

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
West Point, New York 10996

10 December 2014

Scouts & Scouters,

Congratulations on your Troop's acceptance to the 53rd Annual West Point Invitational Scout Camporee! I am delighted to extend this invitation on behalf of the Scoutmasters' Council (SMC). We have an exciting weekend in store for you this spring.

This information packet, compiled by SMC's Accountability Officer, Cadet Cade Ricker, provides you with valuable information and details about registration and logistics of the Camporee, so that you can be both safe, successful, and prepared for the events we have planned. The mission of our Cadet club is to provide opportunities for Cadets to serve as role models to Scouts across the nation, primarily by sponsoring events that foster positive interaction between Scouts and Cadets. Throughout these interactions, we demonstrate professional commitment to developing as leaders of character and servants of the nation. With the Camporee serving as our culminating event, more than 250 Cadets volunteer to support SMC Scouting events throughout the year. With around 6500 Scouts and Scouters in attendance this year, the Annual West Point Invitational Camporee continues to be the largest annual Scout Camporee in the nation. This could not be the case without your continued interest and support, so I thank you for that. Lastly, I want to remind you that each Cadet in SMC is a volunteer, many of whom are Eagle Scouts or Gold Award recipients. The Cadets on SMC's staff have put in countless hours on top of their strenuous West Point schedules to give back to the program that helped them get where they are today. They are dedicated to ensuring the Camporee is a memorable weekend for everyone. Appreciation upon arrival (in the form of cookies and brownies) is appreciated. Thank you for joining us, and I look forward to seeing you on the trail!

Yours in Scouting,
Cadet Peter Sunderland
Cadet, United States Military Academy
Commander, Scoutmasters' Council 53rd Annual West Point Invitational Camporee

A. Camporee Rules

- **The number of participants and vehicles which is entered on the registration form you mail in by 31 January 2015 is the number of participants and vehicles you are allowed to bring to the Camporee.** Troops coming with more than the amount of participants or vehicles on the registration form will not be allowed to register.
- If the number you're bringing changes after you submit the registration form, email scoutmastercouncilstaff@gmail.com to notify us and we will work on a case by case basis.
- During Registration on the Friday of the camporee we require that only the scoutmaster or adult in charge of registration get out of their vehicle and approach the registration tent in order to keep lines to a minimum and help registration proceed quickly.
- Absolutely NO open flames are permitted at Lake Frederick. All cooking needs to be done with camp stoves.
- No cat holes or sump pits. Latrines will be provided.
- No locking knives with blades longer than six inches, or butterfly knives.
- Profanity is prohibited during the camporee.
- No cutting down trees.
- Troops will clear with the cadet in charge of their campsite before leaving on Sunday.
- Vehicles are strictly for emergency use. No driving on Lake Frederick grounds from midnight Friday until after the Parade on Sunday.
- Please do not touch any military training refuse (spent rounds, barb wire, etc.). Report it to a cadet staff member if it needs to be removed.
- Do not play with the wildlife.
- All Boy Scout, Girl Scout, and Venture Units must comply with all applicable national policies. This includes, but is not limited to tour permits, camping permits, two deep leadership, patrol method, and uniforms.
- The minimum uniform for all scouts throughout the camporee will be a class B uniform with scout pants and a scout T-shirt or scout polo shirt. The class A uniform will be required for reveille and retreat formations, formation on Saturday and all subsequent activities Saturday evening, for the religious services, and the awards ceremony on Sunday. Gym clothes and shoes are the uniform for Saturday morning PT, be prepared to get them dirty and not be able use them for the rest of the weekend.
- We ask scouts *not* to wear elements of a military uniform, such as physical training pants or military style camouflage while at West Point.

B. Troop Awards

The Camporee is not only a time of interesting events and demonstrations, but also a forum for troops to show off their skills. Points will be awarded in different categories, with the overall best troop determined for each sub-camp and the overall winner for the entire camporee. Winning troops will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony on Sunday. The winner of the award is the troop with the most cumulative points in the events listed below. Please check the scoutmaster council website for updated site list and description about these competitive sites. We recommend training for 2nd and 1st class basic scout skills in order to prepare for the various sites at the camporee.

