

BSA Troop 370

Parent Handbook



St. James United Methodist Church
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Introduction

Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America and Troop 370. By becoming a parent of a Scout, you are starting your son out on the great adventure of scouting. This is an important and rewarding endeavor that you will share with him.

Our sponsor, or Chartered Organization, is St. James United Methodist Church. Troop 370 is non-denominational and welcomes all boys ages 11 to 18 to scouting. A boy needs no prior experience to become a Scout.

Troop 370 has five main goals for our Scouts:

- Growth in moral strength and character
- Participate in citizenship
- Development of physical, moral, and emotional fitness
- Be comfortable in and appreciate outdoor activities
- Leadership

Our program will make your son a better person and give him the fundamental tools to be successful in whatever path he chooses in life. These skills are learned by Scouts, working together and doing things themselves. Last, but not least, our goal is to have fun.

We have prepared this parent's handbook to answer many of your questions. The following pages describe the organization of our Troop and how it functions.

We hope this helps you help your Scout.

Youth Protection

The BSA has adopted a number of policies for the safety and well-being of its members, including the policies set forth below. These policies primarily protect youth members; however, they also serve to protect adult leaders. All parents and caregivers should understand that our leaders are to abide by these safeguards. Parents and youth are strongly encouraged to use these safeguards outside the Scouting program. Registered leaders must follow these guidelines with all Scouting youth outside of Scouting activities.

Registration Requirements

The chartered organization representative must approve the registration of the unit's adult leaders which includes (i) completion of the Adult Application, including criminal background check and mandatory Youth Protection training, and (ii) a Volunteer Screening Database check

Current Youth Protection training is required for leaders when renewing their registration or at unit charter renewal. The Troop also requires adult program participants to complete Youth Protection training.

Adult Supervision

Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including meetings.

All adults accompanying a Scouting unit who are present at the activity for 72 total hours or more must be registered as leaders. The 72 hours need not be consecutive for example, an adult who spends 2 days at summer camp, leaves and then returns at the end of the week for 2 more days must register as an adult leader.

One-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited both inside and outside of Scouting.

- In situations requiring a personal conference, the meeting is to be conducted with the knowledge and in view of other adults and/or youth.
- Private online communications (texting, phone calls, chat, IM, etc.) must include another registered leader or parent.
- Communication by way of social media (Facebook, Snapchat, etc.) must include another registered leader or parent.

Responsibility

Adult leaders and youth members share the responsibility for the safety of all participants in the program, including adherence to Youth Protection and health and safety policies.

- Adult leaders are responsible for monitoring behavior and intervening when necessary.
- Physical violence, sexual activity, emotional abuse, spiritual abuse, unauthorized weapons, hazing, discrimination, harassment, initiation rites, bullying, cyberbullying, theft, verbal insults, drugs, alcohol, and pornography have no place in the Scouting program and may result in revocation of membership.

Accommodations

Separate accommodations for adult males and females and youth males and females are required.

Tenting

- Separate tenting arrangements must be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth. However, spouses may share a tent.
- Youth sharing tents must be no more than two years apart in age (unless they are brothers).
- Youth and adults must tent separately; although discouraged, a parent may tent with his/her son.

Restrooms

Separate shower and latrine facilities should be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth. If separate facilities are not available, separate times should be scheduled and posted. Privacy of youth is respected.

Program Requirements

The buddy system should be used.

The use of smartphones, cameras, mirrors, drones, etc., in places or situations where privacy is expected is prohibited.

All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents and leaders. The BSA does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program.

Hazing and initiations are prohibited and have no part during any Scouting activity.

Reporting Requirements

Adult leaders and youth members have a responsibility to recognize, respond to, and report Youth Protection violations and abuse.

- Serious Youth Protection policy violations or behaviors that put a youth's safety at risk must be reported to the Scout executive.
- Alternatively, policy violations may be reported to the Scouts First Helpline when the Scout executive is not available 1-844-SCOUTS1 (1-844-726-8871).

