

TROOP ONE

New Member Family Handbook

Troop One, Sacramento, California in the **Capital City District**
of the **Golden Empire Council** of the **Boy Scouts of America**

Warm Welcome to Troop One

While Troop One does not have any formal family welcome activity, this handbook is meant to ease the minds of parents and scouts alike. We hope it serves as a convenient reference point to guide you to information you need to participate fully in the troop activities and opportunities.

As you spend more time with our Troop you will find it is highly Scout managed and member driven. While parent and adult members are always present in an advisory capacity, as Merit Badge Counselors, Mentors, Advisors, and Scoutmasters, the young men are always encouraged to organize themselves for the various activities.

Please consider helping in any way you can, as Troop One relies on the participation of each parent to provide the comprehensive and full schedule of activities that help the scouts in rank advancement, adventure and the earning of merit badges.

IN THIS HANDBOOK

- Place to Record Information You Will Often Use
- Paperwork
- Websites
- Calendar and Flow of Troop Year
- Camp Cody
- Parent Volunteer Necessity and Opportunity

Purpose of this Handbook

Please rely on this handbook to give you a general idea of the rhythm of the troop's activities. In all instances, more information can be found at:

- Troop One website <http://www.troop-1.com/>
- Golden Empire Council website <http://www.gec-bsa.org/>
- BSA website <http://www.scouting.org/> or <https://myscouting.scouting.org>

Many helpful reminders are provided via Troop email.

The boys are reminded at each Monday meeting about schedules, paperwork, and progress on Troop One projects. This handbook is a work in progress, and as a newer member, you might want to send suggestions in writing for additions, amplifications, and deletions that will improve the effectiveness of this book to Walter Neal committeechair@troop-1.com.

Place to Record Information You Will Often Use

As you visit various websites, and file various forms you are provided information such as a BSA membership identification number. Please keep this number in a handy place, as you will need it from time to time. Each year, members renew their BSA registration (recharter) in October/November. Each Scout in Troop One must have at least one adult member (parent or guardian) join BSA as well. Each adult member must complete Youth Protection Training, This is Scouting, Fast Start: Boy Scouting at a minimum. To properly record your training, your membership identification is imperative. If you do not have this number, you can always inquire with the Committee Chair or Registration Chair. www.url.com

	Person 1	Person 2
Scout BSA Membership ID		
Adult BSA Membership ID		

You will also be asked to create user ID and password for access to BSA site (myscouting.scouting.org/).

	Person 1	Person 2
BSA User Name		
BSA Password		

Golden Empire Council (GEC) will also involve a user ID and password (www.gec-bsa.org/)

	Person 1	Person 2
GEC Username		
GEC Password		

The Troop One website does not require a User ID, but much of the troop information, like the roster of members requires a password for access. This is to protect the privacy of our members. You can keep that password handy here as well.

Troop 1 website generic password _____
 Hint: Name of two lodges at Camp Cody

The following link is helpful identifying key contacts for information and answers to questions as they arise:

http://www.troop-1.com/key_contacts.htm

Troop One uses TroopMaster. If you have a web account

	Person 1	Person 2
TroopMaster Web UserID		
TroopMaster Web Password		

Paperwork

A careful look at the calendar for Troop One shows that on average the scouts can go on an outing at least once per month. Outings typically cost between \$20 and \$70 depending on the distance, duration, admission fees, etc. Outings coordinators accept only cash...no checks! Each outing has a unique registration form, which is provided both at meetings in advance of event, and in an email sent to the entire troop usually a few weeks in advance of the outing. Always submit your Scout's outing registration form, cash, and Medical record stapled together.

An Annual Health and Medical Record with Part A and Part B is required for each outing, and one can save time by pre-filling a Medical Release form, saving the prefilled copy and simply printing and signing a new one for each outing your scout attends.

SAVE TIME

Save time by pre-filling parts A and B of a BSA Annual Health and Medical Record. Save it on your computer and re-print it for each outing.

A centerpiece activity for Troop One is our beloved Camp Cody. Each summer usually the last full week of July, every member of the troop is encouraged to join in this camp experience. Over 30 merit badges are offered providing Scouts with many opportunities to make progress on rank advancement; all of this while enjoying the time of their lives in this beautiful setting on this alpine lake off HWY 50 near Strawberry. More information is readily available on our website.

