

Welcome Parents!

Welcome to Boy Scouts of America Troop 658. We have a great group of Scouts and the strong support and participation of many adults. Parental involvement is one of the major keys to success in Scouting and we're especially proud of the active parental involvement in Troop 658.

Parents are welcome to attend any meeting, but are especially encouraged to attend all Courts of Honor and parent's meetings. We strongly encourage you to get involved and we trust this handbook will excite your interest and answer some of your questions concerning our troop.

Sincerely,

The Scoutmaster

Table of Contents

Welcome 1

Getting Started (What to do when your boy signs up) 3

What is Boy Scouts? 3

Troop Organization 4

The Patrol Method: What does a Patrol do? 4

Advancement 4

Merit Badges 5

Uniform 6

Patches 6

Equipment 7

Medical Forms 7

Activities 8

Summer Camp 8

Troop Dues 9

Fundraising and "Scout Bucks Accounts" 10

Troop Calendar 10

Service Projects 11

Parent Participation 11

Adult Registration 11

Medical Forms for Adults 12

Tour Permits and Transportation 12

Troop Committee 12

Merit Badge Counselors Needed 13

Two-Deep Leadership 13

Behavior 13

BSA Green Mountain Council Non- Discrimination Policy 13

Suggestions for Improvement 14

Troop 658 Web Site 14

BSA Troop 658 Troop Committee Positions 16

Paperwork Checklist 17

Behavior Policy and Sign-off Sheet 18-19

Getting started (What to do when your boy signs up)

An important requirement for Scouting is that your son should have fun! Boy Scouts learn a lot, master new skills, and challenge themselves and each other. In the process we hope there's lots of enjoyment.

There are only a few things that you need to get started with Troop 658. Your son will need a copy of **The Boy Scout Handbook** (received at crossover) and a uniform. You'll need to help your son by completing and turning in a medical form and registration form (with annual dues payment). Details on these requirements are provided later in this Welcome Guide.

The next step is to begin working on the first rank, "Scout". To become a Scout, your son will need to learn the basics of the Boy Scout program, like the Scout Oath, Scout Law, etc. as outlined in **The Boy Scout Handbook**. Boys "crossing over" from Webelos often have worked on these requirements with their Webelos II Den.

An important requirement for a new Scout is to review with his parents, and understand, *How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*, contained in the front of the Boy Scout Handbook.

Once the boy completes these requirements, he participates in a Scoutmaster Conference. The Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster reviews the boy's progress, makes sure he knows the basics, and discusses what the boy would like to do in Scouting.

What is Boy Scouts?

Boy Scouts is a program for boys 11 through 17 designed to achieve the aims of Scouting (character building, citizenship, personal fitness, leadership training) through a vigorous outdoor program and peer group leadership, with the counsel of an adult Scoutmaster (and lots of other parent help!).

If you were involved in Cub Scouts, you'll notice a major difference with Boy Scouts: it's a boy run program and is probably a boy's first experience in dealing with peer supervision and leadership. In Cub Scouts, adults planned and ran the program. In Boy Scouts, the scouts themselves plan and organize the Troop. The role of the adult leaders is to assist them in doing so.

The ideals of Scouting are stated in the **Scout Oath, Law, Slogan, and Motto** (see your son's **Boy Scout Handbook**). Each Scout in the Troop is encouraged to strive for these ideals, and must understand them to begin his advancement program.

Much more information about Scouting, including an interesting history of the program, is available by visiting the Boy Scouts of America Web site link provided at the Troop 658 Web site: www.bsatroop658.org

Troop Organization

Troop 658 organization begins with the boys: the Troop is divided into **Patrols**, which are groups of 6 to 8 scouts who elect a Patrol Leader (PL). (See below for additional details about Patrols)

These leaders are part of the **Patrol Leaders Council**. This group includes Troop-wide officers, some of which are elected, such as the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and others which are appointed with the assistance of the Scoutmaster, such as the Chaplain's Aide, Scribe, Quartermaster, etc.

Supporting the boys is a set of adult leaders. The **Troop Committee** is composed of parents filling a variety of supporting roles (there's a position for you!). And the committee supports the **Uniformed Leaders**, especially the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters.

