

Handbook and Policy Guide

Troop 776 Simpsonville, SC



Scouting America Blue Ridge Council Swamp Rabbit District

Revised: July 5, 2025

Introduction

- Troop 776 was organized in 1987 to provide a high-quality scouting experience to young men. It has since expanded to welcome young women in 2021. We added a Venture Crew for older youth in 2024. The Troop is chartered by Friends of 776, a South Carolina registered 501c(3) organization and meets at Advent United Methodist Church (AUMC), Simpsonville, SC. You do not have to be a member of Advent United Methodist Church to join Scouting America Troop 776.
- The female unit is designated as Troop 7776. We also have a Venture Crew for older scouts ages 14-21 that is Crew 2776. For purposes of this document, all will be referred to collectively as “Troop 776.”
- Troop 776 is a local Scout unit of the Swamp Rabbit District in the Blue Ridge Council of Scouting America, formerly named Scouting America (SCOUTING AMERICA). Any references contained in this document to either of these names should be understood as being the same.
- Troop meetings are held each Tuesday night from 7:00 - 8:30 PM in AUMC’s Christian Life Center (CLC), also referred to as “the gym.” The venture crew meeting schedule is determined and communicated by the youth at times that may vary from week to week, but are also held on Tuesdays.
- One week of each month, the Troop Leadership Committee (TLC) and Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) meetings are held at AUMC (no regular Troop meeting). We have a single Troop Committee dedicated to supporting all three units. Some adult leadership positions are shared across both units.
- Troop Communication is managed through Scoutbook. **All families are required to register in Scoutbook** and maintain their contact details there to ensure they receive troop emails and calendar information.
- Although adult participation is important, the Troop exists for the Scouts and, as such, the Scouts are the Troop! Thus, the needs of the Scouts are of the utmost importance.
- The role of the adult leaders is to assist and advise the Scouts as they develop their character, citizenship, leadership, and mental and physical fitness through the Scouting program.
- All Troops use the same national program, policy, and guidelines developed by the Scouting America, however, each Troop will differ in certain aspects of local Troop management, finances, and organization.
- The Scouting America Guide to Advancement and the National Scouting America policies, guidelines, and stated mission are additional references that govern Troop 776.
- The information presented in this Troop Handbook and Policy Guide provides an overview of the Scouting program and the guidelines and policies of Troop 776’s operation.

Chartered Organization and Reverence to God

Every Troop is operated by an organization that has been granted a charter by Scouting America. These organizations conduct the Scouting program according to their own policies and guidelines as well as those of Scouting America. Individual Troops (Units) set their own policies to admit or continue the membership of any youth and adult member. For example, some religious organizations limit Troop membership to members of their specific congregation, or require the Scouts and Scouters (registered adult volunteers and leaders) to follow the principles and training of the Scouting America program.

Troop 776 is chartered through Friends of 776, a 501c(3) non-profit organization, but operates under a facilities use agreement with Advent United Methodist Church. Therefore, it follows specific policies that may differ from Units chartered by other organizations. Troop meetings may open with a prayer in the name of Jesus Christ and our outdoor program may include Christian worship services on Sunday mornings. These religious activities are consistent with reverence towards God, faithful to our religious duties, and respect for the beliefs of others. Our unit welcomes people of **all faiths and denominations**. Its members are expected to be respectful of the beliefs of all scouts and strive to provide interfaith worship experiences when those services are included in troop activities.

Table of Contents	Page
Purpose of Scouting America	4
Mission Statement of Scouting America	4
Aims and Methods of Scouting America Program	5
Troop Organization	6
Joining Requirements for Scouting America	7
Adult Volunteers	7
Attendance at Troop Meetings	8
Scout Uniform Policy	8
Advancement	10
Merit Badges	10
Scout Advancement Process	10
Outdoor Program	12
Scouting America Order of the Arrow	13
Youth Protection and Safety	13
Safety Guide	14
Expenses, Fees, and Fundraising	14
Fundraising	15
Scout Account Funds Policy	15
Troop Scholarships	15
Websites & Communication	16
Electronics Usage Policy	16
Inquiries and Complaints	17
Troop 776 Guidelines	18

Purpose of Scouting America

The primary purpose of Scouting America (formerly the Boy Scouts of America) is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices throughout their lives. This is achieved by instilling the values found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Scouting America aims to develop character, citizenship, leadership, and physical and mental fitness in young people.

Mission Statement of Scouting America

The mission of [Scouting America](#) is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. This is achieved through a program designed to build character, train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develop personal fitness.

The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath and Law.

The Scout Oath (Promise)

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

VISION STATEMENT

The vision statement of Scouting America is: "Scouting America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law," [according to Scouting America](#). This vision emphasizes preparing young people for active and ethical participation in society, guided by the core principles of Scouting.

THE AIMS AND METHODS OF SCOUTING

The Scouting program has specific objectives, commonly referred to as the "Aims of Scouting." They are **character development, leadership development, citizenship training, and personal fitness**. Leadership development is also one of Scouting's eight methods contributing to both good character and good citizenship.

The methods by which the aims are achieved are listed below in random order to emphasize the equal importance of each.

Ideals – The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout motto, and the Scout slogan. The Scout measures themselves against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and, as they reach for them, they have some control over what and who they become.

Patrols – The patrol method gives Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. It places responsibility on young shoulders and teaches Scouts how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in small groups where they can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through their elected representatives.

Outdoor Programs – Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoor setting that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with one another. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose. Being close to nature helps Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handiwork and humankind's place in it. The outdoors is the laboratory for Scouts to learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.

Advancement – Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps in overcoming them through the advancement method. The Scout plans their advancement and progresses at their own pace as they meet each challenge. The Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps them gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a Scout grow in self-reliance and in the ability to help others.

Association with Adults – Scouts learn a great deal by watching how adults conduct themselves. Scout leaders can be positive role models for the members of their troops. In many cases a Scoutmaster who is willing to listen to the Scouts, encourage them, and take a sincere interest in them can make a profound difference in their lives.

