

Boy Scouts of America Troop 007 HANDBOOK



On the Trail to Eagle

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Welcome to Boy Scout Troop 007! We're glad to have you as part of our Troop.

Introduction

For those of you new to Boy Scouting, we provide a brief background

National Organization

The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America, incorporated on February 8, 1910 and chartered by Congress in 1916, is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness. The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) supports more than 300 local councils providing quality youth programs, including Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing.

Our Troop

Boy Scout Troop 007 was chartered in 1988. We are part of the Spanish Trails District of the Catalina Council of the BSA. Catalina Council Headquarters are located at 5049 E. Broadway, Suite 200, Tucson, AZ 85711. The Council office phone # is (520) 750-0385. The Council offices house the Council and District Executives as well as the Scout Service Center (Scout Store). Council office hours are Monday through Friday, 8-5. Scout Store hours are Monday through Friday, 9-5:30 and Saturday, 10-3.

Each Troop has a sponsoring organization that volunteers to provide a place for the Troop to meet. Our sponsoring organization is the Knights of Columbus of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church at 5150 N. Valley View Drive in Tucson, AZ. Our Troop meetings are held at St. Thomas on Monday evenings at 7 PM.

Our Troop Committee oversees the administrative affairs of the Troop, carries out the policies and regulations of BSA, provides a camping and outdoor program, and sees that quality adult leadership is recruited and trained. All parents of Troop 007 Scouts – with or without Scouting experience, and whether or not they are registered as BSA members – are welcome and encouraged to attend all Troop Committee meetings. These are held monthly on the first Thursday (August through May) at St. Thomas.

Troop 007 maintains a website at <http://www.troop007.net>. There are many areas of the website that can be accessed by anyone. Areas containing sensitive information can be accessed with a password and user ID, available to Troop 007 members only.

Troop Rules and Regulations

A. Scout Dues and Registration

Troop 007 collects dues from each Scout member once each year. Dues cover annual registration, Troop insurance, and other operating costs incurred throughout the year. Additional fees are collected for outings. Each paid youth member (Scout) also receives a subscription to Boy's Life magazine.

Dues are \$60 annually per Scout and \$12 per adult [2007-08]; for families with more than one child in the Troop, the dues for the second and subsequent children are \$48 per child (the \$12 reduction reflects the savings from having a single Boy's Life subscription per family). Dues are payable by September 30. Boys joining midyear pay prorated dues.

Boys who have not paid their dues are not eligible to participate in Troop outings.

Dues do not fully cover the operating expenses of the Troop. At least one fundraiser is held each year to provide additional financial support to the Troop. In addition to regular operating expenses, Troop equipment, family outings, and our Spring Court of Honor are some of the items supported through our fundraising efforts.

B. Uniforms and Handbook

Each Scout must purchase the **Boy Scout Handbook** and a full Class A uniform. These items are available at the Scout Store..

The **Scout Handbook** describes all the rules and regulations of Scouting. Requirements for each rank and information for completing each rank are listed in the **Handbook**. Merit badges required for the Eagle rank are also described. Scouts should be sure to clearly label their **Handbook** with their name and address. Many of the boys choose to purchase a **Handbook** cover to help keep their book in better condition – this book contains the record of your Scout's progress towards his rank advancements.

Along with the **Handbook**, each Scout must have a full Class A uniform. A Class A uniform consists of a Scout shirt with all required patches, a pair of Scout shorts or pants, Scout belt, and Scout socks. Boys are required to wear their Class A uniform to all Troop meetings. The full Class A uniform (including merit badge sash, if applicable) is required at all Courts of Honor, at certain Council and National meetings, and at Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review. Any registered adult may also wear the Class A uniform.

Patches required for the Class A uniform include a Catalina Council Strip, Troop number (007), and a rank patch. Any Scout elected to a Troop or Patrol office must also wear a patch indicating their office. Patrol patches are also required. Other patches are worn as they are achieved. Uniform patch placement is shown in the **Scout Handbook**.

Troop 007 does not wear Scout hats or neckerchiefs as part of our Class A uniform. However,

these items may be required as part of the official Class A uniform for other Scouting events where Troop 007 participates as part of a Council-sponsored Troop (e.g., national or international jamborees). All uniforms and patches may be purchased at the Scout Store.

