

2026 SPRING CUB CAMP Leaders' Guide

TEXAS SOUTHWEST COUNCIL



Celebrating 250 Years of America

— April 24–26 —



Welcome to the Frontier ★

Howdy! And welcome to the frontier! We are excited to have y'all with us at Camp Sol Mayer this spring as we saddle up to explore Fort McKavett together. This Cub Camp is sure to be a hoot, as our goal is to enhance your Scouting experience with new and exciting activities meant for all ages!

The primary purpose of any Scouting America camp is for scouts to have fun! To help ensure that our Scouts can engage in as many camp programs as they can, we encourage advanced planning on the part of your unit with your Scouts to thoughtfully prepare for our camp-wide program opportunities. Scouts who participate in activities of their choosing and have fun at camp will stay in Scouting and return to camp.

We are excited to partner with the Texas State Historical Commission, specifically with Fort McKavett, for the operation of this Cub Camp! Please read this guide thoroughly to prepare well for all of the fun we have in store!



General Information ★

This guide contains essential information about programs. If you have any program questions before camp, please get in touch with us.

Physical Address

Camp Sol Mayer
299 Camp Sol Mayer Rd.
Menard, Texas 76859

Fort McKavett Address

7066 Farm to Market Rd 864
Fort McKavett, Texas 76841

Emergency Telephone Number

Camp Sol Mayer does not have a permanent telephone number. Therefore, for emergencies only, you may contact the Camp Director via his cell phone. For non-emergency communication, we ask that you email the Camp Director or contact the Unit Leader.

Camp Leadership

Camp Director

Kevin Franke
(202) 717-7441

Franke.Scouting@gmail.com

Program Coordinator

Dessie Davis

DessieDavis@gmail.com

Business Manager

Lorenzo Guerra

Lorenzo.Guerra@scouting.org



Camp Schedule ★

Friday, April 24

5:00 pm	Camp Opens	
5:00 – 9:00 pm	Check-in	Camp Office
9:00 pm	Leaders' Meeting	Admin Conference Room
10:00 pm	All Quiet	Campsites

Saturday, April 25

7:30 – 8:15 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:15 – 8:45 am	Travel to Fort McKavett	
8:45 am	Flag Ceremony & Demonstration	Fort McKavett
9:10 am	Event Areas Open	Fort McKavett
11:55 am	Event Areas Close	Fort McKavett
12:00 pm	Chuck Wagon Lunch	Fort McKavett
1:00 pm	Event Areas Open	Fort McKavett
4:15 pm	Event Areas Close	Fort McKavett
4:20 pm	Flag Ceremony & Demonstration	Fort McKavett
4:30 – 5:00 pm	Travel to Camp Sol Mayer	
5:00 pm	Dinner	Dining Hall
6:00 pm	Twilight Programs	Camp Program Areas
8:30 pm	Campfire	Amphitheater
10:00 pm	All Quiet	Campsites

Sunday, April 26

8:00 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
9:00 am	Interfaith Worship Service	Dining Hall
11:00 am	Camp Closed	



Check-In ★

Participants should check in at the Camp Office by 9:00 pm on Friday, April 24th. You may arrive as early as 5:00 pm. If participants cannot arrive between these times, please notify the Camp Director at least one week in advance. Upon arrival, the Camp Registrar, or another member of the camp administrative team, will direct you to your campsite.

Paperwork

At least **ONE WEEK** before arriving at camp, each adult must submit a background check form, whether or not they are camping overnight. The form can be found in the attachments section of the registration website. For this reason, no walk-in registrations will be allowed.

At check-in, a designated unit leader needs to have the following paperwork ready to give to the registrar at the camp office:

- Pack Roster: A copy of your Scouting America-generated roster with the names of those youth and adults in attendance highlighted
- Medical Forms: Parts A&B for each person attending camp, regardless of whether or not they are camping overnight. These **MUST** be organized by Pack for this event

Further Explanations

Roster: This is a new request from National. You can retrieve this roster from my.scouting.org. Simply log in to your <https://my.scouting.org/> account and find the “Member Manager” tab on the left-hand side. Find the roster information there under “Roster Details.” You can export certain roster information from there, including a list of every Scout registered in your unit. From there, we would ask that you highlight those in attendance for your Cub Camp adventure. Please add any non-registered adults that will be in attendance.

Medical Form: A copy of Parts A&B of the Annual Health and Medical Record is required for all camp participants. We will return all medical forms to the Pack after the camp concludes. Many units put their forms in a binder for ease of handling and return. This is helpful to camp staff as well. Please bring forms in alphabetical order by last name. Find forms at: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/>.

