

Golden Spoon Camporee

Garden State Council, Scouting America

Pine Hill Scout Reservation | September 25 – 27, 2026

(Updated: 09/15/26)

What is a Golden Spoon Camporee?

A Golden Spoon Camporee is a one-day event of demonstrations and competition themed around cooking. It will have demonstrations on different types of camp cooking in the morning, followed by a cooking competition in the afternoon. The cooking competition is a cross between Pitmasters and “Chopped”. The units will be given a list of items for the “Chopped” basket that will be required to use in the competition. “Chopped” usually has more than one basket so there will be twist items that will be added during the demonstrations. In the information that goes out to the units for what the original “Chopped” items are going to be, there may also be clues as to what the additional twist items are for. The Pitmaster part of the event is a blind box taste testing that will be scored by judges. The reason for the blind box tasting is to keep things as fair as possible. Winners of the event will be announced at the campfire.

Scoring

Scoring will be based on the following, along with potential points per judge:

- Taste – Up to 20 points
- Appearance/Plating – Up to 10 Points
- Creativity – Up to 10 Points
- Use of Items – Up to 10 Points
- Total – Up to 50 Points

The score totals will then be averaged to determine the final score for the competitors.

Awards

Awards will be given for the following:

- Top three units/patrols
- Most Creative Dish
- Best Overall Specific Dish

Official Times for Saturday

- Opening Ceremony 9:00 AM
- Demonstrations 9:15 AM – 12:15 PM
- Competition 1:15 PM – 4:30 PM

- Judging 4:30 PM until all items have been tasted and scoring completed
- Campfire 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Secret Ingredients

There are going to be a total of four secret ingredients in the “Chopped” basket. Three of the ingredients will need to be purchased by the units, the hope here is that they can not only be used for the competition but also for the menu planning for the units. We did keep cost in mind when selecting the three ingredients for the units to supply. The fourth secret ingredient will be provided to the units on Saturday morning of the event by the staff.

Secret Ingredients for the unit to supply:

- Chicken (ground chicken, breasts, wings, drumsticks, thighs – whatever the unit wants to buy)
- Red Cabbage
- Tomato Paste

Judging Turn-In

Units and/or Patrols will turn in their entries to a Golden Spoon Staff member in front of Webster Lodge at 4:30 pm. Units/Patrols will be provided with the container for the turn-in so that they have one for each judge. These will be given out at the same time as the last secret ingredient.

When turning in the entry, they will receive a number, and the unit/patrol will be listed on a sheet next to the number. The judges will not see who turns in what as they will stay inside Webster Lodge during the turn-in time and for scoring. This is what the blind box tasting is, and it is being done to keep things as even and fair as possible when scoring.

Camping

Camping is available for units that want to spend the weekend at Pine Hill. Check-in will start at 5:00 pm on Friday. All units should be off site by 12:00 pm on Sunday. Units must come to Webster prior to leaving to check-out and have their site inspected prior to leaving to ensure we are leaving the camp the best we can for our Ranger.

Sites will be assigned as units register in Blackpug based on the number of attendees. Sites may be shared based on how many units are attending so everyone is aware.

Wristband Policy at Camp

Garden State Council has a policy for those attending an event at one of their sites, which states that all those attending and registered will wear a wristband. This wristband will let everyone know that you are registered for the event and have paid the event fee. This wristband must be worn the entire time that you are at the event. This policy is for all participants, both adult and youth. When you arrive at the site and register all those who have paid for the event will be given a wristband. If you arrive on Friday night, you will be given the wristbands at the leader meeting in Webster Lodge at 9:30 PM. If you arrive on Saturday, you will be given the wristbands when you register in the morning for the participants that are there for registration. Participants arriving after registration is completed will need to come to Webster Lodge to check in and get their wristband. This will help ensure that all the people on the grounds are attendees and should be there.

Garden State Council Camp Use Policy

General Information and Procedures

Vehicles and Trailers All vehicles must remain in designated parking lots. Upon arrival, each unit may use one vehicle to transport gear from the parking lot to the campsite. During the time at camp the only permissible vehicles allowed to be used is Council approved vehicles. All vehicles moving through camp must have hazard lights on at all times.

Trash Disposal

Each unit is responsible for managing and disposing of its own trash and trash bags. Please use the camp dumpster for disposal during or at the end of your stay. The location is marked on your camp map.

Water Access

Most campsites are equipped with a water faucet. However, during winter months, campsite water is turned off. Units must then use one of the three frost-free water pumps located throughout camp. These are clearly marked on your map.

