

All About Troop 788

Who is Troop 788

- We are a welcoming troop. All boys (11-18) and their parents are welcome to join.
- We meet every Thursday, 7-8:15pm, at Christ Church Episcopal (5000 Pouncey Tract Road, Glen Allen, VA 23059) in the “Garage”
- We are committed to excellence in scouting. We are very active, with monthly camping trips, service projects, recruiting events and other activities.
- We have trained and experienced adult leaders, as well as enthusiastic and engaged Scouts, all of whom are encouraged to hold positions of responsibility in the Troop.
- We use Scoutbook/Scoutbook Plus (www.scoutbook.scouting.org) extensively. Scoutbook allows parents and scouts to track advancement, send and receive emails, and find the calendar of events.

Youth Leadership

- The scouts plan and manage all meetings, activities, and campouts. The adults are there to ensure safety, provide guidance, verify advancements, and assist at the boys' request.
- The elected troop leaders include: Senior Patrol Leader (SPL), Assistant SPL, Scribe, Librarian, Chaplain, Historian, Quartermaster, Troop Guide, Instructor, Webmaster, and Troop OA Representative, etc.
- Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC): The scout leaders who form the Patrol Leaders' Council (SPL, ASPL, and PLs and other elected positions) hold semi-annual meetings to plan the troop calendar. The PLC then meets at 6:15pm the first Thursday of each month to fine-tune the plans for the upcoming month.
- We practice the patrol method where scouts are placed in patrols of 6-10. They elect the Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader and Patrol Quartermaster. They are a team, so for campouts, they plan the menus, buy the food, set-up the campsite, cook the meals and sleep in tents as a group.
- The scouts run the weekly meetings: opening, planning, skill, game, and closing.
- Order of the Arrow (OA): Eligible scouts are nominated by Scoutmaster, elected by peers.

Camping

- We camp 11 to 12 months of the year.
- We attend Summer Camp as a troop every summer (June or July). Summer camp is a great way for new scouts to obtain merit badges and rank advancement requirements. Please see the Summer Camp tab.
- Campouts usually cost \$35-45/scout (\$20-30/adult leader) to cover food and activity fees. Winter Camp fees are higher because it is 3 night camp and includes merit badge classes and the same for Summer Camp, it is a night 6 night camp and includes merit badge classes and of course varies based on the camp location and merit badge classes specific to the scout.
- Scouts will need specific gear for camping. Please see the Resources tab.

Advancement

- Scouts advance in rank by demonstrating Scout spirit and skills, completing requirements, being active in the troop, serving in leadership positions, participating in community service, and earning Eagle-required and elective Merit Badges.
- A Scoutmaster Conference is held to confirm the scout has satisfied the Rank Requirements.
- A Board of Review is held with three Committee members to discuss troop matters with the scout and pass final confirmation.
- Special training is required to carry and use knives, axes and fire-starting materials.

Requirements of Scouts

- Actively participate in troop meetings, camping, service projects, fundraising.
- Have proper Scout Spirit - according to the Scout Oath and the Scout Law.
- Wear field uniform ("Class A") at meetings, during travel to/from campouts, and at other designated times: Scout shirt (with properly placed patches), Scout pants/shorts, Scout Belt, and have Scout handbook.
- Keep track of Advancements and Merit Badges.
- Treat others with respect at all times.

Annual Fees/Dues

- BSA National & Council Fees (paid electronically)
 - Scout \$175.10, Adult Leader \$82.40 (both fees listed include 3% admin fee)
- Troop Dues (paid via Zelle to Troop Bank Account)
 - Scout \$200 (second scout \$100)