



Welcome to Troop 132

Welcome to Troop 132. We look forward to getting to know you and your Scout, and helping your son advance through the Boy Scout ranks. To help you prepare for the coming years as a member of Troop 132, we have put together some points of interest that will explain the terminology, events, and expectations that are a part of Boy Scouting and our Troop.

What is Boy Scouts?

Unlike Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting is a youth-lead organization. After training, and with supervision from the adult leaders, the boys run the Troop meetings, plan events, and work with each other to accomplish their goals.

Boy Scouting also provides for growth of moral strength and character, teaches Citizenship, and enhances the development of physical, mental and emotional fitness. This is all done with a spirit of fun and adventure.

TROOP ORGANIZATION

Troop 132 is a participating member of the Mission Peak District, San Francisco Bay Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. The Troop's organization consists of a Chartered Organization, a Troop Committee, the Troop, and the Troop's Parents.

Chartered Organization

Every Troop belongs to a chartered organization. The Chartered Organization for Troop 132 is Prince of Peace Church.

Troop Committee

The Troop Committee Functions as an administration and support organization for the Troop. The Troop Committee takes care of the non-program issues surrounding the Troop such as managing Troop funds, maintaining advancement records, fundraising, and helps book reservations and secure drivers for events. The Troop Committee also performs Board of Reviews. The Committee meets on the third Monday of each month. The meetings are informal but open to all parents and other interested adults.

Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters

Scoutmasters work directly with the Patrol Leaders and Senior Patrol Leader to provide encouragement, advice, and leadership. Assistant Scoutmasters report to the Scoutmaster. All Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters must undergo Scoutmaster Training.

Patrols and Patrol Leaders

The Troop is divided into Patrols. Each Patrol consists of a Patrol Leader and approximately eight Scouts. The boys in a patrol elect their Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader. **A Scout's Patrol Leader should always be the first point of contact for any questions, concerns, or issues that the Scout may have.**

The Senior Patrol Leader is an elected position. The Senior Patrol Leader selects his Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. The Patrol Leaders, with the Senior Patrol Leader as their head, form the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC). The PLC plans Troop activities and runs the Troop meetings. Elections for Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader are held in September each year.

Troop Parents

The role of parents within Troop 132 is to be supportive of the Troop's efforts and to provide the atmosphere Scouts need to learn and excel. Parents should try to:

- Read their Scout's handbook and understand the purpose and methods of Scouting.
- Actively follow their Scout's progress (or lack thereof) and offer encouragement and a push when needed.
- Show support to both the individual Scout and the Troop by attending all Troop Courts of Honor.
- Drive or otherwise participate in at least one Troop event each year.
- Be aware of the Troop program and annual calendar.

Adult Leadership

Two registered adult leaders, or one adult leader and a Scout parent, both of who must be at least 21 years of age are required for all Troop 132 meetings, trips or outings.

Troop Meetings

Troop 132 holds meetings at 7PM at Prince of Peace on the second and fourth Monday of each month. This schedule is subject to change, please check the website for the latest calendar

ADVANCEMENT

Rank Advancements

In the Boy Scout Troop, each Scout is in charge of his own progress. Each boy's Boy Scout Handbook serves as a ready reference for determining the requirements for rank advancement. It is the **scout's responsibility** to secure the necessary signatures in his handbook to document completion of the requirements. The scout may go to his Patrol Leader, a senior Scout, or any Scout who is First Class rank or above (for Tenderfoot and 2nd Class Scouts only) to get signatures.

Scoutmaster Conference

Upon completing all of the rank requirements, the Scout should sign up for a Scoutmaster Conference. Scoutmaster Conferences are held on the second Monday of each month and must be signed up for in advance. The Scout must wear his complete Class A uniform for a Scoutmaster Conference.

Board of Review

After receiving a Scoutmaster Conference, a Scout should sign up for a Board of Review. Boards of Review are held on the fourth Monday of each month and must be requested in advance. A Board of Review is composed of three members of the Troop Committee. The Board of Review is not an examination; rather, it is a way to determine the Scout's attitude and acceptance of Scouting's ideals; to ensure that the requirements have been met for advancement, to discuss the Scout's experiences in the Troop and the Troop's program, and to encourage him to keep working towards advancement. The Scout must wear his complete Class A uniform for the Board of Review.