KEEPING TRACK

Start a binder to keep 'blue cards' for merit badges, rank advancement cards, and award cards.

Write down each outing the scout attends and how many nights. This counts toward rank advancement and the **100 Nights of Camping** award.

Write down the Eagle project and number of hours worked for each Eagle project you (the scout) helped. This is needed for rank advancement.

Applications to Camp Cody are generally due in late May, early June. They are emailed and made available as hard copy at Troop parent meetings in May and June. A more in-depth personal medical health record is required for Camp Cody, Annual Health and Medical Record with Part C—which requires a physical exam—so be aware that more time is needed to complete these forms for Camp.

As your Scout works his way in Rank advancement, and earning merit badges, documentation and a paper trail for his hard work is very important. Several adults work tirelessly to assist your scout in

earning the awards.

A crucial role you can play is to impress upon your scout how important it is to regard their Scout Handbook as golden. The Rank Advancement pages in the back of the book are important records for their progress.

We ask that each boy actually copy these pages on a copier periodically to have a backup, in case the book is ever lost. From time to time, the advancement committee makes a copy as well, to assist the boys in this regard. When a scout earns a merit badge, the blue card he receives should also be kept as a matter of record. Smaller photo books, baseball card books or journal books are handy for the care and keeping of their rank cards, merit badge “blue cards” and other awards.

Websites¹

Troop 1

<http://www.troop-1.com/>

Troop 1 Intranet Site (link is on home page) **Under Construction**

<http://troop-1.ning.com/>

Troop 1 Troopmaster (link is on home page)

<http://www.troopmasterweb.com/Troop1Sacramento>

Capital City District

<http://www.gec-bsa.org/districts/capitalcity>

Golden Empire Council

<http://www.gec-bsa.org/>

Boy Scouts of America

<http://www.scouting.org/>

All Adults need a logon to E- Learning Portal <https://myscouting.scouting.org>

Minimum adult training requirements are:

- All adults: 1) Youth Protection Training, 2) This is Scouting and 3) Fast Start:Boy Scouting located under the Boy Scout/Varsity Tab
- All Committee Members: 1) Youth Protection Training, 2) Troop Committee Challenge, 3) This is Scouting and 4) Fast Start:Boy Scouting located under the Boy Scout/Varsity Tab
- All Camp Cody staff; 1) Youth Protection Training, 2) This is Scouting and 3) Fast Start:Boy Scouting located under the Boy Scout/Varsity Tab and 4) Hazardous Weather

¹ See BSA Social Media Guidelines complement Youth Protection policies and training:

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/Marketing/Resources/SocialMedia.aspx>

- All Assistant Scoutmasters: 1) Leader Specific Training² and 2) Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, 3) Youth Protection Training, 4) This is Scouting and 5) Fast Start: Boy Scouting located under the Boy Scout/Varsity Tab and 6) Hazardous Weather.

Calendar and Flow of Troop Year

Each month, there are typically 4 meetings with the following agendas:

- 1 meeting, outing preparation and organization (the meeting before the weekend outing)
- 2 meetings, Merit Badges or Trail to First Class
- 1 meeting on Special Topic: Election, Court of Honor, Inductions, Order of the Arrow, Monday National Holiday, etc.

This is not a calendar, but merely a highlight of various activities of Troop One, and the month in which they usually occur. Each month usually has one outing and one service project.

September ~	Monday Meetings resume Water Outing (often a Canoe Outing)
October ~	Elections, Troop Leadership Summer Court of Honor Annual BSA Membership renewal (recharter)
November ~	Turkey Outing for Scouts and Families Scouting for Food Service Project GEC Life to Eagle Workshop
December ~	Winter Outing (indoor or in a youth hostel)
January ~	Winter Outing (indoor or in a youth hostel) Fall Court of Honor Annual Bean Feed Fundraiser GEC University of Scouting Adult Training OKPIK
February ~	Snow Outing Troop One Annual CPR Class (Scouts and Adults) Troop One attends Pack Blue and Gold Banquet
March ~	Winter Court of Honor Prospective parents and Scouts visit

CHECK THE CALENDAR

For specific Troop One events see: <http://www.troop-1.com/calendar.htm>

For upcoming events see

- [Troop One Calendar](#)

For an 18 month look ahead of Scout planned outings see:

- [Annual Troop Planning Conference](#) record

² The Leader Specific SM/ASM Training is only available through a classroom setting. See <http://www.gec-bsa.org/program/training/adulttraining> for current schedule. Leader Specific typically is “free” and is offered each Spring and Fall at many different locations. Make sure you session is for “Boy Scouts”; some sessions are only for Cub Scouts, Varsity Scout, or Venturing.

