

Dear Scout and Parent,

On behalf of the scouts and leaders of Troop 130, I would like to welcome you to our family. Troop 130 is a very busy and active Troop. We thank you for choosing our troop and hope that we can provide the guidance and quality program that you are looking for.

Many of you have been involved with scouting through the Cub Scouts. Scouting in a troop is a bit different than scouting in a pack. While the basic principles remain the same, the way they are achieved is quite different. In a Scouts BSA Troop, the scouts will be leading the program. They help plan the events, lead the meetings, and help teach the skills. This may feel a little disorganized or chaotic; however, let me assure you that there is a purpose behind all of this. The adult leaders are there for support and guidance, and to ensure that the scouts do not wander too far off the track.

To the scouts, I say, "Be Prepared." While less than 6 in one hundred youth who enter Scouts BSA achieve the rank of Eagle, the lessons and skills learned here will last a lifetime. Whether it is seeing a sunrise at the top of a mountain, or catching a fish at Sea Base. Good luck!

To the parents, I say, "Get involved." Your child is now at least ten or eleven years old. Over the next 2-3 years you will see tremendous changes in them, both physically and mentally. Take this opportunity to be a part of your child's life and development. The troop is not a baby sitter for those parents dumping their sons to gain more free time, the Scouting program works at its best when generous amounts of parental motivation and encouragement are there to help the scout along the way. From time to time you will be called upon to provide assistance to the troop. For those who would like to become more active in the organization, we always have openings in the leadership and committee positions. And to you the parent, good luck!

Yours in Scouting,  
Ms. Laura

\*This is a compilation of several manuals developed by Troops across the US

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**The Scout Oath:**

On my honor, I will do my best,  
to do my duty to God and my country,  
and to obey the scout law;  
to help other people at all times;  
to keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake and morally straight

**The Scout Law:**

A scout is: trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous,  
kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent

**The Scout Motto:**

Be prepared

**The Scout Slogan:**

Do a good turn daily

**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. Be conservation minded.

The Scout Law and Oath are the foundation of the Scouting program. Every Scout in the world takes a similar pledge. The Oath and Law are simple to understand and take the place of endless rules and regulations. Each of our Scouts will recite these from memory as part of earning their first ("Scout") badge. Parents can assist their new Scout by helping them to memorize the Scout Oath and the Scout Law

# Getting Started with Troop 130

\*Troop 130 is chartered by the Fort Mill Rotary Club. Our Charter Representative is Wayne Bouldin. The troop meets at St. John's United Methodist Church in Fort Mill. Our liaison to the church is, Tevis Vandergriff. Troop 130 is open to boys and families of all religious backgrounds.

The first step is to fill out an application through [join.scouting.org](http://join.scouting.org). Our [troop link is provided here](#). You will also be directed to pay your dues to the National BSA organization.

Once you have filled out your application, you will need to pay our troop fees. There are dues that will be prorated based on the month you join. **Annual dues are paid in December for the following year. These dues are the cost of the national registration fee + \$70**

**There is also a joining fee of \$75.** This one-time fee is used to provide your scout with the following items:

1. A new Scout BSA Handbook,
2. A Troop 130 Class B t-shirt
3. A Troop 130 string backpack
4. A Troop 130 neckerchief
5. A patrol patch

Once he receives his Boy Scout Handbook, a Scout should complete the pamphlet exercises at the front of the book with a parent (please initial somewhere on the cover when you complete it). This is a requirement for the first ("Scout") badge. Also, going over the other requirements for the Scout badge (page 4 of the Boy Scout Handbook) and reading the first two chapters of the handbook will give a new Scout a jump start on the program. We recommend that parents also read these chapters, as they provide a good overview of the program.

## Uniforms:

The official Scouts BSA uniform consists of a scout shirt, scout pants or shorts, a scout web belt or a leather belt, a pair of scout socks, and an appropriate pair of shoes for the current activity. This is known unofficially as the "class A" uniform. Members of Scouts BSA may purchase components of the official Scouts BSA uniform at the Scout Shop located on Westinghouse Blvd. You can also purchase them online through the Palmetto Council website or at [www.ScoutShop.org](http://www.ScoutShop.org).

\* You do not have to purchase the entire uniform right away. See the note below about what our troop expects the scout to wear.