Photography Notice

Please be advised that promotional videotaping or photography may be in progress at any time at an event. Your entrance constitutes your agreement that the council and district have the right to reproduce your likeness in videography/photography for promotional materials, including publications, internet usage, or printed distributable materials. For any concerns regarding this policy, please contact the Camp Director.



Program Information



This Cub Camp is sure to be exciting for everyone, as we have some very exciting programs for your Scouts!

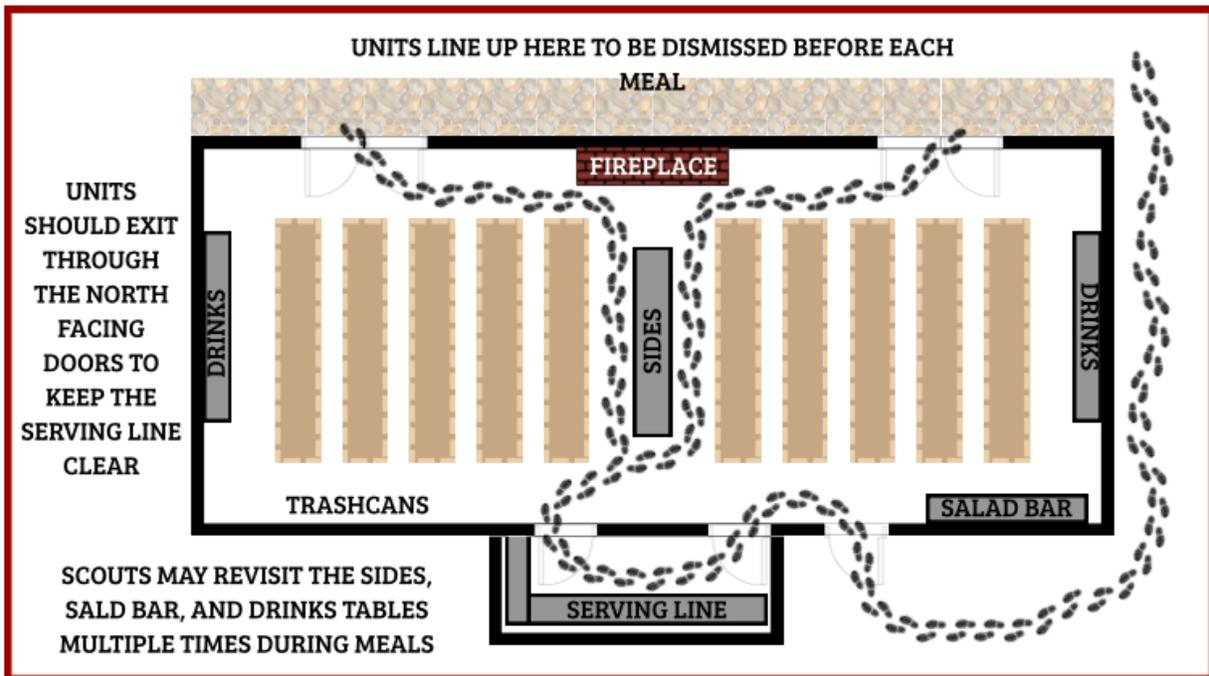
Camp Fee

This Spring, we will be charging all campers \$20.00 to attend Cub Camp. Due to the multiple locations of camp programming, we will be offering food for all meals on Saturday as well as breakfast on Sunday. This minimizes the need to prepare for unit camping and/or sack lunches while we are at Fort McKavett. In line with our annual council program fee, the facilities and general program costs of Spring Cub Camp, as well as the attendance fee for Fort McKavett, are covered. Out-of-council units have an additional \$10 surcharge per person.

Meals

All meals, except Saturday Lunch, will be served in the Camp Sol Mayer Dining Hall. For any dietary restrictions, they **MUST** be indicated in the Blackpug registration system to be covered. We will cover typical dietary restrictions, including Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten-Free, Halal, and Nut Allergies. If your dietary restriction is not covered on this list, please prepare to bring your own food. It may be stored in the dining hall. Further, please coordinate with the Camp Director concerning plans for Saturday Lunch.

For meals at the Dining Hall, units should line up outside the dining hall, facing the porch, to be released by camp staff. They will then walk outside the east side of the Dining Hall and enter the back side door to go through the serving line. Please review the diagram on the next page for further clarification.



Saturday Lunch will be served at the Fort Chuck Wagon style. There will be park benches or other tables to sit and enjoy lunch while at the fort!