April ~	Elections, Troop Leadership National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Camporee Start forms for Camp Cody (Make appointment for BSA physical)
May ~	Adult Training (E.g., Woodbadge, Basic Backpack Awareness, Wilderness First Aid, Paddle Sports Awareness, National Camp School, etc.) Backpacking Outing Continue on Forms for Camp Cody
June ~	Spring Court of Honor Pioneer Campout (First year camper training for Camp Cody—mandatory for all first year campers) Backpacking Outing Forms for Camp Cody Due
July ~	50 Miler Troop 1 Hike Camp Cody Work Weekend Camp Cody Summer Camp Camp Cody Family Night
August ~	No Monday Meetings this month GEC Life to Eagle Workshop

Camp Cody

Troop One considers Camp Cody as "The best Nationally Accredited Backwoods Camp in the Sierra." Camp Cody lies at 7,200 feet on the shores of Cody Lake in the El Dorado National Forest. When Troop One founded Camp Cody in 1937, there was just brush and timberland. Camp Cody³ is now a rugged backwoods summer camp, boasting a full range of Scouting programs, an active waterfront, and three support lodges.

ONLY BRING WHAT IS ON THE PACKING LIST TO CAMP CODY

The last page of the Camp Cody Brochure contains a packing list.

For you Scout's safety and comfort bring everything on this packing list (and no more than what is on the packing list.)

There are no roads into camp, no soft beds. Each Scout has a real opportunity to camp in the great outdoors, sleeping on the ground in tents. Hiking, fishing, swimming, boating, and rock climbing are just some of the challenges available at Camp Cody. Each year approximately 30 merit badges are offered.

Experienced cooks offer three meals every day, except for the overnight trip when Scouts go outside Camp. Our Scouts tell us that there is no

better food in the mountains. Careful attention to sanitation makes Camp Cody a healthy environment. It's fun, you learn a lot, and you'll have a great time.

There are two important documents that must be completed for camp:

- Camp Cody Scout Application
- BSA Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A, B and C are required for Camp. Part C must be signed annually by a physician [MD, DO], nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant. Part D is not needed.)

These documents provide other information on Camp:

- Camp Cody Brochure (packing list is on last page)
- Camp Cody Adult Staffing Requirements
- Camp Cody Staff Manual

First year campers are called "Pioneers". All first year campers take three merit badges: Leather work, First Aid, and Swimming. During fourth period Pioneers work on Trail-to-First Class requirements. During the middle of week, all Pioneers go for an overnight backpacking trip to Cody Meadows⁴.

Here are some important reminders for new parents:

- Please be sure EVERY item your Scout takes to camp is marked with your scout's name! This includes socks, merit badge books, neckerchiefs and

³ Search for "Cody Lake, CA" in Google maps. <http://maps.google.com/>

⁴ Search for "Cody Meadows, CA" in Google maps. <http://maps.google.com/>

other uniform items, etc. Remember some Scouts have the same initials, so a full name is a better way to mark the items.