- Online reporting is also available at www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/.
- All persons participating in Scouting programs are mandated reporters of child abuse. This reporting duty cannot be delegated to any other person.
- Reports must be made to local law enforcement and child protective services.

Troop Structure

Scouts BSA troops are organized using the patrol method. Each patrol consists of 4 to 12 scouts with one scout elected as a **patrol leader** and one as an **assistant patrol leader**. Patrol leaders learn how to manage troop activities by working under the direction of a **senior patrol leader** and **assistant senior patrol leader**. Older experienced Scouts may serve as **troop guides**, to assist new scouts in learning scout skills.

Troop Leadership Positions

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)

The leader of the troop. He is responsible for the troop's overall operations. He runs the weekly meetings, patrol leader's council and all troop activities. This is an elected position, voted upon by all scouts every six months, in March and September. He appoints the other positions except patrol leaders.

Assistant Patrol Leader (ASPL)

Appointed by the senior patrol leader. Troop 370 usually has three ASPLs, each in charge of different areas depending upon how the senior patrol leader sets up his leadership team. Usually, one is in charge of patrols and two are in charge of the other leadership positions.

Patrol Leader (PL)

The leader of a patrol. Elected by the patrol every six months (March and September).

Troop Guide

Must be First Class or higher rank. Mentors a newly formed patrol of new Scouts.

Quartermaster

The troop's supply boss. Keeps tabs on the troop's equipment.

Gymmaster

Makes sure gym time is organized and equipment is put away properly after gym time.

Scribe

The troop's secretary. Keeps minutes of the patrol leaders' council meetings, keeps attendance for campouts and meetings.

Order of the Arrow (OA) Representative

Liaison between the local OA lodge and the troop.

Historian

Collects photos, news articles and such. This position is all about what the scout does with it.

Librarian

Oversees the troop library, which mostly consists of merit badge pamphlets.

Instructor

An older scout who is qualified to teach younger scouts Scouting Skills. They must prove proficiency in a particular skill with an adult to be awarded this status.

Chaplain's Aide

Coordinates the troop's religious observances and promotes the religious emblems program.

Den Chief

Works with a den of Cub Scouts.

Junior Assistant Scoutmaster

Must be 16, appointed by the Scoutmaster. Supports the Scoutmaster and senior patrol leader in troop operations.

Troop Committee

The role of the Troop Committee is to support the Scoutmaster and the troop leadership in running a successful, safe, and sound program. The committee aids the Scoutmaster in four areas: program planning, advancement, outdoor program, and administration.

All parents can become a member of the committee by attending the meetings and registering as an adult member of the BSA. The intent of the committee is to spread the work of the Troop around and not to burden a few adults with such an epic task. Please contact our Scoutmaster or Committee Chairman for an adult application.

Any parental concerns can be addressed at the committee meeting.

Troop Committee Meetings are scheduled on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 and are held in the St. James Activities Building.

Adult Leaders

**Note: Names and Email addresses are included in the version of the Parent Handbook in the Members Section of the Troop Website*

Activities

Troop Meetings

Troop 370 meets Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:00 in the St. James UMC Activities Building on the second floor. The troop meets year-round with a few exceptions for holidays.

Scouts are required to attend each meeting in his troop t-shirt or Class A uniform.

TYPICAL AGENDA:

Opening
Announcements
Awards
Patrol Meeting
Skill Instruction(rank advancement, merit badges, campout planning and Scoutmaster conferences)
Games in the Gym*
Closing

* Gym and Facilities Guidelines:

Boys play. Damage happens. Whenever a scout damages anything – from a wall to a light bulb – he should report it to the Senior Patrol Leader, Scoutmaster or any Assistant Scoutmaster wearing a uniform. Early warning equals early repairs, and more importantly allows for the best possible relationship between Troop 370 and the St. James Facilities Manager. RESPECT THE FACILITIES.

All play in the gym must be in relation to an organized activity supervised by the Gymmaster, a boy appointed by the Gymmaster, or by the patrol that is sponsoring the activity.

