

Leader's Guide

2025 Fall Camporee

October 17-19, 2025



****Please note, some items subject to change in this guide****

Cowles Scout Reservation 100th Anniversary

Introduction to the Camporee

Welcome to the celebration of the 100th year of the Cowles Scout Reservation on Diamond Lake! Donated by the Cowles Corporation to the Inland Empire Council in 1920, the Reservation has served tens of thousands of Scouts over the last century, fostering their knowledge of Scouting, of the world, and of themselves. You are going to experience 100 years of Scouting provided by one of the oldest Scout Reservations in the U.S.

Introduction to Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace is a comprehensive approach to living and behaving in the outdoors, which encompasses not just camping, but also hiking, backpacking, and even just going to the park for a walk. This will be incredibly important to practice as we do not want to pick up habits that may interfere with Cowles ecosystem. The 2025 Camporee will follow the seven principles of the Leave No Trace code.

These principles are:

- Plan Ahead and Be Prepared
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors (Scouts, Scouters, and guests)

Apply these principles as you enjoy your weekend at Camp Cowles, and pack out what you bring in, stay on trails and roads, use the established fire pits, and respect others around you. Further information on Leave No Trace can be found in the Scout Handbook, at the BSA web site (www.scouting.org), and at the Leave No Trace website (www.lnt.org)

The Outdoor Code

As an American I will do my best to:

- Be clean in my outdoor manners
- Be careful with fire
- Be considerate in the outdoors and
- Be conservation-minded.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ATTENTION: SCOUTMASTER & SR. PATROL LEADER

This manual explains troop and patrol participation, the registration procedure, the schedule of activities, and patrol events.

Check-In on Friday night will be located at the Carbon Dining Hall parking lot.

Our Camporee Headquarters will be in the Carbon Dining Hall Friday through Sunday.

Troop Records – An official my.scouting roster of those Scouts and Leaders in attendance at the Camporee should be turned into the Camporee check-in on Friday Evening. All adults and youth staying overnight must be registered with the BSA in a fee-paid position.

Med Forms – Part A and B required for all scouts and leaders. Turn in at registration. We will check to make sure all your scouts have a form on file and then return them to you for safekeeping. We must make sure you have them, but in **no way** want to keep them as they belong in your troop's hands.

Patrol Honors – Score sheets and the scoring system will be discussed during the Friday evening Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader meeting. Any questions should be brought up in front of the whole group so we all have accurate understanding of the answers.

PREPARATION FOR THE WEEKEND:

Your Troop and Patrols will derive the greatest benefit from the Camporee by preparing for it. The requirements for each event are described in this manual. At your next Patrol Leaders Council meeting, review the manual with your Leadership. Each Patrol Leader should have a copy.

Your Leadership Corps should conduct demonstrations and provide instruction at troop meetings. The Patrols should practice the skills they have learned in the meetings.

BEFORE THE CAMPOREE:

Prior to the Camporee, your troop can prepare for the camporee at meetings and on camping trips. Your unit should practice the Patrol Method and prepare for the events described in this manual.

REGISTRATION:

Troops and Crews can begin to arrive at 5 pm Friday October 17. Make sure to bring your roster of Scouts and Leaders and Med Forms with you (A&B). Staff will then tell you which campsite your unit is assigned to. A single vehicle with a trailer may drive to their campsites to unload but will need to move to park in designated parking areas. No vehicles will be parked by campsites after setup.

Cowles Scout Reservation 100th Anniversary

2025 FALL CAMPOREE

Arrow of Light Leaders and Arrow of Light Scouts can begin to arrive at 7 AM on Saturday October 18. Please check in at Carbon Lodge. Arrow of Light leaders need to check in and bring a roster and Med Forms for all attending Arrow of Light Scouts.

Visitors and families can register as guests on the registration site or Saturday at Carbon Lodge. Entry to the event for guests costs \$5 per person. Non-Scout children (through 11 years of age) are free to attend at no cost. Lunch will **not** be provided. Concessions and memorabilia will be available for purchase at the Carbon Lodge trading post.

PATROLS:

Scouting works best when the Troop's members are divided into Patrols. The optimum number of Scouts in a Patrol is 6-10. We realize there are a few patrols smaller and possibly larger than that. Each troop's Patrol structure should be formed before the Camporee and each Patrol should practice for the events as a unit. Some activities are designed for Patrols and the most successful Patrols will be the ones who have practiced together. Try to avoid mixing scouts from different Patrols at the Camporee, as that reduces the time to develop the teamwork used in the Patrol Method. Patrols are encouraged to show their patrol spirit by carrying their patrol flag to events and sharing their patrol yells.

