

WELCOME!

TROOP 220



ANCHORAGE ★ ALASKA

Scouting America Mission Statement

The mission of the Scouting America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Troop #220's Vision

Troop 220 is a character development unit with a strong emphasis on leadership, personal growth, outdoor ethics, and community service. Although advancement is a benefit of the scouting program, it isn't our key focus. Our hope is that advancement occurs as a side effect of solid program, and that the scouts take personal responsibility in their advancement journey. We strive to provide an environment that nurtures the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of our scouts.

The Scout Oath, Law, Motto & Slogan

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do 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.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Scout Motto

Be prepared.

Scout Slogan

Do a good turn daily.

TROOP SPECIFICS

Scoutmaster:

Sam Giacalone

Committee Chair:

Leslie Carrales

Chartered Organization Representative:

Keenan Green (Midtown Rotary)

Meeting Location:

Baxter Elementary School
2991 Baxter Rd, Anchorage 99504

Meeting times:

Thursdays Evenings 7:45pm

Communication

The main communication will come through emails via Scoutbook- Other forms of information/contact are through the Troop #220-Linked Facebook Closed Group and the Troop #220-linked Facebook page.

How can I be involved?

- Be a Committee Member
 - Assistant Scoutmaster
 - Board of Review Committee
- Drive to/from an event
- Lead adult for an event
- Be a Merit Badge Counselor

Volunteer for 3 activities per year

- Go to an event
- Driver to/from an event
- Lead Scouts in planning an event

Uniform & Equipment

What to Buy?

- (If not provided by the Troop) Scouts BSA Handbook – Available at the Scout Office
(3117 Patterson St. Anchorage Alaska) Open M-F 1pm-5PM
- Scouts BSA Uniform – Also available at the Scout Office

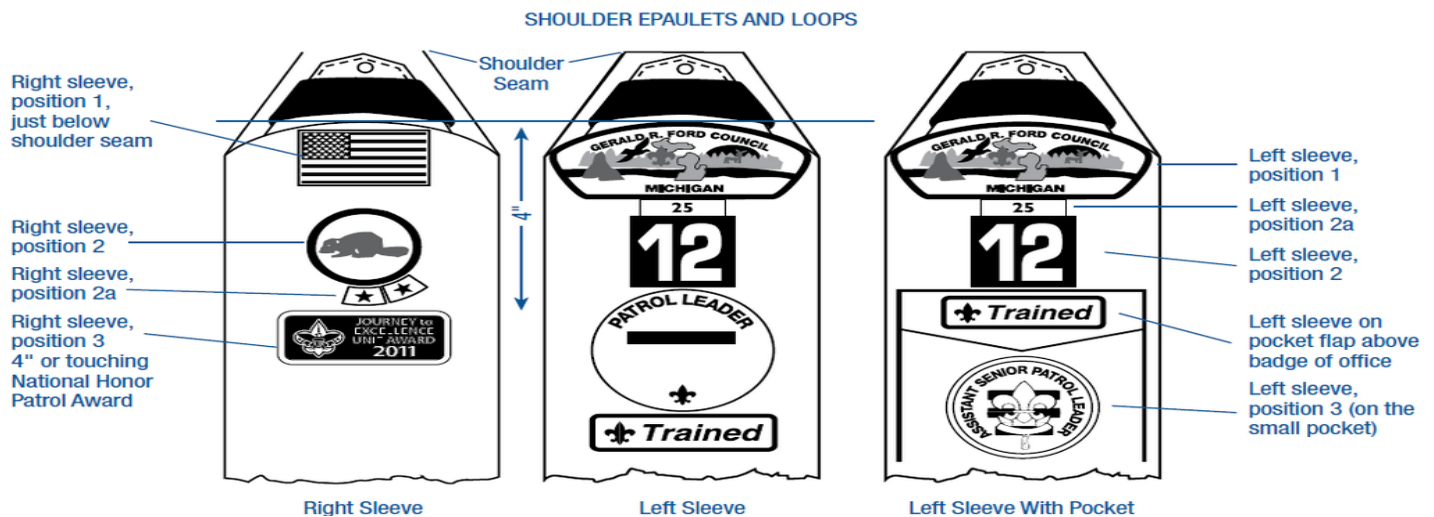
****Each scout is expected** to have and wear the following uniform items:**

- Scouts BSA Uniform shirt
- Scouts BSA Uniform pants/shorts/Skirt with leggings
- Scouts BSA Belt
- Scouts BSA Socks (Only for Camporee events)
- Sensible shoes or hiking boots
- Neckerchief and Shirt insignia is provided by the troop

Scouts are expected to be in as full a uniform you own for all meetings, and outings unless instructed otherwise. The alternative uniform will be a Class B, which is a shirt/hoodie designed by the troop.