Competition Sites open on Saturday (Check Website for Updates)

Camouflage	Firebuilding	Commander's Challenge
Litter/First Aid	Wilderness Survival*	Zodiac Challenge
Knot Tying	Ranger Challenge*	Fitness Challenge
Leadership Reaction Course	Swiss Seat/One-Rope	Weapons
Drill	Bridge	Knowledge Baseball
	Kim's Game	TAC Challenge

C. Site Descriptions (tentative and subject to change)

1. Graded Events (Round-Robin):

- a. Camouflage - At this site Scouts will learn how to properly apply US Army camouflage. They will be graded on their ability to apply what they have learned to a time standard.
- b. Litter/First Aid - At this site Scouts will fashion a litter and perform first aid techniques. Scouts will have to apply what they know to an "emergency" situation. They will be graded on proficiency and time.
- c. Knot Tying - Scouts will be taught how to tie various knots. They will be graded on their ability to correctly tie the knots in a certain time limit.
- d. Leadership Reaction Course - At this site Scouts will be given a specific problem to solve using given materials. The Scouts will be graded by time with time added to their score for errors (touching minefield).
- e. Drill - This site is mandatory for every Scout in attendance. The Scouts will learn the US Army drill and ceremonies techniques that they will use for the closing review.
- f. Fire Building - At this site the Scouts will have to build a fire to burn a string that is at a given height. The Scouts will be graded on how fast they are able to burn through the string and the materials they use to build their fire.
- g. Wilderness Survival: Scouts will be given a designated amount of time to look for materials to build a shelter and then given additional time to create the shelter. Once the shelter is graded on its' usefulness, the scouts will be required to take down the shelter and attempt to make the site look as though it was unoccupied.

- h. Ranger Challenge - A combination of physical events Scouts must complete (climbing ranger wall, carrying water jugs, etc.). Event requires Scouts to work together as a team to best accomplish the challenge.
- i. Swiss Seat/One-Rope Bridge - Scouts will be taught how to tie a US Army rappel seat and will be graded on their ability to re-tie the seat in 90 seconds. They will then have the opportunity to cross a One-Rope Bridge using their seat.
- j. Kim's Game - Scouts will be given a certain situation to analyze to identify and remember the variety of items within the situation. After a certain period of time, the Scouts will be asked to turn around while certain aspects of the situation previously analyzed are altered. The Scouts will attempt to identify any changes that were made to the original site.
- k. Commander's Challenge - This event will not be announced until the Camporee. It will be both physically and mentally tough and designed with a military background.
- l. Zodiac Challenge - The RB-15, also known as a Zodiac, is a US Army raft. If these are not available due to supply issues, we will use canoes. The Scouts will have to negotiate a course on the lake. The fastest patrol will win this site.
- m. Fitness Challenge - Fitness is a critical aspect of military life. The Scouts will be graded on the relative fitness of their patrol through participation in physical activities such as push-ups and sit-ups.
- n. Weapons – Scouts will be briefed on a variety of US military weapons, their capabilities, and also their uses. Scout will be graded on how well they retained each weapons' characteristics.
- o. Knowledge Baseball - Scouts will play 'baseball' by answering questions about rank requirements, common scout skills, scouting heritage and some basic West Point knowledge. The more questions answered correctly, the more points the Scouts can score.
- p. TAC Challenge - Scouts will carry dummy rifles and bound through woodland terrain to rescue a hostage at the end of the lane. They will face physical obstacles and be required to react to enemy contact along the lane.

2. Non-Graded Events:

- a. Static Display: The contents of the static display will be United States Military weapons and accessories.
- b. Demonstrations – There will be a variety of cadet club demonstrations for the scouts throughout the weekend.

3. Other Graded Events:

- a. Campsite Inspection: Each troop will be judged on the neatness of their campsite. Judges will be looking for planning in the layout of the troop's area, safety, and cleanliness. Lightfighter troops will be graded with the expectation that every item could have been brought by them over the trail; deductions will be made for items that could not have been brought in a scout's backpack (i.e. folding picnic tables, picnic gazebos, or the RV Camper with cable TV parked in the middle of the patrol's site). If

you are not sure whether your troop applied as a lightfighter or normal troop, please contact CDT Cade Ricker @
scoutmastercouncilstaff@gmail.com.

4. The following do not count toward troop points but individual awards are given for:
 - a. Scoutmaster's Cook-Off: Scoutmasters are invited to participate in a cook-off at lunch time on Saturday. There are five categories: main dish, chili, Dutch Oven, lightfighter and dessert. Please refer to the enclosed letter for more detail about this competition.
 - b. Troop Gateway Competition: Troops are encouraged to prepare a gateway for their campsite, to be judged by camporee staff. The troop must bring all materials and completely remove the gateway before leaving Sunday morning. Troops may not utilize trees, vines, or other vegetation from Camp Lake Frederick grounds.