Boys in the gym must be actively “spectating” or participating in the organized activity.

Annual Troop Calendar

In August, a calendar of events is distributed to Scouts and their families. It includes campouts, high adventure trips, summer camp dates, and other events. The calendar can also be accessed on the Troop 370 website at <https://troop370atlanta.org/events>.

Advancement

The Scouts BSA Handbook for Boys

Both Scouts and parents should become familiar with the contents of the Official Scouts BSA Handbook for Boys, as it will provide answers to many questions. Descriptions of the requirements for each Scout rank are covered in the book. As your son advances in rank, Scout leaders will date and sign off on the completion of each requirement on the handbook. Encourage your son to take his handbook to all campouts and weekly meetings. Over time, this book will become a valuable record of your son's achievements. It should be brought to every weekly meeting. Encourage your Scout to take good care of his book as they have to last a long time, and the records of achievement they contain are critical to each Scout's personal advancement through the ranks. The purchase of a protective cover is recommended and writing the last name along the pages to be read from the side is also a good idea. (*The Troop 370 Advancement Chair will record your Scout's achievements in a database after he has earned each rank.*)

Scouts BSA Ranks



Typically, boys enter the Troop after earning the Arrow of Light or being 11 years old. Experience as a Cub Scout is not required. The first four ranks (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class) must be obtained in sequence, but may be worked on simultaneously. A detailed list of requirements is in the Scouts BSA Handbook. Scouts work toward achieving the First Class rank by the end of their first year in Scouting. During the first year, scouts will learn basic skills but also learn to work together, which is often more essential than rank advancement.

Summer camp is an excellent opportunity to quickly move through the first four ranks. The Mountaineer program at Woodruff Scout Camp will get a Scout through 50-60% of the requirements for the ranks.

Inside the second closet in the Activities Building upstairs room is a color-coded guide to assist new Scouts. This key shows when/where requirements can be accomplished.

This guide is very helpful as it can provide a new scout with a “roadmap” of how to use his time in meetings and campouts prior to summer camp to avoid duplicating effort.

Merit Badges

No merit badges are required to reach First Class Rank, so it is not necessary to focus on merit badges during the first year of scouting. Scouts can earn any merit badge they want to earn at any time during their scouting career.

Where to Record Rank Advancements

Troop 370 records all rank advancement activities in the advancement section in the back of the book.

Who Records Rank Advancements/Requirements?

Instructors, the Scoutmaster, and Assistant Scoutmaster will sign each advancement activity.

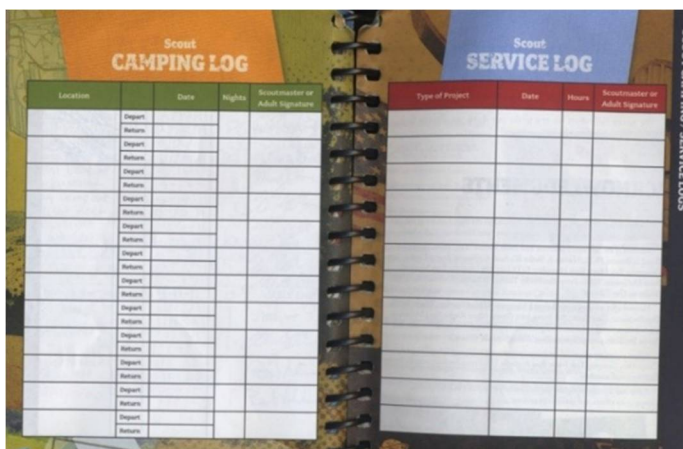
Exceptions: Merit Badges—Only registered Merit Badge Counselors

Service Hours

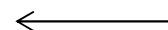
Beginning with the First Class rank, service hours are a requirement for rank advancement. Activities that qualify do not have to be scouting events. Any community service activity can count, including school, church, and scouting service activities.

GET IT LOGGED AND SIGNED by an Instructor, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or other registered adult leader.

