



## Troop 15 Fact Sheet

### What I need to know on “Day One” after my son joins Troop 15?

Joining a troop should be a wonderful experience for both parents and Scouts. In order to keep from being overwhelmed by new customs and practices, the following is provided to help answer some of the many questions frequently asked when first joining the Troop. Further elaboration on these points can be discussed with the Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairman, or Assistant Scoutmasters in the Troop.

#### 1. Troop Meetings:

- ◆ Regular Meetings (August - May) –
  - Gathering begins at Scout Hut on Heard Avenue at 6:30 p.m.,
  - Flag Ceremony at 6:45 p.m. sharp!
  - Meetings last until about 8:15 p.m. unless otherwise notified by Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chairman.
- ◆ Summer Meetings (June - July) - Generally, the Troop does not meet during the summer except for summer camp or other organized outings.
- ◆ After Campouts - Troop meetings will not be held the following Monday that a campout is held unless other notified by the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chairman. The reason is to give the boys a chance to clean gear after a campout.

#### 2. What about uniforms?

- ◆ Uniforms are to be worn to all Troop functions.
- ◆ Attached is a Scout Uniform Information Sheet that lists the uniform items and where to buy the uniform.
- ◆ Class A Uniform –
  - The Troop wears the traditional, official BSA uniform (called “Class A”) to all regular meetings and for all special occasions such as Court of Honors, etc.
  - Troop neckerchief will be worn at Court of Honor and public events such as parades, fundraisers, and other Troop functions. Scouts do not need to wear them to Troop Meetings.
  - On campouts, you will be notified if your son is to wear a Class A or if they need to bring this uniform to wear on the campout.
  - The official “Class A” uniform is available from the Council Scout Shop in Columbus and West Point.
- ◆ Class B Uniform –
  - This uniform is worn under the Class A uniform (allows them to change into this uniform at Troop meeting if needed), campouts and designated work days/service projects.
  - The “Class B” uniform is the Troop 15 t-shirt, a Scouting Camp t-shirt, or a BSA t-shirt purchased from a Council Scout Shop.
  - Additional Troop 15 t-shirts can be purchased. Short Sleeve Shirts are \$10.00 and Long Sleeve Shirts are \$12.00.

#### 3. Financial commitments

- ◆ Registration Fee - There will be a one time **activity fee of \$35** when the boy joins the Troop. This fee includes Troop Class B t-shirt, Troop 15 number patch, and Troop Neckerchief.
- ◆ Yearly Troop Fee –
  - Instead of collecting dues on a monthly basis, we are requesting that each scout pay a yearly **Troop 15 fee of \$100.**
  - This fee can be paid all at once or can be paid in three installments in Sept., Jan. or March.
  - A scout can pay for all or some of this fee by selling popcorn.