D. Tentative Time Schedule:

Scoutmasters' Council 2015 Scout Camporee Schedule of Events

Time	Event	Location
Friday 01 May 2015	11:30am	Arrival / Trail Opens
		Camp Natural Bridge
2:00pm-6:30	Hike to Lake Frederick (Light fighters Only)	Move from Camp Natural Bridge to Lake Frederick (2.5 miles)
2:00-7:00	Trading Post Open (Pre-Order/Pick-up Only)	Parade Field
8:30	SPL Meeting and Safety Brief	Mess Hall
9:30	Scoutmaster Meeting and Safety Brief	Mess Hall
11:00	Accountability Formation / Cadet Brief	Mess Hall
12:00am	Taps / Accountability	A-Frames / Campsites
Saturday 02 May 2015	6:00am	Scout Reveille
		Campsites
6:15	Cadet / Scout PT	Campsites
7:00 – 7:45	Breakfast	Campsites / Mess Hall
7:00 – 8:45	Breakfast / Hygiene / Site Prep	Respective Sites
8:30-9:00	Opening Ceremony	Parade Field
9:00 – 9:15	UH-60 Fly-In	Parade Field
9:00	Competitive / USMA Clubs Sites Open	Respective Sites
9:00	Trading Post Open	Parade Field
10:00 – 12:00pm	Military Static Displays Open	Parade Field
11:30	VIP Lunch	Mess Hall
11:45 – 12:30	Scoutmaster Cook-Off	Mess Hall
1:00	UH-60 Depart	Parade Field
1:00	Scout Lunch	Campsites
1:00-1:45	USMA Admissions Presentation	Mess Hall
5:00	Competitive / USMA Club Sites Close	Activity Sites
5:00-6:00	Troop Time (Optional Drill Practice)	Parade Field
5:15	Site Equipment Return	Mess Hall / Warehouse (Bldg 913)
5:30	Scorecard Due	S3 A-Frame
6:00	Cadet / Scout Dinner	Mess Hall / Campsites
6:00	Trading Post Closes	Parade Field
7:00	(Optional) Protestant / Catholic / Jewish Services	Campfire / Flagpole / Scout Museum
8:00 – 9:30	Campfire	Parade Field
9:15	Scoutmaster Meeting	Mess Hall
10:00	SPL Parade Info Meeting	Campsites
12:00am	Taps / Accountability	A-Frames
Sunday 03 May 2015	6:00am	Scout Reveille
		Campsites
7:00 - Completion	Breakfast / Hygiene / Breakdown	Respective Sites
7:00 – 7:45	Scout Breakfast	Campsites
8:15 – 8:45	Assembly for Closing Ceremony (in Position)	Campsites / Parade Field
8:30	Trail Open for (optional) March Out	Trail (2.5 miles)
9:00	Review/Awards Begins (Attention Sounded)	Parade Field
9:15	Pass in Review	Parade Field
10:30	Troops Begin Close Out / Departure	Respective Sites
11:30-2:30pm	Continue Breakdown	Campsites
2:00	Trail Closed	Camp Natural Bridge

* Bull Hill is a challenging 3-mile hike leading from the parking area to the campsite. Please bring appropriate footgear and equipment. No one will be allowed to start on the trail after 1830. All personnel arriving after that time will be directed to the campsite for drop off. **Note: The Bull Hill trail will be open on Friday afternoon AND Sunday morning. In a change from years past, Lightfighters ARE EXPECTED TO HIKE OUT ON SUNDAY AS WELL.**

**** Events subject to change based on weather and availability**

E. Facilities Provided

- **Parking-** ONLY one parking pass per troop will be issued at check-in. This pass will clearly state that one vehicle will be allowed to be parked along Proctoria Road that leads into Lake Frederick. Other vehicles with equipment are allowed to be driven into the Lake Frederick Camporee area but only to drop gear and then must be parked at Harriman Park where shuttle service back to Lake Frederick will be provided. A map will be posted on the SMC Website showing the route that will be taken to get to Lake Frederick. Other vehicles will be parked at Harriman park (approximately seven miles away, by road). **Cars left at Lake Frederick without a pass will be towed at owner's expense.**
- **Campsites-**Campsite size is based on the number of registered participants in each troop. The campsites will be assigned and will not be altered in any way. Do not expect anything larger. Space is a premium and we have a record number of troops coming to the 53rd SMC Camporee so please be understanding and patient.
- **Water-** Potable water will be supplied in water trailers spread throughout the camp areas.
- **Bathrooms/Latrines-** No bathrooms are available to scouts except for emergencies. Latrines/porter potties are located throughout the camp area.
- **Garbage-** Dumpsters will be provided. Please help us by throwing trash inside, not next to, dumpsters.
- **Food and shelter are NOT provided.** Troops may bring whatever is necessary to cook with or on. No open pit fires are allowed.