

# 2026 – 2027 Scouts BSA Planning Guide

This is a parent-friendly guide to help us get started together. This guide is a way to get organized and figure out some important decisions about our Scouts BSA Troop.



## How our Troop is Organized

**Boy Troop:** \_\_\_\_ **Girl Troop:** \_\_\_\_ **Family Troop:** \_\_\_\_

**Troop Meetings** are when everyone comes together (all families, all ages). This meeting is led by the Senior Patrol Leader, with guidance from the Scoutmaster and assistance from the Patrol Leaders.

- How often should we meet as a Troop \_\_\_\_\_
- What day works best? \_\_\_\_\_
- What time works best? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where do we meet? \_\_\_\_\_

**Patrol Leaders Council Meetings** are the leadership team of youth comprised of the Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders

- Where/When do PLC meetings happen? \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Meetings** are typically once a month for *just* the parents who help keep the Troop running smoothly. We check in on the calendar, upcoming events, supplies, and logistics so meetings are prepared and fun for the scouts. This is about staying organized and supporting our Troop leadership.

- What day and time work best? \_\_\_\_\_
- Location / format? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who plans or facilitates: \_\_\_\_\_

## How We Communicate

Clear communication helps our Troop run smoothly and keeps everyone on the same page. We'll choose one primary way to share information, so families know where to look.

### Our primary communication method:

Email

Messaging app (GroupMe, WhatsApp, Band, etc.)

Facebook page

ScoutBook+

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**What we'll use it for:** meeting reminders and schedule updates, event details and sign-ups, important Troop announcements.

- Who sends Troop wide updates?

\_\_\_\_\_

- How often can families expect messages? \_\_\_\_\_

- Questions or notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## Troop Norms & Shared Expectations

Every Troop operates a little differently. These are general decisions that help set expectations for families and leaders.

### Uniform Expectations

- Uniform expectation (required / encouraged / optional)

\_\_\_\_\_

- When uniforms are typically worn (Troop meetings, events, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

### Family Participation Expectations

- How can parents support Troop operations? \_\_\_\_\_

### Photos & Social Media Use

- Photos shared internally / on social media / not shared:

# Calendar Planning

**Troop Meeting/Activity Dates:**

*Troop Meetings should happen weekly with Scouts working towards advancements. Troops are also encouraged to plan outings in the community.*

| Month     | Meetings Outside of Normal Troop | Troop Outing Date (if any) | Outing Location | Notes |
|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| August    |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| September |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| October   |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| November  |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| December  |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| January   |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| February  |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| March     |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| April     |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| May       |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| June      |                                  |                            |                 |       |
| July      |                                  |                            |                 |       |

**Camping:**

*Troops should plan a monthly outdoor activity.*

| Month     | Monthly Camping |
|-----------|-----------------|
| August    |                 |
| September |                 |
| October   |                 |
| November  |                 |
| December  |                 |
| January   |                 |
| February  |                 |
| March     |                 |
| April     |                 |
| May       |                 |
| June      |                 |
| July      |                 |

**Other Important Dates:**

*Review your district's calendar at [stlbsa.org/calendar](http://stlbsa.org/calendar) to find all the activities happening near you such as Camporees, fall events, Klondike, Scouting for Food, and more!*

| Event | Date/Location | Notes |
|-------|---------------|-------|
|       |               |       |
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**Important Contact Information:**

**Unit Commissioner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Executive:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Roundtable:** A chance to connect with other Pack and Troop leaders to learn about upcoming events in your area and the wider Council area, get program ideas and training information, and more!

**Roundtable Information:**