supply in the park, it is unlikely to be conveniently located to fill containers at the event. Leaving the park supply for refills or unanticipated needs is the best approach.

There may be a food vendor on-site for Saturday lunch; look for updates from the event coordinator.

Toilet Facilities

Due to a very limited water and sewage system at the park, all toilet facilities will be provided by "porta-pottys". We will make all attempts to ensure that an adequate number of "johns" are available for the number of participants registered. We will also make our best attempt to distribute the "johns" around the camping and activity areas to provide access to all groups.

For your comfort, we suggest that each family bring a supply of toilet tissue for them. Waterless hand sanitizer is also a good idea due to the lack of sanitary hand washing facilities, and we suggest a supply of wipes to refresh the portapotty as desired.

Camp Fires

The park will allow individual camp fires, but only when housed in an above ground metal fire ring. Fires may NOT be built directly on the ground. There should be three brick widths between the bottom of fire container and the ground (a single brick height still scorches the grass). Per BSA standards, no liquid fuels, such as lighter fluid, kerosene, gasoline, lamp oil, etc, may be used for starting any type of fire.

Each unit having a camp fire is responsible for ensuring that the fire is located in a safe area and is not left unattended.

Each campfire should have a filled water bucket nearby in case it is needed for emergency extinguishment.

Before leaving the park, you will need to ensure that your fire is completely extinguished. The cold coals should be disposed of properly and not left in a pile in the camping area. Inquire with a member of the event staff if you are unsure of the best disposal method; it is typically acceptable to dump ashes in the Saturday night group campfire ring.

Units bear responsibility for any environment damage due to an inappropriate fire. You will be asked to repair any damage from fires not properly contained.

Firewood

The park has no supply of firewood. Each unit or family wishing to have a camp fire will need to bring their own firewood to the event.

Do not cut shrubs or trees from the park for use as fuel for campfires; using deadfall is acceptable unless otherwise notified.

Any firewood unused at the end of the event will need to be hauled away from the site by the unit. No wood may be left in the camping areas. It is not acceptable to stack or throw the wood at the edge of the fields near the wood lines.

You may inquire with event staff to determine if a person has volunteered to take away any wood that you might have left. Do NOT assume that someone will take it if you leave it.

Leave No Trace

At all times during the event, all participants are expected to follow the guidelines for "Leave no Trace". It is always a good idea to review these principals with your unit participants prior to the event. Keep in mind that this event may be the first camping and outdoor event some participants will attend as new Scouts, so never assume that they are aware of or understand this program.

In keeping with the principals of this program, please remind all participants that no plants, rocks, trees, shrubs, flowers, etc should be cut or removed from the park grounds.

Trash Disposal & Recycling

There is no onsite trash disposal. Each family or unit must take their trash with them for disposal. We encourage each unit to have and use recycling receptacles during the event to reinforce the "Reduce, Recycle, Reuse" principals.

For your convenience, a York County trash collection and recycling center is located a few miles from the park at the following address (site is not open Sundays):

3986 Mt. Gallant Rd
Rock Hill, SC 29732 (near Ebenezer Park)

Camp Area Cleanup

Each unit is expected to clean their camping area before leaving the event. This is an excellent opportunity to remind all participants on the "leave no trace" principals. We also ask that each unit assist in cleaning the common event areas, including the Gold Rush field and common play areas.

Our goal is to leave the park cleaner after the event than before and everyone's help in achieving that goal is appreciated.

Event Emergency Procedures

The safety of all attendees is paramount to the enjoyment of the event. Please familiarize yourself and your unit leaders with the following emergency information.

Emergency Alert System

In the event of an emergency, participants may be notified by any or all of the following methods:

- An emergency siren
- 3 short blasts from an emergency whistle (this will be continually repeated)
- Camp "runners"
- Announcements via a public address system

If you hear any of these alert notifications, assume that it is "the real thing" and begin directing your unit to the designated assembly point.

Event Assembly & Assembly Point

In the event of an emergency or if there is a need for a mass convergence of all event participants, all participants are asked to meet at the event flag.

