

GOAL

Promotion, planning, and coordination for Summer Camp at Many Point or Tomahawk. By the end of the meeting:

- Scouts have started or completed program plans
- Families and Scouts have made a clear commitment to attend camp
- Parents understand dates, costs, safety, and value
- Adult leadership coverage is identified

WELCOME & PURPOSE-5 MINUTES

Audience: Scouts & Parents

Led by: Scoutmaster or Committee Chair

- Welcome and introductions
- What is the purpose of the meeting?
 - Program planning
 - Summer camp commitment
 - Parent information
- Confirm
 - Camp location (Tomahawk or Many Point)
 - Camp dates
- Set expectations
 - Scouts and parents will split into groups later
 - Scouts should be ready to make a decision tonight

SELLING THE CAMP EXPERIENCE-15 MINUTES

Audience: Scouts & Parents

Led by: Older Scouts with Adult support

- Why summer camp is the highlight of the year
- Traditions your troop has and daily life at camp
- Advancement opportunities
- Fun: games, campfires, sunsets, special events
- Honest realities:
 - Tents and bathrooms
 - Weather and storm shelters
 - Bears and wildlife policies
- Visuals:
 - Use Camp Program presentation
 - Photos of your campsite
 - Camp videos
 - Program areas
 - Maps

WHAT'S NEW THIS SUMMER-5 MINUTES

Audience: Scouts & Parents

Led by: SPL

- Review the '12 days' posts highlighting new programs and facilities
- Reinforce that camp evolves each year

TRANSITION & INSTRUCTIONS-5 MINUTES

- Scouts: Program planning and discovery
- Parents: Logistics, safety, money, and support
 - Parent session follows the Parent Meeting Outline

SCOUT SESSION-45 MINUTES

Led by: SPL, ASPL, Camp Coordinator

Program Overview-5 minutes

- How camp schedules work
- What fills up quickly
- How to balance advancement and fun

Program Exploration-20 minutes

- Scouts review:
 - Program catalog
 - Program schedules
- Allow Scouts to:
 - Watch camp videos
 - Explore the website in small groups (phones allowed with a purpose)
- Encourage discussion and questions

Individual Planning-15 minutes

- Scouts complete their Program Planning Worksheet
- Older Scouts and Adults circulate to advise
- Camp coordinator collects worksheets

Commitment to Camp-5 minutes

- Scouts sign the attendance roster or sign up online (Scoutbook, SignUp Genius)

FINAL Q&A-15 MINUTES

Audience: Scouts & Parents

Led by: Scoutmaster or Camp Coordinator

- Answer remaining questions
- Reinforce next steps
 - Payment deadlines
 - Medical forms
 - Adult registration
- Remind Scouts to turn in worksheets
- Restate:
 - Camp dates
 - Why camp matters
- Final reminders:
 - "If you haven't committed yet talk to us tonight"
 - "Reach out early if finances or logistics are a concern"



PARENT MEETING OUTLINE

GOAL

Cover key topics, share logistics, answer parent questions.

Audience: Parents

Led by: Scoutmaster or Committee Chair

DATES, COSTS & PAYMENTS

- Camp fees: Youth \$415, Adults \$150
- Troop-added costs (transportation, snacks, etc.)
- How payments will be collected
 - Troop account
 - Parent portal (distribute QR codes)
 - Other
- Deadlines and expectations

DISCOUNTS & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Camping Twice discount (\$50)
- Camperships
 - Up to 50% for Northern Star Council Scouts
- Normalize asking for help

ADULT LEADERSHIP & COVERAGE

- Full week vs. part week adults
- Expectations and roles
- Internet access at camp available
- Ask for interest or commitments

SAFETY & HEALTH POLICIES

- Full time trained medical staff
- Emergency procedures
 - Storms & Severe weather shelters
 - Adult notification systems
- Wildlife at camp
 - Wildlife training
 - Bear boxes
- Mosquito mitigation
 - Campsites are fogged
 - Campfires
 - Bug spray
- Realistic discussions of bathrooms/showers

COMMUNICATION

- Troop communication plan
- Troop cell phone policy
- Limited communication supports Scout adjustment

HOMESICKNESS & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Homesickness is normal
- Why camp is a healthy place to work through it
- Why summer camp is important
 - Advancement
 - Peer bonding
 - Independence and resilience
 - Confidence
 - Maturity
- Importance of camp for troop cohesion and retention

HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT SUCCESS

- Encourage independence
- Avoid mid-week 'rescue' calls
- Trust adult leaders
- Frame camp as positive and exciting

FAMILY CAMPING OPTIONS

- Whole family can come to camp
- Younger siblings can experience the fun of scouting and camp
- Family can see what their Scout is doing

FINAL QUESTIONS & PARENT GUIDE

- Scouts completing program planning tonight
- Camp attendance commitments collected tonight
- Payment timelines
- Medical forms due later this spring
- Invite confidential conversations for concerns (financial or otherwise)