Troop 658 is supported by its **Chartering Organization**, which is Saint Francis Xavier Church in Winooski, Vermont Also supporting the Troop is the **Three Rivers District**, which is part of the **Green Mountain Council**, the regional organization of the **National Boy Scouts of America**.

The Patrol Method: What does a Patrol do?

The patrol method gives Boy Scouts experience working and living in a group. It places responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in small groups where members can easily relate to each other. Patrols determine troop activities through elected representatives on the Patrol Leader's Council. Each patrol plans menus, activities, gear lists and more.

In Troop 658 we organize patrols into multi-age groups of 6 to 8 scouts. Scouts start out in a "new Scout patrol" for several months, and then join one of the multi-age groups. Sometimes temporary patrols are formed, such as when older scouts choose to do an activity together.

Advancement

We strongly encourage boys to attend Summer Camp. Many of the requirements for advancement can be met in this one fun week!

Boy Scouts provides each boy with the opportunity to learn skills and receive recognition in the form of ranks and merit badges. The requirements for each of the seven ranks and the required merit badges are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook. The Handbook must be brought to every meeting.

Requirements are met by the boy through his participation in Troop meetings, camp outs, and other activities. Advancement is not mandatory in Troop 658, but it is strongly encouraged. Core parts of the advancement program are:

1. Actively participate in the Troop.
2. Show Scout Spirit by living by the Scout Oath and Law.
3. Attain a specified skill level by meeting the requirements for rank or merit badges.
4. Perform service hours or complete a service project.
5. Serve in a leadership position.

In order to advance to the next rank a scout must:

-- Arrange for and participate in a **Scoutmaster conference**, which is an opportunity to review accomplishments, set goals and deal with concerns and problems that the Scout may have. It is the Scout's responsibility to arrange the Scoutmaster conference.

-- Pass a **Board of Review**. The Scout will meet with Troop committee members to review the particular rank requirements and ensure that they have been met. Every effort is made by the committee members to foster an encouraging tone during these reviews. The meeting is also a time for the Scout to reflect on his experience in the troop, a discussion of his concerns, and a check on the Troop's program. The Board of Review is conducted by a group of at least three adult leaders.

Merit Badges

Merit badges provide the boy with an opportunity to become proficient in skills and to be introduced to many subjects. Some merit badges are required as part of rank advancement (see your son's Boy Scout Handbook). There are specific requirements to earn each merit badge. The troop maintains a library of merit badge pamphlets which a boy may borrow when working on a merit badge. There is also a great online resource:

www.meritbadge.com

Many merit badges can be earned at summer camp. A boy signs up for badges and attends classes taught by camp counselors. Often merit badges are earned working with a Troop merit badge counselor. ***Parents are strongly encouraged to become counselors: our boys need you!***

Often the boys work on their merit badge at troop meetings, on their own or on camp-outs. It is also possible to schedule other times for the boys to work on the badge away from normally scheduled troop activities.

Uniform

Wearing the scout uniform is a major part of being a Boy Scout. It signifies that a boy is a member of one of the largest and most worthwhile youth movements in the world. There are two BSA uniform levels; Class "A" Field and Class "B". The Class "A" Field uniform consists of the following: a Boy Scout hat; the khaki Scout shirt with American flag, Troop numerals, Council strip, shoulder loops, Worldwide emblem and the patrol insignia; a Scout neckerchief and slide; a Scout belt; Scout pants; Scout socks. The class "B" uniform consists of the following: a Scout hat; the Troop t-shirt; a Scout belt; Scout pants or shorts; Scout socks.

Each Troop may designate its own requirements regarding uniforms. At Troop 658 it is recommended for each Scout to have the full Class "A" Field and Class "B" uniforms. At a minimum a Scout is required to have the following: the Class "A" Field shirt with all the insignias listed above; a Scout neckerchief and slide; a Scout belt. If the cost of purchasing a uniform is an issue, please contact the Scoutmaster, the Troop has a limited number of uniform pieces available for loan.

Scouts will be notified as to which uniform is appropriate for a particular event or outing.