If an assembly is called, please move your unit as quickly as possible to the assembly location. Please walk in the designated roadway and stay away from wooded areas and edges of fields while walking. Please do not drive your vehicle to this location – there will be too many people for that to be safe. As part of the assembly, please do your best to conduct a count of all of your unit's participants (this would be made easier by a copy of a unit roster).

Unless otherwise communicated, it may be necessary to leave one person in your camp to watch your campfire for safety.

Members of your group that are physically unable to walk may remain at camp unless otherwise directed. If this occurs, be sure that your unit's onsite contact is aware of their location. Please stress to them that they should remain stationary in your campsite until you return or otherwise directed to do so by a member of the event staff or emergency response teams.

Even if the emergency is resolved while the assembly is in process, please continue to the assembly area so that we can verify participant count and use the gathering to communicate relevant information to the unit leaders or participants.

At the Assembly Point

Once your group reaches the assembly point, one of the leaders of your group should check-in with the assembly leader (should be identified by a brightly colored safety vest) with the status of your group's assembly. We will need to know how many in your group, how many are assembled and an estimate of where you think the rest of your group may be. Once you have given your report, please return to your group to calm them and accumulate updates on additional group members that show up at the assembly point.

Lost Person Response

If a member of your group, either child or adult, becomes "lost", please contact a member of the event staff immediately. If the person cannot be located with a short cursory search of the immediate area, we will institute this response. The appropriate offices of emergency personnel have been alerted that the event is occurring and are informed of its location to better prepare them for a response should an emergency arise.

DO NOT ATTEMPT A MASS SEARCH OR ORGANIZE A SEARCH PARTY within your group. Because of the age of the participants, the average weather at the time of the event and the terrain of the park, it may be necessary to call in search teams for assistance, including search dogs. If lots of people begin a search, it can destroy the scent trail of the missing person which could reduce the effectiveness of search dogs.

As soon as the emergency is known, the park entrance will be closed to both incoming and exiting traffic. This will help ensure that no additional people are unnecessarily added to the event population during the emergency and will also help ensure that no vehicles leave the area until they have been cleared to do so. All incoming or exiting vehicles will be directed into a single lane to ensure that a travel lane is kept open for any emergency vehicles needed. **Everyone's cooperation for this is expected.**

As unit leaders, here are the steps that we ask you to assist the event staff with:

- DO NOT attempt to contain this within your unit. This situation should be treated as a true emergency and additional help will be needed.
- If the family of the missing person(s) are a member of your unit, attempt to calm the family members of the missing individual – but do not crowd them and do respect their feelings. Ask them to leave pieces of the missing person's clothing untouched for collection by the search team. Handling of the items, including attempts to collect them, can contaminate the scent needed by search dogs. Personally walk with that person to the assembly point and find a member of the event staff as quickly as possible. If possible, try to write down a description of the person, including what types and colors of clothing they were last seen wearing and what direction or area they were last seen in.
- A unit leader should gather all members of your group together in your camp area. In doing so, try to avoid walking through wooded areas and stay within the worn paths. Do a quick count and roll-call to ensure that your entire group is present and have this information available to a member of the event staff when asked for it. If you have group members in other places, including children playing in other areas, DO NOT ATTEMPT to gather them. As you should with your area, the group closest to where they are should assist them in getting to the assembly area.
- Look around. Anyone not part of your group, but that are within your camping area, should proceed with your unit to the assembly point. DO NOT let a group of children from other units wander away to find their group. It is more important that everyone gather at the assembly point as it will be easier to match them to the correct group when everyone is together.
- Leading your group, quickly make your way to the assembly point for the event. Again, try to avoid walking through wooded areas and stay within the marked paths and roadways. Unless otherwise directed, please leave a single adult in your camp area to monitor any camp fires. This person should stay in a set area and not travel around the camp area unless it is unavoidable.
- Remember that during the gather and assembly, 2-deep leadership is still required and expected. This applies to your group, but also to individuals that might come from other units to "collect" children that might be in your camping area for activities.
- Once at the assembly area, do another quick count to verify again that everyone is present. If you have group members in other places, including children playing in other areas, you will need to watch for them as others arrive at the assembly point so that they can join your group. A member of the event or emergency staff will check with each unit to ensure the total count of missing individuals. We don't want to "lose" anyone else during the assembly.
- Please listen closely to all instructions from the event or emergency staff during the assembly.