Troop Events entered here. If not an overnight campout put “0” for night of camping. The Scout has adult leader present sign.



Service Hours entered here. The Scout has the adult leader or older Scout (Eagle Project) present sign.



Troop Events

Troop events are a requirement for Second Class and First Class rank advancement. Activities that are considered any official troop or patrol activities including campouts, courts of honor, Eagle service projects or any other special scouting events.

GET IT LOGGED AND SIGNED by an Instructor, Scoutmaster or Assistant scoutmaster.

What do you do if you lose your Scout Handbook?

All rank advancement must be recorded in your Scout Handbook, so don't wait too long to get a new one; however, don't panic over lost work. All work done toward ranks for which boys have already had a scoutmaster conference and Board of Review will have been saved on the troop database. The merit badge a scout has earned is recorded in the troop database as well. If you are concerned about the possibility of a lost BSA Handbook or lost rank advancement pages, consider taking photos of these pages periodically.

Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review

At the completion of each rank from Tenderfoot to Eagle, the Scout is required to participate in a conference with the Scoutmaster. This is to ensure that all requirements have been satisfactorily completed. When a Scout has completed the requirements, it is **his** responsibility to request a Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review. The Board of Review is conducted by adult scouters and is required for all ranks. The Board of Review in the lower ranks may include general questions related to the skills he has learned, but it will not be a re-test of those skills. As the Scout advances in rank these questions will be more centered on leadership, citizenship and character.

The Scout should present himself to the Board in the complete field uniform. This includes shirt, belt, pants, and socks.

Merit Badges

There are over 130 merit badges (MB) available in Scouting today with more being added each year. To obtain the highest Scouting rank of Eagle, a Scout must earn a minimum of 21 MBs. Of the 21 MBs, 13 specific MBs are required. This means that the Scout must earn these specific MBs, the remaining 8 MBs can be any MBs the Scout wants to earn. To advance from First Class to Star, Scouts are required to start earning MBs. The same is true from Star to Life and Life to Eagle. That said, a Scout could start earning MBs as soon as they become a registered Scout. Some, but not all, badge work may require prior approval of the MB Counselor.

Blue Cards

Blue cards are the record of merit badge progress. They are turned in to receive the MB after all the requirements have been met and the counselor has signed off on the card. **Prior to meeting with a MB Counselor, the Scoutmaster must sign the blue card.** Blue cards are not always required. They are mostly utilized when a Scout wants to start a Merit Badge outside of a formal class setting. The first step when using a blue card is to find an approved MB Counselor. Talk to your counselor and ask if he prefers a blue card. If so, fill out the Counselor's information, have the Scoutmaster sign the card, and start working on the MB. Once you start a card, there is no time limit to complete the MB, except a Scout's age.

Methods of Earning Merit Badges

There are many different ways Scouts can earn MBs; these different methods are listed below.

Troop Meetings and Special Sessions

Scouts attend a leadership retreat in August where they choose MBs they would like to have offered during troop meetings for the upcoming year. When a MB is offered at Troop meetings, a Scout simply needs to attend the meetings and do any outside requirements that cannot be done in a meeting setting. The Troop sometimes offers MB opportunities on a Saturday morning, especially if the MR requires several hours to complete. In each case, the MB counselor will turn in advancement records to the advancement chairman. In most cases, a blue card is not required for these MBs.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp is where a Scout will earn most of the MBs they will receive. Troop 370 requires that MBs be scheduled in all morning sessions. Afternoon sessions can also be scheduled. Just remember summer camp is for fun, not just earning merit badges. It is important to schedule some free time, too.

MeritBadge.info

This website (www.meritbadge.info) lists merit badge offerings from all over the Southeast. You can go online anytime and check out opportunities for all kinds of MBs. Scouts will need a blue card in most cases.

District and Council Announcements

These announcements are occasionally sent to the unit leaders. They are forwarded to the Troop members via email.

Many destinations around town offer merit badges for groups: the Georgia Aquarium, the Space Center in Huntsville, Alabama, the Tellus Museum for Geology, Lockheed, and CNN. If your son would like to do one of these, chances are other boys in the Troop would, too.