The Class A uniform, insignias and all sorts of official Boy Scouts of America clothing, gear and accessories are available at:

GREEN MOUNTAIN COUNCIL SHOP

RD 2 Box 557

Waterbury, VT 05676-0557

Telephone: 802-244-5189

There is an online catalog of BSA gear at www.scoutstuff.org , where you can order on-line.

Patches

Boys are awarded patches for rank advancement, merit badges, and certain honorary achievements. These patches are given to the boy by the Troop without charge. Participation patches are available for purchase for certain other activities, such as Camporee. The patches on the uniforms should be sewn on per the uniform guide in your son's Boy Scout Handbook

Please take the time to sew the new patches on the uniform as soon as possible after your son receives them. If you are really persuasive, you might even try to encourage your

scout to learn how to sew his own patches. Your son is proud of his accomplishments and those patches are very important to him.

Equipment

While the troop maintains a sizeable inventory of equipment, such as tents, cooking gear and so on, your Scout will need to provide personal gear. The Boy Scout Handbook provides good equipment lists for backpacking as well as basic camp outs. Also, Troop 658 has developed specific lists, especially for Winter Camping, which are available on our Web site: www.bsatroop658.org

Homemade or borrowed gear can help keep expenses to a minimum. Others with an interest in high-tech gear can spend several hundred dollars. There is no reason to spend beyond your budget. Any of the Assistant Scoutmasters will be glad to assist and advise you in properly equipping your Scout. As a rule we recommend a minimum investment for a new Scout. Better equipment can be purchased over time as the scout's knowledge and preferences grow and as gift-giving occasions occur.

Medical Forms

The Boy Scouts of America recommends that all youth and adult members have annual medical evaluations by a certified and licensed health-care provider. In an effort to provide better care to those who may become ill or injured and to provide youth members and adult leaders a better understanding of their own physical capabilities, the Boy Scouts of America has established minimum standards for providing medical information prior to participating in various activities. Those standards are offered below in one three-part medical form.

Note that unit leaders must always protect the privacy of unit participants by protecting their medical information.

Parts A and C are to be completed annually **by all BSA unit members**. Both parts are required for all events that do not exceed 72 consecutive hours, where the level of activity is similar to that normally expended at home or at school, such as day camp, day hikes, swimming parties, or an overnight camp, and where medical care is readily available. Medical information required includes a current health history and list of medications. Part C also includes the parental informed consent and hold harmless/release agreement (with an area for notarization if required by your state) as well as a talent release statement. Adult unit leaders should review participants' health histories and become knowledgeable about the medical needs of the youth members in their unit. This form is to be filled out by participants and parents or guardians and kept on file for easy reference.

Part B is required with parts A and C for any event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours, a resident camp setting, or when the nature of the activity is strenuous and demanding, such as service projects, work weekends, or high-adventure treks. It is to be completed and signed by a certified and licensed health-care provider—physician (MD, DO), nurse practitioner, or physician’s assistant as appropriate for your state. The level of activity ranges from what is normally expended at home or at school to strenuous activity such as hiking and backpacking. Other examples include tour camping, jamborees, and Wood Badge training courses. It is important to note that the height/weight chart must be strictly adhered to if the event will take the unit beyond a radius wherein emergency evacuation is more than 30 minutes by ground transportation, such as backpacking trips, high-adventure activities, and conservation projects in remote areas.

These forms are downloadable from the Troop 658 Web site www.bsatroop658.org

Activities

Our troop schedules a number of activities each year, including hikes, camp outs, ski trips...whatever the scouts plan. Times, meeting places, schedules and uniforms will be announced in advance of each activity. A permission slip is required for every special activity a scout participates in. The permission slip is available on the troop website: www.bsatroop658.org

Costs of the activity will be announced before the activity and it is the scout's responsibility to pay them. Costs charged per individual will be charged to the scout. Troop charges will be split among all scouts. When we cook by patrols, food costs will be split among patrol members. Scouts who commit to attending an activity, but do not attend, will be responsible for their share of the prorated cost. A recent change to paying for camping weekends is to pay in advance. The standard charge for a camping weekend is \$15. If the cost is less, the extra will be credited to the scout’s scout bucks account.