UNIFORMS:

Scout uniforms will not be required during the camporee events, but part of the scout spirit is the uniform, and scouts are encouraged to wear scouting-related shirts during the day. Uniforms are required at camp-wide assemblies (such as the flag ceremonies and the Campfire). Please wear your full uniform for these gatherings.

PARKING AND TRAFFIC:

Please park in either the Carbon Lodge lot or the large lot just south of the Cowles Shop south of Northshore Diamond Lake Road. Have one of your leaders check the Troop in at those lots and receive Campsite location. You may park your Troop trailer by your campsite as long as it does not impede traffic on the road. All additional vehicles will need to park in the parking lot.

WHAT TO BRING:

Units are asked to "Be Prepared" for Fall Camping. Temperatures in mid-October may vary during the time of day and can be significantly different than at night. Units will be responsible for providing and cooking their own meals. Carts may be used to assist scouts in transporting equipment from the parking area to the Camporee camping area and Parade Field. Saturday lunch should be either in sack form and carried by the patrol members or a quick, no-cook meal in the campsite. A variety of food trucks will be in the Finch field all day.

Scouts should be sure to have their 10 essentials with them. Scouts will also be challenged at stations that will possibly utilize items from the 10 essentials.

Cowles Scout Reservation 100th Anniversary

CAMPOREE POLICIES:

To have a successful Camporee, rules concerning the following topics must be followed. It is the responsibility of each troop's Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters to ensure that rules are followed. It is the responsibility of each scout to monitor their troop's behavior in and out of camp. Adult leaders and SPLs are encouraged to review the "Guide to Safe Scouting" guidelines.

Adhering to these policies sets the correct example to the Scouts and gives the Scouting program a wholesome effect for its scout members.

Fire Fuel – Fires should be built in designated campfire locations only. DO NOT CUT DOWN TREES, LIVE OR DEAD. You will need to bring your own firewood. Be sure to check with staff if fires are appropriate for the conditions in camp.

Use of Water – Water availability will be dependent on your campsite. Staff will let you know if there is running water in your assigned campsite. Water fill locations will be available.

Camping Code – The Scout Oath and Law shall be the law of the camp. Scouts should also practice 'Leave No Trace Camping' whenever possible and follow the Outdoor Code.

Lanterns – No type of open flame is allowed in any tent (candles, kerosene lamps, etc.)

Fireworks – Absolutely no fireworks are permitted at the camporee.

Alcohol/Drugs – Drugs and alcohol are not permitted on the premises at any time. The presence of illegal drugs or alcohol may necessitate a call to local law enforcement. Standard rules from the Guide to Safe Scouting apply with respect to prescription medications.

Smoking – Smoking is discouraged on scout events. This is a non-smoking camp.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 17

5:00-8:00 PM - Troops begin to arrive at Camporee. Check-in site is at the Carbon Lodge. Campsite assignments will be given out at the check-in.

8:30 PM – Safety Briefing. All Scouts who will be participating in Range and Target Activities need to be present at the safety briefing.

9:00 PM – SPL/Scoutmaster meeting and cracker barrel. Please send your SPL and at least one adult leader to the Carbon Lodge to receive important Camporee information. Troop representatives need to have decided which patrols are going to compete and how many Scouts are going to pursue the historical elements.

10:00 PM - Campsites quiet. All lights out.

Saturday, October 18

6:00 AM – Wake up and Breakfast. Prepare Sack lunches if your troop has chosen to do so.

8:00 – Arrow of Light registration begins at Carbon Lodge

8:15 - Arrow of Light Safety Briefing

8:30 – Morning flag raising at Carbon parade grounds

9:00- Program begins

9:00 – 12:00 PM – Stations

12:00 – 1:45 PM – Lunch break at troop campsite

12:30 – Staff Lunch at Carbon

1:00 – Summer camp staff reunion at Carbon

2:00 – 5:30 PM – Program options open

5:30-6:30 – All passports turned in at “Becoming Scouting America” site. Campfire skit Signups here.

6:00 PM – Flags at Carbon Parade Field

6:15 – 7:00 PM – Free time. Dinner in campsites

8:00- 9:00 PM – Closing Campfire and Awards

9:30 PM - Check out for Arrow of Light Scouts.