Personal Growth – As Scouts plan their activities and progress toward their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Scouting. Young people grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. Probably no device is so successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn. The religious emblems program also is a large part of the personal growth method. Frequent personal conferences with their Scoutmaster help each Scout to determine their growth toward Scouting's aims.

Leadership Development – The Scouting program encourages Scouts to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership and becoming a servant leader helps a Scout accept the leadership role of others and guides them towards participating citizenship and character development.

Uniform – The uniform makes the Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Scouting is an action program, and wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Scout identity in a world brotherhood of

youth who believe in the same ideals. The uniform is practical attire for Scout activities and provides a way for Scouts to wear the badges that show what they have accomplished.

Troop Organization

Troop 776 is a Scout-led troop. The meetings are led by the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and are planned and carried out by the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC). The PLC is composed of the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leaders, Scoutmaster, and other Troop leaders. All duties for Patrol activities are assigned by their Patrol Leader. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps the Scout accept the leadership of others and helps him to grow into a responsible adult.

Troop Committee:

A troop committee acts as a "board of directors" for a Scout troop, primarily responsible for supporting the Scoutmaster by managing administrative functions, ensuring quality adult leadership, overseeing finances, and guaranteeing the troop operates within Boy Scouts of America policies, allowing the Scoutmaster to focus on directly working with the Scouts.

Key functions of the troop committee include:

- **Recruiting and training adult leaders:** Finding and ensuring proper training for the Scoutmaster and assistant Scoutmasters.
- **Financial management:** Handling troop funds, budgeting, and managing expenses.
- **Policy guidance:** Advising the Scoutmaster on Boy Scout and chartered organization policies.
- **Program oversight:** Ensuring the troop has a strong outdoor program with adequate camping and activities.
- **Chartered organization liaison:** Acting as a link between the troop and the sponsoring organization.
- **Supporting the Scoutmaster:** Assisting the Scoutmaster in dealing with issues, providing support for special needs, and managing youth behavior.
- **Facility management:** Securing a meeting space for the troop.
- **Board of review participation:** Serving on boards of review for advancement decisions.
- **Fundraising support:** Assisting with fundraising efforts.

Scoutmaster:

The Scoutmaster is the registered adult leader responsible for the image and program of the Troop. The Scoutmaster and his or her Assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The general responsibilities of the Scoutmaster include:

- Train and guide the Scouts in their leadership development.
- Work with other adult leaders (Scouters) to bring the Scouting program to the Scouts.
- Use the methods of Scouting to achieve the aims of Scouting.

Assistant Scoutmasters:

Assistant Scoutmasters are recruited by the Scoutmaster, approved by the Troop Committee, and these registered Scouters to assist the Scoutmaster in the operation of the Troop. Assistant Scoutmasters are assigned program tasks by the Scoutmaster and provide guidance to the Scout leadership. They also provide two deep leadership, required at every Scout activity.

Senior Patrol Leader:

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is the Scout leader of the Troop. He leads the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other youth leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed.

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader:

The Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL) fills in for the SPL in his absence. He is also responsible for training and giving direction to the Quartermaster, Scribe, Historian, Librarian, Instructors, Junior Assistant Scoutmasters, and Troop Guides.

Patrol Leaders:

The Patrol Leaders (PL) are responsible for giving leadership to the members of their Patrols. They are the Patrol's representation on the Patrol Leaders' Council.

Assistant Patrol Leaders:

Assistant Patrol Leaders (APL) help the PL run the patrol and fill in for him in his absence.

Den Chief

The Den Chiefs work with the Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts and Den Leaders in the Cub Scout Pack. Some of the duties are: helping Cub Scouts advance, encourage Cub Scouts to join a Scouting America Troop, helps out at weekly den meetings and monthly pack meetings, meets with adult members of the den, pack and troop, sets a good example, lives by the Scout Oath and Law, and shows Scout spirit.

Refer to the scout handbook for a comprehensive list of leadership positions for youth.

Troop Leadership Responsibilities

Scouts who have accepted a Troop leadership position are expected to make reasonable efforts to assure, in advance, that their responsibilities will be carried out in their absence. Scouts with leadership positions who regularly miss meetings and activities may be transferred to other positions or removed from the leadership positions. The smooth operation of the Troop is a higher priority than individual advancement. It is not appropriate to give a Scout credit for filling a leadership role for rank advancement without meeting the responsibilities to fill that role.

Elections are held for the youth leaders every 6 months, or when an elected position needs to be filled. The Scouts vote for candidates that are approved by the Scoutmaster, and who meet the qualifications of the Troop 776 "Positions and Descriptions – Duties and Responsibilities" requirements. Candidates for Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader require a majority of the votes cast (with run-off elections as needed). Scouts who are interested in other leadership positions should first contact their SPL who will coordinate with the Scoutmaster to help match the youth with a leadership position appropriate for their skills and interests.

Joining Scouting America (Youth)

- Be a youth who has completed the fifth grade and is 11 years old, or is 10 years old and has earned the Arrow of Light award. Scout membership is open to all youth under the age of 18 years old. One does not require prior membership in Cub Scouts to join Scouting America.
- For Venturing membership, a youth may be between the ages of 14 and 21. Dual Troop and Venture Crew membership does not require separate membership dues.
- Complete a Scouting America application, consent form, and medical form signed by the parent or guardian.
- If transferring from Cub Scouts, a Scouting America application is still required.

Adult Volunteers

The basic function of the registered adults, i.e. known as Scouters, in scouting units is to help plan and deliver an effective program to the Scouts. As the Troop grows it is necessary for parents or other adults to become involved in order to provide a quality program to the Scouts.

Each parent volunteer or adult who plans to attend overnight activities or work directly with youth must be registered as an adult volunteer with the Council and complete Safeguarding Youth Training and a background check in order to participate in the Scouting program or attend troop outings. Contact the Troop Committee Chairperson (TCC) for

a Scouting America Adult Application. Contact the TCC, Scoutmaster, or Chartered Organization Representative for information about how to register for the Safeguarding Youth training online.