Program at the Fort

Within two weeks of camp, we will have an activity list and map of Fort McKavett published for distribution – these will also be available upon check-in on Friday, the 24th. Look forward to a bunch of fun frontier-style activities to fill your program day! It is expected that parents or guardians will drive Scouts to/from Fort McKavett on Saturday. More information on parking will be provided when we release the activity list and map.

Twilight Programs

The fun will not end when we return to Camp Sol Mayer, as from 6:00 – 8:15 pm, we will have Climbing, Range and Target Activities, and the Waterfront!



Health and Safety ★

First Aid

We encourage each unit to bring a first aid kit to take care of the usual minor cuts and injuries Scouts experience. For more serious issues, come to the health lodge. Drink water and sports drinks frequently to prevent dehydration.

Safety

All adults and leaders are expected to enforce the Scouting America Buddy System, follow SYT guidelines, and obey the rules in the Guide to Safe Scouting. As a reminder, Scouting American regulations state: “Cub Scout parents or legal guardians taking part in an overnight Cub Scout program with their own child or legal ward are not required to register as leaders. All adults must review the [“How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide”](#) that can be found in the front of each Cub Scout Handbook. In addition, the parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a registered leader at any time they are with youth members other than their own child/ward. All other overnight adults must be currently registered in an adult fee-required position.”

Proper amounts of water are crucial to the health and safety of participants. We encourage units to use the water coolers in the program areas, but units must provide separate cups or water bottles for each person. Leaders should encourage each Scout and Scouter to carry drinking water with them. **DEHYDRATION AND RELATED INJURIES CAN BE SERIOUS! HIGH WATER INTAKE IS A MUST. SOFT DRINKS OR COFFEE DO NOT REPLACE WATER!**



Camp Regulations ★

Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, and Controlled Substances

The Texas Southwest Council does NOT permit the consumption, possession, or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or controlled substances on camp. Staff will ask violators to leave the camp. Staff may take additional actions, including notification of local law enforcement officials.

Tobacco

The Texas Southwest Council does not permit smoking or the use of any tobacco product in the presence of youth members at any Texas Southwest Council Camp. We prohibit smoking or the use of tobacco or e-cigarettes in or around buildings or around camp program areas. Every camp will have a designated area for smoking. Please ask the Camp Director where the appropriate smoking areas are when you arrive. Note that Texas law now does not permit smoking by anyone under 18 years of age.

Prescription/Non-Prescription Medication

A Cubmaster may, but is not required to, dispense any prescription if properly labeled with frequency and dosage by the pharmacy and in its original container. If not properly labeled, the Health Lodge must administer medication. All units must keep prescription drugs dispensed by the unit locked with restricted access and keep records detailing dispensing activity: [RoutineDrugAdministrationRecordRevised2011.pdf \(scouting.org\)](#). Keep all drugs needing refrigeration in the refrigerator in the Health Lodge. Dispose of all needles in a sharps container also located in the Health Lodge.

Camp Curfew

No Scout may be out of their campsite after the posted curfew time unless accompanied by an adult, following SYT guidelines, or with authorization from the Camp Director to participate in an activity.

Firearms, Ammunition, Fireworks, Bows and Arrows

Camp does not allow personal firearms of any type (including rifles, shotguns, handguns, BB/paintball/air soft guns, black powder, cannons, potato/tennis ball bazookas, catapults, blow guns, bows, arrows, slingshots, or water guns), ammunition, laser pointers, and fireworks in camp. The Camp Director reserves the right to confiscate and return upon departure from camp any item that they consider a potential risk to the general health and well-being of the camp. The Camp Director requests that Officers of the Law notify them in person of any exceptions to this rule.

Fires, Liquids and Propane Fuels

When you arrive at camp your check-in procedure will include a fire ban status report. Due to the rural nature of our camps, often the local Fire Marshal will mandate a burn ban. The camp management team has assured the local authorities of full cooperation when a burn ban is in effect. Please understand that the local marshal may at times allow program-related burns when appropriate. If there is no ban, build fires per Scouting American guidelines, only in designated areas, and under proper supervision. Use liquid or propane fuels only under adult supervision. Do NOT use liquid fuels of any type to start fires. Liquid fuels can be used for cookstoves, Blackstone grills, etc. Store liquid fuel in approved containers and, along with propane cylinders, store under lock and key. Scouting America policy prohibits the use of open flames in tents. This includes mosquito coils, catalytic heaters, gas lanterns, stoves, candles, and smoking material. This also includes cigarette smoking. Even though a heater may be labeled tent-approved by the manufacturer, that does not mean it is approved by Scouting America.