Individually

If your Scout knows an adult who is interested in helping him earn a particular merit badge, he can ask that adult to talk to the merit badge coordinator for information on how to become a counselor. After that adult officially becomes a counselor, he can help any Scout earn that MB. Your Scout would need to use a blue card to receive credit for the merit badge.

Scouts can pick up blank blue cards at any meeting. Blue cards are located in the Troop library in the upper room in the Activities Building.

Once a MB is started, a Scout can take as long as he wants to finish it. As each requirement is finished, he needs to let the Advancement Chair or the Merit Badge Coordinator know so it can be logged in the official Troop record. It is the Scout's responsibility to keep his blue card. If lost before it is recorded, it will have to be redone.

Parent Involvement

Parents signing off on requirements for their Scout, either for rank advancement or merit badges is strongly discouraged within Troop 370. There are plenty of adults that can sign off on requirements at any Wednesday meeting. The exception for this is the teaching of a Merit Badge class. If a parent becomes an approved MB counselor and holds a class open to other Scouts, he or she may sign off on his or her son if he is in the class.

Merit Badges (as of 2022)

American Business	Family Life	Plant Science
American Cultures	Farm Mechanics	Plumbing
American Heritage	Fingerprinting	Pottery
American Labor	Fire Safety	Programming
Animal Science	First Aid	Public Health
Archaeology	Fish & Wildlife Management	Public Speaking
Archery	Fishing	Pulp and Paper
Architecture	Fly Fishing	Radio
Art	Forestry	Railroading
Astronomy	Game Design	Reading
Athletics	Gardening	Reptile & Amphibian Study
Automotive Maintenance	Genealogy	Rifle Shooting
Aviation	Geocaching	Robotics
Backpacking	Geology	Rowing
Basketry	Golf	Safety
Bird Study	Graphic Arts	Salesmanship
Bugling	Health Care Professions	Scholarship
Camping	Hiking	Scouting Heritage
Canoeing	Home Repairs	Scuba Diving
Chemistry	Horsemanship	Sculpture
Chess	Indian Lore	Search & Rescue
Citizenship in the Community	Insect Study	Shotgun Shooting
Citizenship in the Nation	Inventing	Skating
Citizenship in Society	Journalism	Small-Boat Sailing
Citizenship in the World	Kayaking	Snow Sports
Climbing	Landscape Architecture	Soil & Water Conservation
Coin Collecting	Law	Space Exploration
Collections	Leatherwork	Sports
Communications	Lifesaving	Stamp Collecting
Composite Materials	Mammal Study	Surveying
Computers	Medicine	Sustainability
Cooking	Metalwork	Swimming
Crime Prevention	Model Design and Building	Textile
Cycling	Motorboating	Theater
Dentistry	Moviemaking	Traffic Safety
Disabilities Awareness	Music	Truck Transportation
Dog Care	Nature	Veterinary Medicine
Drafting	Nuclear Science	Water Sports
Electricity	Oceanography	Weather
Electronics	Orienteering	Welding
Emergency Preparedness	Painting	Whitewater
Energy	Personal Fitness	Wilderness Survival
Engineering	Personal Management	Wood Carving
Entrepreneurship	Pets	Woodwork
Environmental Science	Photography	
Exploration	Pioneering	

Eagle Required Merit Badges

- Camping
- Cycling *or* Hiking *or* Swimming
- Citizenship in the Community
- Citizenship in the Nation
- Citizenship in the World
- Citizenship in Society
- Communications
- Cooking
- Emergency Preparedness *or* Lifesaving
- Environmental Science *or* Sustainability
- Family Life
- First Aid
- Personal Fitness
- Personal Management

Eagle Court of Honor

An Eagle Court of Honor is the ceremony during which a Scout receives his Eagle Scout rank patch, neckerchief, and other regalia. Bring your young scout to as many of these as you can. This is a formal event in the sanctuary of St. James UMC. It requires field uniforms for Scouts attending and counts as a Troop event to be logged in the Scout Handbook.