The event staff will coordinate all search efforts and outside emergency response. Please understand that we know you are willing to assist – but due to the nature of the emergency and all of the necessary efforts getting underway, stopping us to remind us that you are available is really counterproductive. Should help be required for searching, etc, we will issue that request to the group.

It may be necessary to hold the groups at the assembly point for a lengthy time. We will make every effort to facilitate the comfort of all participants during this time. Understand that our first priority is the emergency situation and the safety of all other participants.

Evacuation Plan

Should a park evacuation become necessary, please listen carefully to all instructions from event staff, law enforcement or emergency personnel from recognized responding agencies.

Please do the following:

- Turn off or shut down any cooking stoves, lanterns or generators that use fuel
- Turn off all valves on bulk fuel containers (such as propane tanks, etc)
- Remove pots from stoves
- Extinguish all camp fires
- Extinguish any charcoal or coals being used for cooking
- Ensure that all tents are empty of people and close all doors and vents
- Disconnect any electrical devices coupled to live power or generators

Do not take time to collect personal items or break camp. Have each family calmly, but quickly assemble at their vehicle. If a family has multiple vehicles at the event, we ask that they all load into a single vehicle to help reduce traffic exiting the park. Also, if it is possible for multiple families to load into a single larger vehicle, we ask that they do so to help reduce the volume of traffic exiting the park.

Pilot the vehicles to the main road and exit the park in an orderly manner. Remember that everyone is attempting to leave at the same time and that a Scout is courteous.

Unless otherwise directed, exiting traffic should form a single lane to the right side of the road to exit. This will leave a lane open for any incoming emergency vehicles. The goal will be to keep the lane moving as quickly as possible.

Should there be a minor traffic accident during the evacuation, take a moment to exchange contact information, then continue exiting the park. Do not stop long term to inspect damage or argue blame as this will cause unneeded traffic delays.

Helicopter Evacuation

In the event of a major incident that would require helicopter evacuation, please follow all staff instructions as quickly as possible. It may be necessary to move several parked vehicles in order to clear a landing spot. If so, you will be contacted in the quickest possible way. We ask that you quickly come to your vehicle and follow all instructions on which direction to move it and where to temporarily park it.

Weather Emergencies

The event staff will monitor communication streams for emergency weather alerts applicable to our location. However, if you become aware of the issuance of an alert, feel free to contact a member of the event staff and communicate that information. Staff will work with local authorities to determine if any type of evacuation or convergence is necessary and will communicate those needs to all participants.

Please follow all directions of event staff in the event of a weather emergency.

Fire Emergencies

Should you witness a fire emergency (grass fire, wildfire, structure fire, etc), DO NOT ATTEMPT TO EXTINGUISH IT YOURSELF. Call 911 immediately and report the emergency and its location.

If the fire threatens structures, either permanent or temporary (such as tents) or vehicles, please direct everyone in the area to quickly move in the opposite direction. DO NOT ATTEMPT to collect belonging from tents or vehicles in the path of the fire – and remember that the fire's path can change very quickly, possibly blocking your escape route. If there is time and you can do so safely, have 2 people work together (the buddy system) to ensure that all tents are clear of people. While retreating, please remember to keep your group together and try to avoid walking in the road to keep a clear path for incoming emergency traffic.

After you have called and emergency help is on the way, have someone contact a member of the event staff so that we can coordinate gate opening and clear access to the emergency site and coordinate any emergency assembly or evacuation that may be necessary.

First-Aid & Medical Emergencies

Due to the close proximity to medical assistance, there is not a medical station onsite for the event. A first aid kit should be part of your unit's family camping equipment. It is recommended to review attendees within the unit campsite who have medical and/or CPR/First Aid training. Staff is of course willing to assist in any way possible.

If you have a medical emergency, please call 911 immediately and report the problem and the location of the emergency.

