

# MEET THE TROOPS WEEKEND



Parent/Leader Handbook

October 6-8, 2023

Camp Oklawaha



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## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Event Director:** Dannielle Cason, [dcason03@gmail.com](mailto:dcason03@gmail.com) (772) 579-7081

**Event Staff Member:** Luv Lima, [gilluvlima@gmail.com](mailto:gilluvlima@gmail.com) (772) 201-6477

## PURPOSE/EVENT DESCRIPTION

“Meet the Troops” is joint weekend campout between Scouts BSA troops, Webelos and Arrow of Light dens. The purpose for this event is:

- To offer everyone a camping experience
- To provide an opportunity for Webelos and AOL’s to visit with multiple Scouts BSA units, and help them begin to decide which troop they may want to join at crossover
- To provide an opportunity for Boy Scout units to recruit new members

To achieve this purpose, Boy Scout troops and Webelos and AOL dens are invited to camp at Camp Oklawaha. The dens will camp as a den, and during the daytime, each den will rotate among the different Boy Scout troops from their area. The Troops will each put on demonstrations of scouting activities, and the things that make their troop unique.

Each troop is expected to demonstrate different scouting skills and activities. Skills and activities will be claimed on a first-come, first-take basis. We will also have a campfire on Saturday night, and each troop and den should perform a skit or song.

## REGISTRATION

Event registration is through Tentaroo at <https://www.gulfstreamcouncil.org/tc-meet-the-troops>

Unit registrations are due no later than September 29, 2023. Please see the table below for dates and costs.

Early Bird Registration (09/01/2023)	Weekend Camper: \$25 Day Camper: \$15
On-Time Registration (09/15/2023)	Weekend Camper: \$30 Day Camper: \$20
Late Registration (09/29/2023)	Weekend Camper: \$40 Day Camper: \$25

Cub Scout units are required to provide a minimum of one adult for every 4 boys (or fraction of 4) attending.

## LOGISTICS

Check-in is on Friday evening. Please check in as a unit. We will have a lot of units moving back to the campsites. **Only two vehicles to drop off at the campsite, at a time, will be allowed.** Only one vehicle with a unit trailer may go back to the campsite, and vehicles will not be permitted to stay in campsites, so please plan accordingly. The car with the trailer will proceed through the gate, and all other cars for the unit will proceed to the parking lot, and campers will meet at the Welcome Shelter.

Campsites will be assigned based on activity planned and any extenuating circumstances, such as medical or physical needs. Site assignments will be confirmed at least one week prior to the event.

All meals will be prepared and served by units at their campsites. This includes day campers. No food will be provided from the camp.

Prior to leaving Sunday morning, check out must be completed, including, but not limited to cleaned campsites, cleaned areas, garbage with units, etc.

Logistics Unit Leader: Marcus Lima, Venture Crew 2499

## **POLICIES**

### **REFUNDS**

<https://www.gulfstreamcouncil.org/files/33720/refund-policy>

No refunds will be given for partial attendance, late arrival or early departure.

Violation of Camp guidelines may lead to expulsion from Camp, and no refunds will be granted.

Violation of any State or Federal law, or BSA policies will result in expulsion from Camp and no refunds issued.

### **MEDICAL**

A completed BSA health form (parts A and B only) for each Scout (BSA and Cub) and adult must be brought by the unit leader. Without a properly completed health form, scouts will not be allowed to attend the event. This includes ALL signatures and a COPY of your insurance card. All special needs should be noted on the Health History form.

Unit leaders are to keep track of medical forms for their units. A medical officer will be on site. Each unit shall designate an on-site emergency contact person for their unit, and indicate that person to the event director.

All medications must be given to the unit leader during check-in, labeled with name, unit number, and when it is to be taken. All medicines must be in the original prescription container.