“Camperships” (camp scholarships) are available for Scouts who cannot afford to go to Summer Camp. You may discuss this privately with the Scoutmaster.

Summer Camp

Troop 658 typically schedules a full week of resident summer camp during the months of July or August. This is a stay-over camp where the boys have a great opportunity to earn several merit badges, get to know and trust each other, and have lots of fun. **The fee for**

summer camp in 2009 was \$260 if paid by May 15, 2009 and \$290 if paid thereafter. Camp fees will be announced in the spring. Make check payable to "BSA Troop 658."

We especially urge first-year Scouts to attend Summer Camp. Most Boy Scout summer camps offer a First Class Adventure Program, designed to "jump-start" the boy's entry into the life of Scouting and to help them quickly achieve the requirements for Scouting advancement.

"I can't afford it" is not a reason to avoid scouting. For example, with the help of our Chartering Organization, Saint Francis Xavier Church and other sponsors, we are able to offer a "Campership:" a scholarship that pays for Summer Camp for boys in financial need. If you have problems with costs of the program, please talk to the Scoutmaster or a troop committee member.

Troop Dues

The scouts are responsible for financing the Troop. Dues are payable in the fall. *Scouts who join in midyear (such as Webelos crossing over in March) pay a prorated amount at the time they join. March crossover dues are payable by April 15. Please turn in the payment and all required forms by that time to the Troop treasurer at the regular meeting.*

The dues are comprised of the following (subject to change):

1/ for New Scouts crossing over from Webelos:

Transfer fee \$1.00

Troop Dues \$16.56 (1.84/month April through December)

Total \$17.56

2/ for New and Renewing Scouts: (payable in fall for Jan 1. renewal)

Troop Dues \$22.00

Green Mountain Council/BSA registration and insurance \$16.00
(1.25/month+1.00)

Boys Life Subscription (Optional/Highly recommended) \$12.00

Total \$50.00 with Boys Life

If your son just crossed over and was receiving Boys Life, he will continue to receive it until his current subscription runs out on December 31.

The dues provide a base amount for the Troop to finance activities during the year, plus provide some of the funds for the support activities and training provided through the Green Mountain Council.

Dues do not cover incidental and activity expenses such as for food on campouts (see activities).

The community, including parents, supports Scouting through Friends of Scouting campaigns, bequests, and special contributions to the BSA local council. Additionally, while the Green Mountain Council of BSA is not a United Way agency, it is possible for you to instruct the United Way to forward your contribution to the Green Mountain Council.

This income provides leadership training, outdoor programs, council service centers and other facilities, and also professional service for units.

Fundraisers and “Scout Bucks Accounts”

Troop 658 holds several fundraisers during the year. In the fall, it’s our annual Pop-Corn Sale. Our spring bottle drive also raises significant funds. And in the summer we hold our annual car wash. Participation in all fund raising activities is highly encouraged. Funds raised by these activities benefit all scouts

A portion of the net profits from these fundraisers go to the troop to pay for troop expenses, such as troop tents, stoves and other gear, and special needs. With these funds, we recently purchased a Troop Trailer to store and transport our camping gear!

The balance, 33% goes to the scouts in the form of “Scout Bucks.” These go into an individual scout account that can be used for paying scout-related expenses: summer camp or other trips, uniform costs, equipment, or merit badge-related expenses.

Scouts crossing-over or transferring into our Troop from other units can also transfer funds into their Scout Bucks account

The Scout Bucks program is simple: boys are reimbursed for approved expenses upon presentation of an itemized receipt to the Troop Treasurer. For example, if your son purchases a new tent for \$95 dollars, and he has saved \$40 Scout Bucks, then he will receive a \$40 dollar check from the Troop upon presenting the receipt and funds transfer form.

Troop Calendar

The troop calendar is published online at our Web site, www.bsatroop658.org

Each year includes several activities that are planned well in advance, including Council-wide activities such as:

- *Spring and Fall Camporees (Overnight camping events in a large-group setting)
- *Summer Camp (see above)
- *Spring Trip
- *Family Camping Weekend

Regular activities include weekly Troop meetings (Wednesdays at 6:30 P.M. at Saint Francis School, unless otherwise scheduled), Courts of Honor, Boards of Review, service projects and various camping and other outdoor activities opportunities, as well as several fundraisers.