Adult Scouter leadership and skills training is important in order to bring out the best in the Scouting program to the Scouts. Every parent is encouraged to volunteer to serve in some way. The **New Parent Orientation Information** document has many details and suggestions for ways to get involved.

Examples of service opportunities for adults includes, but is not limited to:

- Assistant Scoutmaster.
- Troop Committee member in various capacities.
- Merit Badge Counselor.
- Serve on Board of Reviews for Scout advancements.
- Help with transportation for activities.
- Help with fundraising projects.
- Help with service projects.
- Provide two deep leadership that is required at every Scout activity.

Parents are welcome at all meetings, including meetings of the Troop Leadership Committee. Those wishing to serve in an official role are required to take the position specific training for their position, before submitting their application or within 30 days of the approval of their application. Most of the training requires about one hour online at my.scouting.org. Scouts should know that when they see a uniformed adult leader that he or she has been trained in their position specific duties.

Parents are welcome to attend overnight outings if they are registered members, have completed YPT, Background Check, and have submitted Forms A/B (health). They are required to adhere to the adult code-of-conduct outlined in the Parent Orientation Guide. Please note, we are a very large troop and frequently, activities may even fill up before all eligible youth are able to register. Priority is always given to the youth first, Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters next, and then registered adult volunteers.

Attendance at Troop Meetings

Regular participation in troop meetings and activities is essential to a scout's progress in the scouting program and to their ability to connect with peers, make friends, and enjoy the comradery of scouting. "Regular participation" is also an expectation for rank advancement.

While there is a "general expectation" of attendance at least 50% of the troop meetings and 50% of the troop outings for the period of time indicated for their next rank advancement, there are always going to be circumstances that require special consideration. Troop 776 will adhere to the guidance documented in the current revision of the "Guide to Advancement."

Attendance at troop meetings and troop activities will be the responsibility of the Scribe and will be documented in Scoutbook.

The Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee will consider the individual Scout's attendance and participation requirement if a school activity (band, athletics, etc), family emergency, job, or other special situations prevents the Scout from attending regular Troop meetings and other Troop activities.

Scout Uniform Policy

Wearing the Scout uniform is an important part of Scouting America program for it is one of the methods used to achieve the purpose of the program. The Scout uniform gives the Scout a sense of belonging, Troop identity, and Scout spirit. When the Scout wears his uniform, it reminds the youth that they are a Scout and that people will have expectations that the Scout will exemplify the image, ideals, and values of Scouting America program. The Scout uniform is an outward sign that he believes in certain values and that he is willing to stand up for those values.

By wearing the Scout uniform, Scouts give each other strength, support, and builds Troop spirit.

By investing in and wearing the Scout uniform the scout shows their commitment to the Scout program and will make a greater effort to advance. The uniform provides the only place to display rank advancement and achievements received. The Scout uniform makes the Troop visible in the community and creates a positive image for the youth in today's society.

Unlike some other units in the District and Council, Troop 776 maintains a strict dress code and uniform policy. During the school year, Scouts in Troop 776 are required to be in full "Class A" uniform at the weekly Troop meetings, and when the Troop travels to and from any Troop-sponsored function or outing. During the summer months, when Scouts are out of school, Scouts are permitted to wear the Class B uniform to the weekly Troop meetings.

The Class A uniform includes: the khaki Scout long-sleeved or short-sleeved shirt (tucked-in), green Scout pants or shorts (**no jeans, no khakis, no athletic shorts, no camo, and no sweatpants**), and Scout belt and buckle. The Troop neckerchief is optional except for a Court of Honor, Board or Review, Scoutmaster conference or other special occasions (i.e., Crossover ceremonies, flag ceremonies and special times at summer camp).

The Class B uniform includes the traditional Troop Class B t-shirt with olive green Scout pants or shorts (**again, no jeans, no khakis, no athletic shorts, no camo, and no sweatpants**), and Scout belt and buckle.

The following is the official uniform of Troop 776:

- Shirt (official tan with green shoulder epaulets)
- Patches (Council strip, Troop number (match epaulets), world crest, American flag, patrol patch, and rank patch).
- Pants/Shorts (official olive green)
- Belt (official olive green web belt)
- Socks (official Scouting America green or gray)
- Troop neckerchief and slide
- Merit badge sash (when required)
- Troop Class B t-shirt

Official placements of the patches can be found on the inside front and back covers of Scouting America Handbook. All Scouts should have a full "Field" (previously known as the Class "A") uniform consisting of the official Scout shirt with patches, Scout pants or shorts, Scout belt, neckerchief, and Scout socks within 3 months of joining. The Class B uniform consisting of a Troop or Scout activity shirt, Scout pants or shorts, Scout belt, and Scout socks may be the designated uniform for some activities. In keeping with the Scouting America Clothing Guidelines, scouts will not be prohibited from participation due to lack of a uniform.

The Scout leaders with Committee approval can change uniform requirements depending on circumstances (i.e. Class B uniform for summer Troop meeting).

The Scout uniform can be purchased at the Blue Ridge Council Scout Shop in Greenville or through the SCOUTING AMERICA catalog (<http://www.scoutstuff.org/>).

Local sporting goods/outdoor equipment retailers sell other brand olive green zip-off nylon pants for affordable prices. E-Bay can be a good source for gently used uniform pants as well. Scouts grow out of uniforms so quickly, so the Troop maintains an inventory of gently used equipment which often includes uniform shirts, pants, and belts. Scouts are welcome to take any items for which they have a need. Scouts and parents can also donate items to the inventory.

We understand that there can be financial obstacles in obtaining a full uniform. Please consult the Committee Chair or the Scoutmaster in order to discuss potential remedies. Also, if your scout has sensory issues prohibiting them from comfortably wearing the prescribed uniform, please contact the Scoutmaster for accommodations.