The Troop's Class B uniform consists of a heather-gray t-shirt with the BSA logo and Troop number printed on it. The Class B shirt is generally worn with regulation Scout shorts or pants. Class B shirts are available for purchase only through Troop 007. The crew-neck t-shirts for the boys and collared polos for adults are reasonably priced. Class B uniforms are generally worn on hikes, at summer camp, at service projects, or while participating in other outdoor activities. Parents are welcome to purchase and wear the Class B shirt.

The Troop maintains a "Clothes Closet" to which members donate gently used scouting items, such as uniform shirts, pants, socks, and some camping equipment. All members may browse through the closet as needed.

C. Additional Equipment

The Troop maintains a trailer used to store and carry equipment for car camping and other outings. The Troop Adult Quartermaster and Junior Quartermaster are responsible for ensuring the Troop's equipment remains in good working order.

Troop equipment includes:

Tents (camping and backpacking tents)

Ice Chests

Water Containers

Chuck Boxes (containing stoves, lanterns, pots, pans, and other general equipment for camp kitchens)

Each Scout will need to acquire additional camping / backpacking equipment over time. Please refer to the Camping section of the ***Scout Handbook*** for a list of the "Scout Outdoor Essentials". If your boy is new to the Troop and does not have this equipment available to him, please notify one of the Adult Leaders – many of the Troop members have extra equipment they are happy to loan our new Scouts. From time to time, Troop members may have used equipment for sale or "permanent loan".

Please speak to one of the Adult Leaders prior to making major equipment purchases. They may be able to help guide your purchase to ensure you receive the best value and adequate service (temperature range, fit, etc.) for your money.

Additional equipment boys should provide includes such items as:

Sleeping Bag/Pad

Internal or External Frame Backpack (for backpacking trips)

Mess Kit (required for all outings where meals are eaten)

Canteen (can be heavy) or Other Water Carrier (many boys use NalgeneTM water bottles or water systems available at camping or biking stores, e.g., PlatypusTM or

CamelbackTM)

Sturdy hiking boots

Pocket knife (all Scouts must earn their "Totin' Chip" to carry a knife)

Compass
Camp Towel
Optional items include:
Camp Pillow
Camp Chair
Cot (may not be used in Troop tents)
Backpacking Stove (usually shared with another Scout)

Equipment is available at a variety of camping specialty stores, as well as some department and discount stores. We strongly recommend essential equipment, such as hiking boots and backpacks, be purchased from retailers with experience in fit and use of this equipment. Local store Summit Hut offers a discount for Scouts.

D. Adult Dues and Registration

At least one parent of each Scout should be registered with the Troop. Initial registration is \$12.00 per year and is paid when your Scout joins the Troop. Annual renewal of \$12.00 is due prior to the submission of the Troop Charter in November. (The Charter is the Troop's registration giving us all the rights of BSA membership.) Annual adult registration may be paid at any time between the first fall meeting and October 1 of each year.

E. Adult Participation

i. Troop Committee

While Troop 007 is "boy run," the boys still require the assistance of other parents in the Troop. The Troop is a volunteer organization, and as such, the quality of the program and the outings are dependent on the level of commitment from our parents. Because the continued success of our Troop depends on its Adult Leaders, we ask that one parent from each Scout's family become a registered member of the Troop and fill either a Committee position or become an Assistant Scoutmaster or Merit Badge Counselor.

Adult Leaders and Committee Members are called upon to assist the boys in planning activities, accompany Scouts on outings, and participate in Boards of Review for Scout rank advancement. These leaders are also responsible for reviewing and approving all Eagle Scout candidate projects.

The Troop Committee meets monthly during the school year. Meetings are held at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church - usually on the first Thursday of each month - at 7:00 p.m. All dues-paying Adult Scouters in current standing are voting members of the Troop Committee. Parent input to the Committee is important – parents are always welcome and are strongly encouraged to attend.

Troop 007 Troop Committee positions include:

Committee Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

Chartered Organization Representative
Adult Quartermaster
Advancement Chair
Troop Administrator
Fund Raising Chair
Activities Chair
Web Site Chair
Scoutmaster
Assistant Scoutmaster(s)

An excellent handbook titled ***Troop Committee Guidebook***, describing Committee organization and roles of each member, is available at the Scout Store.

ii. Executive Committee

An Executive Committee of the Troop Committee acts on behalf of the Troop Committee when necessary. The Executive Committee consists of: Troop Committee Chair, Treasurer, Chartering Organization Representative, Secretary, and Scoutmaster (non-voting). Three Executive Committee members constitutes a quorum.