The Following Insignia Are To Be Provided By The Scout For His Uniform:

1. Palmetto Council Strip - For the left shoulder.
  2. Troop 130 numerals (tan and green) - On the left shoulder
  3. Green Loops - For shirt Epaulets. – If the scout is crossing over from Pack 130, these will be provided by the troop as part of the Crossover Ceremony.
  5. World Crest - Above left pocket.
  6. Merit Badge Sash – You will need this only after your scout has earned his first Merit Badge.
- \* Patrol patch is provided by the troop - For right shoulder.

The uniform is to be worn to ALL SCOUTING ACTIVITIES, including meetings, camp outs, and outings, unless specified by the adult leadership.

For Troop 130 we ask that scouts wear olive green pants, blue jeans or other pants or shorts with belt loops when wearing the Class A Uniform Shirt. The neckerchief should be worn with the Class A shirt. The Merit Badge Sash is worn for formal occasions. Closed toes shoes should always be worn as well.

During the summer, from Memorial Day until Labor Day we allow the scouts to wear the Class B t-shirt to the regular meetings. However, if the scout is coming in for a Board of Review, he should wear his full uniform including his neckerchief and Merit Badge Sash.

\* While we do provide one cotton Class B t-shirt with the joining fee. We offer a chance to purchase additional Class B items in May or June each year. You will have the opportunity to purchase extra cotton t-shirts, performance t-shirts or hoodies with our troop design.

### **Communication:**

Please follow [this link](#) to update your family contact information in our Troop Google Doc.

You will be emailed a notice from ScoutBook to connect with your scout in this program. This is how you can see how your scout is progressing. You can also sign up to sync your calendar with ours. You can receive email updates about upcoming events too.

Make sure you join our BSATroop130 Facebook Group to see photos and posts about things that are going on.

Check out our website [www.Troop-130.com](http://www.Troop-130.com) to follow our Blog, and to see our calendar in another location.

## Meetings

**Troop 130 meets regularly on Tuesdays from 6:45 – 8:15** at St. Johns United Methodist Church, 130 Tom Hall St. in Fort Mill, SC. Please be on time to pick up your scout. We typically meet on every Tuesday throughout the school year, unless there is a day off from school. (No School = No Scouts) We follow the Fort Mill School District Calendar for this policy and for inclement weather. This does not apply to summer vacation. We continue to meet throughout the summer.

**Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)** – The first meeting of each month is set aside as the PLC. This is a meeting for the Scout Youth Leadership of Troop 130 to plan for the upcoming meetings.

**Court Of Honor (COH)** – Three times a year Troop 130 will hold a COH to recognize advancement, awards, and merit badges. This is a formal ceremony and all family members are cordially invited to attend and show support for the Troop and Scouts. They are typically held on a regular meeting night in September, January and May.

**Eagle Scout COH** – This is a special COH held for a new Eagle Scout. This program is planned by the Eagle Scout and his family with help from the adult leadership. The ECOH can be held at St. John's UMC by working with the Facilities Coordinator to reserve a date. The family will also be asked to make a donation to the church for using the Fellowship Hall. The ECOH can also be held at other venues, the scout's own church or temple, outside, or at the location of the Eagle Project.

The troop librarian has a copy of an Eagle Scout Ceremony book that can be checked out by the scout to help him plan his ECOH. The troop will provide the Eagle "kit" which includes the Eagle medal, the Eagle rank patch, parent pins and a mentor pin. The family may choose to purchase an Eagle Scout neckerchief and slide and a certificate cover if they would like. There are multiple designs, so we allow the family to choose which one they like. Sometimes a special person like a grandparent or a family friend purchases the neckerchief and slide to present it at the ECOH. Other items related to the Eagle Scout rank including invitations, napkins and other decorations can also be purchased at the Scout Shop on Westinghouse, or online at [www.ScoutShop.org](http://www.ScoutShop.org).

# Outdoor Activities:

## Camping

The troop participates in three different types of camping each year.

**1. District Weekend Camping Events:** There are 3 major district camping events each year: Beach Sweep, Polar Bear and Spring Camporee. Each event begins on Friday night and ends on Sunday morning. These campouts may cost a little more than others because of the cost that we pay the district to be involved. They also tend to be a little further from home. Scouts will get a chance to see other troops in action and often times participate in Scoutcraft competitions to earn some bragging rights. This is a great chance for Scouts to show off those skills they have learned.

