

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
TROOP 149
FALCON, CO
BY-LAWS**
(Approved 11/14/02)
(Approved 04/10/08)

ARTICLE I -PURPOSE

Note: BSA National:

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

To this mission, our purpose is to provide a program for the boys that will deliver the "Aims of Scouting" which are character development, citizenship training, and mental and physical fitness.

Our intent is to define National Policy for the purpose of adopting and organizing Troop 149 Bylaws as well as Policies and Procedures.

ARTICLE II-MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION

Note: BSA National:

Youth: An active youth member is one who obligates himself to attend the meetings regularly; fulfills a member's obligation to the unit; subscribes to the Scout Oath; and participates in the troop.

Adult: Adult leadership positions shall be filled by persons 21 years of age or older except for the assistant Scoutmaster, which may be filled by persons 18 years of age or older. The membership of a troop shall be organized on the patrol system.

REGISTRATION

Note: BSA National

Youth: Youth membership with the Boy Scouts of America requires the payment of an annual registration fee adjusted from time to time by the National Council Executive Board. Applications must be signed and accepted by the Scoutmaster.

Adult: There shall be an annual registration fee adjusted from time to time by the National Council Executive Board. The head of the chartered organization or the chartered organization representative must approve the registration of the leader in the appropriate form. The local council must also approve the registration.

Merit Badge Counselors: Persons who are at least 18 years of age may serve as merit badge counselors in subjects for which they are qualified and must register as such as adult Scouters.

ARTICLE III -PROGRAM

Note: BSA National

ADVANCEMENT -The Boy Scout requirements for ranks, as outlined in the Scout Handbook, shall be the basis for the Scout's advancement. There shall be four steps in Boy Scout advancement procedure: learning, testing, reviewing, and recognition.

In Boy Scouting, recognition is gained through leadership in the troop, attending and participating in its activities, living the ideals of Scouting and proficiency in activities related to outdoor life, useful skills, and career exploration.

RESPONSIBILITY OF TROOP COMMITTEE

The Committee will meet regularly throughout the year. The Committee will consist of: Troop Committee Chair, Advancement Chair, Treasurer, and Chartered Organization Representative. Other committee positions may be added if needed.

The Scoutmaster will be a trained adult as well as the First and Second Assistant Scoutmasters, if appointed. It will be strongly advised for all other adult leaders to be trained as well.

Note: BSA National

RESPONSIBILITY FOR MERIT BADGE -The responsibility for merit badges shall rest with the merit badge counselor approved by the local council and district advancement committee. Merit badge counselors shall be registered adult members of the Boy Scouts of America. The merit badge counselor shall prepare and qualify youth members. There shall be no board of review procedure for merit badges, but public recognition may be given at a unit court of honor or other suitable occasion.

UNIFORM

For the purpose of the troop, the uniform will consist of:

- Official BSA shirt with proper and current badges and/or patches, tucked in
- Troop Neckerchief and slide
- BSA pants, or, shorts and BSA socks, or, dark blue/black jeans
- Any BSA belt and BSA buckle
- BSA Hat
- Merit Badge Sash
- Order of the Arrow Sash for OA functions
- Wood Badge Beads
- Bolo

DISCIPLINE/YOUTH PROTECTION

Any violations of National Policy by youth or adult will be brought before the Troop Committee. The Troop Committee will decide action.

The troop shall follow the policies adopted by the Boy Scouts of America that provide additional security and protection for Scouts and adult leaders. (P.134 Scoutmaster Handbook.): Two-deep leadership, Respect of privacy, Separate accommodations, No secret organizations, No hazing, appropriate attire, and Junior Leader training and supervision.

Safety -The "Totin' Chip" card will be used to enforce safety in the Scouts'/Scouters' use of knives, (other than the approved troop cooking utensils) axes, and saws. Any Scout and/or Adult Leader using any of these tools must have this card in his/her possession. The card indicates the Scout/Scouter has learned the safety requirements as listed on the card (p76 Boy Scout Handbook). A lock blade pocketknife is the only knife allowed to be carried by the Scouts. A sheath knife will not be allowed. The Outdoor Code shall be enforced at all times as outlined in the Boy Scout Handbook (pS6-S9).

ARTICLE IV –BUSINESS/ FINANCE

TROOP FORMS

Tour permits, advancement records, committee meeting minutes, financial reports and receipts, scout and adult health 'history forms, outing permission slips and applications will be kept by the troop committee and made available to the appropriate people. Completed personal history and health forms shall not be disseminated to individuals or organizations outside of the Boy Scouts of America.

TROOP ACCOUNT

The troop should have a checking account at a local bank. An account that requires two signatures on each check, those of the Committee Treasurer and one other, is recommended. The troop may also have an account at the Hibbard Scout Shop for the purchase of awards/badges that may be purchased by the Advancement Chair. Troop funds are to be recorded and deposited weekly into the troop's checking account. The *Troop/Team Record Book* or a similar record-keeping tool is recommended. The Troop Committee will authorize disbursements. The Troop Treasurer shall prepare a report to be presented to the Troop Committee at the Troop Committee Meeting. Two persons in the troop other than the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters or Treasurer may conduct the annual audit of the Troop's financial records. The Treasurer may be present to answer questions. This should be completed prior to re-chartering.

TROOP BUDGET

The Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee Treasurer with the Troop Committee Secretary as note taker should prepare the troop budget. This should be done immediately after approval of the troop's annual program plan. The *Unit Budget Plan* and the *Troop/Team Record Book* can be used as guides for this process. If dues and surpluses from the previous year do not cover the anticipated expenses, a troop money-earning project may be planned. Project selection should begin with the patrol leader's council and the Scoutmaster. They will bring their ideas to the troop committee.

SCOUT ACCOUNTS

Scout accounts will be maintained and administered by the Troop Committee Treasurer. The Troop Committee Treasurer will also keep the appropriate paperwork for the scout accounts as related to dues. A report shall be submitted to the Advancement Chair one month prior to the Court of Honor.

The Scouts may earn money during fundraisers for the purpose of their Scout accounts.

FUNDRAISERS

Money raised in fundraisers will go to either the Troop account, or the individual Scout accounts.

References:

Scoutmaster Handbook: 1998, 2007 Printing
Troop Committee Guidebook: 1998 Edition, 2005 Printing
Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America: June 2001
Advancement Committee Policies and Procedures: 1999 Printing
Fieldbook of the Boy Scouts of America: 2004, Fourth Edition
The Boy Scout Handbook: 1998, Eleventh Edition, Eight Printing
The Patrol Leader Handbook: 2002, 2003 Printing
The Senior Patrol leader Handbook: 2002
Junior leader Handbook: 1990 Edition, Revised 2000
Guide to safe Scouting: 2007 On-Line Edition
Tours and Expeditions: 1999 Printing