- This fee will go to purchase meeting materials, advancement rank, and equipment needed to carry out the scouting program.
  - ◆ Campout/Outing Fees - Troop 15 will participate in monthly outdoor activities in order to earn advancement and practice the scout skills that they have learned at a troop meeting. Fees will be based on the type of event.
4. **Outdoor Activities:**
- ◆ During the Scout year (August – May), the Troop will try go on one campout/outing each month except for December.
  - ◆ Transportation is usually needed for these outings. We sometimes will need to rely on Troop 15 parents to transport the boys to and from events.
  - ◆ Adults are welcome and encouraged to attend campouts/outings whenever possible. This includes male and females. Adults accompanying Scouts on campouts/outings will eat and sleep as a patrol and will be asked to pay half of the campout/outing fee.
  - ◆ Firm commitments for campout/outing attendance, including payment for the outing, must be made the Monday prior to the outing. The reason is to allow the scouts to purchase enough food for those attending.
  - ◆ If a scout commits to a trip and any costs are expended based upon that commitment, the scout is responsible for paying those costs whether he attends the event or not. Emergency situations will be handled on a case by case basis.
  - ◆ In June 2009, the Troop will be attending the BSA High Adventure Base in Northern Tier for a 10 day canoeing expedition into the Boundary Waters into Canada. Scouts must be 14 years old by June 2009.
5. **Summer Camp:**
- ◆ Troop will attend summer camp at Camp Daniel Boone in North Carolina.
  - ◆ The troop has put down the required deposit. The cost per scout is estimated at \$300. The cost is dependent on whether or not the Troop goes rafting during the week. This does not include activity fees at camp.
  - ◆ First payment of \$100 is due on March 2009.
  - ◆ It is strongly recommended that every scout attend summer camp. ***It is the single most important activity of the scout year.***
  - ◆ The cost of summer camp can be offset by the scout selling popcorn this fall.
  - ◆ The website is [www.campdanielboone.org](http://www.campdanielboone.org).
6. **Troop Fundraisers -**
- ◆ Scouting is made affordable through the troop's fundraising efforts as well as allocations from Cornerstone United Methodist Church which is Troop 15's Chartered Organization.
  - ◆ Fundraising is used to support purchasing equipment as new scouts join, sponsoring scholarships for uniforms and summer camp for those scouts who cannot afford it, and other Troop expenses.
  - ◆ Fundraising requires scout and parent support -- and participation.
  - ◆ The troop will possibly participate in two fundraisers:
    - Popcorn Sales in October. John Jerome is Troop 15 Popcorn Chairman.
    - BBQ Plate Sale or another type of sale.
  - ◆ We will be asking each family and scout to help promote it, sell tickets, and working the day of the fundraiser.
7. **Troop Advancement**
- ◆ Scoutmaster, Asst. Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairman, and registered merit badge counselors may sign-off requirements.
  - ◆ Advancement requirements may be met on campouts/outings, at summer camp, at Scout meetings or scheduled merit badge counselor appointments.
  - ◆ Merit Badge Counselors:
    - We need merit badge counselors to complete a Merit Badge Application and Scout Leader Application if not registered.
    - Most of the merit badges will be conducted outside of the scout meetings.

- When a scout wishes to earn a merit badge, he must first meet with an adult counselor.
- The troop will maintain a directory of these adults.
- In no case shall a scout meet with a merit badge counselor alone. Each scout should have buddy or parent with him, or should meet in a public place.
- The requirements for each of the over 100 badges are available at [www.meritbadge.com](http://www.meritbadge.com).

In order for the scout to advance, it requires the following:

- a. Fulfill the requirement of rank by learning the skills, practicing the skills, and demonstrating proficiency to a Scoutmaster or Asst. Scoutmaster.
- b. Participate in scout meetings and campouts/outings on a regular basis.
- c. Ability to learn and retain skills through specific requirements for lower ranks and merit badges for higher ranks. There are certain requirements that must be met for merit badge work to count. It must be carried out by a registered merit badge counselor.
- d. Exhibit Scouting spirit by living the Scout Oath and Law and wearing the proper Scout Uniform to Troop functions.
- e. Participation in service projects and leadership positions for certain ranks.
- f. Completing a Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review.
- g. Attending Court of Honor.

## **8. Parents and Families**

Here are some examples of ways parents can help with the troop.

- ◆ Become a registered uniformed and trained leader (Assistant Scoutmaster and Troop Committee). Training offered includes Fast Start, Leader Essential, Leader Specific, Outdoor Training, Wood badge, etc.)
- ◆ Become active in the Troop Committee by signing up to be responsible for one of the following areas: membership, advancement, troop popcorn sales, fundraising, outdoor program, troop equipment, social events (Court of Honors, Christmas Party, etc.) or serving as a member.
- ◆ Become a merit badge counselor in a subject in which you have interest and experience. Please fill out a Merit Badge Counselor form if you are interested in a particular Merit Badge (see attached application).
- ◆ Assist with the planning and logistics for a campout
- ◆ Drive to and from events
- ◆ Help arrange a service project
- ◆ Participate in an outing or backpacking trip
- ◆ Assist with Skill Instruction for new Scouts

## **9. Troop Information:**

- ◆ Troop 15 has a website link on the district website - [www.saugahatchee.org](http://www.saugahatchee.org).