**2. Troop 130 Short Campouts:** These campouts are held at local State and County Parks. These can be one or two nights. These campouts are generally more laid back so that the scouts have time to hang out, go fishing or hiking, play ultimate Frisbee or football. It is also a great time to work on cooking skills since we have more time to prepare more challenging menus. It is a great opportunity for parents to join us and share in any skills that they may have like fishing or outdoor cooking.

**3. Summer Camp:** This is a week-long camping program. We typically leave on a Sunday morning and return the following Saturday afternoon. This is a great time for earning merit badges that they can't typically earn at home: shooting sports, climbing, and water craft activities. It is also a great chance for new scouts to attend a "new scout" program that will help them earn Tenderfoot and parts of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class and 1<sup>st</sup> Class ranks.

## Additional Camping Opportunities:

### High Adventure Camps

The BSA owns four High Adventure Facilities. The troop could choose to attend one of these camps instead of a regular summer camp. Or individual Scouts can join up with other units who are planning a trip to one of these camps and go along with them. Scouts must be at least 14 years old and 1<sup>st</sup> Class Rank to attend one of these camps.

**1. [Philmont Scout Ranch](#)** - Philmont Scout Ranch, the Boy Scouts of America's premier High Adventure™ base, challenges Scouts and Venturers with more than 214 square miles of rugged northern New Mexico wilderness. Backpacking treks, horseback cavalcades, and training and service programs offer young people many ways to experience this legendary country.

**2. [Sea Base Florida](#)** - Sea Base is a unique Scouting program that offers aquatics programs found nowhere else. Whether your interests lie in sailing, scuba diving, rustic

camping on an undeveloped barrier island, fishing or a combination of all, this is the place for your Troop, Crew, Sea Ship or Explorer Post.

3. [Northern Tier](#) - Northern Tier is the Boy Scouts of America's gateway to adventure in the Great Northwoods. In the summer, scouts from Northern Tier's three wilderness canoe bases explore millions of acres of pristine lakes, meandering rivers, dense forests and wetlands in Northern Minnesota, Northwest Ontario and Northeast Manitoba. In the winter, Northern Tier is home to the Okpik Cold-Weather Camping program, the BSA's premier winter high adventure program.

4. [Summit Bechtel Reserve](#) - Situated in the wilds of West Virginia, The Summit is a training, Scouting, and adventure center for the millions of youth and adults involved in the Boy Scouts of America and anyone who loves the outdoors. The Summit Bechtel Reserve is also home to the National Scout Jamboree and the Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base. With incredible facilities and amazing outdoor programs, The Summit is a place that takes Scouts and Venturers to the limits of what they think they can do, and then pushes them further.

#### [National Jamboree](#)

National Jamboree is held once every four years at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. Scouts from all over the country head to the summit for 10 days of fun. Our Palmetto Council will put together 1-2 contingencies made up of 36 youth and 4 adults from around the council. This new "patrol" will train together and then attend the National Jamboree as a unit.

\* On years that the National Jamboree is held, Troop 130 tries to take any younger scouts or scouts who were not able to attend the full program to visit the Jamboree as a Day Visitor. We will camp in West Virginia for 2-3 nights and use a day pass to visit the Jamboree. It is truly something to see.

#### **A NOTE ABOUT TRANSPORTATION AND CAMPING**

Adults are needed to provide transportation for all troop equipment and personal gear. Without parent participation our camp outs are limited to wherever the scouts can hike to. Throughout the year, parents will be asked to drive scouts to the campouts. And if they have a vehicle with a trailer hitch, they may be asked to pull the troop trailer. The other alternative is that each parent will be responsible for delivering their scout to the site of the camp out. Some special long distance camp outs may require that the drivers camp with the troop.

Transporting Scouts to and from activities is an important part of all outings. The vehicle and driver must meet BSA requirements as outlined in "Guide to Safe Scouting." The vehicle must have a seat belt for each passenger and always be worn. The driver must be over 21 years of age to transport scouts.



## Hiking

We are beginning to add hiking as a regular part of the Troop 130 outdoor program. We are going to try and include six hikes each year. The majority of these hikes will be 4-10 miles long. We will be traveling to different and interesting locations around the Carolinas to hike. Parents are welcome to join us and will be needed for transportation.