Advancement

Advancement is the process by which the Scouts progress through the ranks in the Scouting program through the demonstration and practice of scouting skills. Ranks are simply a means to an end, not an end in themselves. Everything Scouts do to advance and earn these ranks, from the day they join until the day they leave the program, should be designed to help them have an exciting and meaningful experience. Advancement to the Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks requires that the Scout demonstrate and practice specific skills, participate in Scouting America learning experiences, as well as participate in a number of Patrol or Troop activities other than normal Troop meetings. Merit badges may be earned as soon as the Scout enters the Troop, but the concentration on meeting requirements for rank advancement is recommended.

Demonstration of “Scout Spirit” is one of the primary requirements for rank advancement. One method a scout may demonstrate scout spirit and responsibility is by being in good financial standing with the Troop and meeting his or her obligations to the Troop. If a Scout is requesting a Board of Review for rank advancement, the Scout is encouraged to demonstrate (have Treasurer sign-off on their rank form) that their Scout Account is zero or above.

Merit Badges

After a Scout attains the First Class rank, merit badges are required for future rank advancement. Merit badges are concentrated study in a specific field with specific requirements to be completed in that field. To reach Eagle Scout, a Scout must earn a minimum total of twenty-one (21) merit badges with 14 of the 21 from the Eagle Scout rank required list.

Summer camp provides the greatest opportunity to earn merit badges. The requirements for various ranks and merit badges do change as the National Council updates and revises the program. Therefore, it is important to stay current on the program requirements. The Troop maintains a list of in-house merit badge counselors on the Troop website. Other counselors outside the troop are available and can be found by contacting the Council Office. When a Merit Badge has been completed and signed-off by the merit badge counselor, the Scout turns in the signed Blue Card or Progress Report to the Troop Rank Advancement Chairperson. When a Scout wishes to pursue a merit badge that is not being offered at a Troop-sanctioned event or outing, the scout must contact the Scoutmaster to obtain approval to earn that merit badge before working on the merit badge. Scouts are required to keep all merit badge and rank advancement cards for their personal records. While the Troop Advancement Chairman may update the Troop records in Scoutbook to reflect partially completed merit badges, it is the responsibility of each scout to retain a record of any partially completed merit badges until the merit badge has been earned. The Scout's Progress Binder is an additional tool, when used with the Scouting America Handbook, to record and document the Scout's progress activities, service, camping nights, positions of responsibility, merit badge work and completions, etc. The use of this binder is not considered “extra requirements” toward rank advancement but is used as a means to teach scouts organizational skills and help them keep track of logs and requirements in an easy-to-use method given the official Handbook has limited space for documenting activities.

Scout Advancement Process

The Scout learns.

A Scout learns by doing. As he learns, he grows in ability to do his part as a member of his Patrol and the Troop. As the Scout gains knowledge and skill, the Scout is asked to teach others. In this way, the Scout begins to develop his leadership skills.

The Scout is tested.

A Scout may be tested on requirements by his Patrol Leader, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, a Troop Committee member or another Scout of his Troop. The Scoutmaster maintains a list of those qualified to test and pass Scouts.

The Scout is reviewed.

After a Scout has completed all requirements for a rank, the Scout has a Board of Review for that rank. For Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle Palms, the review is conducted by members of the Troop Committee.

The Eagle Board of Review is conducted by members of the District Advancement Committee. The Scout shall be in full uniform and have his Scout Handbook when attending the Scoutmaster conference and Board of Review.

Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review

The scout is responsible for notifying the Scoutmaster when ready for a conference. The scout should be in full class A uniform. The scout will present himself to the Scoutmaster or board and provide his scout handbook and Troop Binder. For Star and above, the scout should notify the Scoutmaster one week in advance. The Scoutmaster will review the scout's records to ensure they meet the requirements defined in the Guide to Advancement and review the scout's Troop Binder and ScoutBook Records to ensure Star and above requirements are met and documented.

During the Scoutmaster conference, the Scoutmaster will review the scout's achievements, the scout's knowledge of scouting, how they demonstrated the scout oath and law, leadership positions held or want to hold, and discuss both positive and negative feedback the Scout may wish to offer about the troop. The Scoutmaster will also review the requirements for the next rank advancement, establish goals, and make sure the scout understands them.

When a Scout believes he has completed all requirements for rank, including the Scoutmaster conference, the Scout schedules a Board of Review through the Senior Patrol Leader who will work with the Troop Committee Chair to identify and schedule the Board of Review. The Board of Review is typically held on meeting nights and is subject to a cut off timeline at the Committee's discretion before an upcoming Court of Honor. The Board of Review will be comprised of at least three adults, one of which must be a registered leader in the Troop. The Board of Review will ensure that the scout has completed all rank advancement requirements, discuss the quality of the scout's troop experience, and encourage him to advance toward the next rank. The Board of Review will make every effort to put the Scout at ease, ask open-ended questions about the scout experience in the troop, and offer encouragement and praise.

The expectation is for a scout to be in full Class A uniform for both the Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review, however, in alignment with the Guide to Advancement, such meetings will not be denied on the basis of a scout not having a particular item of the uniform. The Troop Committee is available to help scouts obtain all parts of a full Class A uniform if they are financially unable to do so on their own.

The Scout is recognized.

When the Board of Review has approved the Scout's advancement, the Scout receives recognition as soon as possible. The rank advancement will be announced at the end of the Troop meeting or at the next Troop meeting. The Scout is recognized a second time at the next Troop Court of Honor, when the rank patch and the certificate for the rank advancement is presented to the Scout. The Court of Honor formally recognizes the Scout for his achievements and to demonstrate the advancement successes to the other Scouts. It also provides an opportunity for the parents of the Scouts to recognize the Scouts' progress and the Troop activities leading up to the Court of Honor.

Troop 776 holds Courts of Honor three times a year to award advancements in rank and merit badges earned to show each Scout's progress. All families are asked to attend and guests are certainly welcome.

Every Scout who advances deserves to be recognized in front of his family and friends. The Court of Honor is a special time for the Scout.

The differences between Scouting America advancement and Cub Scout advancement.

Parents who are not registered uniformed leaders in the Troop or approved merit badge counselors are NOT authorized to sign for completion of any Scout rank or merit badge requirement. In a Scout Troop, registered adult leaders are authorized to sign for completion of requirements. This is different from the policies for Cub Scout advancement where parents can sign for completed requirements.