10:00 PM - Campsites quiet, all lights out.

Sunday, October 19

7:00 AM - Teardown of campsites begins.

8:00 AM - HQ open for troop check out. “Scout’s Own” faith events in troop sites.

11:00 – Winning patrol meets at Carbon Lodge for their complimentary Zip Line event (if desired).

11:00 AM – All units depart camp

Cowles Scout Reservation 100th Anniversary

PATROL AND SCOUT ACTIVITIES

Two options will be available for program on Saturday: The **Patrol Competition Passport** and the **Historical Passport**. A competitive patrol will be challenged to complete stations that test their skills all around camp. The more relaxed activity is the Historical Passport, where Scouts choose their events and journey through time and history. Please note that Scouts must choose the **Patrol Competition Passport** **OR** the individual **Historical Passport**. It is highly unlikely that both passports can be completed by one patrol. There will be two different participation devices given out to Scouts on Saturday afternoon.

The **Patrol Competition** passport will have individual patrols visiting **6 of the 7** stations during the day. Each event will have a score of 30 points for a total of 180 points. A “shotgun start” will be used, and patrols will receive their starting point on Saturday night when they pick up their passport. The events will include:

~**Timed “Low Cope Course”** at the Ponderosa area

~**First Aid competition** (Tree House Area)

~ **Canoe Portage Race** (Finch Waterfront)

~**Fire-building** at the Japeechen Rendezvous site near Carbon Lodge

~**Timed tent-setup** at the Finch field

~**Timed rainfly setup** at the Finch field

~**Shooting competition** at the shotgun range

~**Pioneering Challenge** at the Eureka Trail (through the tunnel to the *north* side of the North Shore Road). BRING YOUR ROPES AND SPARS. Patrols will have 15 minutes to complete task.

Each event will be scored by the staff at the event site on the patrol’s passport. Passports will be turned in before the evening flag ceremony. The top three patrols will receive prizes at the evening campfire, and the top patrol will also receive a free adventure on the newly-rebuilt Zip Line at the COPE course on Sunday morning. All competing Scouts will each receive a participation device for their commemorative patch.

The **Historical Passports** will be distributed to Scoutmasters Friday night. Youth members **must** travel with a minimum of two Scouts using the Buddy System. Scoutmasters can choose to escort them or not. A minimum of **5 sites** will need to be visited to earn the participation pin. Historical Passports will be signed by staff at the various stations and turned in before evening flag ceremonies.

Cowles Scout Reservation 100th Anniversary

2025 FALL CAMPOREE

Historical events include:

~**Scouting Museum** at Carbon Lodge *See the history of Scouting through outstanding patch collections...most of which are rarely seen. Maybe spend some time swapping a few items with other Scouts?*

~**Japeechee Rendezvous** (mountain man program) near Carbon Lodge *You'll not see a finer collection of gear, vittles, weapons, n' regalia of the American Fur Trade in th' northwest. Come on over and set yerself down fer a few minutes!*

~**Order of the Arrow Native American regalia display** (in the Tree House)
Learn American history from a different point of view.

Marksman event at the Range: ten .22 rounds per scout or 10 air rifle pellets per Arrow of Light Scout.

~**Meet a Scout** in historical uniforms in various places in camp and get his signature. *Here's a challenge: there are several scouts in historical uniforms in camp. Greet them, listen to their stories, and get their signatures.*

~ **Campsite tours** (in the Finch Field)

*The "canvas era" where everything weighed too dang much and mostly worked well.
The "nylon era" where camping became less of a weight-lifting competition and more efficient.*

The "high-tech" era starts now. Get an eyeful of cool new gadgets and gizmos designed to make your camping life easier.

~**Dutch Oven cooking** next to bunk house. *Who knows what those old-timers are cooking up...and whether you can get a taste?*

~**All summer camp staff reunion** at 1:00 at Carbon Lodge (not available to non-staffers).

~**Patch trading** at Carbon Lodge (not on passport). *Bring your trader patches and make yourself a deal!*

~**Pend Orielle Volunteer Fire Department** activity in Finch Field. *Get up close and personal to emergency trucks, hoses, and gear.*

~**William Tell event** at the Archery Range. *Free shooting throughout the day.*

~**Becoming Scouting America** outside carbon Lodge

CHECKOUT

Units are on their honor to check out of their camporee campsite using Leave No Trace policies. Please transport your trash home. If you are leaving early, please let staff know before you leave.

Cowles Scout Reservation 100th Anniversary