F. Youth Protection Policy

Troop 007 of the Boy Scouts of America has adopted a number of policies aimed at eliminating opportunities for abuse within the Scouting program. These policies focus on leadership selection and on placing barriers to abuse within the program. Troop 007 takes great pride in the quality of our adult leadership. Being a leader in Troop 007 is a privilege, not a right. The quality of the program and the safety of our youth members call for high-quality adult leaders.

Troop 007 has adopted the following policies to provide additional security for our members. These policies are primarily for the protection of our youth members; however, they also serve to protect our adult members from false accusations of abuse.

• Adult leadership.

In addition to being registered as an adult member of Troop 007, an adult leader in Troop 007 must complete BSA Youth Protection Training and complete the application and clearance process of St. Thomas the Apostle Church and the Diocese of Tucson.

• Two-deep leadership.

Two adult leaders or one adult leader and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings. To provide for flexibility, it is recommended that all outings have adult supervision of at least four adults, including two adult leaders.

• No one-on-one contact.

One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a Scoutmaster's conference, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and youths. Boards of review and merit badge counseling must follow the same rules and/or satisfy the requirements of two-deep leadership.

- **Respect for privacy.**

Adult members must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes and taking showers at camp, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults must protect their own privacy in similar situations.

- **Separate accommodations.**

When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian. Troop 007 will make every effort to have separate shower and latrine facilities for females. When separate facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers.

- **Proper preparation for high-adventure activities.**

Activities with elements of risk should never be undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures.

- **No secret organizations.**

The Boy Scouts of America does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program. All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents and leaders.

- **Appropriate attire.**

Proper clothing for activities is required. For example, skinny-dipping is not appropriate as part of Scouting.

Constructive discipline.

Discipline used in Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.

Hazing prohibited.

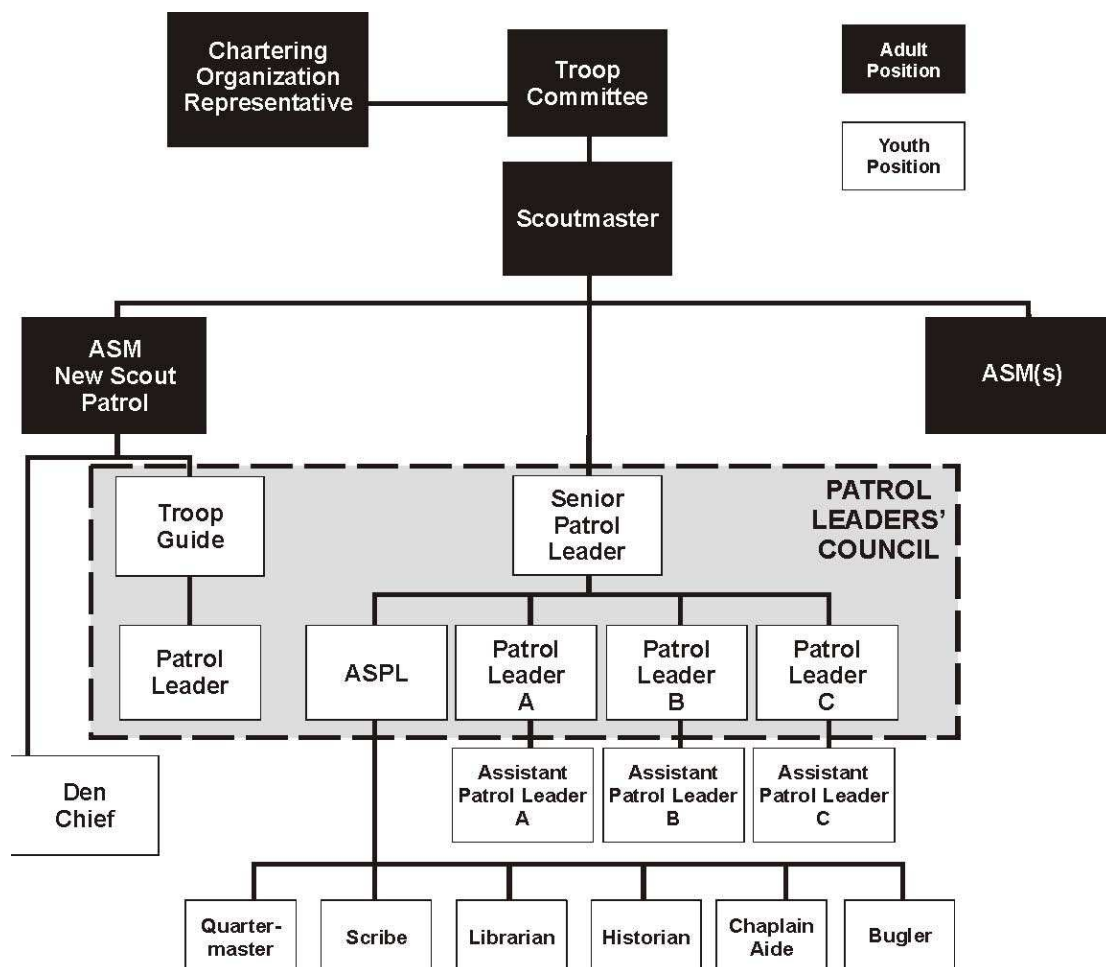
Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.