Merit Badges:

The Troop maintains a list of Troop Merit Badge Counselors. Scouts may also earn Merit Badges at summer camp, District Merit Badge Extravaganzas, and at Merit Badge classes offered through other individuals and organizations.

Before beginning work on a Merit Badge, the Scout contacts the Scoutmaster for a signed Blue Card. After receiving the Blue card, the Scout contacts the counselor and makes arrangements to complete the merit badge. Once finished, the completed and signed Blue Card is given to the Advancement Chair. Merit Badges will be presented at the next Troop Court of Honor

Court of Honor

Troop 132 will conduct a Troop Court of Honor twice a year. The Court of Honor recognizes all Scout appointments, elections, awards, and advancements since the last Court of Honor. The Court of Honor is a public ceremony, and is a chance for the Scouts to be publicly recognized for their achievements. Parents and all other interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Annual Registration Fees

The annual fee for each Scout in Troop 132 is \$90.00. This fee covers Boy Scouts of America membership, a Boys Life subscription, and the cost of patches, badges, etc. Recharter fees are due in November of each year.

Fundraising

The Troop has two major fundraising projects each year – working at the Newark Summerfest in mid-July and running a parking lot at the Niles Antique Fair in August. Each boy maintains a personal “Scout Account” with a portion of the earnings from Troop fundraisers. Money from this account can help pay for camp and other activities.

Fees for Outings / Activities

Individual activities may have a small fee associated with them. If so, the parents will be notified in advance. Fees can be paid to the activity leader or can be paid through your Scout's Scout Account.

Refund Policy

If you are unable to attend an event that you have paid for, please give the event organizer as much notice as possible. Whenever possible, Troop 132 will issue a refund to your son's Scout Account.

Events that are scheduled through the Council (summer camp, Rocket Jamboree, etc) may require payment 2-4 weeks in advance and if you cancel within this time frame, we will not be able to issue a refund. However, if enough notice is given, we may be able to fill your scouts spot.

For Troop events, if you cancel within 48 hours of the event, food and other supplies will have been purchased for your scout and a refund will not be given.

All money is credited to the Scout Account to be used at a later date. Cash refunds are not given.

TROOP ACTIVITIES

BSA 101: The Troop puts on a camping trip called BSA 101 each year in May. The camping trip runs Friday – Sunday and is held at Garin Park in Hayward. Scouts will learn fire safety, first aid, knife and axe safety, and will begin working on their Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class requirements. Attendance is strongly encouraged.

Summer Camp: Troop 132 goes to Wente Scout Reservation each year, generally the third week of July.

Winter Camp: Troop 132 goes to Yosemite National Park each winter (usually in February) to snow camp. All Scouts (and the parents of those Scouts who are winter camping for the first time) must attend Winter Awareness Training if they wish to attend Winter Camp.

Backpacking: The Troop goes on two to three backpacking trips each year. Scouts must have their own backpacks and gear.

Camping: Troop 132 goes on two to three camping trips each year. Locations may include Big Basin, Half Moon Bay, and other area parks.

Rim Rover Hikes: Troop 132 goes on one to two Rim Rover Hikes each year. Rim Rover Hikes are designated by the SFBAC and include Pinnacles, Mount Diablo, Mt. Wittenberg, and other locations in Northern California.

UNIFORM

Each scout is required to have and wear, within a reasonable amount of time after joining the Troop, the following uniform items:

Field or "Class A" Uniform:

- Tan scout shirt with appropriate insignia and patches, including Troop number
- Olive Scout pants or shorts
- Boy Scout Socks
- Olive Merit Badge Sash
- Red Troop Scout Hat
- Scout belt and buckle
- Troop neckerchief and slide

Red Shirt or "Class B" Uniform

- Red Troop T-shirt
- Red Scout hat or khaki Troop Booney Hat

Red shirts, hats, and neckerchiefs are sold at Troop meetings. The Class A uniform pieces can be purchased online at www.scoutstuff.org or at a local Scout shop.

For more information, contact our Scoutmaster at sm@troop132.org or visit our website at www.troop132.org.