Transportation

The bed of a truck or a trailer is never an appropriate place for Scouts or Scouters to ride. Scouts and Scouters are not allowed to ride in truck beds or on trailers at camp.

Vehicles in Camp

You are welcome to drive to your campsite and unload, but then all vehicles must be parked in the designated parking area. Unit trailers may be left in campsites, but no vehicles may remain in campsites overnight. Do not drive around camp during program hours. The Camp Director can make exceptions as needed.

Closed-Toe Shoes

Closed-toe shoes are highly recommended for all Scouting events. Program areas have rocky walking paths and sticks that can injure toes, and snakes are always a possibility. Many activities include active games, so shoes that Scouts can run in (e.g., tennis shoes) are recommended.

Health Lodge

The Health Lodge is staffed by a medical professional and is available for camp emergencies. Except for emergencies, it is the responsibility of the unit leadership to provide transportation for campers who require the attention of a doctor or the services of a hospital.

Leaders must follow youth protection guidelines when transporting unit member(s) to the doctor or hospital. Remember to take insurance forms with you for completion at the doctor or hospital. You may obtain your Scout's health record from the Health Lodge before going to the doctor or hospital. The adult leader must be prepared to pay for any prescription that the doctor may prescribe for the patient. The Texas Southwest Council will not pay for prescriptions, hospital, or emergency room bills. Directions to doctors' offices and hospitals are available at the Health Lodge.

DO NOT LEAVE THE CAMP WITH A MEDICAL EMERGENCY WITHOUT HAVING SOMEONE CHECK IN WITH THE HEALTH LODGE OR CAMP DIRECTOR.

Camp Emergencies

Our biggest concern is the safety of our campers and staff.

Emergency procedures will be reviewed at the Leaders' meeting on the first night of camp. Only the Camp Director can declare an emergency in camp. This could include, but is not limited to, thunderstorms, tornadoes, lost campers, or other camp-wide emergencies. To report an emergency, a leader should contact the nearest staff member, who will notify the Camp Director.

If you hear constant honking from a vehicle, a shelter-in-place is being ordered. All persons on camp property must immediately go to a camp building to shelter in place. No further movement is permitted until the shelter-in-place has been lifted. Camp staff will assist with directions.

A staff member may designate all scouts to meet at the parade field in the event of certain emergencies. Please do so promptly if requested.



Fort Regulations ★

During the Leaders' Meeting on the evening of the 24th, one representative from each Pack will be required to sign a form acknowledging the following rules for Fort McKavett. Please review these rules with your unit in advance of camp.

- I, the undersigned, acknowledge that I and my group will be present on a state historic landmark, Fort McKavett State Historic Site, which is protected under the Antiquities Code of Texas and associated regulations (Texas Natural Resource Code, Title 9, Chapter 191 & Texas Administrative Code, Title 13, Chapter 26).
- I further acknowledge that I and my group will be occupying a historic structure that is also protected under the Antiquities Code of Texas.
- I further acknowledge that Fort McKavett is monitored by surveillance and security equipment.
- I further acknowledge that Texas and Menard County Law Enforcement Officers patrol the Fort McKavett area and may require proof of my group's site access authorization.
- I agree NOT to conduct, or allow any member of my group to conduct any activity that may harm or disturb the integrity of the historic buildings, ruins, archeological resources, grounds, wildlife, infrastructure, or physical plant of the site including, but not limited to: climbing on buildings/ruins, ground disturbance (digging), metal detecting, artifact hunting, driving outside authorized areas, vandalism (including tagging and building cairns), improper disposal of trash, etc.
- I further agree that I will NOT allow my group to drive vehicles ANYWHERE outside of the designated parking areas unless accompanied by Site Staff.
- I further agree that I and my group will comply with the rules governing the use of the site's golf cart and drone use as appropriate.
- I understand that Site Staff WILL NOT be present outside of normal business hours and that emergency personnel have at least a 30-minute response time.
- I understand that wildlife is present including, but not limited to: fire ants, deer, snakes, skunks, rabbits, porcupines, bats, hogs, foxes, raccoons, wasps, ticks, scorpions, spiders, etc.
- I further understand that I and my group members, and not Fort McKavett SHS or the Texas Historical Commission, or any associated entities will be held responsible for any damage or injury to my own property, myself, or any member of my group or their property.
- I further understand that any violations of these rules, the Antiquities Code of Texas, or the Texas Historical Commission Historic Site Rules will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.



Camp Map

