

QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS WHEN VISITING A TROOP

General

- When and where does the troop meet?
- Why should we join your troop?
- How much will a year of Boy Scouting cost in your troop? What are the dues? How are they paid?
- How are activities paid for?
- What money earning projects do the patrols or troop do and what is expected from the Boy Scout? How are funds handled (all money earned goes to the troop, each Boy Scout has an individual account, other)?
- Does the troop have an annual plan? If so, can you please provide a copy?
- If your troop was compared with the Scoutmaster Handbook, the Troop Committee Guidebook, and other BSA publications, what differences would be found?
- Is the Guide to Safe Scouting used and followed?
- Will my son have fun in your Troop?

Ideals

- What specific things does your troop do to promote the Aims of Scouting?
- What types of service projects do the patrols or the troop do? How often do the patrols or troop do service projects?
- Do you have Scouts Own religious services at camp?

Patrols

- How many Boy Scouts are registered? What is the age distribution? - Where do they go to school?
- How are the patrols organized in your troop (New-Scout patrol, patrols of mix ages and experience, other)?
- How is patrol and troop leadership chosen? How often does leadership change?

Outdoor Program

- How often do the patrols or troop camp? Do you have a year-round outdoor program?
- Are your campouts organized so that a Boy Scout can return home Saturday afternoon or evening?
- Does the troop always camp together or are there separate patrol activities or campouts?
- What council, district, or other Camporee type events do you participate in?
- What Scout Camp(s) do you attend?
- Has your troop attended any High Adventure bases?
- Have individuals in the troop participated in a Jamboree?

Advancement

- How does your troop handle Merit Badges?
- How do you handle Boy Scouts that want to advance past 1st Class (Star, Life, Eagle) quickly or slowly?
- When do you present awards (next meeting, Court of Honor, other)?
- How many Courts of Honor are scheduled each year?

Association with Adults

- How is your troop organized (organization chart)?
- How many adults are registered?
- Describe the training of the adult leadership and committee.
- What is expected from parents?
- In what ways do the Boy Scouts associate with the adults?

Personal Growth

- Do troop members participate in Order of the Arrow?
- What are your attendance policies?

Leadership Development

- How often does the Patrol Leader's Council meet?
- Does your Patrol Leader's Council plan and carry out the activities of the Troop?
- Does the troop conduct Introduction to Leadership Skill for Troops?
- Are your Scouts encouraged to attend NYLT?
- Does the troop utilize Troop Guides?

Uniform

- What are the uniform expectations?
- When do you expect the uniform to be worn?