Troop Organization

All Scout Troops are similarly organized, headed by their elected junior leader – the Senior Patrol Leader, or SPL. The SPL, with the oversight of the Scoutmaster, selects his Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL), Junior Quartermaster, Scribe, Librarian, Historian, Chaplain Aide, and Bugler. Other leadership positions may include Troop Guide or Den Chief.

The Troop is also made up of Patrols, or groups of boys – many of whom are of similar age and rank. Each Patrol elects a Patrol Leader, who then appoints an Assistant Patrol Leader. Elections are held twice annually, prior to the Winter and Summer Breaks, with the boys taking office in January and August. Leadership positions are generally held by boys who have attained at least their First Class rank.

TROOP 007 ORGANIZATION CHART



Each Patrol is responsible for selected activities during each Troop meeting and on outings. Patrols remain together (whenever possible) on outings, planning and organizing meals for

their group, establishing a duty roster, and arranging activities. Patrols are also encouraged to plan additional meetings and outings outside of regular Troop activities to increase Patrol unity and assist in completion of advancement requirements.

A. Meetings

Troop meetings are generally held from the last week in August through the end of the school year (usually the end of May). Troop 007 does not schedule regular Troop meetings during the summer months, although planning meetings for summer trips and camps are held during this time.

Our weekly meetings are held at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church (in the Parish Hall) every Monday evening at 7:00, except most school holidays. The meetings last approximately one hour – although some special meetings may last an hour and a half. Separate meetings, for boys working on merit badge requirements, may also be held.

Three times per year, the Troop holds a Court of Honor to recognize the achievements of our Scouts. These Courts of Honor are usually held at the end of September, January, and May. General informational meetings for parents occur immediately prior to our Courts of Honor. Family members are encouraged to attend the Courts of Honor in support of their Scout.

When a Scout achieves the rank of Eagle, he may choose to celebrate his achievement with an Eagle Court of Honor. This is a special Court of Honor, hosted by the Eagle Scout's family, held separately from our regular meeting time.

B. Ranks and Advancements

Scouting centers around a system of rank advancements. Scouts achieve as they learn and grow in the program. Boys enter Scouting and begin to advance through the ranks by completing a set of requirements. The rules of Scouting and requirements for each rank are outlined in the **Scout Handbook**. The Boy Scout Ranks are:

Scout * Tenderfoot * Second Class * First Class * Star * Life * Eagle

Although merit badges are required for rank advancement after Scouts achieve their First Class rank, all Scouts are eligible to earn them. Twenty-one merit badges (including 11 required badges) and a major project must be completed before a Scout can attain the rank of Eagle. After a Scout reaches the Eagle rank, Bronze, Gold, and Silver Palms are awarded for merit badges earned in excess of those required. A comprehensive list of available merit badges may be found in the **Scout Handbook**.

Although the boys work at their own pace, strong emphasis is placed on getting younger Scouts to the First Class rank as soon as possible. Rank advancements up to First Class concentrate on skill-building, while the higher ranks emphasize leadership development. Several supplemental leadership training opportunities are available, both through the Troop and BSA Catalina Council.

C. Active Participation

Active participation in Troop activities is an important requirement for rank advancement. In addition to regular attendance at Troop meetings, participation in Troop outings is also encouraged. It is the expectation of the Troop that the active participation occur during the following time periods:

Star – the four-month period immediately before the Star Board of Review

Life – the six-month period immediately before the Life Board of Review

Eagle – the six-month period immediately before beginning the Eagle Project

All Life Scouts must assume a role of responsibility within the Troop. If no elected leadership position is assumed, then the Life Scout will assume the role of Junior Assistant Scoutmaster (age 16 or older) or Instructor. The Troop position descriptions contain the expectations against which your active participation will be evaluated.

Exceptions to these guidelines are at the discretion of the Scoutmaster.

