

BSA TROOP 747

BY-LAWS

I. MEMBERSHIP

- A. The Scout and at least one parent or guardian shall meet with the Scoutmaster prior to accepting the youth into the Troop.
- B. The Scout and parent or guardian must complete the BSA Scout application and the current BSA medical form (Parts A B & C). Parts A & B must be completed, and fees paid prior to the Scout's first camping trip. Part C must be completed before summer camp or any trip over 72 hours. It is best to do all three when your Scout gets their annual well check with their doctor.
- C. As of March 2022, the Troop charges a joining fee of \$150 for Scouts and \$60 for Adult Leaders. (Transfer fee of \$100 for Scouts and \$25.00 for Adult Leaders). The fee will cover BSA registration, insurance, Scouts Life subscription, Scout Handbook, Troop neckerchief, BSA neckerchief slide, shoulder loops, one-piece Troop number strip, council shoulder patch, world crest patch, one Troop T-shirt, and binder for rank records. Fees are subject to change.
- D. The Troop Committee shall set the maximum active membership of the Troop at 64 Scouts. Priority for Troop membership is:
 1. Sons of members of St James Lutheran Church.
 2. Sons of existing registered Adult Troop leaders.
 3. Brothers of current, active Troop members.
 4. Cub Scouts graduating from Cub Scout Pack 747.
 5. The Scoutmaster may establish a waiting list. Scouts selected from the list will follow the above criteria.
- E. The Scout must remain "active" in the Troop to hold his membership position. "Active" status is defined as:
 1. Attend at least 50% of Troop meetings / activities and a minimum of 50% camping / outdoor activities during the previous 12 months. Exceptions can be granted for absences due to medical, educational, family and other issues that for practical purposes prevent higher levels of participation. Exceptions can also be granted for involvement in religious activities, school, sports, or clubs that develop character, citizenship, leadership, or mental and physical fitness.
 1. If complete and accurate records are not available, then "active" must be determined by the Scoutmaster.
 2. A Scout is thrifty: Troop dues are \$150 paid annually in November. Scouts will not be eligible for advancement, participate in activities, or hold a leadership position within the Troop if dues are not current.
 3. A Scout must maintain a current BSA medical form (Parts A B & C).
- F. If a Scout fails to meet the above criteria:

1. The Scout and a parent or guardian shall meet with the Scoutmaster to determine if the Scout intends to remain an active member of the Troop. If not, he will be suspended from Troop activities and dropped from the next Troop re-charter.
 2. Delinquent dues and fees must be paid.
 3. The Scout and the Scoutmaster will discuss the Scout's participation and Scout spirit criteria. Lack of participation is a basis for the Scoutmaster to not recommend the Scout for advancement.
 4. A Scout or parent or guardian who disagrees with the decision of the Scoutmaster may appeal to the Troop Committee in writing. After meeting with the committee, a final decision will be made.
- G. A Scout dropped from the charter who wishes to rejoin the Troop later must pay the current joining fees, any delinquent dues owed at the time they were dropped and be approved by the Troop Committee.

II. TROOP LEADERS

- A. Troop elections are held twice a year with the newly elected Scouts taking office in April and October.
- B. The elected Troop leaders are the Senior Patrol Leader and the Patrol Leaders.
1. The Senior Patrol Leader will meet, consult with, and get the approval of the Scoutmaster prior to selecting and appointing the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, Troop Guide(s), and any other leadership positions in the Troop.
 2. The Patrol Leaders are elected by their patrols.
 3. The Scoutmaster makes Den Chief Appointments.
 4. No Scout may serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position and have that service count for rank advancement.
 5. A Scout must be at least Star rank to assume the position of Senior Patrol Leader or Assistant Senior Patrol Leader.
 6. The Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) is comprised of the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Scribe, and Patrol Leader(s). Other Troop leaders may be added at the discretion of the Scoutmaster and the Senior Patrol Leader.
 7. Scouts in leadership positions must attend at least 75% of Troop meetings / activities and 75% of camping / outdoor activities and keep their dues current to receive advancement credit for that leadership position. A Den Chief may receive credit for his time in leadership with the Cub Scout Pack by providing timely documentation of his hours signed by the Den Leader and / or Cubmaster.

III. ADVANCEMENT

- A. The Troop shall convene a Board of Review once each month or as determined necessary by the Scoutmaster or Troop committee. The board will meet and conduct its

business in accordance with BSA guidelines. BSA rank advancement criteria applies for all rank advancement cases.