INFORMATION TO GATHER BEFORE MEETING

- Dates of camp: _____
- Troop additional fees: _____
 - What are they for? _____
- Parent portal used? _____
 - Generate QR codes
- Troop cell phone policy: _____
- Pre-camp troop swim qualification date: _____
- Payment timeline: _____

WELCOME & WHY WE'RE HERE

- Thanks for stepping into the parent session tonight. While the Scouts are off exploring programs and planning their week, this time is really for you—to make sure you feel informed, confident, and excited about summer camp
- Tonight is about answering questions, covering logistics, and talking honestly about what camp is like, including safety, health, finances, what your Scout will gain, and how you can support their success.
- Summer camp is one of the most important parts of the Scouting year. It's where skills grow, friendships deepen, and confidence takes a huge leap forward

WHY CAMP MATTERS

- Here's the truth we see every year: Scouts who miss summer camp often feel disconnected from their patrol and are more likely to drift away from Scouting
- Summer camp is where friendships deepen, confidence grows, advancement accelerates, and Scouts truly become part of the troop

But what about homesickness? Homesickness is completely normal and we are prepared for it—camp is one of the healthiest places for a young person to work through it:

- Supportive peers + caring adult leaders + structured, active days make all the difference
- Most homesickness passes within a day or two

CAMP DATES, LOCATION & WHAT CAMP IS LIKE

- Our troop will be attending camp at [Tomahawk / Many Point] on _____. This week has been part of our annual plan since we booked the campsite
- You'll hear your Scouts talk about traditions, daily life at camp, and all the fun—campfires, games, sunsets, and special events. You'll also hear honest realities: tents, bathrooms, weather, and wildlife. We don't hide these things—part of the growth comes from embracing them safely and confidently
- But above all, camp is a structured, supportive environment where your Scout becomes more independent, more resilient, and more connected to their patrol and troop

COSTS, PAYMENTS & PARENT PORTAL

- Let's talk about finances clearly and upfront
- This year's camp fees are _____ for Scouts and _____ for adults
- Our unit also charges for _____ we expect that to cost _____
- Payments may go through troop accounts, cash/check, or the Parent Portal. If we're using the Parent Portal, you'll receive a QR code—please scan it and make sure you can log in
- Payment deadlines will be shared clearly. If you ever have concerns, please reach out early—we'd much rather help now than scramble later in the spring

COSTS, PAYMENTS & PARENT PORTAL

- We want every Scout who wants to go to camp to be able to attend camp
- Scouts who attend Many Point or Tomahawk twice receive \$50 off their second week at camp
- Camperships are available for Northern Star Scouts for up to 50% of the cost of camp
- The application process is confidential and judgment-free. Search "Northern Star Campership" online to apply.
- Please talk with me or our Committee Chair privately if finances are a barrier. The help exists for exactly this reason

ADULT LEADERSHIP & COVERAGE

- Camp runs smoothly because of adult volunteers. We need both full-week and part-week adults, and we welcome any registered adult that is interested
 - Adults supervise, support, and ensure safety—staff teach the programs.
 - Internet access is available for adults who need it during the week
- If you're even considering coming, please let us know. Early commitments help with planning



PARENT MEETING SCRIPT

SAFETY, HEALTH & CAMP PROCEDURES

- Safety is often the biggest parent concern, so let's address it directly
- Full-time trained medical staff at camp
- Well-established emergency and storm procedures; camps have designated severe weather shelters
- Leaders receive immediate instructions through camp notification systems
- Strict wildlife and "clean camp" policies, including bear boxes
- Campsites are regularly fogged
- Bug spray and campfires also help manage mosquitoes
- Bathrooms and showers are cleaned regularly, but they are still camp facilities—functional, safe, and simple

COMMUNICATION & CELL PHONE POLICY

- A common question is: 'How will I know how my Scout is doing?'
- Leaders will have cell phones, and parents will be told who to contact for urgent needs
- Less communication is often better—Scouts settle in faster when they aren't checking phones
- Limited Scout phone use supports adjustment and independence. Our troop cell phone use policy is _____

HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT SUCCESS

- You play a huge role in helping your Scout succeed at camp
- Parents can help by:
 - Encouraging independence.
 - Avoiding mid-week “rescue” calls.
 - Trusting the adult leadership at camp.
 - Framing camp as exciting and positive
- Your confidence becomes your Scout’s confidence

NEXT STEPS & WRAP-UP

- Here's what happens next
 - Scouts are completing program planning tonight
 - Camp commitments are being collected tonight
 - Payment timeline: _____
 - Medical forms are due later this spring
- Review the parent guide
- If you have ANY concerns—financial, emotional, or logistical—please talk with us tonight or reach out soon. We are here to help
- Thank you for trusting us with your Scout. Summer camp is one of the most powerful things Scouting offers

ADDITIONAL TOPICS AND NOTES

(Transportation to and from camp, trading post spending, parent visit nights)