After you have called and emergency help is on the way, have someone contact a member of the event staff so that we can coordinate gate opening and clear access to the emergency site.

Medical Forms

Please remember to follow BSA policy on use of medical forms for this event.

"Gold Rush" Game Event

The highlight of the event for many kids is the game event. Cubs and sibling participating will collect "gold" from the "Boom Town" mine and "spend" it playing games and winning "prizes" as follows:

- The Cubs will search for gold painted rocks on a marked area of the Gold Rush field
- Cubs can have no more than 3 rocks at one time
- There will be a "Sheriff" on hand to catch -
 - "Smugglers" (Cubs with more than 3 pieces of gold)
 - "Claim Jumpers" (Cubs that break in line)
 - other "Scalawags" (Cubs caught running, pushing, etc.)
- Ruffians will be taken before the "Judge" and sent to "jail" (time out) for a short period of time and returned to Gold Rush

Each Pack/game gives candy or other prizes for winning OR losing Cubs and siblings. Encourage all kids to do their best.

Please, remind all participants that there is no running, pushing, or shoving in line for the games or at Gold Rush.

Don't Forget the Gold

Each Cub or sibling participating in the games will need to bring 3 pieces of "gold" with them. These should be gold painted rocks around 1" in diameter. Please remind everyone to paint them before the event as there will be no paint on-hand (unless you bring it).

It is also a good idea to have each participating child bring a bag or small bucket to collect their "loot" from the games.

Game Guidelines

Packs are asked to provide a game for every 20 Cub or sibling participants from their group. Along with this, you should provide candy or another treat for each game – enough for each child that plays.

All games should meet the requirements for allowable activities as stated in the "Guide to Safe Scouting". No game should include any activities that violate the principals of the "Youth Protection" program.

Two-deep leadership applies at all times during the games. A registered Scout leader (a Cubmaster, Den Leader or assistants) should remain with the game during the event.

Include the following stipulations:

- No bobbing for apples (or anything else)

- No games that involve projectiles without prior committee approval (approval must be obtained before the event, not onsite)
- Must adhere to all written BSA and Gold Rush event guide safety rules (this manual)

Each game should have a bucket or bag for collecting the gold pieces. The gold will need to be periodically returned to the "Boom Town" mine to replenish the gold supply. Always remember to praise in public, discipline in private. Should you have an issue with those playing your games, contact the Sheriff or a member of the Gold Rush Committee for assistance.

Game Awards

To foster some friendly competition between Packs, award ribbons may be given for the games. Award categories are determined onsite by the judges.

FAQs (a.k.a. "Frequently Asked Questions")

What is Gold Rush?

Gold Rush is a hootin' hollarin' good 'ole time put on by the York District each year. Packs gather from across the district for a fun weekend of games and family camping. The kids hunt for "Gold nuggets" in the "Gold Mine" and then use the nuggets to play games. Each pack sets up a game (there's usually awards for best games) and the kids win candy for playing. There is also a great campfire program on Saturday evening. The rest of the time is fellowship, cooking, playing and working on various Scout skills. There should be time for hiking, pitching tents and countless other activities.

When is it?

See title page.

Where is it?

Westminster Park in Rock Hill - 4000 India Hook Road, Rock Hill, SC 29732

Do I have to camp?

No, family camping is optional – but encouraged.

Are tents provided?

No, tents are the responsibility of each family, but if you are missing a piece of equipment, let your Pack leaders know -chances are someone in your group has one that you can borrow.

Are there restrictions on the size of tent I should bring?

No, bring what makes sense for your family. Ask your Pack leaders for their opinion if you aren't sure.

How will we know where to camp?

Camping areas will be designated by the Gold Rush event staff. They will mark off an area for each pack based on the number of campers registered by the Pack. When you arrive at the park, just follow staff directions to your Pack's assigned camping area.

Where can I park?

Parking is only allowed in approved areas. Follow the directions of the parking staff (cheerfully, remember). Vehicles parked in unapproved areas or without an event sticker may be moved or towed.

Do I need to bring food?