## **10. For questions or need additional information, contact the following:**

- ◆ Todd Sandt, Scoutmaster – 334-319-0999
- ◆ Andrew Baird, Asst. Scoutmaster –334-826-1206
- ◆ Lisa Sandt, Troop 15 Committee Chairman – 334-740-2972
- ◆ Ron Fordham, New Scout Coordinator – 334 -502-6502

## **11. Attached is the following Troop 15:**

- ◆ Scout Shop Information
- ◆ Boy Scout Information Sheet
- ◆ Parent/Guardian Information Sheet

## Information on Uniforms

### What you will need to buy:

Cap  
Council Shoulder Patch  
Shirt (long or short-sleeve)  
Belt  
Pants  
Socks

### Troop 15 will provide to your son:

Boy Scout Handbook  
Troop 15 Unit Numerals  
Patrol Emblem  
Shoulder Loops

### Where to buy the uniforms:

1. Internet: [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org)

#### 2. Scout Shops

##### A. Columbus Boy Scout Service Center

PO Box 5425  
5480 Schatulga Road  
Columbus, GA 31906  
**Telephone:** 706-327-2634  
**Fax:** 706-327-3622  
**Email:** [cgates@bsamail.org](mailto:cgates@bsamail.org)

##### **Hours of operation:**

--Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. EST  
--Saturday 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. EST  
--*Fall Extended Hours* valid for Saturdays in August, September and October  
Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. EST  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. EST

##### **Directions**

--From Macon Rd., traveling East, turn right onto Schatulga Rd.  
--From US 80E, turn right on Flat Rock Rd. Flat Rock becomes Schatulga Rd.  
Beige stone colored building/First building on the left hand side  
--From Buena Vista Rd., traveling east, Buena Vist Rd becomes Schatulga Rd.  
Last building on the right, before you reach Macon Rd.

##### B. West Point Scout Shop

805 Avenue C  
West Point, GA 31833  
**Phone:** (706) 645-1682

##### **Hours of operation:**

--Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. EST  
--Saturday 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. EST

##### **Directions:**

--From I-85, exit 1, travel north to Avenue C. Turn left. One block on your right.

**TROOP 15  
BOY SCOUT INFORMATION SHEET**

**YOUTH INFORMATION**

1. Name:
2. Address:
3. Home Phone:
4. Birthday (Needed for Charter):
5. Cell Phone:
6. Email Address:

**PARENT INFORMATION**

1. Parent(s) Name:
2. Parent(s) Work Phone:
3. Parent(s) Cell Phone:
4. Parent(s) Email Address:

**TROOP T-SHIRT ORDERS**

1. Troop 15 Class B T-shirt Size: Youth M  
Youth L  
Adult Small  
Adult Mediums  
Adult Large  
Adult XL  
Adult XXL  
Adult XXXL
2. Number of Additional Shirts (\$9.00 for extra shirts, Troop 15 provides 1 at no cost as part of \$35 registration fee):

**TROOP 15  
PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION SHEET**

**SERVING AS A LEADER**

1. Are you interested in serving as a leader or your spouse?
2. I am interested in learning how to serve in the following leadership roles:
  - a. Troop Committee Member (Coordinates fundraisers, transportation, summer camp, campouts, Troop parties, communications, etc.)
  - b. Asst. Scoutmaster
  - c. Serving as a merit badge counselor
  - d. Teaching scout skills at a Scout Meeting
  - e. Attending camp outs
  - f. Attending summer camp
  - f. Other interests:

**ROSTER INFORMATION**

1. Name:
2. Address:
3. Home Phone:
4. Cell Phone:
5. Employer:
6. Work Phone:
7. Email Address:
8. Birthday (Need for charter if you serve as a leader):
9. Spouse Name:
10. Spouse Work Phone:
11. Spouse Cell Phone:
12. Spouse Email Address:

**TROOP T-SHIRT ORDERS**

Troop 15 Class B T-shirt Size: Adult: S M L XL XXL XXXL

Number of Shirts (\$9.00 a shirt; if you paid the \$35 registration fee as an adult, the troop provides 1 shirt at no cost):