Parents of Scouts are encouraged to become registered leaders. For those unable to participate in camping and outdoor activities, they may still serve as merit badge counselors, Troop Committee members and event managers.

Adult and position specific training is required for all registered Scouting America adults in order for the Scouts to realize the most out of Scouting America program.

Outdoor Program

Scouting America program is designed to emphasize the outdoor experiences. Therefore, one of the most important aspects of the overall Scouting program is camping. It is in the outdoors that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live and work with each other and respect the Leave No Trace principle. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at Troop meetings come alive with a purpose.

Being close to nature helps Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handiwork and mankind's place in it. The outdoors is the setting for Scouts to learn about ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.

An active camping program is necessary for advancement to First Class rank and to earn the Camping Merit Badge that is required for the Eagle Scout rank. An active Troop camping program provides the opportunities for a scout to succeed in Scouting America program. The Troop's monthly camping program allows the Scouts to participate in the complete Scouting experience and an opportunity to earn the necessary camping and other outdoor activity requirements.

For Scouts to participate in the outdoor activities, they will need to pay the trip fees in advance or have the available funds in their Scout Account prior to the trip.

Troop 776 and the outdoor program

Each year Troop 776 will offer a number of outstanding camping opportunities and all Scouts are encouraged to participate. In addition to regular monthly campouts, Scouts will have the opportunity to participate in the following:

- Week-long summer camp experience
- District and Council Camporees
- Canoe and whitewater rafting trips
- Backpacking and hiking opportunities
- Rock climbing and rappelling
- Winter sports (skiing and snowboarding)
- SCOUTING AMERICA high adventure programs

Equipment - What to bring on a campout (typical)

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing kit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foam pad | <input type="checkbox"/> Towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweater / jacket | <input type="checkbox"/> Soap | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket knife (folding) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal first aid kit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canteen/ water bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> Comb | <input type="checkbox"/> Notebook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silverware | <input type="checkbox"/> Washcloth | <input type="checkbox"/> Pen / Pencil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cup | <input type="checkbox"/> Medications | <input type="checkbox"/> Scouting America Handbook |

What not to bring on a campout

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radios, CD or tape players | <input type="checkbox"/> Candy (as approved) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic games | <input type="checkbox"/> Firearms or firecrackers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slingshots | <input type="checkbox"/> Aerosol spray cans (deodorant, bug spray, sun screen) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed blade or non-folding knives | <input type="checkbox"/> Candles, matches or lighters |

Scouting America Order of the Arrow

The Order of the Arrow (OA) was established to recognize Scouts and Scout leaders who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. The OA seeks to develop and maintain Scout camping traditions and encourages members to provide cheerful service to others. Members are organized into groups called Lodges. Each Lodge has its own name, number, and emblem that is known as a totem.

Lodges may be divided into chapters, with each District usually being a Chapter. Troop 776 is in the ATTA KULLA KULLA Lodge (number 185), and in the A-Ni-Wa-Ya Chapter.

The Order of the Arrow is an honor society recognizing the Scouts for their commitment to the Scout Oath, Law, cheerful service, and the principles of Scouting.

Each spring, Troop 776 conducts an election of new OA candidates. Only youth members are permitted to vote in the election. To be listed on the ballot, a Scout must meet the following qualifications:

1. Be a registered member of Scouting America.
2. Having experienced fifteen (15) nights of camping while registered with the Troop **within the two years immediately prior to the election.** The fifteen (15) nights must include one, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of at least five consecutive nights of overnight camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of Scouting America. Only five nights of the long-term camp may be credited toward the 15-night camping requirement; the balance of the camping (10 nights) must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps of, at most, three nights each.
3. Have attained the rank of First Class and, following approval by the Scoutmaster, be elected by the youth members of the unit.

Adults (age 21 or older) who meet the camping requirements may be selected following nomination to and approval by the lodge adult selection committee.

Additional information will be furnished to Troop members prior to the annual election.

Youth Protection and Safety

Scout Program Summary

Child abuse is a major problem affecting our society. Because of the significance of this social problem, Scouting America have developed a five-point plan to prevent child abuse and to improve the environment in which young people live. The key elements of this strategy include the following points:

- Educating Scouting volunteers, parents, other adults, and Scouts themselves to aid in the detection and prevention of child abuse.
- Establishing leader-selection procedures to prevent individuals with a history of child abuse from entering the SCOUTING AMERICA leadership ranks.
- Establishing policies that minimize the opportunities for child abuse to occur in the program of Scouting America.
- Encouraging Scouts to report improper behavior in order to identify offenders quickly.
- Swiftly removing and reporting alleged offenders.

Parent Guide

Scouting America has developed materials for use in the Scouting program that provide essential information to members and their families concerning child abuse. A detachable booklet in the front of Scouting America Handbook, "How to Protect Your Child from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parent's Guide", provides information to help families to increase self-protection skills. Completion of the pamphlet is a requirement for joining Scouting Americas.

Troop 776 and Youth Protection

Troop 776 is committed to following all guidelines of the Safeguarding Youth protection program. Any suspected offenses of the Safeguarding Youth program will be reported to the Council Executive. All reports will be taken very seriously, and appropriate action will be taken to ensure the safety of the youth.

All adult leaders and parent volunteers are required to take the online Safeguarding Youth Training.

Safety Guide

Troop 776 will follow the "Guide to Safe Scouting" concerning policies and procedures set forth by Scouting America for such issues as tour permits, safe swim defense, use of fuels, firearms, medical forms, safety equipment, etc. Reference is made to the Scouting America policy for clarification of policies and procedures.

Expenses, Fees, and Fundraising

Expenses and fees

The Scout expenses and fees will be set annually and announced by the Troop Committee at the time of rechartering. Refer to the Troop 776 Dues and Associated Costs summary document for details.

