



Troop 119

Parent Need-To-Know

Reference Guide

Troop 119 Quick References:

We Meet: Mondays from 7p-8:30p, Fellowship Hall (Basement) @ The First United Methodist Church of Ellettsville

803 West Temperance Street Ellettsville, IN

Scoutmaster: Tony Zizak 317-995-2857 tzizak@gmail.com

Our Public FB Page: www.facebook.com/scoutingbsa119

Our Troop Website: www.scoutsbsa119.com

Troop #s:

Scouts: Over 20 scouts registered with our troop in 2021

Active Parents: Our parents serve as assistant scoutmasters, committee members and volunteer to drive scouts to events. We are always looking for more parents to jump in.

Patrols: Bacon Brigade, Moose Patrol and Muppets Patrol.

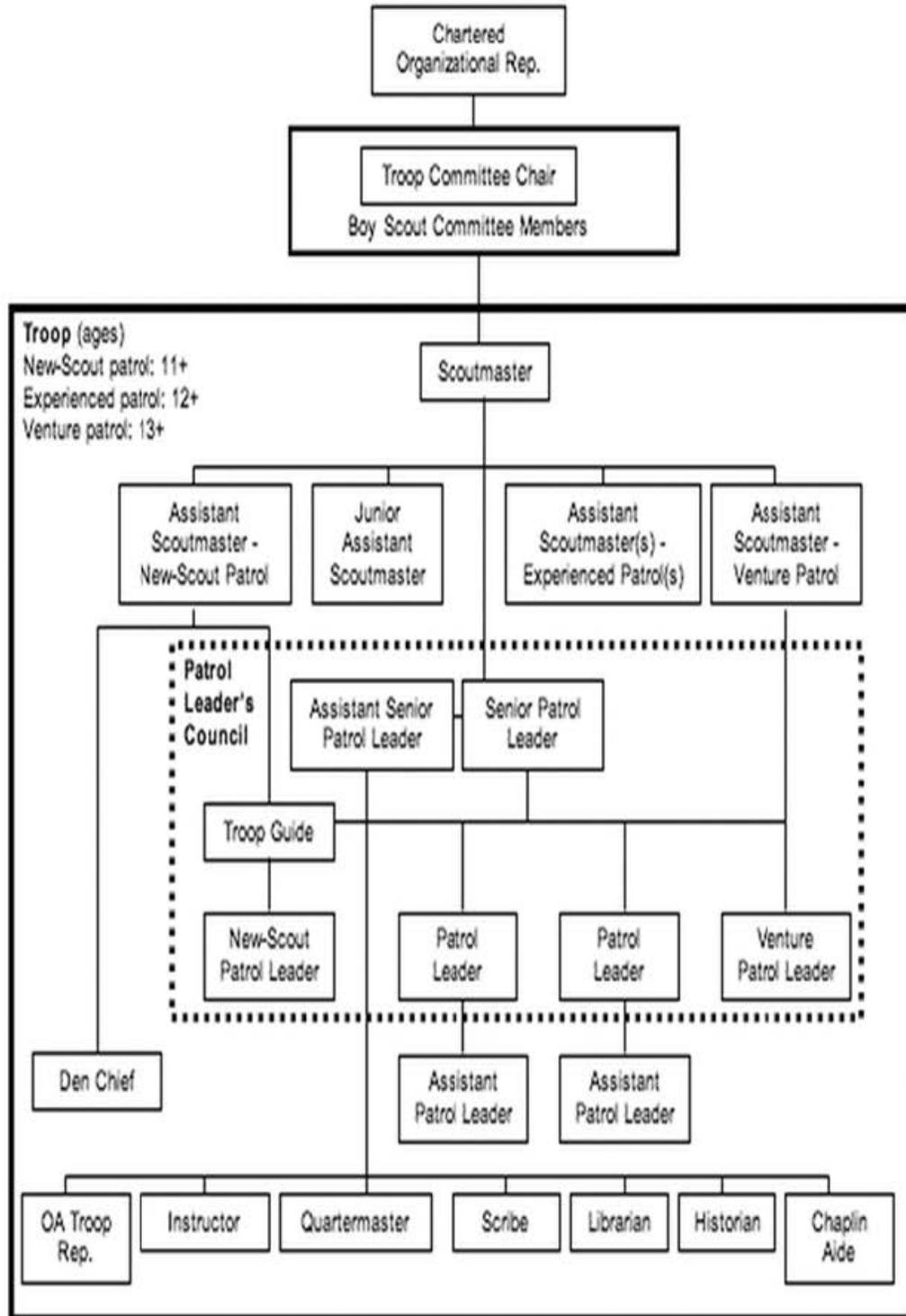
Troop Information: What the boys care about