A Health Officer will be on site for the event. Minor injuries, scrapes and cuts will be handled by the Health Officer. If the injury is serious, the scout or parent will be taken to a local hospital in Indian River. An adult from the unit should accompany the Scout, and parents will be notified.

If warranted, local EMT's will be called. An adult from the unit should accompany the Scout to the hospital, if necessary, and parents will be notified.

Health Officer: Russell Thaxter (772) 260-5635

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY

5:00-8:00 PM Check-in, move to campsites, set up camp

8:00-9:00 PM Cracker barrel and leader meeting (Cubmaster or designee, SM or ASM, SPL)

10:00pm-6:00am Quiet Hours Each Scout must remain in his/her campsite and observe quiet hours

### SATURDAY

*Troop campsite judging will take place from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM\**

7:45 AM Morning flags

8:00 AM Breakfast

9:00 AM Dens rotate among troops

11:00 AM Start lunch prep in campsites (activities still going on)

Noon Lunch (in camp) Rotating dens will return to the campsite to eat lunch. *Lunch time includes meals eaten along with a unit program. Ex: Packs can complete Cast Iron Adventure, Troops can complete Cooking MB & handbook updates.*

1:00 PM Continue dens rotating among troops.

3:30 PM Start dinner prep in campsites (activities still going on)

5:15 PM Dinner (in camp)

**6:15 PM Chopped Challenge in Pavilion (Judged by Camp Staff)**

6:45 PM Campfire (in fire ring)

Cracker barrel hosted by troops after the campfire for visiting Webelos/AOLs.

11:00pm-6:00am Quiet Hours Each Scout must remain in his/her campsite and observe quiet hours

### SUNDAY

7:45 AM Morning flags

8:00 AM Scouts Own service (in Chapel) Donations to Camp OK for a new mower. Please bring your own chairs. *Out of respect for all units, please refrain from packing up camp during Scouts Own.*

8:30 AM Unit Awards at Chapel.

9:00 AM Breakfast (in camp)

10:00 AM Break camp, move to parking lot, check out and go home

## \*TROOP VS. TROOP

Ribbons will be awarded to troops for the following:

- Scouts choice
- Most Spirited
- Top troop site (see point sheet listed below)
- Chopped Cooking Challenge (Scouts only-NO SCOUTMASTERS) (judged by camp staff)

Point system will be shared upon check-in (These are some ideas)

Gateway	Troop flag	Camp Roster
Duty Roster	Dining Fly	Cleaning station (dishes)
First aid station	Dining food prep area	Firewood for campfire

## \*\*New for 2023-Scouts Chopped Challenge\*\*

Units will be notified (via email and FB post on TC District Page) of the 3 secret ingredients on Wednesday October 4, and will be given the food items at Cracker Barrel on Friday night. 2 of the 3 items must be used as ingredients in a dish PREPARED ENTIRELY BY THE SCOUTS IN THE TROOP. The dish could be sweet or savory, and any conventional cooking method can be used. The dishes are due to the pavilion no later than 6:15 in the Pavilion for judging by camp staff (Coordinators, Health Officer, Logistics, and Campmaster), so please plan accordingly. Notify camp coordinators of any food allergies on the Google Doc the Troop receives when picking their theme.

## MEALS

All food supplies for meals will be provided by your units. No supplies will be provided by the district (**with the exception of items for the Chopped Challenge**).

Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast will be cooked in camp, by the units.

Cub Scouts and their accompanying adults are expected to bring all necessary items for their meals and meal prep.

## TRADING POST

The Trading Post (located in the pavilion) will be open. Items for purchase include small snack items and bottled drinks. The money from the sales of these items will go towards funding the Youth Awards in (tentatively) January.