****Any scout interested in participating in either opening or closing flag ceremony MUST be in full uniform****





Equipment

Equipment for scouting is broken down into three categories:

Troop

The troop will provide items necessary for group activities, such as troop trailer and items needed for overall troop support, such as saws, axes, water buckets, dining fly, shovels, Dutch ovens, ropes, etc.

Patrol

It is ideal to have a Patrol Box for each Patrol, so they can have their own equipment and Quartermaster duties assigned. Patrol Boxes include items such as; basic cooking items, including pots, pans, utensils, cleanup kit etc. As more patrols are added, new equipment will be secured.

Personal

Personal gear is provided and maintained by each scout. Don't go overboard as a new scout by purchasing lots of top-of-the-line equipment that you will rarely, if ever use. Before making any expensive purchases, talk to some older scouts and adult leaders – they will have valuable advice about what to buy and avoid. They may even have gear to give you or lend.

All gear should be clearly labeled with the Scout's name!

Campouts

For all campouts (unless instructed otherwise) plan to pack the following:

Tent w/tarp or ground cloth

Sleeping bag and pillow

Sleeping pad

Personal hiking pack

Daily change of clothes to include:

- Scout Uniform
- Pants
- Shirts
- Socks (extra)
- Sweater or Sweatshirt
- Pajamas

Appropriate footwear

Rain protection (rain jacket/pant and boots)

Jacket

Personal Hygiene products:

- Toothbrush/paste
- Deodorant
- Brush
- Hair bands (to keep hair away when cooking over fire)
- Feminine hygiene, shampoo/conditioner/body wash
- Towel/swim wear/wet bag

Water bottle

Insect repellent

Sunscreen

Flashlight with batteries

Scouts BSA Handbook with pencil

Mess kit (spoon, fork, knife, bowl etc.)

Pocket knife

Compass

Matches/fire starters

Personal first aid kit (can be small)

Winter appropriate gear if winter camping
Camera/book or journal.
NO food or snacks in backpack/tent

Hiking

Even if they don't plan on using any of the items, it is important that scouts pack the "10 essentials" on all day trips/hikes. All items should fit in a hiking pack.

1. Water Bottle
2. Sun Protection
3. Extra Clothing
4. First Aid Kit
5. Trail Food
6. Pocket knife
7. Matches/Fire starters
8. Map and Compass
9. Rain Gear
10. Flashlight

*Extra items: Scout handbook, notebook with pen/pencil, camera

The Meeting:

- 1) Gather at designated meeting place
- 2) Scouts will form Patrol Lines- Conduct flag ceremony
- 3) The SPL or ASPL will lead us in The Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath, Law, and Outdoor Code.
- 4) Announcements are made
- 5) The Linked Units (unless working together) will separate into their own Programs.
- 6) The Senior Patrol Leader will dismiss the Patrols and ask the Patrol Leader to start their program.
- 7) Patrol Program
- 8) Closing flag ceremony (Units will link together again)
- 9) Circle up – Announcements & Scoutmaster Minute

What is PLC?

The Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) selects, plans, and leads Troop activities, and is the key to having a scout-led Troop.

When is PLC?

The Third Thursday each month from 6:45 to 7:45pm

Who attends PLC?

Scouts:

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) The members of the troop elect a SPL & ASPL to serve as their Troop leaders. The SPL runs the Patrol Leader Council meetings.

Assistant Patrol Leader (ASPL) assists the SPL and fills in when needed. Creates PLC report.

Patrol Leaders from each patrol (Assistant Patrol Leader in the absence of a Patrol Leader). The members of each patrol elect one of their own to serve as patrol leader. The Patrol Leader reports PLC decisions to his patrol.

Troop Scribe keeps a log of PLC meetings, creates the agenda, reports and keeps attendance. The SPL & ASPL appoint this position from a list of candidates.

Quartermasters reports on the condition and availability of equipment and needs. The SPL & ASPL appoint this position to about three scouts from a list of candidates.

Troop Guides report on New Scout training. They also work with the New Scout Patrol leader during PLC. The SPL & ASPL appoint this position to about three scouts from a list of candidates.

Chaplain's Aide reports on religious services on Troop activities. The SPL & ASPL appoint this position to about list of 1st Class Scout candidates.

Historian reports on the Troop scrapbook. The SPL & ASPL appoint this position from a list of candidates.

Order of the Arrow Troop Rep reports to PLC news from Order of the Arrow meetings.

Other Troop officers do not need to be present, but will submit a monthly report to the ASPL, who will in turn, incorporate those notes into his PLC Report.