## Health and Medical

In order to participate in our Outdoor Program, Troop 130 must have an updated medical form for your scout. Typically these are updated each year in the spring sometime before Summer Camp. Each scout and adult who is planning to participate should fill out part A and B of the medical form for most of our activities. If you will be attending a campout that lasts longer than 72 hours, you must also have a doctor fill out part C of the medical form. These will be collected in June each year. [You can find a fillable PDF version of the medical forms here.](#)

# Advancement

**Rank Advancement:** When your scout initially enters the Troop, they will be placed in a patrol. This patrol is a group of scouts, of various ages, which will be working together. During the first year, their advancement is geared primarily to achieving the rank of First Class. Troop Guides and Instructors, and scouts appointed by the Scoutmaster, will work with the new scouts to help them develop the scouting skills necessary to attain the ranks of Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class.

The first four ranks, Scout through First Class, emphasize “Scoutcraft” skills – basic skills that each Scout is expected to know and master – such things as outdoor skills, nature, first aid, and safety. The requirements for each of these can be worked on simultaneously. For example, a Scout can complete first aid requirements for all three ranks at the same time.

As a scout learns these skills, he can ask an older scout (a scout who has already earned Life Rank) or a leader to sign off that requirement in his Scout Handbook. Periodically, he will need to show his handbook to the Advancement Chair so these can be updated in Scout Book.

The higher ranks, Star, Life, and Eagle are achieved primarily through earning merit badges, providing leadership and providing service to others.

\* Scouts should always bring their handbooks to all meetings and campouts so that requirements can be signed off. Make sure the scout’s name is written in the book as well as on the side. Please keep the book in a waterproof bag for outdoor activities.

**Scout Master Conference (SMC)** – A SMC is required for all ranks. These can be done at any meeting EXCEPT the PLC. When a scout is ready for his SMC, he needs to request one from our SM – Laura Cripe (Laura@LearnByStorm.com). Ideally, they will be completed with SM Laura Cripe, but they can also be completed with our Assistant Scout Masters when the SM is not available.

**Board of Review (BOR)** – A BOR is required for most ranks. These will be done on the first Tuesday of each month. When a scout is ready for his BOR, he needs to request one from our Troop Committee Chairman – Marc Cripe. (MCripe@gmail.com)

\* Please remember that when a scout e-mails any scout leader, he still needs to maintain 2-deep leadership. For this reason, the scout MUST copy another adult on the e-mail. This can be a parent or another leader in Troop 130.

**Merit Badges:** There are a variety of MBs that can be earned by scouts. They can be earned at Merit Badge Colleges, summer camp, virtually and at our own meetings. Scouts must ask the SM for permission to earn a MB before he begins. The SM will help the scout find a Merit Badge Counselor (MBC) to work with. In most cases, the Scout will

need to get a Blue Card from our Advancement Chair (Sri Nalajala) before beginning. Scouts must contact the MBC BEFORE beginning to work on the MB.

**The Road to Eagle:** Earning the Eagle Rank is a bit different from the other ranks. In addition to the other requirements that are completed with Troop 130, the scout will need to complete his Eagle Project. To complete this project, the scout will need to fill out the [Eagle Scout Application Workbook which can be found online](#). The troop leadership will guide the scout through this process. Once the application is prepared, the candidate will need to meet with the Palmetto Council or York District Eagle Committee. This meeting is held on the second Wednesday of the month.

Once they have approved the application and project the scout will work to complete the project. When it is completed, the scout will finalize his application workbook and have a final BOR with the Palmetto Council or York District Eagle Committee. This meeting is held on the first Wednesday of the month.

### **Other Comments**

- It is a Scout's responsibility to advance. A Scout should always have a plan for rank advancement and stick to it. Slow, steady progress is the key to success. The Scout is expected to take the initiative to learn the background on a particular requirement and demonstrate that knowledge to an adult leader. The requirement is specific and the expectations are no more or less than listed. "Demonstrate" means just that – the Scout must actually perform the action. Once it is completed it can be signed off by the appropriate person: An older scout or adult for Scout-1<sup>st</sup> Class Rank, an adult leader for Star-Eagle Rank, a registered MBC for MBs.
- Parents should monitor their son's progress and encourage his continued advancement. Scouts are supposed to do this on their own, but a tactful nudge from time to time is often in order.
- The board will expect a Scout in a leadership position to have fulfilled the responsibilities of that position. A Scout-led Troop relies upon its Scout leaders to do their jobs – this is important in the leadership development for the Scout as well as the effect on the Troop. A Scout who has not consistently performed the duties of his assigned or elected leadership position can expect to have his rank advancement postponed by the board.
- One of the requirements at the higher rank levels is to be active in the troop for a length of time. We expect that the scout is currently "being active" when they come forward for their BOR. This means that the scout attends meetings regularly, attends outdoor activities such as camping and hiking as well as other activities planned by the troop.
- The Eagle rank is not simply about a Scout completing a checklist of items. Eagles are expected to be proven leaders and Troop 130 therefore expects its Eagle candidates to have actively sought and enthusiastically carried out senior leadership roles. Since Eagles

represent the top 6% of Scouts, it is reasonable to expect them to have filled leadership positions such as PL, SPL or ASPL