Camping

Harry's (Troop 370) Packing List

Items in italics are essential (except for cold weather items when summer camping).

Carry in Pocket

Signed permission slip
Wallet w/money for lunch on Sunday

Basic Camping Equipment

Pack or Duffel Bag
Waterproof pack cover (or large garbage bag)
Sleeping bag in waterproof stuff sack or plastic bag
*Tent, with ground cloth***
Plastic zip bags for gear (to hold small items)
Foam sleeping pad

Kitchen

Water bottle(s) (1-2 liters)
Eating bowl
Drinking cup
Spoon & fork
Trail snacks (dried fruit, granola bar, etc.)

Clothing

Rain jacket or poncho
Rain pants
Extra shoes
Wool sweater or fleece
Hat or cap
Socks
Shirt
Clothes for sleeping
Long pants
Shorts
Swimsuit
Underwear
Shirt
Sunglasses

Toilet Articles

Soap
Small towel
Washcloth
Toothbrush & toothpaste
Comb
Toilet paper (in plastic bag)
Metal mirror
Chapstick
Personal prescription medicines
Personal first aid kit
Insect repellent
Sunscreen

Garage

Official Boy Scout Handbook in a plastic Ziploc® with a ball point pen
Nylon cord (25' of 1/8" to 3/16")
Pocketknife
Compass
Matches in waterproof case or bag
Whistle
Small rope or twine
Boy Scout Handbook (in ziploc bag)
Camera and film
Fishing gear
Small Notepad and Pen
Small amount of duct tape
Small sewing repair kit
Small change (for emergency calls)
Flashlight (with extra batteries and bulb)
Watch

**Either bring your own tent, arrange to sleep in another scout's tent, or arrange with your patrol leader to use a troop tent.

*Depends on weather.

Backpack Camping

Fall/Spring Backpacking Packing List

Items in italics are essential

Carry in Pocket

Wallet w/money for lunch on Sunday

Basic Camping Equipment

Pack (internal or external frame) – 55L to 75L capacity

Waterproof pack cover (or large garbage bag)

Sleeping bag (rated 20-35 degrees) in a stuff sack

(if stuff sack is not waterproof, line with a plastic bag)

2-person backpacking tent, with footprint or plastic ground cloth, plus tent stakes

(Troop has tents to use)

Plastic ziploc bags for gear (to hold small items), including "smellables" to put in bear bag

Closed cell foam or lightweight inflatable sleeping pad

Kitchen

Water bottle(s) or bladder(s) (1-2 liters)

Eating bowl or deep dish plate

Drinking cup

Spoon & fork (or spork)

Trail snacks (dried fruit, granola bar, etc.)

Your share of Patrol Gear and Supplies [LEAVE ROOM IN OR ON YOUR PACK FOR THESE]:

Food, pots, pans and utensils (e.g., large spoon)

Camp Stove

Sponge and Soap

Water Filter and/or sanitization tablets

Tarp (if weather requires it)

Clothing (**put extra clothes in ziploc or other waterproof or plastic bag**)

You are wearing (at least):

Pants/Shorts

Shirt

Hiking Socks (wool blend)

Sturdy hiking shoes or boots

Rain jacket or poncho

Rain pants

Polyester Fleece Jacket (insulates, even when wet)

Extra Socks

Extra underwear

Extra long pants/shorts

Extra Shirt

Clothes for sleeping

Extra shoes (i.e., lightweight camp shoes or old running shoes)
Hat or cap
Sunglasses

Toilet Articles

Camp Soap
Small towel
Toothbrush & toothpaste
Toilet paper (in plastic bag)
Chapstick
Personal prescription medicines
Personal first aid kit (hiking first aid kit, including moleskin)
Insect repellent
Sunscreen

Garage

Nylon cord (25' of 1/8" to 3/16")
Small rope or twine
Bungee Cords (at least one pair)
Carabiners
Pocketknife
Compass
Matches in waterproof case or bag
Whistle
Flashlight and/or headlamp (with extra batteries and bulb)
Copy of Rank Requirements from Boy Scout Handbook
Small Notepad and Pen
Small amount of duct tape
Watch

Supply Closet

Troop 370 has a large closet of camping supplies. Do not feel the need to buy everything your scout will need for camping.

