

TROOP 218 GETTING STARTED GUIDE

WHAT TO DO

- Learn about the troop
- Visit a meeting
- Application & BSA Health Forms
- Read/sign our Membership Agreement
- Pay dues and registration fee
- Buy a uniform and handbook
- Gear up
- Youth Protection Training

The Rank of Scout

Pick some merit badges

QUESTIONS:

WHERE TO FIND IT

Visit the troop website at <http://troop218.org>

Meeting info is on the troop website

Find these on the troop website. Parts A & B are needed for most troop activities. Part C, which includes a physical by a doctor, is required for any activity lasting longer than 3 days.

You guessed it, on the website!

Troop joining fee: \$50. Monthly dues: \$5. There is also an annual BSA membership fee of \$24 (prorated based on your join date). Bring a check or cash with you to one of your first few meetings someone will be there to take it and get it deposited.

The troop will provide a neckerchief, slide, shoulder loops, and troop number. You'll need to purchase a Scout Handbook. You may use your beige Webelos uniform if it still fits. All patches except the council strip, world crest and Arrow of Light must be removed. Be sure to get a green belt when buying a uniform!

We have a list of basic camping gear on the website

All parents are asked to take BSA Youth Protection Training. Create an account on My.Scouting.org. YPT is an online course that will take about 30 minutes (totally free). Upon completion, the online software will generate a certificate. Get a copy to Deanna Cervenka (cervenka7@hotmail.com) either by email or physically. Taking this training is very important from both legal and quality standpoints.

Youth should begin working on the Scout rank immediately. Most of the requirements may have been completed as a Webelos cub. Arrange for a Scoutmaster conference to take place during one of their first few meetings.

<http://www.scouting.org/meritbadges.aspx>. Pick some merit badges that interest you, let one of the troop leaders know during a meeting and we'll show you how to get started.

Richard Vasquez, Scoutmaster

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