Unlike Cub Scout Pack 658, in Winooski, Vermont, Troop 658 meets *year-round*. We do not meet during school vacations unless there is a special activity planned.

Service Projects

As part of completing rank advancement requirements, as well as showing Scout Spirit, the boys participate in various Service Projects over the course of the year. These may include serving meals at the Salvation Army, Greenup Day, Cleanup and painting at Saint Francis School or other activities to improve our community.

Parent Participation

The troop's success depends upon your active involvement in all scouting activities. This may be done in several ways, such as serving on the Troop Committee, providing transportation or supervision for the campouts, teaching one or more merit badges, assisting in fundraisers, or other activities that may come up during the year.

Adult Registration

Parents are encouraged but NOT required to register with Boy Scouts, for your Scout to participate. There is an adult registration fee of \$16.00, comprised of the following:

- \$15.00 BSA Adult Registration fee (includes subscription to *Scouting* magazine)
- \$1.00 contribution toward Green Mountain Council liability insurance

You are not required to pay the registration fee as Troop 658 traditionally has paid this fee in order to support a large and active adult registration. However, if you can afford it, we will accept payment of the fee so that we may use Troop funds for activities and troop expenses. An adult registration form will be included with the package you receive at the first Troop meeting. Adult registration, training and Troop Committee approval are required for all adults assuming leadership roles, including summer camp.

New. Effective April 1, 2003. The national Boy Scouts of America now requires criminal background checks for all registered adults as part of an effort to enhance Youth Protection Procedures. BSA has contracted with a leading national security firm to conduct criminal background checks for adult volunteer leaders nationwide. This process

will supplement the current application process, which includes reference checks and the ineligible volunteer screening process. If you are currently involved with Scouting, but are changing roles, you will need to have the same background check as “new” leaders.

Medical forms for adults

In order to participate in campouts, Summer Camp or other vigorous Scout activities, parents are also required to provide Medical forms as outlined above.

Tour Permits and Transportation

We always need parents to provide transportation for Scout events. For events outside our immediate area we are required to file, in advance, Tour Permit applications with the Green Mountain Council. *In order for you to provide transportation for anyone but your Scout, we require the following information (see attached form):* Model, Year and Make of your Vehicle(s); number of passengers possible; owner’s name, “will everyone wear a seatbelt?”; public liability insurance amounts (both for each person and each accident) and property damage coverage. Please see Transportation Form below.

Troop Committee

The Troop Committee is the group of parents and other adults who provide organizational support to the boys and to the Uniformed Leaders (such as Scoutmaster and assistant Scoutmaster). Additionally, the Troop Committee is the official body that is responsible to the Chartering Organization (Saint Francis Xavier Church in our case) for seeing that the Scouting program is properly run.

Parents are always needed to serve on the Troop Committee. In addition to the expected roles of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and so on, a Troop Quartermaster (who helps the boys organize troop gear) is needed, along with people to help with publicity, act as liaison to our Chartering Organization, and more.

The Troop Committee meets quarterly and occasionally at other times if there is an urgent need.

Merit Badge Counselors Needed

Parents are needed to be Merit Badge Counselors. These are adults who are certified as able to help boys achieve their Merit Badges. You may possess just the right skills to help out. Merit Badge Councilor information can be found on our web site: www.bsatroop658.org. It asks you to identify any areas in which your vocation, avocation or special training may be helpful. A complete list of merit badges is available at: www.meritbadge.com

or you can speak with a Troop 658 adult leader. To be a Merit Badge Counselor you must also complete an Adult Registration Application.

Two-Deep Leadership (part of our Youth Protection Procedures)

Boy Scouting follows a detailed “Safe Scouting” policy that includes guidelines to keep boys safe from harm. One of the most important principles we follow is “Two-Deep Leadership:”

Two registered adult leaders, or one registered adult and a parent of a participating Scout, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age or older, are required for all trips or outings.