- Annual rechartering dues include:
 - Scouting America & Local Council dues
 - Troop dues
- New Scout registration fee includes neckerchief, epaulets, numbers, scout book, and two class B tee shirts.
- Additional annual costs:
 - Uniform: shirt (field and activity), pants/shorts, neckerchief, socks, and belt
 - Summer Camp costs (between \$400.00 and \$500.00, depending upon the location).
 - Each Scout shall pay for each campout or other activity – food on campouts is approximately \$25 (unless determined otherwise) other fees, such as campsite reservations, activity fees, and a shared portion of fuel costs, will vary for each activity. Scouts do not pay for activities they do not attend. However, if a scout or adult signs up for an event where fees are paid in advance and cancels after food is purchased and deposits made, they are still responsible for the full amount.
 - Patrols will be given a food budget and will assume responsibility for purchasing the food and supplies for campouts. Original food receipts, summarized on an expense reimbursement form, are given to the Treasurer for reimbursement within one week of the event. The reimbursement form must be signed by a Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairperson, Chartered Organization Representative, or Troop Treasurer. Forms must be submitted within 30 days of the expense, or they may not be reimbursed. This is to ensure the Treasurer is able to complete the shared allocation of charges to each participant in a timely manner.

The Troop shall be responsible for paying the following expenses:

- Troop registration (annual charter renewal)
- Troop insurance (annually)
- Troop equipment (as needed)
- Advancement patches, merit badge patches, pins, etc.
- Some portion of summer camp fees for adult leaders (as determined by the Troop Committee based on the budget availability to do so)
- Gas reimbursements for vehicles used to transport Scouts, adults leaders or supplies will be determined by the Troop Committee for each event. If reimbursements will be given, the following guidelines will be used:
 - 0-50 miles one way = 0 reimbursement
 - 51-or more = reimbursement at the current IRS non-profit mileage rate
 - If pulling the troop trailer, reimbursement will be made for actual gas cost

Mileage to an event will be determined using MapQuest or other comparable tool using a start point of Advent UMC. In order to receive reimbursement, a driver must be carrying several scouts (other than his/her own child) or equipment. All mileage reimbursements will be made by reducing the amount charged to the scout or adult for the event. In the event that an adult drives scouts to an outing that their scout is not participating in, the mileage will be credited to the scout account of the adult's scout.

Fundraising

Troop 776 has annually participated a variety of fundraising activities, such as the National Scouting America Popcorn Sale event. Other fundraising activities, such as Camp Cards, may be determined by the Troop Committee. All fundraising activities will be handled in accordance with Scouting America policies and procedures. Income from fundraising will be used to purchase Troop equipment, merit badge books, rank and merit badge patches, awards, supplies, and other Troop expenses as directed by the Troop Committee. Each Scout will have a "Scout account" within the Troop where designated monies (as determined by the Troop Committee) earned through the fundraisers are posted for use by the Scout for Troop-related activities only.

Scout Account Funds Policy

This policy provides guidance for the administration of funds earned by active Troop 776 Scouts that are maintained as account balances for use by the Scout (account holder) subject to the following conditions.

1. Funds may only be used for:
 - Scouting America sanctioned and Troop 776 Scout events for which a fee is required.
 - Expenses directly attributable to Scouting events, activities, supplies, etc.
 - Purchases from a SCOUTING AMERICA Scout Shop or a Troop Committee approved outlet.
 - Requests to use funds for purchases from a non-SCOUTING AMERICA Scout Shop must be submitted for approval in writing to the Troop Committee Chair at least one (1) week in advance of the date the funds are needed.
 - Other case-by-case determinations will be made by the Troop Committee Chair, and reimbursements provided if the purchases are consistent with the uses described above.
 - Receipts from purchases must be submitted to the Troop treasurer within one (1) week in order to ensure appropriate accounting of the Scout's available funds.
2. Balance is transferable to another Troop should the Scout leaves Troop 776.
 - Upon prior written verification of the transferring Scout's membership as provided by the Troop Committee Chair or Scoutmaster of the new Troop.
 - Balance will be conveyed by check (payable only to the scout's new troop) by the Troop Committee Chair, Scoutmaster, or other designated representative of the new Troop.
3. Balance is retained by Troop 776
 - Upon the Scout's departure from Troop 776 where there is no transfer to a new Troop.
 - Upon the Scout reaching his 18th birthday and the Scout's Troop membership is not renewed or he or she does not continue Scouting through Venture Crew participation.
 - The age limit is extended to 21 years of age if the Scout continues to serve the Troop, e.g. Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, Merit Badge Counselor, Troop Committee, etc.
 - Any balance that is retained by Troop 776 may be applied to the Troop's Scholarship fund or the general troop fund at the discretion of the Treasurer and Troop Committee.
4. Balance is transferable to a sibling of the Scout that is no longer active with Troop 776, or where the balance has been so designated by the Scout with the balance. Transfers may not be made to non-family members.
5. Revisions to the Scout Account Funds Policy are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Chartered Organization, Friends of 776.
6. As the Chartered Organization, Friends of 776, is currently classified as a tax-exempt 501c(3) public charity, fundraising must follow IRS guidelines. These include specifically the provision that fundraising efforts must not be used for the "private benefit" of any individual. Therefore, clarity regarding individual scout fundraising efforts to cover the costs of their participation in the scouting program is made here. IRS guidelines are sufficiently vague regarding what constitutes "private benefit." These guidelines are offered based on the guidance of the Troop Committee and Board of Directors of the Friends of 776 but are obviously superseded by IRS interpretation at any time.

For fundraising efforts that require the troop to bear the cost of carrying inventory, such as popcorn sales (where we have to pay for the popcorn regardless of whether scouts sell it all or not), the troop may elect to retain a higher percentage of net proceeds of sales to ensure it can cover these costs. These amounts may vary per fundraiser.

For fundraising efforts that simply rely on the time spent by individual scout and/or their family to earn money, such as community festival staffing, the troop will retain a lower percentage of net proceeds to ensure there is clear indication of the activity as for “troop benefit” and not solely for “personal benefit.”