## **Troop Funds**

### **Fundraisers**

Troop 130 regularly participates in the two Palmetto Council fundraisers each year. If the troop decides to do a larger camping trip to a high adventure program or to a special trip, we may decide to do additional fundraisers specifically to help fund that special program.

**I. Popcorn** – This is our largest fundraiser of the year. Popcorn is sold in the fall, usually in October. We ask that every scout participates in this fundraiser. We have found that by selling popcorn, we can keep our costs down for individual scouts. We ask that every scout sells \$300 in popcorn. This can be done by participating in booth sales organized by the popcorn kernel, selling popcorn from your individual popcorn “cart” to your friends and neighbors or taking orders that will be delivered at a later date. Scouts can also share their online profile and people can order popcorn that will be delivered straight to their own home.

In order to help our scouts fund their own adventure, we allow the scouts to have a “scout account”. Our troop earns between 32% and 36% of the popcorn sale. After selling the \$300 that is required by the troop, 30% of any additional popcorn that you sell will be added to your “scout account”. This money can be used to pay for things like troop dues, campouts or summer camp. So the more the scout sells, the less your family will have to pay to participate in scouting.

**2. Scouting Adventure Cards (formally known as Camp Cards)** – The Palmetto Council works with local businesses to create a discount card program. There are cards for Rock Hill, Fort Mill/Indian Land and other areas. Our troop does not require scouts to sell Camp Cards; it is completely voluntary. Cards sell for \$10 and for each card your scout sells, \$5 will be added to his scout account. This is a great way to earn money for camp.

### **The Troop Budget**

Each year the Troop committee creates a budget of anticipated expenditures for the year ahead. What is Troop money spent for? The Troop buys new equipment from time to time (such as tents, Dutch ovens, stoves, and other camping gear). The troop also purchases all MBs and award insignia earned by the scouts and this often goes far beyond what we collect in dues. Adult registrations are paid for by the Troop. The Troop treasury also fronts registration fees and deposits for activities which are generally required well before individual Scouts register for the trips. From time to time the costs of trips exceed the individual Scouts’ payments and the Troop will assume the difference to keep fees reasonable for the Scouts. The Troop, like any organization, also has administrative fees (stamps, paper, copying, etc) that are paid from Troop funds. The Troop treasurer keeps a detailed budget that is presented at each committee meeting.

# Youth Leadership

The higher ranks (Star, Life, and Eagle) have leadership requirements which specify that Scouts must serve in Troop leadership positions before advancing in rank. This is far more than a “checklist item” as the “boy led Troop” relies on Scout leaders to run the Troop. If Scout leaders are not carrying out their responsibilities, the overall program of the Troop as a whole will suffer. Troop 130 places a great deal of emphasis on boy leadership and provides an Introduction to Leadership Skill (ITLS) training and planning retreat for all boy leaders as well as specific training for each leadership position. Scouts in leadership are expected to attend regular meeting and campouts as part of the role. If a scout is not performing his duties, he may not get credit for serving in leadership and he may be asked to step down so that another scout can fill the role.

Elections for the positions of Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and the Patrol Leaders of each patrol are held in August and February each year. Other jobs may be elected or appointed. Scouts can let the Adult Leaders and the current SPL know which positions they would like to be considered for in the coming term. The ITLS retreat will be held within two weeks of the election and the troop leaders are expected to attend. Troop leaders are also expected to attend the PLC each month.

**1. Senior Patrol Leader** - The SPL is the top youth leader in the troop. He conducts the troop meetings and Patrol Leaders Council meetings, passes on information from the Scoutmaster and generally watches over and leads the troop during scheduled activities. He is expected to be on time for each meeting as he is expected to start the meeting. If he can't be at a given meeting, he is expected to contact the ASPL or another youth leader to arrange for a replacement for his duties. The individual Patrol Leaders report to the SPL. The SPL is not elected. He automatically advances after holding the position of ASPL.