List of Available Items:

- Backpacks
- Sleeping bags
- Tents
- Cooking stoves and single burner (for backpacking)
- Pots, pans, and cooking utensils
- Water filtration

During the meeting prior to a campout, your scout needs to seek the Quartermaster (another scout) or an Assistant Scoutmaster to help him with the necessary supplies. Simply return the items to the supply closet the following week. The scout needs to sign out and sign in items in clean, dry condition.

Uniform

Field Uniform



The field uniform (informally called “Class A”) is worn to all Scout meetings, whenever we travel, on Scout Sunday, for flag ceremonies, and for Courts of Honor. The field uniform consists of an official uniform shirt, uniform shorts or pants, belt, uniform socks, and closed toed shoes. A neckerchief, neckerchief slide, and merit badge sash should be worn to all Courts of Honor and on Scout Sunday. Insignia placement can be found online at:

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33066/33066_Scouts_BSA_Insignia_WEB.pdf

Activity Uniform

The activity uniform (informally called “Class B”) is worn to summer scout meetings, at summer camp (except to dinner), while on campouts, and during sporting activities. The activity uniform is a scout t-shirt, scout shorts, socks, and athletic shoes. Scout t-shirts can be the standard grey Troop t-shirt, any summer camp t-shirt, any of the t-shirts specially made for our high adventure treks, or any other Scouting-related t-shirt.

Troop 370 provides each new scout with a troop-specific neckerchief and a grey activity uniform t-shirt.

Obtaining a Uniform

We have a uniform exchange where Scouts may be able to find uniforms in their size, or you may purchase a uniform at the Scout Shop. The exchange is in one of the closets upstairs in the room where we have our meetings.

**Scout Shop, 1800 Circle 75 Pkwy SE, Atlanta, GA 30339
(770) 988-9912**

Store Hours:

Monday-Friday – 9 AM to 6 PM

Saturday – 9 AM to 5 PM

Sunday – Closed

Paperwork

Registration & Fees

Registration:

Each new Scout must fill out a new registration form, even if he was a Cub Scout in Pack 370. We also recommend that at least one parent register, particularly if you intend to drive to outings or go camping.

Annual Registration Fees (2022 Recharter):

\$135 Per Scout (\$65 if transferring as a registered Scout or Cub Scout with the Atlanta Area Council)

\$45 Per Parent

Fees for Outings/Activities:

Individual activities may have additional fees associated with the event. Typical overnight campouts are \$30 per person. Longer campouts like the MLK weekend campout cost around \$125. High adventure trips range from \$1,200-\$2,300. Fees include the cost of food, transportation, and any special program charges for equipment and instructors. On most weekend campouts, the fee is waived for adults driving and transporting Scouts. Merit badges taught within the Troop usually do not have a charge, but some merit badge clinics may have a fee to cover supplies.

How You Can Help

Troop 370 is a boy-led troop, a troop environment where the boys provide the leadership and adults play pure advisor, safety net, and logistics roles in the background. Parents are an integral part of supporting the boys and can help in many ways.

Activity Volunteer

Requests for help for specific activities such as preparations for Courts of Honor and fundraisers are sent via email as needed and include details and contact information.

Assistant Scoutmaster

Any adult male or female who is willing to wear a field uniform and offer general assistance to individual Scouts or with Troop activities may carry the title of Assistant Scoutmaster. These volunteers are often seen hanging out at weekly meetings waiting for Scouts to ask them for help with particular requirements. They take forms, help keep order when an adult voice is needed, and jump in when the situation needs another hand.