The broader definition of what constitutes “personal/private benefit” is where the essence of the conformity is clarified by this policy. Friends of 776 designates that each scout’s attendance and participation in troop activities and outings is beneficial to all members and hence does not constitute “private benefit.” Uniform clothing that is compulsory for participation in such events, including specifically the Class A Field Uniform and required Class B shirts, is also included in this provision. Expenses that would be considered “private benefit” include camping gear that is solely purchased for a scout’s private use, or clothing that would otherwise be used for non-scouting purposes, such as hiking boots or a swimsuit worn at summer camp. Any reimbursement check given to a scout may only be issued with receipts that illustrate the expense was from these approved categories.

7. Fundraising done specifically for Eagle Scout projects follows criteria specific to the process. Scouts are not allowed to “solicit” on behalf of Scouting America or other organizations, but they may fundraise for their projects provided they follow guidelines outlined in the Eagle Scout Project workbook and complete the required Fundraising Application. All excess funds raised toward Eagle Scout Projects remain property of the beneficiary organization upon completion of the project.

Websites & Communication

Personal contact information for all troop members, parents, and adult volunteers is maintained exclusively in Scoutbook. It is each individual’s responsibility to update their own information there to ensure they receive timely updates and communications from the troop.

Troop 776 uses Scoutbook exclusively for all email or text communications. It is the parent’s responsibility to keep their contact information updated, as this is important not only for staying connected with troop announcements and activities, but for the safety of the scout by providing emergency contact information. Mobile numbers require authorization to receive text messages. Texts are used to alert families when the troop is returning from an outing for example. Most communications come in the form of emails sent from the Scoutbook system. The troop calendar is maintained in Scoutbook and **RSVPs must be indicated there.**

Scouts and leadership work very hard to provide quality programming and activity opportunities throughout the year. One of the most important ways each family can help the troop and its operations is to simply RSVP for the events. It is very difficult to make reservations and plan volunteer drivers, etc. when there is no clear headcount to plan for. Every parent can show their appreciation for all the work that goes into this planning by simply providing their response (including regrets when they are not attending), so plans can be made in a timely manner.

One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a Scoutmaster’s Conference or merit badge counseling session, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and youths.

There should be no private messages and no one-on-one direct contact between adults and youth. All communication between adults and youth should take place in a public forum. Electronic communication between an adult and a Scout should always include one or more authorized adults (can be a parent) openly “copied” (included) on the message or message thread. This applies to all email, chat, social media and all other forms of electronic communication (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Skype, etc).

Electronics Usage Policy

Scouts **are expected to put away** mobile electronic devices during Troop meetings or on Troop outings unless they are specifically required for the merit badge activity or are being used under the direction of their Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters for a specifically required activity. Examples might be scenarios of a Photography or Moviemaking Merit Badge or photos collected to add to the troop website.

In an age of technology, smart phones and other mobile electronic devices are common tools used in everyday life. While troop outings are experiences best enjoyed without the distractions of technology, the Troop recognizes that

their use is more common than ever. Photographs and videos can be taken on these phones and there are several useful outdoor “apps” (compass, geocaching, knots, Scouts Life magazine, Scouting magazine, star gazing, Leaf Snap, Scouting America Handbook, etc.).

Cell phones are permitted for use during car rides to and from outings. During outings or in meetings, cell phones should be stored away and turned off when not in use. Scouts may use phones during announcements to record dates of events in their calendar, or they may use phones at the end of the meeting to phone a parent for pick up. They are not, however, allowed to be on phones when activities are underway or using the phone for any non-scout-related purpose, such as: games, chat/text, or other activities unrelated to the meeting.

The Troop will **NOT** be responsible for phones or other mobile electronic devices that are lost, damaged, destroyed or stolen, coupled with the fact that phones can and often become a needless distraction (the scouts try to sneak and play games or send text messages instead of doing what they're supposed to be doing), the preference is for the scouts to simply leave phones and other electronic mobile devices at home (this includes Smart Watches).

If scouts have a problem or there is an emergency and a scout needs to get in touch, adult leaders in the troop will facilitate a phone call. You can always call an adult leader to ease your mind.

Adult leaders and parent volunteers are permitted to possess mobile phones at Troop meetings and on Troop outings. If it becomes necessary to use a mobile electronic device, parent volunteers and adult leaders should ensure that it is being utilized in a way that enhances the camping experience, not detracts from the adventure. Getting away from it all, spending time away from screens and keyboards, and enjoying the great outdoors is one of scouting's main benefits. Consequently, texting or phone calls should be reserved for emergencies only.

Any device mis-use at Troop meetings or on Troop outings will result in the device being confiscated until the end of the meeting or event, at which point it will be returned to the Scout or his parents.

Electronic devices such as digital cameras, two-way radios, weather radios, GPS equipment, or other devices used to ensure the safety of the Scouts, parents, and Leaders are allowed at the discretion of the Leader coordinating the event or outing.

Inquiries and Complaints

All complaints and/or inquiries shall be directed to the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chairperson.

Discipline

Scouting America has two "sets of ideals" which govern the conduct of any scout. These are the SCOUT OATH and the SCOUT LAW.

When a boy or girl becomes a scout, he or she promises to try to live these ideals. A list of rules and regulations would do nothing more than repeat what is already contained in the Scout Oath and Law. Every scout in Troop 776 is expected to behave according to the Scout Oath and the Scout Law.

Discipline has not traditionally been an issue within Troop 776. However, when the occasional issue does arise, the following procedure will be followed.

1. General discipline within the troop is the responsibility of the Scoutmaster and/or the Assistant Scoutmasters. Any youth who misbehaves meets and talks with the Scoutmaster and/or the Assistant Scoutmasters in an attempt to resolve the issue.
2. If a scout's behavior continues to contradict the Scout Oath and Scout Law after the Scoutmaster and/or Assistant Scoutmaster has tried to work with the scout, then the troop Committee Chairperson, the Chartered Organization Representative, and the Scoutmaster (Troop Key 3) together will have a conference with the scout.