Hazardous Weather and Fire Safety

In the event of hazardous weather, the Camp Master will direct all units to a designated shelter with hard cover. If a fire safety concern arises, an alarm will sound. All units must immediately report to the Campfire Circle for safety and accountability.

Smoke, Substance, and Weapons Policy

Garden State Council Properties are a smoke-free, vape-free, drug-free, and alcohol-free property. This policy is strictly enforced. The use of tobacco products, including vaping devices, is not permitted anywhere on Council properties. Alcohol is also strictly prohibited. If caught using these products, you will be asked to leave the property.

Firearms and Other Weapons

There are to be no firearms or personal weapons of any kind brought onto Council properties are allowed on camp property. This includes—but is not limited to—archery equipment, hatchets, throwing axes, and any personal range or activity materials. Units found in violation of these policies will be asked to leave camp immediately.

Check-In Procedure

We're excited to welcome you! Upon arrival, please park in the main lot.

Arrive as a group and wait to be greeted by the Campmaster.

Have your unit roster ready.

Parking is permitted only in designated areas.

Units are encouraged to arrive between 5:00 PM and 9:00 PM. For early or late arrivals, please contact the Garden State Council Service Center at 609-261-5850 or email

Daniel.Lykowski@scouting.org at least one week prior to your check-in date. For last-minute changes, call the camp Ranger at Pine Hill Scout Reservation 609-641-5700 Roosevelt Scout Reservation 856-577-4159 so he can inform the Camp Master.

Check-Out Procedure

All units must check out with the Camp Master/Camp Ranger before departure. Please schedule your check-out time with the Camp Master when you arrive.

Cancellation Policy

When making a reservation, payment is expected at the time of booking. The "Bill Me Later" option is no longer permitted.

Garden State Council units are granted two free tent campsite rentals per year. Please note sites that contain Lean-tos are not included in this offer.

To receive a full refund, cancellations must be submitted at least 30 days before your scheduled check-in date. Cancellations made 14 days in advance are eligible for a 50% refund. No refunds will be issued for cancellations made less than 14 days prior to check-in.

Golden Spoon Camporee Event Registration Procedures 2026

Please register on the Council website using Black Pug:

Payment may be made online, at Scout Shop or Council office, or by check mailed to 693 Rancocas Rd, Westampton, NJ 08060, after unit is registered.

If you pay offline, please bring a copy of the receipt of payment.

All balances must be paid by check-in on Saturday, September 26, 2026.

Online Registration

Online registration closes at 4:00 PM on Monday, September 21, 2026. After that date, registration will only be available at the event when you check in, and payment will need to be made in full.

Only paid participants will receive patches.

Any units who may find it necessary for anyone (Scouts or leaders) to leave camp at any time must ensure that those individuals sign out from camp at the headquarters at Webster Lodge. Similarly,

anyone arriving late must sign in at Webster Lodge. The same would apply for anyone who earlier left camp and then returns, they must also sign in.

Golden Spoon Vehicle/Trailers Parking in Camp

FRIDAY ARRIVALS:

1. All Troops will report to the main parking area with all vehicles/trailers to check in with Golden Spoon Staff.
2. One vehicle/trailer will be assigned an entry pass, and they will proceed to their assigned site to unload.
3. Initial vehicle/trailer will depart campsite after unload is complete and report back to the main parking area and park in the designated trailer parking area. Additional equipment shall be transported by wagon to site.
4. If needed the next vehicle from the Troop will be issued the vehicle entry pass to proceed to the campsite to unload and then depart the site.
5. All vehicles must be out of the Troop Campsites before 2230 hours Friday night.
6. Event Staff will determine if a Troop will be allowed to keep their trailer at the site or a nearby parking area for the weekend.

SATURDAY CAMPING ARRIVALS:

1. Units must arrive and check in with Golden Spoon Staff to obtain vehicle pass to enter campsite with their vehicle/trailer between 0630 and 0700.
2. Unit may proceed to campsite with vehicle/trailer to off load and then must be removed and parked in the designated trailer parking area in the main parking lot by 0730.
3. No vehicles/trailers will be allowed into campsites after 0730 hours Saturday. At this point equipment must be transported by wagon or by hand.

SUNDAY MORNING CHECK OUT

1. One vehicle/trailer per site will be allowed to enter at a time to load out gear for transport to main parking area.
2. Units must report to Webster to have a staff member inspect the site before leaving, and also to check out of camp.

No vehicle or trailer parking is permitted in the Lower Parade Field parking lot.