**2. Assistant Senior Patrol Leader** - The ASPL is the SPL's assistant and stand-in for the SPL when he is unavailable. He is expected to be on time for each meeting as he is expected to help start the meeting. The Scribe, Quartermaster, Librarian, Historian, Den Chief and Chaplain's Aid report to the ASPL. The ASPL automatically becomes the next SPL so that we maintain consistent leadership.

**3. Patrol Leader** – The PL is the top youth leader in his patrol. He represents his patrol at the PLC and reports back to his patrol on the decisions that were made. He is expected to attend the PLC each month. He must communicate with the APL and ask the APL to fill in for him when he is unable to attend the PLC or regular meetings. He is expected to be on time for each meeting and help his patrol perform any tasks that they are responsible for that week. It is his responsibility to make sure that his patrol follows through with any activity that they are supposed to plan.

**4. Assistant Patrol Leader** – APL is the PL's assistant and stands in for the PL at the PLC when the PL is unable to attend. He also assist the PL with organizing the patrol and helps plan any activities that the patrol is in charge of.

5. **Scribe** – The Scribe takes notes at the PLC. He is responsible for making sure the important information is shared with the adult leadership and with the Webmaster.

6. **Quartermaster** – The Quartermaster is in charge of the troop equipment. He needs to make note of equipment and supplies that need to be repaired or replaced before the troop goes on campouts. He needs to check out and check in any equipment that is borrowed from our trailer. He needs to check in the tents that have been taken home by the scouts at the meeting following a campout and make sure they are placed neatly in their correct location in the trailer.

7. **Webmaster** – The webmaster is responsible for the Troop 130 website ([www.Troop-130.com](http://www.Troop-130.com)) He needs to communicate with the troop Committee Chairman to get editor access to the website if he does not have it. He is expected to update the upcoming events section on the front page after each PLC. He is also expected to write **at least** 3 blog posts during his term on events that take place during that time. He should include blog posts with photos about campouts, hikes, service projects and other events.

8. **Librarian** – He keeps Troop books, merit badge pamphlets, magazines, and other documents for use by members of the Troop. He needs to have a system for checking the books out to members and for making sure they are returned in a reasonable timeline.

9. **Chaplain Aide** – He is responsible for the “Scout’s Own Service” at Troop campouts and for opening our regular meetings with prayer. He is expected to be on time for each meeting as he has a role in the opening.

10. **Den Chief** – This is a volunteer position. Den Chiefs are assigned to work with a Den of scouts in our sibling unit, Pack 130. Pack 130 meets on Wednesday nights at St. John’s UMC. This is a very important position as this scout represents the troop to the younger cubs. We expect this scout to show up to the den meetings at least twice per month. Duties will include helping the Den Leader by playing games, singing songs or entertaining the cubs while the leader may be working with parents or getting an activity set up. We would love to see our troop scouts fill in this position. They work with the pack for a 9 month period from fall through spring.

11. **Troop Guide** – This is an older scout who is assigned to mentor the younger scouts and help them to reach the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> class. He is appointed by the SM for this position. This scout should be proficient in the skills of the lower ranks so that he can teach them to the younger scouts.

12. **OA Representative** – This is an appointed position. The scout must be a member in good standing who is current with his Skyuka Lodge dues. The OA Rep is expected to attend the OA York District meeting each month on a Thursday evening in Rock Hill. This meeting is at the same time as the District Round Table meeting. The OA Rep is responsible for bringing information about OA events to the members of OA in our troop. They should also plan to attend the OA campouts and activities throughout the year as

much as possible. We would like to fill this position so that our scouts can be more involved with the OA Skyuka Lodge.

## **Youth Leadership Training**

**Introduction to Leader Skills (ITLS)** – This is a training program offered within Troop 130. It is offered shortly after the troop elections. Ideally it will be held as a one night campout followed by a training and planning day. This offers the troop leaders an opportunity to get to know each other as well as build connection with each other. The meeting will end with a planning session where the boys will plan out the calendar for the next six months. Each boy should come with his own personal calendar and school calendar prepared to help organize the troop calendar. If a scout runs for an elected position or asks for an appointed position, he should be prepared to attend this weekend campout and training day.

**Scouts Excited About Leadership Skills (SEALS)** - This Junior Leadership Training Course is provided by the Palmetto Council for current, or soon to be leaders in your troop who are 14 and younger, with a minimum rank of Tenderfoot. All Scouts attending must be recommended by their Scoutmaster.