3. A conference with the Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairperson, Chartered Organization Representative, the scout, and the scout's parents will be held if behavior problems continue after steps one and two are taken.
4. If the scout's behavior has not improved after all of the above steps have been taken, a majority of the Troop Committee may, at the Scoutmaster's request, vote to prohibit the scout from participating in further troop activities.
5. Finally, in a situation where discipline cannot be maintained, after counseling and all other measures have failed, that Scout may be dismissed from the Troop.

Troop 776 Guidelines

Troop 776 Scouting America Simpsonville, SC

- Guidelines for Activities - All Scouts are expected to wear the proper uniform to all Troop meetings, activities, and events.
- SCOUTING AMERICA Scout Handbook and Troop Scout binder, pencil, and paper are to be brought to all Troop meetings.
- Troop meetings at Advent United Methodist Church (AUMC) begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m.* All Scouts are to be on time and are expected to remain for the entire meeting unless arrangements are made with the Scoutmaster or leader in charge.
- Any Scout walking or driving to Troop meetings must go directly to and from the meeting unless other arrangements have been made with the parent's or guardian's permission.
- Troop meetings are opened with a formal ceremony with all Scouts at attention. The Senior Patrol Leader has complete charge of the Troop meetings. A Troop Meeting Plan will be followed as prepared by the Patrol Leaders' Council.
- Adults are to refrain from the use of alcohol or tobacco products when in the company of Scouts. The Scouts are looking to the leaders as role models.
- Profanity is inappropriate in any situation, particularly in Scouting. Scouts, adult leaders, and parent volunteers are to refrain from this type of activity.
- Hazing is not allowed in Scouting in any form. Harassing or fighting with your fellow Scouts is not acceptable.
- The meeting place is a Church, so appropriate conduct is required. You will be asked to replace any Church property that is broken or damaged by your Scout.
- Use of the Advent UMC Christian Life Center, gymnasium, and other outdoor facilities must be authorized by the Scoutmaster. No Scout shall leave the meeting room, e.g. dining room, outdoor playground etc., without the permission of the Senior Patrol Leader, Scoutmaster, or other designated adult leader.
- When driving youth to or from scouting activities, adult leaders will obey all traffic regulations and will **adhere to the posted speed limits**. Failure to follow this guideline will result in driving privileges being suspended. Drivers must also maintain a valid insurance policy on their vehicle and ensure it is in good working order prior to use for scouting transportation.

Remember, we are guests and are required to follow the guidelines set by the Facilities Use Agreement with Advent UMC.

Troop Scholarships

Scouting America Troop 776 Simpsonville, SC Blue Ridge Council South Bounder District Camp and Activities Fee Scholarship Policy

Summer Camp and Annual Activities Scholarships provided by Scouting America Troop 776 are considered to be one-half (½) or less of the full summer camp fee or of the estimated annual activities fee (based on the availability of Troop funds).

Additional or supplement funding may be available from the Blue Ridge Council and the Order of the Arrow Atta Kulla Kulla Lodge.

The Troop recognizes the advantage to youth in participating in the summer camp program and Troop activities and wants to aid legitimate need cases. It cannot assume the total financial responsibilities but will assist families with partial funding.

Full summer camp fee and annual activities for purpose of this policy is defined as the total cost that would otherwise be incurred by the Scout's family. Summer camp fee is determined by the Council where the Summer Camp resides.

Troop estimated annual activities fee will be determined by the Troop Committee in November of the previous year. It does not cover additional fees such as merit badge fees, souvenirs, etc. that are not included in the original fees.

NO SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE AWARDED FOR 100% OF A SCOUT'S PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS

1. Scholarships are available ONLY to youth members who are registered members of Scouting America Troop 776 Simpsonville, SC for at least four (4) months prior to the date the scholarship application is made. (Exceptions are made for new Scouts entering the Troop prior to Summer Camp).

2. It must be understood that all other sources of financial help have been exhausted including the youth member's own earning power and his family's resources. The Scout's agreed upon share of the summer camp fee or activity fee must be paid PRIOR TO the date of the campout or activity.

3. Scholarships are limited to Summer camp and Troop activities only OR a District or Council sponsored activity the Scout as an individual may participate in for the betterment of the Troop.

4. Scholarship Applications may be obtained from the Troop Committee Treasurer or the Troop website.

5. Applications with ALL information completed and signed by the member's parents should be submitted to the Troop Committee Treasurer before the Troop Committee meeting immediately prior to the deadline for payment of the summer camp or within 1 month after registering as a Scout of Troop 776.

6. NO SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THE SIGNATURE OF A PARENT.

7. Scholarships are based on available Troop funds and will be reviewed by the Troop Scholarship Committee consisting of the Troop Committee Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and Advancement Chairman. If the Scholarship is granted, the family will be notified by the Troop Committee Chairman or Troop Treasurer.

ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS WILL BE HANDLED ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS BY THE TROOP SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.

8. In consideration of awarding a scholarship to a Scout, the Troop Scholarship Committee may take into consideration (in addition to the family's financial ability to pay) the Scout's overall involvement in Troop activities, including meetings, service projects, Troop fundraisers, as well as overall Scout spirit. Prior scholarships awarded will also be taken into consideration.

9. The Troop Scholarship Committee may elect to finance the entire agreed upon portion of the summer camp or annual activities fee or suggest additional application for assistance from the Blue Ridge Council and the Order of the Arrow Atta Kulla Kulla Lodge.

10. If financial assistance is provided by Troop 776, the Scout will be expected to provide future service in Troop service projects and fundraisers at a later date, i.e. popcorn sales, mulch sales, Christmas tree pick-up, Fall for Greenville trash collection, etc.

11. Once the scholarship application has been approved or rejected by the Troop Scholarship Committee, the application will be either returned to the family or destroyed. A ledger will be kept of all financial assistance provided to Scouts by activity and date.

12. While there is no requirement or expectation on behalf of the Troop, awarded scholarships may be paid back to the Troop's scholarship account. The family's ability or inability to do so however, will have no impact on the decision by the scholarship committee whether or not to award the scholarship.