## BOY SCOUT-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

READ CAREFULLY: Each troop is expected to provide TWO scouting-themed activities for the dens, one being a skill and one an activity. The activity can be anything you would like to demonstrate. The activity should be such that it would satisfy one or more Webelos or AOL adventure requirements. These should be requirements that they may not be able to accomplish in a den meeting setting (i.e. setting up a shelter for Castaway). Each troop should provide different activities, so complete the Google form as soon as your unit has registered. Plan on having each den for 30-45 minutes for each session; the exact time will depend on how many troops and packs sign up for the event. Note: the Webelos and AOL scouts are still operating under Cub Scout rules, so there are some things that they are not permitted to do. For example, you can demonstrate using an ax to split wood, but they are NOT allowed to try it themselves.

Each unit is also expected to perform a skit or song for the campfire on Saturday night.

Cooking lunch and dinner in camp is NOT your scout activity. Demonstrating OTHER camp cooking techniques can be your activity, but you will need to bring supplies.

### UNIT PACKING LIST

- Materials for your Activity with the dens
- Equipment for cooking for your unit
- Supplies for Saturday night Cracker barrel

### BOY SCOUT PACKING LIST

- Scout uniform shirt (for dinner and campfire)
- Clothes for 2 days:
  - o 2 pair of olive green shorts/pants
  - o 2 class B shirts
  - o Underwear, 1 pair for each day
  - o Socks, at least 1 pair per day
- PJ's or sleeping clothes
- Extra socks
- Comfortable shoes or hiking boots
- Outerwear as appropriate for the weather:
  - o Sweatshirt or light jacket
  - o Poncho or raincoat
  - o Hat
- Tent of appropriate size – the campsites have limited capacity; 2 people do not need a 10-man tent
- Sleeping bag or blankets & sheet with small pillow
- Mess kit (plate/bowl/cup and knife/fork/spoon - meals will be in camp)
- Toiletries kit (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, etc.)
- Bug repellent
- Flashlight
- Personal First Aid kit
- Prescription medications in original containers – to be given to unit leader

## WEBELOS & AOL SPECIFIC INFORMATION

National Standards require that each Cub Scout unit must provide at least 2 adults for every 8 Scouts with a minimum of 2 adults per unit plus 1 additional adult for every 4 Scouts. (1-8 Scouts = 2 leaders, 9-12 Scouts = 3 leaders, etc.) The adult does not need to be a parent, and adults do not need to stay the entire length of the event as long as the adult to Scout ratio is maintained. Webelos/Arrow of Light Den Camping may participate and camp at a Scouts BSA troop unit campout. All Cub Scout camping requirements still apply, including the den must have a BALOO trained adult leader in attendance and all Youth Protection policies apply. ALL ADULTS PARTICIPATING MUST HAVE YPT COMPLETED AND A CURRENT CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION MUST BE INCLUDED WITH BSA HEALTH FORMS.

Campfire (Saturday night): Each unit is expected to perform a skit or song for the campfire on Saturday night. Be prepared!

## EARNING CREDIT TOWARDS ADVANCEMENT

This event can be used to satisfy the Arrow of Light *Scouting Adventure* requirement #4: With your Webelos den leader, parent, or guardian, participate in a Boy Scout troop's campout or other outdoor activity. Use the patrol method while on the outing. If you are going to do this, you need to first do *Scouting Adventure* requirement #3: Practice the patrol method in your den for one month by doing the following:

- a. Explain the patrol method. Describe the types of patrols that might be part of a Boy Scout troop.
- b. Hold an election to choose the patrol leader.
- c. Develop a patrol name and emblem (if your den does not already have one), as well as a patrol flag and yell. Explain how a patrol name, emblem, flag, and yell create patrol spirit.
- d. As a patrol, make plans to participate in a Boy Scout troop's campout or other outdoor activity.

Please see the attached Arrow of Light *Scouting Adventure* for other requirements that could be addressed.