- Remember to check the Lost and Found pile often on Sunday morning and again just before you leave Cody. Both parents and Scouts should check the pile and check it often!!!
- Make sure Scouts are at the top of the hill by 8AM on the day that Cody begins. The entire Patrol must be present for the Scouts to go into camp. Don't let your Scout be the reason his Patrol must go into camp last.
- Scouts must be able to carry all their gear in one trip and **MUST** have broken in hiking boots (tennis shoes or equivalent is **NOT** sufficient).
- Parents are welcome to bring cameras to take Patrol photos of the Scouts with their Patrol hats just before the Scouts walk down the hill. Scouts are also welcome to have inexpensive cameras for taking pictures during camp week; however they should leave expensive cameras at home.
- Parents are encouraged to bring cookies or another dessert (finger foods **ONLY**, please) when they return for Family Day. Families should **NOT** arrive prior to 1 PM, as Scouts are still finishing Merit Badges and other work. It will get chilly and dark during campfire so remember a: chair, jacket, bug spray and flashlight.
- Camp Cody rules apply for everyone visiting on Family Day, so remember no open toed shoes or flip flops.
- Families provide their own tents and gear for Family Day, but remember, you want to be able to pack all your items into camp in just one trip!
- At camp, there are three sleeping areas: 1) Scout only, 2) Adult only, and 3) Family. Your scout may sleep in your family tent; however, **adults are never allowed to sleep in any Scout area**. Additionally, any visits to the Scout area must be two-deep.
- Dinner is provided for family members for a nominal charge of \$3 per person. Exact change is very helpful—no checks or debit cards. Breakfast on Sunday morning is provided at no charge.
- The Cody cannon will sound at about 5 AM on Sunday morning and everyone should plan to get up right away, eat breakfast, breakdown individual campsites, and then help break down Camp. Scouts and families should eat breakfast first thing in the morning, as breakfast is cleaned up early and once it is cleaned up there is not another opportunity for food until you leave Cody.
- Please try not to leave until the entire camp is leaving. Many hands make light work and there are many traditions that take place at the very end of camp, such as handing out Cody patches, a final check of the Lost and Found and the closing remarks of the JCD. Camp closes out more smoothly if we **ALL** stay until the very end. If we all stay and help camp could be dismissed as early as 11 AM.

Parent Volunteer Necessities and Opportunities

Boy Scouting is for adults as well as boys. We invite you to share your skills and interests so the best possible program can be developed for the Boy Scouts in Troop One. Please do not wait to be asked, but volunteer. Ask other Parents, Committee Members, Assistant Scoutmasters how you can help.

Please complete a Troop Resource Survey. These surveys are available on the website. <http://www.troop-1.com/documents/Troop1ParentSurvey-Reader.pdf>

TROOP RESOURCE SURVEY

Welcome to the Scout family of Troop 1 in the Golden Empire Council. Boy Scouting is for adults as well as boys. We encourage all Troop 1 adults to contribute since Scouting is for the adults as well as your boys. This survey is different from the Merit Badge questionnaire you may have already filled out. Troop 1 wishes to find ways you can enjoy using your time and talents to help our Scouts. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Please return this survey to Jim McFetridge by email at jemcfet@surewest.net or in person. (Please print. If you would like to fill in the pdf to send by email, try 'Save as' a new file with your last name name in the file name.)

Name _____

Home phone _____

Business phone _____

Cell phone _____

Street address _____

City State Zip _____

1. What are your favorite hobbies?

2. Please describe your current occupation:

3. Please describe your background with scouting, as a parent, scout or both:

4. In what sports are you active?

5. Would you be willing to assist the troop leaders and committee members occasionally? Yes Next year

6. Please look at the General Activities, Special Program Assistance, Basic Scouting Skills and Other Activities that appear on to the right. Please check any boxes for areas that you would be willing to lend your help. Do not let a lack of expertise or familiarity with an activity prevent you from indicating your interest in a particular area. If there is an activity or area of scouting that interests you and it is not in the list to the right, feel free to add that below.

Note: adults participating in any scouting activities need to complete Youth Protection Training at <http://scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/BoyScout.aspx>



GENERAL ACTIVITIES

- Campouts
- Hikes
- Outdoor activities
- Troop meetings
- Swimming supervision
- Bookkeeping
- Document preparation
- Drawing/art
- Transportation of Scouts
- Transportation of equipment

SPECIAL PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

- Boards of review – rank advancement
- Transportation to outings
- assist in Trail to First Class
- Home workshop
- Family camping gear
- Access to camping property
- Contacts for special trips and activities
- Help with troop equipment
- Computer/web assistance

BASIC SCOUTING SKILLS

- Ropework (knots and lashings)
- Outdoor cooking
- First aid
- Star study
- Map and compass use
- Conservation
- Aquatics
- Knife and ax handling

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Backpacking
- Business
- Computer Safety
- Cross-country skiing
- Crime Prevention
- Cycling
- Downhill skiing
- Emergency Preparedness
- First Aid
- Fishing
- Freestyle biking
- Golf
- Kayaking
- Mechanics
- Mountain man
- Rafting
- Rappelling
- Sailing
- Scuba diving
- Shooting sports
- Slow-pitch softball
- Snow camping
- Spelunking
- Swimming
- Video/photography
- Volleyball
- Whitewater canoeing
- Wilderness Survival
- Windsurfing