The full “Guide to Safe Scouting” pamphlet is available online in the publication section of the official BSA Web site.

Behavior

Serious behavior problems are rare. When severe or persistent problems occur, immediate steps will be taken to address the issues. Please refer to the attached **Behavior Policy** for full guidelines. Members of the Troop Committee and the Scoutmaster are responsible for addressing the issue with the Scout and if necessary his parents.

All members of the Boy Scouts of America are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law. According to the Guide to Safe Scouting (see reference above), the Troop Committee “should review repetitive or serious incidents of misbehavior in consultation with the parents of the child to determine a course of corrective action including possible revocation of the youth's membership in the unit.”

BSA Green Mountain Council Non-Discrimination Policy

Troop 658 is a member of the Green Mountain Council of BSA, which has adopted a policy, which states in part:

- The Green Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America believes that issues or questions of human sexuality arising among its members are the province of a member's family, religious leader, physician, or other qualified advisor.
- Promoting sexual behavior or orientation within the confines of the Scouting program is inappropriate and may hinder, distract, or prevent the Green Mountain Council from attaining its long sought and well-established goal of fostering the development of youth.
- The Green Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America complies with all applicable laws and regulations dealing with employees' rights and the fair treatment of people.

Full text available online at:

www.scoutingvermont.org/resources/Documents/non_discrimination_policy.htm

Suggestions for Improvement:

If you ever have suggestions to improve the quality of our program, please feel free to call the Scoutmaster or any Troop Committee member. Contact information can be found on our Troop Web site. We want the best for the boys in our troop. Your feedback, which is always welcome, helps!

Troop 658 Web Site: www.bsatroop658.org

The Troop Web site is an excellent resource: it has links to our Three Rivers District, Green Mountain Council, the official BSA site and more, plus online versions of medical forms, gear lists etc. and the Troop Calendar. The following information will be included in the handout you receive at the first Troop meeting:

Additional handouts/attachments

Keep:

Mt. Norris Summer Camp Information
Troop Roster

Parent Guide/Troop Handbook
Uniform Sheet
Fee Schedule

Return to the Troop:

Scout Registration Form
Medical Forms Part A-B-C
Adult Registration Form
Transportation Form
Parents Permission and Consent to Treat a Minor
Photo Release Form
Parent Guide and Behavior Sign-off Sheet (in the back of the Handbook)
Troop Resource Survey

BSA Troop 658 Troop Committee Positions

All parents are encouraged to serve on the Troop Committee. All committee members must be registered, and are expected to take the basic training required for Troop Committee members. Here is a brief description of some of the Troop Committee positions:

Outdoor/Activities Chair

This person helps coordinate the adult parts of our outdoor and other activities. Working with the Scoutmaster, the Outdoor/Activities Chair may coordinate transportation, secure permission to use camp sites, promote participation in Summer Camp, etc.

Chaplain

Working with the Boy Scout Chaplain's Aide, the Chaplain provides a spiritual tone for troop activities. Additionally, the Chaplain promotes regular participation of each member in the activities of the religious organization of his choice, gives spiritual counseling when needed or requested, and encourages scouts to earn their appropriate religious emblems.

Training Chair

The Training Chair makes sure troop leaders and committee members have opportunities for training, including securing training materials, videotapes, etc. The Training Chair promotes participation in District training events and is responsible for BSA Youth Protection training within the troop.

Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator

This person recruits counselors and communicates with them and the Scouts. S/he also provides documentation and assists counselors in documenting the Scouts' progress toward merit badge completion.

Equipment Coordinator (Quartermaster)

Supervises and helps the troop procure camping equipment. The Equipment Coordinator works with the Boy Scout quartermaster on inventory and proper storage and maintenance of all troop equipment. Makes periodic safety checks on all troop camping gear and encourages troops in safe use of all outdoor equipment.

There are also other duties that need parental help:

Coordinate troop suppers (you can even coordinate just one event)

Establish a "uniform exchange" to trade or share unused uniforms

Establish a "gear exchange" so boys can share or trade camping and other scout gear

Publish a monthly newsletter.