Merit Badge Counselor

The Troop needs your talents to help our Scouts advance toward Eagle. There are currently 125 merit badges each Scout can earn. Decide which you would like to offer to counsel either as a class or individually, and contact our merit badge coordinator. A complete list of merit badges and their requirements can be found at www.meritbadge.com.

Trip Captain

We rely extensively on parents to help coordinate our monthly campouts. The Troop has been planning campouts for years and the coordinator can provide you with all the information necessary to help you succeed in this role.

Campout Attendance/Drivers

Adults are needed for every campout! Parents of younger Scouts sometimes worry if they will be a nuisance or distract from the trip for their son. Honestly, the Scouts tend to do their thing, and the adults do theirs. As long as you respect the “boys lead the Troop” ideal, you’ll be fine. Parents are always welcome, but younger non-scout siblings and pets may not attend.

Assisting the Patrol Shopper

For most weekend campouts, the boys will form cooking patrols of 4-8 Scouts, and they will plan a menu and create a grocery list with estimated costs. If your son is designated to be the Patrol Shopper for the campout, please take him to the grocery store and help him complete his shopping duties. Remind him to be respectful of the patrol's food choices and be considerate of the budget for the campout. Before arriving at the Church for the campout, the Scout should place the refrigerated items in a cooler and pack the other food items in sturdy box or other container. The Troop collects camping fees from each participant and then reimburses the Patrol Shopper for the cost of the patrol food. Your Scout will have information regarding the reimbursement process. The budget is an important part of the planning process, but do not be concerned if you run a few dollars over; the Troop will reimburse the reasonable costs of the groceries, and the boys will discuss what might have been done to stay within the budget.

Troop Committee

The Troop Committee functions as an administration and support organization for the Troop. The Troop Committee takes care of newsletter, troop funds, fundraising, membership, advancement records and procurement and maintenance of Troop equipment. Troop Committee meetings are open and attendance by all parents is encouraged. The Troop Committee meets monthly, usually the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 PM in the St. James Activities Building.

What Can I Do?

More detailed information about serving as an adult volunteer can be found in the current "What Can I Do?" publication posted on the Troop website at troop370atlanta.org » *Members* » *What Can I Do?*

Training

For many reasons, including training, it is best to register yourself as a member of the Troop when you register your son. Many training courses are available online, such as *Youth Protection Training*, *Safety Afloat*, *Safe Swim Defense*, and *This is Scouting*. Anyone can log on and take these courses at any time at my.scouting.org. You will need to create an account, which will ask for your BSA number. If you don't have your number yet (these are assigned by the Council with your adult registration), just proceed without one, and you can link your BSA number with your training later when you get your number.

Facebook

Did you know that Troop 370 has its own Facebook page? Permission slips, documents, photos and calendar information are posted frequently.

Look for "Boy Scout Troop 370, Atlanta, GA"
or type this into your browser's URL bar:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/126169727423188/?fref=ts>

Weekly Newsletter

Troop 370 sends a weekly newsletter. Submit your email address to [xxx*](#) to be included.

**Note: Email addresses are included in the version of the Parent Handbook in the Members Section of the Troop Website*

Useful Websites and Emails

Troop 370

troop370atlanta.org/

Troop 370 Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/126169727423188/?fref=ts>

Health Form Submissions

xxx*

Application Submissions

xxx*

To be added to Troop email list

xxx*

To be added to TroopMaster Web

xxx*

Atlanta Area Council

[Atlanta Area Council | Boy Scouts of America \(atlantabsa.org\)](http://atlantabsa.org)

National Boy Scouts

[Boy Scouts of America | Prepared. For Life.™ \(scouting.org\)](http://scouting.org)

Merit Badge University

[Meritbadge.Info Main Page](http://Meritbadge.Info)

Merit Badge Info and Worksheets

[US Scouting Service Project \(usscouts.org\)](http://USScouts.org)

St James UMC

[St. James United Methodist Church \(stjamesatlanta.org\)](http://stjamesatlanta.org)

**Note: Email addresses are included in the version of the Parent Handbook in the Members Section of the Troop Website*