D. Outings

Troop 007 plans outings throughout the year. During the school year, at least one outing is planned each month. During the summer months, we plan two or three major activities (including summer camp).

Outings include overnight camping trips, day hikes, community service, Eagle Scout projects, fund raising, and other activities. In general, outings are open to all boys in the Troop. Exceptions may be made depending on the outing – for example, a “high adventure” camping trip may be limited to boys of a specific rank or age and may require completion of a prerequisite hike or merit badge(s).

The National Council of Boy Scouts requires two deep leadership for all outings, large or small. Two deep leadership means two leaders are in attendance at all times during an outing, one of whom must be trained. Occasionally this ruling requires that more than two leaders be available for each outing. **For this reason, we encourage all adults to become trained leaders.** Adult Fast Start Training and Youth Protection Training are offered, as needed or required, throughout the school year and are now available online. Catalina Council also offers Scoutmaster Fundamentals Training at least once each year. All adults interested in serving as Adult Leaders are strongly encouraged to attend Scoutmaster Fundamentals.

The Troop participates in the Fall Camporee, usually in October. The Camporee is organized at the District or Council level and is open to all Scouts (Boy Scouts, Webelos, and Cub Scouts) within the District or Council. Activities are planned and awards given to Troops and Patrols.

A service project is sometimes included as part of an overnight trip. Service projects may include trash removal or clean-up activities and vary depending on trip locale.

Outings generally involve additional costs – ranging from a few dollars to cover the cost of food and gas reimbursement for drivers, to several hundred dollars or more for residence camps or high adventure trips. Money that the Scout raised during fundraisers is kept in that individual

Scout's "Scout account" within the Troop account and can be used for Troop outings.

E. Summer Camp and High Adventure Activities

Each summer, Troop 007 Scouts attend Summer Camp. Camps provide an excellent opportunity for Scouts to complete rank advancement requirements and earn merit badges. Summer camp tuition ranges from approximately \$180 to \$500 depending upon the camp we attend (transportation costs are not included in this estimate).

A limited number of scholarships/camperships may be available to assist Scouts who would otherwise be financially unable to attend summer camp. These scholarships are usually limited to the summer camps at Lawton and Geronimo. Applications, which are confidential, are evaluated based upon need, active participation in Troop activities by both the Scout and the Scout parent(s), and participation in Troop fundraising activities. A significant portion of the proceeds of Troop fundraising activities are placed in individual Scout accounts to help pay for the cost of Scout activities including summer camps – Scouts are encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities. To request a Troop Scholarship, a letter should be sent to the Troop Scholarship Committee (care of the Troop Committee Chair). The Scholarship Committee consists of the Committee Chair, the Scoutmaster and the Treasurer.

A "high adventure" trip is also planned each summer, depending on availability of adult leader support. Examples of high adventure outings include: National Scout Camps such as Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico; Packard High Adventure Base in Colorado; canoeing in the Boundary Waters/Quetico Canoe Area in Northern Minnesota/Southern Ontario. Costs for high adventure trips may range from several hundred to over \$900 for the Boundary Waters trip (primarily outfitter and travel costs).

In addition to space limitations, age and rank requirements may affect Scouts' eligibility for these high adventure activities. If age and rank requirements are met, reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis. A space is considered reserved when a deposit is received by the Troop Treasurer. The Treasurer will also keep track of all wait-listed Scouts, who will be taken in turn if space becomes available. In some cases, a Scout who has already participated on a high adventure trip (such as Philmont), may be asked to step aside in favor of another Scout who has not been able to participate and who will not have another opportunity to attend the particular activity.

Fund Raising Opportunities

Troop 007 participates in fund raising activities each year. All Scouts are strongly encouraged to take part in Troop fund raising to help underwrite their Scouting activities. Past fund raising opportunities have included selling *Trails End* Boy Scout popcorn, firewood woodcutting in the fall, and telephone book delivery in August/September and January/February. A small percentage of monies earned are retained by the Troop to offset operating costs with the balance being credited to the Scout's "account" to assist in funding their Troop activities. The boys may use their "credit" for any Troop activity, including dues, camp tuition, high adventure, or monthly Troop outings.

Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan

Each Scout is expected to learn and live by the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan:

Scout Oath

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.

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



NOTES



Boy Scouts of America Troop 007 Tucson, Arizona
Sponsoring Organization: Knights of Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church 5150
N. Valley View Tucson, AZ 85718



Meeting Place: St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church Parish Hall

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