Your ideas welcome too!

Paperwork checklist

Please return the following completed documents and items to the Troop as soon as possible (with the exception of the medical documents requiring a physical, please turn them in by June 1st). Please note that all forms must be updated annually.

Please turn in to the Scoutmaster at the regular meeting.

For your Scout:

- Scout Registration Form with check payable to “BSA Troop 658”
- Medical Form Part A-C (required for all scouts)
- Medical Form Part B (required prior to attending Summer Camp and High Adventure)
- Parent Permission and Consent to Treat a Minor Form

For Parent:

- Medical Form Part A-C (Required for all Participants in camping/outdoor and vigorous activities less than 72 hours)
- Medical Form Part B (required prior to attending Summer Camp and activities over 72 hours)
- Adult Registration Form - with (optional) \$16.00 check payable to “BSA Troop 658” (*may be combined with above and paid with one check*).
- Transportation Form
- Photo Release Form
- Parent Handbook Sign-off Sheet
- Troop Resource Survey

Behavior Policy

The following will apply to all participants during all Troop 658 activities:

- 1) Scouts shall behave according to the Scout Oath and Law.
- 2) Scouts shall respect one another and their leaders in both word and action.
- 3) Scouts shall respect the authority of the youth leaders, adult scout leaders, troop committee, and adult volunteers and will comply with all reasonable and lawful directions of the same.
- 4) Scouts shall respect the personal property of others as well as troop property and will exercise care in using all equipment and property at all times.
- 5) Scouts shall not induce others to participate in disruptive or prohibited behavior while at any scout activity.
- 6) Scouts shall not taunt, haze, make uncomplimentary remarks, harass, annoy, or threaten in any fashion another scout or leader or adult at any scout activity.
- 7) Scouts shall not take advantage of a position of leadership, trust, or confidence to handle any duty, assignment, or responsibility at a scout activity.
- 8) Scouts shall not use profanity or indecent speech with any scout or leader or adult at a scout activity.
- 9) Scouts shall not engage in fighting of any kind with another scout or leader. This includes assault, hitting, kicking, punching, intentionally harming, or threatening another person verbally or physically.
- 10) Scout shall not vandalize any personal or troop property or equipment. Individuals who have vandalized any property or equipment will be responsible for its replacement.
- 11) Scouts shall not possess, fire, use, or sell any illegal substances or weapons.
- 12) Scouts shall not leave any scout activity or area without permission or direction of a scout leader or adult volunteer.

The following consequences shall be available to the Adult leadership. Note: The consequence listed below may be utilized separately or together based on the severity of the situation:

A scout leader may counsel any scout who violates any policy during any scout activity. This includes policies listed in this section and other sections of the Parent Handbook Document. Other consequences may include a written warning, possible confinement to an area of supervision, a letter of apology and/or a service project

- a) If a scout's behavior is deemed to be in significant violation of the Troop's policies as determined by the leader or adults in charge, the parents/guardian of the scout will be contacted. A written warning may be issued. Parents or guardian may be asked to pick up the scout (at their own expense) at whatever location they are and will not return to that activity.
- b) A troop committee meeting will be called following a trend of serious behavior problems to determine appropriate troop sanctions. Further consequences may include temporary suspension or expulsion from Troop 658.

All instances should be reported to the adult in charge of the activity. That adult should report the incident to the Scoutmaster and the Committee Chair. If the Troop is subject to other reporting procedures, the incident will be reported as stated above and to the other appropriate reporting entities i.e. Resident Camp Director.

In the extreme case of expulsion from Troop 658, the scout with his parent/guardian will be given the opportunity to meet with the scoutmaster and troop committee chairperson if they desire. If scout/parent/guardian can assure that behavior modification can be maintained, a probationary period of one charter year will be agreed to. If at anytime during the probationary period a violation of the behavior policy reoccurs, the expulsion will become permanent.

I, _____, and _____, have received
 (Parent/Guardian) Scout

a copy of the Parent Handbook and Behavior Policy. We have read and understand the policies set forth in these guidelines.

 Signature of Parent/Guardian

 Signature of Scout

 Date

 Date