Each family or group is responsible for bringing their own food and water to consume. Check with your Pack leaders to determine the dining options for your group.

I don't have a camp stove or other piece of equipment. What should I do?

Work with your Pack leaders to determine what "extra" equipment might be available within your group. This is often the case with things like camp stoves. Groups are encouraged to work together to make sure that everyone is successful.

What bathroom facilities are available?

There will be Port-O-Lets on site. It is recommended that you bring hand sanitizer and toilet paper.

What kind of weather should I expect?

Always an interesting dilemma. Usually, the days are quite warm. Temperatures at night will likely dip down. Always be ready for RAIN! It wouldn't be Gold Rush if it didn't rain at least once (it will make you a better camper – we promise).

Is there in-park transportation?

Walking. There will be limited transportation that can be provided for those with physical needs. You will need to specify this need during registration. Unless given specific permissions otherwise, you are not to drive your personal vehicle for event transportation. This includes shuttling participants. All parking rules will be applicable.

What type of shoes are recommended?

Shoes that comfortable to walk in. Don't bring new shoes – this isn't the type of event for "breaking them in." Also, open toe shoes are NOT recommended – the fields and terrain is rough and it really is a safety issue.

What types of clothes?

Watch the weather. Make sure you dress in layers and include a hat and sunscreen. Remember, this is a family event, so go somewhat conservative if there is a question.

REMEMBER: Plan ahead and be safe!

Suggested Packing List

Gear /Sleeping	Clothes	Toiletries	Food and Drink	Other Stuff
Tent	Official uniform for Scouts & Scouters	towel / washcloth	cook stove or grill	chairs
Sleeping Bags or Blankets	Scout themed T-Shirt (OK for Gold Rush afternoon)	soap / hand sanitizer	cooking utensils	clothes line
Pillows	Long pants	toothbrush	Bring food!! (each family is responsible for their own food)	Cups
Foam pad or Air Mattress	Closed toe shoes	Toothpaste	Drinks	First Aid kit
Flashlight	Socks (bring extras)	Bug Spray	Water (at least 1 gallon per person)	
Lantern	Warm cap (it can get chilly at night)	Sunscreen	Snacks	Wagon for hauling gear
Hammer, Tent Stakes, Rope/Twine	Poncho or Rain Jacket			Trash bags (Carry out what you carry in)
Tarp or Plastic in case it rains				Extra batteries

Location Map

Event Schedule

Friday

Est Start	Est End	Event	Notes:
2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Golden Pass Check-in	<i>NO EARLY CHECK IN WITHOUT REGISTRATION AS AN EARLY ENTRANT</i> Camping assigned by Committee based on pre-registration data
4:00 PM	7:00 PM	Check-in	
4:00 PM		Setup, family/pack meal	
8:30 PM	9:15 PM	Cracker Barrel*** (all leaders, at pavilion)	Safety information will be reviewed at this meeting. At least one leader from each unit is REQUIRED .
10:00 PM		Quiet Time	Pack leaders are charged with enforcing this for their unit

Saturday

Est Start	Est End	Event	Notes:
7:00 AM		Reveille	
9:00 AM	11:30 AM	Day-of Registration	No additional campers will be registered at the event
9:00 AM	10:30 AM	Game Setup	Vehicle access to the GR field will end PROMPTLY at 10:30 AM. Cheerfully follow directions of GR traffic staff (a mix of youth and adults)!!
11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Family Lunch	A lunch vendor may be available; check with your leader in the week or two before the event
1:00 PM	3:00 PM	GOLD RUSH	Official Cub Scout / Leader uniform or appropriate themed dress
3:00 PM	7:00 PM	Free Time / Family Meal	
7:15 PM	8:30 PM	CAMPFIRE PROGRAM	Official Cub Scout / Leader uniform is expected. Please follow their instructions for safety.
10:00 PM		Quiet Time	Pack leaders are charged with enforcing this for their unit

Sunday

Est Start	Est End	Event	Notes:
7:00 AM		Reveille	
7:00 AM	9:00 AM	Family/Pack Breakfast	
10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Scout Service	Official Cub Scout / Leader uniform is preferred