- We are a youth-led troop: Our Patrol Leaders' Council (Youth Leadership) decides on weekly programming, campout agendas, etc...
- We love aquatics. (fishing, swimming, kayaking, and canoeing)
- Top campouts so far: (We go on at least 1 campout a month. Sometimes more)
 - National Muzzleloader Rifle Association Boy Scout Camporee where the boys got to participate in many shooting sports activities including shotgun, rifle, pistol, muzzleloaders, archery and tomahawks.
 - Troop Lock-in: All night games (game consoles and competitive games) and food.
 - Our Annual Fish Fry Campout: Nothing but fishing, boating and a waterslide at a lake. (AIM campground)
 - Summer Camp (June 13-19)
- We go on a high adventure trip every 2 years:
 - 2015: Boundary Waters Canoeing
 - 2017: Sea Base Sailboat Adventure
 - 2019: Mt. Rushmore Trip
 - 2021: Smokey Mountain Excursion (July 5-9)
- Our Troop is over 53 years old. We have 50 Eagles and counting!

Troop Information: What the parents care about

- Our boys come from different schools and towns: Ellettsville, Stinesville, Spencer, and Bloomington.
- Fundraising: We have a very successful fundraising program which helps out a lot for the activities. On average our boys earned over \$200 a scout this year. The troop provides a lot of the smaller incidentals to run a troop.
- A great mix of parent involvement in the troop. Some parents can give more time or their talent than others but all parents are strong supporters of our troop.
- Trained Leadership: We have several members of our troop leadership that have gone through Woodbadge, Leadership fundamentals, Outdoor Skills, wilderness first-aid, etc.
- We constantly look for ways to do different activities

Boy Scout troop organization chart



Section 3 NEW SCOUT REGISTRATION

Obtain a Boy Scout application form from one of the adult leaders. Fill out as much of the multi-part form as possible. Return the form to the Scoutmaster for his signature. Troop 119 operates on the Scout Budget Plan, The National Registration Fee (\$64) is required with the initial application and every year thereafter during the re-chartering period. If Boys Life (magazine subscription) is desired, it is an additional \$12.00. Boys Life and annual registration are the responsibility of the Scout and his family but Boy Funds (not Dues) can be used to pay for these.

Weekly Dues: Weekly dues are \$2.00 per week for 52 weeks a year. It is recommended that a boy pay his dues (weekly) out of his allowance. This helps teach responsibility and a wholesome attitude toward earning his own way. Two dollars are easier to come up with than twenty dollars if a boy is allowed to fall behind by several weeks. If a Scout's dues are not current at the end of a quarter, the Treasurer will take the appropriate amount from the boy's fund to make up the difference so the amount owed is zero. Dues pay for camporee fees each year. (Dues must be paid-up within a week, at a meeting before a camporee, or the boy must pay his own fee!) Dues also cover advancement supplies (patches, mother's pins, etc.) and general liability insurance, among the many other expenses of running the troop. 1 dollar covers troop costs and 1 dollar is escrowed for the scout at the end of the year to pay for rechartering fees (\$64) so the scout doesn't need to come up with the \$64 all at once.

Medical Forms: Medical forms are necessary and very important. Accidents can happen at any time and the adult leadership must be able to react quickly. The form gives the attending medical professional information on medicines that can cause an allergic reaction, phone numbers to call in case of emergency, parental release for lifesaving treatment, etc. BSA now requires an annual physical examination by a doctor, for all activities longer than 72 hours. Parts A and B of the form constitute a health history, and is sufficient for activities shorter in duration. The new form can be found in printable .pdf format online at www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety.aspx

Section 4 UNIFORMS

While the Boy Scout uniform is not cheap, it is of good quality and durability. We expect each Scout to have, as a minimum, one khaki Scout shirt (complete with all patches and rank badges sewn correctly in place) and a neckerchief (as authorized by the PLC), neckerchief slide (handmade or-purchased). We encourage the boys to wear long Scout pants and regulation belt; however, we realize that the boys change size rapidly during their early years of Scouting, so regular school pants are acceptable. An alternative uniform part for summer are official Scout shorts. Daily "Class B" uniform for camp wear consists of a Scouting t-shirt, including our Troop t-shirt. Also considered part of the uniform is the Official BoyScout Handbook, a pad of paper, and pen or pencil. We expect the boys to wear uniforms to each weekly meeting, as well as to outside activities. We give "Action Bucks" at meetings based on the extent to which a boy is wearing his uniform. If a boy comes directly from a sports activity, we ask that he brings a Scout shirt with him and change at the church. In keeping with the pride of advancement, a boy is required to wear his uniform when he goes before a Board of Review and to all Courts of Honor. Uniforms are available from the Bloomington Scout Shop, 5625 E. SR 46, Bloomington (phone 812-336-6809). Jackets, sashes, etc., can be added as desired. For special events (high adventure trip, Jamboree, and others), each participating Scout will be required to have full uniforms (plural). These requirements will be covered on an individual event basis.