Adult Leaders:

Scoutmaster guides the PLC

*Assistant Scoutmasters (ASM) from each patrol are there as advisors to the PLC.

Committee Chair

Activities Chair – reports on upcoming activities

Other key Troop Committee members

*Parents are welcome to come at any time to learn about the program, it is very important that the ASM's attend PLC to learn what they need to do and what is going on in the troop.

What is discussed?

Patrol attendance for the month.

Troop Officer reports

Patrol Leader reports

Reflection on that month's meetings

Program/Service Patrol commitments
Upcoming Activities
Review calendar for the next several months
Review Status of the year's Scout Goals

Patrol Method

As in all troops, Scouts lead the program. The Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster and support adults guide and supervise them.

Upon joining the Troop, Scouts will be assigned to a Patrol. Patrols contain 5-8 Scouts which work as a unit on campouts, in skills instruction, and in competition at some events. Patrol members choose a Patrol Leader who is responsible for coordinating (not doing) all the necessary plans for each outing, e.g. menus, food, tents, transportation.

The Scouts also elect an Assistant Patrol Leader who serves as Patrol Leader in the Patrol Leader's absence.

The Green Bar



The Green Bar (the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guides, and Patrol Leaders) provides the Scout leadership. The Green Bar is elected by the youth membership twice yearly. An annual planning meeting is held, usually in September, where the upcoming events and activities for the program year are planned and reviewed with the adult leadership.

As an SPL, the scout must commit to attending meetings, provide leadership at all events, and ensure that all members are treated with respect and fairness. It is also important that the SPL participate in the "ILST- Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops" before or during their term.

*** (If a large enough troop) ***

- The scouts are organized into patrols, each with its own Patrol Leader, Assistant, and assigned positions. A patrol functions together throughout the year. Members of each patrol plan menus, buy their food, cook, and cleanup, work and have fun together.

Patrol Positions

Once the scouts have elected their Senior Patrol Leader, it will be their job (with minor guidance of the adult leadership) to appoint positions within the troop to the other scouts.

These positions are important as they provide the scouts a sense of belonging, voice and chance to improve their leadership skills.

The positions also ensure a well-functioning patrol, with everyone equally taking on the responsibilities. These positions will be held for a **6-month term**.



More information about individual positions can be found online at **Scouting.org or in the Scout handbook**

ADVANCEMENT

Scoutbook!!

One of the most underutilized assets by parents is Scoutbook! This is a place to look up your Scout's advancement, hiking/camping nights, and Merit Badge progress.

A parent and or scout can input their own advancement requirements, as long as there are clear notes, dates, and or photos to be reviewed by the Scoutmaster.

If a Scoutmaster does not feel that the Scout has demonstrated adequate knowledge of the requirement, they can deny approval and ask for the scout to show them evidence of understanding at any time.

- Parents may **NOT** input Merit Badge Requirements into Scoutbook. Only MB Counselors may do this, unless directed to do so by that Counselor. If the Parent is the Counselor, they may only work with their own scout if there are other scouts in the group working on the badge together.
- If you are having any issues accessing Scout-book, please reach out and we will assist you
- Only parents can grant their scout access to their own account if they wish to do so.

Ranks

Scout Rank

The Scout rank is oriented toward learning the basic information every youth needs to know to be a good Scout. It starts with the Scout demonstrating knowledge and understanding of the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto, and Scout slogan and then introduces the Scout to basic troop operations and safety concerns.

Scout rank should be earned within a few troop meetings.



Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks

These ranks are oriented toward learning and practicing skills that will help Scouts develop confidence and fitness, challenge their thought processes, introduce them to their responsibilities as citizens, and prepare them for exciting and successful Scouting experiences. Requirements for the Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First-Class ranks may be worked on simultaneously; however, these ranks must be earned in sequence.

All requirements for **Star, Life, and Eagle**, except for those related to merit badges, must be fulfilled after the successful completion of a board of review for the previous rank.

In Scouts BSA, **advancement requirements must be passed as written**. If, for example, a requirement uses words like “show,” “demonstrate,” or “discuss,” then that is what Scouts must do. Filling out a worksheet, for example, does not suffice.

The Process

Four Steps in Advancement

A Scout advances from the Scout rank to the Eagle rank by doing things with a patrol and troop, with adult and youth leaders, and independently. Active scouts should be able to achieve First Class in their first 12 to 18 months of membership. Advancement is a straightforward matter when the four steps or stages outlined below are observed and integrated.

- **The Scout Learns**

With learning, a Scout grows in the ability to contribute to the patrol and troop. As Scouts develop knowledge and skills, they are asked to teach others and, in this way, they learn and develop leadership.