## WEBELOS & AOL SCOUT PACKING LIST

- Scout uniform shirt (for dinner and campfire)
- Clothes for 2 days:
  - o 1 pair of jeans/long pants
  - o 2 shirts
  - o Underwear, 1 pair for each day
  - o Socks, at least 1 pair per day
- PJ's or sleeping clothes
- Extra socks
- Comfortable shoes or hiking boots
- Outerwear, as appropriate for the weather:
  - o Sweatshirt or light jacket
  - o Poncho or raincoat



o Hat

- Tent of appropriate size – the campsites have limited capacity; 2 people do not need a 10-man tent
- Sleeping bag or blankets & sheet with small pillow
- Mess kit (plate/bowl/cup and knife/fork/spoon - meals will be in camp)
- Toiletries kit (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, etc.)
- Bug repellent
- Flashlight
- Personal First Aid kit
- Prescription medications in original containers – to be given to unit leader

# Arrow of Light Scouting Adventure

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Adventure Goal: Introduction to how Scouts BSA patrols and troops work.

Adventure Requirements:



1. Prepare yourself to join a troop by completing at least a-c below:
  - a. Repeat from memory the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto, and Scout slogan. In your own words, explain their meanings to your den leader, parent, or guardian.
  - b. Explain what Scout spirit is. Describe for your den leader, parent, or guardian some ways you have shown Scout spirit by conducting yourself according to the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto, and Scout slogan.
  - c. Give the Scout sign, salute, and handshake. Explain when to use each.
  - d. Describe the First Class Scout badge, and tell what each part stands for. Explain the significance of the First Class Scout badge.
  - e. Repeat from memory the Pledge of Allegiance. In your own words, explain its meaning
2. Visit a Scouts BSA troop meeting with your parent or guardian and, if possible, with your den members and leaders. After the meeting, do the following:
  - a. Describe how the Scouts in the troop provide its leadership.
  - b. Describe the four steps of Scouts BSA advancement.
  - c. Describe ranks in Scouting and how they are earned.
  - d. Describe what merit badges are and how they are earned.
3. Practice the patrol method in your den for one month by doing the following:
  - a. Explain the patrol method. Describe the types of patrols that might be part of a Scouts BSA troop.
  - b. Hold an election to choose the patrol leader.
  - c. Develop a patrol name and emblem (if your den does not already have one), as well as a patrol flag and yell. Explain how a patrol name, emblem, flag, and yell create patrol spirit.
  - d. As a patrol, make plans to participate in a Scouts BSA troop's campout or other outdoor activity.
4. With your Webelos den leader, parent, or guardian, participate in a Scouts BSA troop's campout or other outdoor activity. Use the patrol method while on the outing.
5. Do the following:
  - a. Show how to tie a square knot, two half hitches, and a taut-line hitch. Explain how each knot is used.
  - b. Show the proper care of a rope by learning how to whip and fuse the ends of different kinds of rope.
6. Demonstrate your knowledge of the pocketknife safety rules and the pocketknife pledge. If you have not already done so, earn your Whittling Chip card.

## Ideas for Adventure Requirements:

1. Review Scout Oath, Scout Law. *Scout Spirit* is following the Scout Oath and Law in a scout's everyday life, not just while at scouting activities.
2. Have scouts practice knots at home. Review the knot pictures in the Webelos handbook. To check if the square knot is correct, both ropes on one side are in front of the bight and both ropes on the other side are behind the bight. For taut-line and two half hitches, the working end of the rope always goes around the standing end in the same direction - a common mistake is to reverse it after the first loop. These knots and rope care are great things to do on the troop campout.
3. Review the Whittlin' Chip requirements.

# IN CAMP

# EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- **ALARM:** CALL FOR HELP. LET EVERYONE KNOW YOU HAVE A PROBLEM. SHOUTING OUT WORKS FINE.
- **CALL: IF YOU CALL 911** LET THEM KNOW WHERE YOU ARE
- **HELP:** USE YOUR TRAINING IN WHATEVER WAY YOU CAN HELP. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, ASK FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

**POST IN AND EASILY SEEN LOCATION!**