Participants are required to have completed ILST within their home Troop before attending SEALS. Participants will be shown how to apply and use leadership skills and Scout spirit effectively in a boy lead Troop in their specific leadership position. By the end of the course, each Scout will write a “contract,” which consists of a SMART goal that provides the participant with an opportunity to practice their newly-learned leadership skills to improve their home patrol or troop.

**National Youth Leader Training (NYLT)** - This is the premier council offered Leadership Training program offered for 13 – 20 year-old youth members of Scouts, BSA Troops and Venture Crews. It is a 6-day training course divided over two weekends that is primarily conducted in an outdoor setting for Scouts and Venturers who want to improve their LEADERSHIP skills. The course will be offered at the Glendale Outdoor Leadership School (GOLS, 270 Wheeling Circle, Glendale, SC)

# Adult Leadership

Effective Sept. 1, 2023: [The BSA Barriers to Abuse](#) have been updated to say that **“all adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or adult program participant.”** If you plan to go camping with your scout, you will need to register as a leader in the troop. We are in need of Asst. Scoutmasters particularly.

To become an adult leader, an adult must first complete Youth Protection Training. You can create an account at <https://www.my.scouting.org> and take the training there. Next, complete and submit an Adult Leader Application. This is the link to the [application online](#). That application is then submitted to the Palmetto Council for approval. Once an adult has been approved, he/she will need to complete any training for the position. There is training online at my.scouting.org for Committee Members, Merit Badge Counselors and of Assistant Scoutmasters (ASM). ASMs will need to do an in person training called Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) to be completely trained.

While Scouting is designed as a “boy led” organization and, as mentioned above, it affords tremendous opportunities to boy leaders, the overall responsibility for making sure the Scouting program succeeds clearly rests with adult leadership. Within Troop 130, there are three major adult leadership groups.

## I. The Troop Committee:

\*Note that the pronoun “He” is used as a general term and in no way means to indicate that any position cannot be filled by a female leader.

The Troop committee is the Troop’s “Board of Directors.” The function of the committee is to support the overall Scouting program, not to operate it. The committee is headed by a chairman and is made up primarily of parents of the Troop’s Scouts. Other adults with an interest in Scouting are encouraged to be volunteer committee members. The Troop Committee is made up of the following positions:

**Committee Chair** - The unit Committee Chair is appointed by the chartered organization and registered as an adult leader of the BSA. He appoints and supervises the unit committee and unit leaders. He also plans and leads the Committee meetings that are held 6 times each month. He makes sure that our troop is on track to meet our Journey to Excellence Goals by planning a well-rounded program. He works with the Scoutmaster and the Palmetto Council to complete the Rechartering paperwork each December.

**Treasurer** - The unit treasurer is appointed by the committee chairman to handle unit funds, pay bills, and maintain accounts. He also works with the fundraising chair to handle to funds raised and placing them in the family accounts.

**Advancement Chair** - The unit advancement chair is appointed by the Committee Chairman to ensure that the unit has at least monthly boards of review and 3 COH per



year. He also sees and that the unit has goals of helping each Scout advance at least one rank each year. The Advancement Coordinator is also responsible for record-keeping and submitting advancement reports to the council. This is done through the use of ScoutBook.

**Popcorn Kernel** – This person runs the annual popcorn fundraiser. The troop PK attends the council meetings about the popcorn fundraiser in the summer to find out any changes to the program. He orders the popcorn and sets up popcorn booth sale locations. He collects the money and works with the treasurer to award the correct amount to each scout account. The PK in troop 130 also works on the annual Camp Card Adventure sales.

**New Member Coordinator** – This person helps get our new members plugged into the troop. He makes sure the parents get a copy of this document and learn about ways that they can become active in the troop. He collects the paperwork and contact information from the scouts' families. He also helps get the new scouts their joining materials.

**Quarter Master** - The adult Quartermasters are appointed by the Committee Chairman and Scoutmaster to work with the youth Quartermaster and are responsible for inventory, storage, and maintenance of unit equipment. The Quartermaster may also have an appointed clothing coordinator to assist with recycled uniforms and other uniform items. Quartermaster duties may be given to appointed committee members or delegated as part of the roles assigned to an Assistant Scoutmaster.

The troop committee meets every other month on Zoom to talk about the upcoming events that are happening in the troop.

