

New Scout Information for Troop 117

Uniforms:

Class A- Scout meetings and travel to/from events

- Short or long sleeve tan Scout shirt with "117" numerals, US flag, council patch and green shoulder loops. Rank patch on left pocket. Tucked in.
- Scout uniform pants or shorts or tan/olive pants or shorts (not board shorts and jeans). Belt (preferably a scout related or leather).
- Troop 117 neckerchief with slide. If a hat is worn, an official BSA uniform hat.

Class A full- Scoutmaster Conferences, Boards of Review, and Courts of Honor

- Class A plus merit badge sash

Class B- Used at camp, campouts and other specified service events.

- Scout uniform pants/shorts or khaki or olive pants/shorts with Scout or leather belt
- Troop 117 T-shirt (or another scouting themed t-shirt).
- Troop 117 Scout hats, jackets, and Troop 117 sweatshirts are optional.
- If a hat is worn, any BSA baseball cap or BSA stocking cap.

Troop Meetings-

- Normally meet every Thursday at Kitty Hawk United Methodist Church, 6:30-7:30pm.
- Boy Scouts is youth-led, adult-supported, so youth lead meetings
- Thursday plans are determined by Patrol Leader Council (PLC) made up of the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Patrol Leaders.

Communications-

- We use three main forms of communication, e-mail via ScoutBook, text/e-mail via Remind App, and the troop website (www.Troop117obx.org)
 - When available, you will receive an e-mail invite to set up a ScoutBook account. Please use an e-mail you check regularly and sign your scout up for a youth account (link to instruction on troop website, About Us/Info)
 - Remind App, sign up on the form being passed for last minute info
 - Troop website, use to see calendaring events. Adult leadership will try to send out semester plans when PLC decides, but they will also be on the website.

Leadership-

- Senior Patrol Leader/Assistant Senior Patrol Leader- think of them as your Cub Masters in youth form. They plan and run the troop with guidance from the adult leaders.
- Patrol Leaders- Think youth Cub Den Leaders. They will help your scouts learn skills and work hands on with the scouts. Scouts are divided into groups with a wide range of ages so older scouts can teach younger scouts.
- Scoutmaster (SM)/Assistant Scoutmaster (ASM)- These adults are there to support the PLC. For new scouts, the Assistant Scoutmasters will help with advancement up to 1st Class Rank. Remember, adult leaders are volunteers, so please be patient and realize your questions may be rerouted to someone else so the leaders can focus on dealing directly with the scouts.

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Advancement-

- New scouts will focus on scout skill and attending activities as they move from Scout to Tenderfoot to Second Class to First Class. Your scout will receive a paper version of the rank advancement form. Many of the skills will be completed at summer camp, so please have your scout attend. There will be some skills done at home and some done with the troop. We will notify you through the Patrol Leaders what to do.
- ScoutBook- we use the BSA online system for tracking advancement. It is easiest for parents to update their scout's advancement and then the Troop Advancement Chair will see it during a weekly online check.
- Most ranks will require a SM Conference and Board of Review. As noted above, the ASM will handle conferences, currently ASM James Eaton. The Troop Committee Chair then organizes the Board of Review. The board of review is a chance for adults to talk with the Scout about what he's done, what he's learned, how it has helped him in his advancement and how he's enjoying the program.

Campouts-

- We try for about one campout a month. There will always be 2-deep leadership as required by BSA. Again, campouts are planned and run by the youth PLC. Adults watch for safety and emergency needs. Need BSA Medical Forms A/B (link on troop webpage)
- Electronics are permitted on the way to/from campouts but generally not allowed during the campout.
- Scouts will be billed for

Summer Camp-

- This year we're going to Raven Knob, by Mt Airy. New scouts should plan to attend Raven Scouts which focuses on advancement. Need BSA Med form C (signed by Dr)
- Cost will be around \$350-400 for the week
- Dates: June 26 to July 2

Merit Badges-

- Once scouts reach 1st Class rank, they will focus on leadership, service, and earning merit badges. Merit badges give scouts the opportunity to investigate around 130 different areas of knowledge and skills. They will work with an Adult Merit Badge Counselor to complete requirements and record them in ScoutBook. For now, know that any merit badges done with the troop will be handled by adult leadership until after the first or second year.

Upcoming events:

1/29 -1/30 Skill Building Trip- Carova 4 x 4 area, PL Ford and ASPL Morgan leading
2/25-2/28- Trip to be determined (rescheduling a trip canceled due to COVID concerns)
3/19-3/20 Skill Building Trip- local at Camp Salt & Swimming MB at YMCA Sunday
4/8-4/10 Currituck Rural Center Camporee
5/13-5/15 TBD by PLC adventure trip for all scouts

1) US Flag Emblem +

2) Patrol Emblem +

3) Shoulder Loops +

4) World Crest Emblem +

5) Badge of Rank +

6) Council Shoulder Patch +

7) Unit Numerals +

8) Badge of Office +