Section 5 ADVANCEMENT

Parental guidance and encouragement can help greatly in getting a boy to reach the first advancement step, that of Scout Rank. Parents can sign off the abuse requirements and help in learning the Scout Law, Motto, etc. it is important for a Scout to understand the symbolism of the Scout Badge and its parts. This first rank badge can be awarded as soon as possible. The requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class can be worked on simultaneously; however, all requirement for a lower rank must be completed before a higher rank is awarded (i.e. ranks must be awarded in order). All other requirements are signed off only by the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters. Scouts do not sign off on their own Scout Handbooks and nor do Committee Members.

Service Hours: Service hours teach many things. It teaches how to plan, execute, give back to the community. It also teaches how to be a good community, state and national citizen. Service projects also offer an opportunity for ScoutsBSA to promote the program out in public. Keeping in mind all this, any service project needs to be approved by the Scoutmaster prior to undertaking it. As a guideline, service hour(s) opportunities must be made available for all members of the troop to participate and to count as a signoff.

Our Program:

General Overview: Scouting from beginning to end is learning about yourself, others, and how to succeed. In the beginning, scouting skills are very general and broad. As the scout progresses the skills become more focused and they build upon another. We have found a successful model described below that would fit most scouts. We do alter the program for those which need to leverage their talents differently. Some “extra motivated scouts” may do things quicker. Some scouts with other priorities such as band, 4H, etc may need extra time and find themselves racing to get stuff done before their 18th birthday. We try to guide the scout to reach Eagle Scout before they get their drivers license as this is a significant life achievement and the scout will begin to have other interests and priorities.

Scouts Under 1st Class: Focus on rank advancement requirements Merit badge work is only done at Summer Camp Focus on Patrol and Troop Life Learning basic scouting skills

Scouts 1st Class and to Eagle: Focus on merit badge requirements and looking outside the troop for merit badge counselors. Focus teaching skills to younger scouts Merit badge weekends and universities are encouraged. Summer Camp is full tilt merit badge work with some extra opportunities Leadership Opportunities such as NYLT, OA, etc High Adventure Activities.

Eagle Scouts: Focus on leaving a legacy with the troop Going for Eagle Palms Providing Junior Assistant Scoutmaster responsibilities along with privileges that come with that. Summer Camps are mostly mature scout high adventure programs.

Breakdown of a typical scout journey to eagle broke out by the year ([here](#))

Boys Funds: “Boy Funds” is a term frequently heard when fund-raising events or popcorn sales are being discussed. The Troop Committee may designate a certain portion of the sales “profit margin” to be held in the name of the boy who makes the sale (e.g., a boy may get \$1.00 for each pizza he sells). The money is “not, however, paid out in cash; instead, the boys’ earnings are held by the Troop Treasurer for summer camp fees, uniform items, or camping equipment. Any unused Boy Funds remaining when a boy leaves the Troop will be applied to unpaid dues. The balance will be placed in the Troop General Fund. A request for reimbursement of money spent by anyone in behalf of the Troop must be submitted to the Troop Treasurer within 30 days, unless an extension is granted. Receipts must accompany the request.

Section 12 TROOP Committee Parents are encouraged to become active Committee Members. The Troop Committee meets monthly to help guide the program. Committee Members have the opportunity to attend training and program events. Registration is due each year. There are some specific jobs the Committee takes care of which allow the trained leaders to spend more time working with the Scouts. Some are of an annual duration: Treasurer, Advancement Chair, Equipment and Transportation, Coordinator, etc.

Merit Badge Counselor: Acting as a Merit Badge Counselor is another important contribution an adult can make to the Troop. Job skills or hobbies may qualify you to work with small groups of boys. Requirements for each Merit Badge are clear. Merit Badge Counselors need not pay a fee, but must fill out an adult application with permission for the BSA to run background checks up to every three years to serve as a Merit Badge Counselor.

Link for the Troop 119 Handbook for more information: [\(here\)](#)