- B. Merit Badge Counselors must be registered with the BSA and have a current BSA Youth Protection Training certification. No parent shall serve as his or her Scout's merit badge counselor on an individual basis unless another counselor is not available and it is approved by the Scoutmaster. If a merit badge is being taught in a group environment, the Scout may participate.
- C. Scouts requesting a Scoutmaster Conference shall present all rank and merit badge cards and their Scout handbook(s) for review. The handbook(s) and cards must be presented to the Board of Review prior to the Scout appearing before the board.
- D. All Scouts participating in a Scoutmaster Conference or a Board of Review shall be in a complete BSA Field Uniform. (BSA shirt, Troop neckerchief, slide, shoulder loops, BSA pants or BSA shorts with BSA socks, BSA belt, and merit badge sash).
- E. Dues must be paid, or the Treasurer must be approving of some payment plan prior to requesting a Scoutmaster Conference.
- F. Scouts who do not meet the requirements of an active member in terms of participation will not be referred to the Board of Review for advancement.

IV. **CAMPING**

- A. To attend any camping event, the Scout must be registered with Troop 747 or be registered with another BSA organization and have the permission of the Scoutmaster and event leader.
- B. Camping fees or special activity fees may be paid by the Troop. Costs for the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster(s) may be absorbed by the Troop. A surcharge for trips may be assessed, at the discretion of the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee, for supplies and services used by the Scouts. Scouts are responsible for their individual food costs.
- C. All patrol members who register or attend the campout will share food costs. Each Scout agrees to pay \$15.00 toward food cost when signing up for the event. Patrol leaders will confirm camping attendees. Once a Scout commits, he is responsible for his share of food costs whether he attends or not.
- D. Pre-paid camping fees and costs may not be refundable.

V. **LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY**

- A. Scouts or patrols will not pay for normal wear and tear to Troop property.
- B. The Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and Quartermaster will investigate any loss or damage to Troop property, determine the cause, and report their findings to the Committee Equipment Chair. The Equipment Chair presents the information to the Troop Committee who decides the cause and any costs.
- C. The Scout(s) determined to be responsible for the loss or damage beyond normal wear and tear may be asked to repair or replace the item(s). The Troop Committee's decision will be final.
- D. The purpose of the above is to teach the importance of responsibility within our Scouts.

VI. UNIFORMS

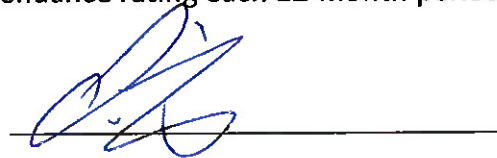
- A. All Scouts in the Troop are expected to own a complete uniform and wear it to Troop activities. The following are considered appropriate uniforms:
1. Field Uniform: BSA tan/field shirt, neckerchief, slide, shoulder loops, with BSA socks, BSA belt. BSA pants or shorts are recommended but a similar pant or short color and look is acceptable.
 2. Activity Uniform: Scout T-shirt with BSA pants or BSA shorts. BSA pants or shorts are recommended but a similar pant or short color and look is acceptable.
 3. Unless otherwise informed, complete Field Uniforms are worn for all Troop activities and camping events.
 4. See uniform requirements under Board of Review for advancement.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Personal electronic devices are wonderful tools and BSA has encouraged Scouts to use them in appropriate ways such as using the mobile friendly website ScoutBook. The Senior Patrol leader will determine when a Scout may use his phone. Scouts must have a valid cyber chip in order to utilize a cell phone at any scouting event or activity.
- B. The Troop has a long tradition of an annual fundraiser. Each year the Scouts have the ability to earn some money on their Scout Account depending on the rules explained at each year's fundraiser. This money can be spent on any troop event, annual registration, or at the Scout Shop. If a Scout plans to use the credit on their Scout Account at the Scout Shop, then the Scout will make the purchase at the Scout Shop with their own money and bring the receipt to the Treasurer for reimbursement. If the purchase is more than the credit, then the entire credit will be used to pay back the Scout. If the purchase is less than the credit on the Scout Account, then the remaining credit will stay on the Scout Account until such time the Scout is no longer registered with the Troop and then it becomes the property of the Troop.
- C. The Troop By-Laws should be reviewed every three years at a minimum and when there is a Scoutmaster change. Any changes must be approved by a majority vote of the Troop Committee. Interim changes may be made with the approval of the Troop Committee. A copy of the current by-laws will be posted on the Troop website.
- D. Adult leaders are expected to meet 25% attendance rating each 12-month period.

 Scoutmaster

Ben Burt, Scoutmaster



Dan Travieso, Committee Chair

Effective date 5 March 2022