## **II. Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters**

While the Troop committee supports the Troop program, it does not operate it. That responsibility falls to the Scoutmaster (SM) and Assistant Scoutmasters (ASMs). They train and guide the boy leaders to run the Troop and ensure that the Troop's program is carried out in an effective and safe manner. The SM and ASMs are active participants in Troop meetings and the outdoor program and must work closely with all of the Troop's Scouts to teach new skills, and with the Troop's Scout leadership to ensure their continued development as leaders. In order to be a SM or ASM, you must follow the links above to become an adult leader with the BSA and complete all training needed for the position.

## **III. Merit Badge Counselors**

Merit Badges are earned by working with a registered Merit Badge Counselor (MBC). In order to serve as a MBC, an adult must fill out an application linked above to become an official adult leader with the BSA. Next, he will take any necessary training at like YPT and MBC Specific training. These are all completed online at [www.My.Scouting.org](http://www.My.Scouting.org).

When these are completed, he will fill out the [MBC application](#) and choose up to 8 MBs that he would like to lead. If you are willing to lead MBs for other units in our council you can choose up to 16 MBs to lead. [A list of MBs and their requirements can be found here.](#)

We are always looking for MBCs for our troop. There are so many MBs in a variety of subjects. Please look at the list and see if there are some that you can sign up to lead. Without registered MBCs, it is difficult for our scouts to advance and learn new skills. This is a great way for parents to help out in a small way.

## Adult Training

In addition to online training provided at [www.My.Scouting.org](http://www.My.Scouting.org), there are in person trainings provided by the Palmetto Council or other local councils.

**Roundtable** – This is a monthly meeting held by the York District in the Palmetto Council. It is held on the second Thursday of the month in Rock Hill. In addition to council and district updates, there are Troop Break-out Sessions at each meeting.

**University of Scouting** - The Palmetto Council, BSA University of Scouting (“U of S”) is supplemental training for Adult Leaders. It is the only time during the year you will find, all in one place, the widest variety of opportunities to learn practical guidance and tips for delivering exciting programs in the areas of Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA and Venturing. Whether you are new to Scouting or a Scouting veteran, U of S has something for you. It is usually offered in January.

**Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)** – This training is required for all SMs and ASMs. The troop is not allowed to attend a campout without a leader who is trained in IOLS. This is offered by the council as a weekend campout for the leaders.

**Wood Badge** - Wood Badge was begun by Baden Powell in 1919 to insure that Scout leaders were properly trained. With the latest update in 2019, Wood Badge is still held worldwide providing advanced leadership training for Scout leaders. It is offered across two weekend campouts.

## Discipline –

The Scouting program is not designed to solve youth discipline problems — on the contrary it's designed to build into youth the necessary character and responsibility to prevent discipline problems. The program needs all of the time available to it to accomplish these aims — thus administering the program to Troop 130s membership does not provide troop leadership any extra time to waste dealing with discipline problems. We believe it is the PARENTS who should have the direct responsibility to instill and reinforce good manners, socially acceptable behavior, and respect for authority in their boys.

Although we hope to never implement disciplinary measures, the following guidelines should be familiar to all Troop 130 Scouts and their families:

- Illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco (outside of above guidelines) use is strictly prohibited and use of such during any Scouting activity by either a boy or adult will result in immediate expulsion from that activity and may result in further action by the Troop committee.
- Inappropriate behavior is defined as behavior unbecoming a Scout (i.e., behavior not in accordance with the Scout Law, Scout Oath, or Outdoor Code) during meetings or activities. Continued inappropriate behavior will be referred to the Troop committee for further action.
- The SPL's role is not to impose discipline, but to lead the Troop. Although he does have the authority to settle minor disputes as he sees fit (with Scoutmaster approval), the Scoutmaster and/or Assistant Scoutmaster in charge will deal with major disputes or disturbances.
- For continuous inappropriate behavior at meetings or activities, a Scout may be put on probation.
- A probationary period can last up to one year. During that time, the presence of a parent or other adult who accepts responsibility for the Scout during any Scout activity may be required.
- When inappropriate behavior occurs at a Scout activity, parents may be called to pick up the Scout immediately.
- An adult leader who witnesses serious inappropriate behavior by a Scout will report to the Scout and his parents, the Scoutmaster, and Troop committee. Upon receiving this report, the Scoutmaster, with the approval of the Troop committee and the advice of the patrol leaders' council will counsel the Scout and determine an appropriate action. This can include limiting the Scout's participation in Troop activities until the Scout's parents meet with the Troop committee to resolve the issue