- **The Scout Is Tested**

The unit leader authorizes those who may test and pass the Scout on rank requirements. They might include the patrol leader, the senior patrol leader,

the unit leader, an assistant unit leader, or another Scout. Merit badge counselors teach and test Scouts on requirements for merit badges.

- **The Scout Is Reviewed**

After completing all the requirements for a rank, except Scout rank, a Scout meets with a board of review. For Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, and Life ranks, members of the unit committee conduct it. The Eagle Scout board of review is held in accordance with National Council and local council procedures.

- **The Scout Is Recognized**

When a Scout has earned the Scout rank or when a board of review has approved advancement, the Scout deserves recognition as soon as possible. This should be done at a ceremony at the next unit meeting. The achievement may be recognized again later, such as during a formal court of honor.

- **After the Scout Is Tested and Recognized**

After the Scout is tested and recognized, the Scout will practice newly learned skills in different settings and methods: at unit meetings, through various activities and outings, by teaching other Scouts, while enjoying games and leading projects, and so forth. These activities reinforce learning, show how Scout skills and knowledge are applied, and build confidence.

Merit badges

There are roughly 135 different merit badges to choose from. Merit badges are a way for scouts to explore their interests as well as develop skills needed to prepare them for life. Many merit badges are electives, but some are required to obtain the rank of Eagle.

1. **Pick a Subject** Talk to your Scoutmaster about your interests. Read the requirements of the merit badges you think might interest you and pick one to earn. Your Scoutmaster will give you the name of a person from a list of counselors.

2. **Scout Buddy System** You must have another person with you at each meeting with the merit badge counselor. This person can be your parent or legal guardian, or another registered adult.
3. **Call the Merit Badge Counselor**. Before you can begin the merit badge, the Scoutmaster will need to approve it in Scoutbook. Once complete, get in touch with the merit badge counselor and explain that you want to earn the badge. The counselor may ask to meet you to explain what is expected and to start helping you meet the requirements. You should also discuss the work you have already started or possibly completed.
 - At the first meeting, you and your merit badge counselor will review and may start working on the requirements. In some cases, you may share the work you have already started or completed.
 - Unless otherwise specified, work on a requirement can be started at any time. Ask your counselor to help you learn the things you need to know or do. You should read the merit badge pamphlet on the subject.
4. **Show Your Stuff**. When you are ready, call the counselor again to make an appointment. When you go, take along the things you have done to meet the requirements. If they are too big to move, take pictures or have an adult tell in writing what you have done. The counselor will test you on each requirement to make sure you know your stuff and have done or can do the things required.
5. **Get the Badge**. When the counselor is satisfied you have met each requirement, he or she will sign your blue card/Approve in scout book. Give the signed card to your unit leader so your merit badge emblem can be secured for you.

Merit badge requirements are revised as needed to reflect updated information and technology. Refer to the latest Scouts BSA Requirements book for merit badge requirement updates. The current Scouts BSA Requirements book is available from your local Scout shop.

Requirements. You are expected to meet the requirements as they are stated—no more and no less. You must do exactly what is stated in the requirements. If it says, “show or demonstrate,” that is what you must do. Just talking about it isn’t enough. The same thing holds true for such words as “make,” “list,” “in the field,” and “collect,” “identify,” and “label.”

- There is no time limit for starting and completing a merit badge, but all work must be completed by the time a Scout turns 18.



Behavior :

As a youth organization, we want to make sure that all of the scouts feel safe and empowered. Slander, inappropriate slang, bullying, and racially insensitive comments are never tolerated. It is important to instill conflict resolution within a patrol, so if misconduct occurs, the youth in question will be given a chance to resolve the issue interpersonally. If the conflict cannot be resolved by the youth, adult leadership will step in.

Physical violence is never an option. Each situation is unique and will be handled immediately at the discretion of the adult leadership and committee.

Tabaco/Drugs

The Scouting America have a long tradition of teaching personal health and fitness. Tabaco, drug or alcohol use is strictly forbidden at all scouting functions or locations. (This applies to adults as well)

Misconduct

To keep outings and meetings safe and inviting to all youth, as well as demonstrating the Scout oath and law, there will be a behavior contract signed at the beginning of the year that applies to all scouting activities. The contract will outline the expectations, procedures for handling misbehavior, and consequences (up to removal from activity)

Attendance

To get the most out of the scouting experience, it is strongly encouraged to make as many meetings/outings as possible. A patrol functions the best when all its members are working as one. If your scout plans on holding a leadership position, it is expected that they will attend at least 80% of the meetings/activities. Emergencies, illness, family trips happen. Just let us know, so we can catch up on what they missed.

Youth Protection Training

To keep our scouts as safe as possible, all adults in the Troop must complete their Youth Protection training. Training can be completed online at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>