

# Camp Long Lake

2006

## Senior Patrol Leaders' Guidebook



Welcome to  
Camp Long Lake

Potawatomi Area Council, BSA



## Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)

Job description: The senior patrol leader is elected by the scouts to represent them as the top junior leader in the troop.

Reports to: the Scoutmaster

Duties:

- Runs all troop meetings, events, activities, and the annual program planning conference
- Runs the patrol leaders' council meeting
- Structures the troop by patrols even if they are only temporary patrols for summer camp
- Appoints other troop junior leaders with the advice and counsel of the Scoutmaster
- Assigns duties and responsibilities to junior leaders
- Assists the Scoutmaster with junior leader training
- Sets a good example following the 12 points of the Scout Law
- Enthusiastically wears the Scout uniform correctly
- Lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- Shows Scout spirit
- Review the daily "**Long Lake Waters**" newsletter and share the information and schedule with your troop.

### **The Outdoor Code**

**As an American, I will do my best to –  
Be clean in my outdoor manners,  
Be careful with fire,  
Be considerate in the outdoors  
and  
Be conservation minded**



# 2006 Senior Patrol Leaders' Guidebook

This Guidebook is prepared especially for the Senior Patrol Leader. There is also a Unit Leader's Guidebook that you should look through with your Scoutmaster.

## Pre-Camp

### Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)

Be sure to hold one or more PLC's to discuss equipment, tent assignments, patrol structure and daily troop schedule prior to going to camp.

### Evening programs

During the week there are many structured camp activities following the evening meal. However, after the structured events are over it is recommended to have a plan for the troop campfires. This is especially important for Wednesday evening when there are no structured camp wide events. Wednesday evening is also when many troops invite the parents to come for the meal and visit the camp. If Cub Scout Webelos are invited to your site make sure to have some activities for them to get involved with.

### Equipment preparation

Work with the Quartermaster to make sure all necessary troop equipment is being made ready for camp. In addition to the obvious equipment like tents, dining flies and cooking gear remember to include rope for setting up a campsite perimeter, troop and US flag, gateway materials or ideas, Patrol flags etc.

### Skits & Songs

Besides the potential of having troop campfires on several of the nights in camp there is a Camp-wide Campfire on Friday night. All troops are expected to attend the campfire and participate with a song and a skit. It is good to do your research prior to coming to camp so you can have one or more know and possibly practiced songs and skits. All songs and skits will have to be approved by the Program Director during one of the Senior Patrol Leader meetings at camp.

## At Camp

### Arrival

Arrival at camp can be chaotic as there are many troops arriving and unloading at the same time. Work with your Patrol Leaders in organizing the Patrols and keeping them occupied while you and the Scoutmaster go to the office to verify that all the paperwork is correct.

Before you are taken to your campsite there will be a troop picture taken. Work with the Patrol Leaders to get everyone in full uniform.

### Sunday evening meeting

On Sunday evening there will be a short informational meeting for you and your Scoutmaster to attend prior to the evening meal. At this meeting you will get to meet the Camp Director, Program Director, Health Officer, Quartermaster and other key staff members. You will also meet the Commissioner(s) who will be in camp for the weeks. This is an important meeting to attend as a lot of information is handed out and discussed.

### During the week

- Uniform  
Set an example and wear as complete a uniform as possible for all evening meals, OA lunch, the Opening Campfire and the Closing Campfire.
- Control  
Your position, as SPL, is the top position in the troop for youth leadership. Set an example during the week for the younger scouts by keeping a good patrol structure and working with the Patrol Leaders.
- At meals  
All meal tables are set up and cleaned by the members of your troop. Be sure to set up a good rotation of scouts to do the set-up, serving and clean-up.
- In the campsite  
Your leadership in the campsite is very important to the Scoutmaster and other adults who attend camp. Use your Patrol Leaders to work with the members of the patrols to see if there are any problems with troop or camp equipment, the merit badge classes or with younger scouts being away from home.
- Evening activities  
The Monday, Tuesday and Thursday night evening activities are all Patrol competitions. Have a campsite PLC's to work with the Patrol Leaders to have a Patrol available for each of the competitions. For small troops one Patrol will be able to get to all of the competitions if there are several during an evening.

### Commissioner visits

A Commissioner will visit your campsite every day. At the Sunday evening meeting you will find out who the Commissioner will be. Set up a time for the visit when you will be in your assigned campsite. The Commissioner wants to work with you not one of the adults.

- Campsite evaluation  
The campsite evaluation will be discussed during the Sunday evening Scoutmaster/SPL meeting. There is also a list of Daily Campsite Evaluation Criteria at the end of the Program section in the Unit Leader's Guidebook. You don't have to have the "perfect" campsite on the first day. Keeping the campsite clean for health and safety purposes is one of the primary reasons for the daily valuation. Another reason for the visits is to see the daily improvements that the scouts (not adults) in your troop are making to the campsite. This is also a good time for you to have an open discussion with the Commissioner on any concerns the scouts in your troop have with Camp Long Lake's facilities, staff or program.

### Wednesday

This is the day that there are no meals in the dining hall. The dining hall staff will prepare food boxes per patrol. Organize the Patrol Leaders to have scouts from each patrol collect the food from the dining hall at the designated time. Food is to be cooked and eaten by patrol.

Remember that there are no structured activities for Wednesday evening. During one of your pre-camp or campsite PLC's a program should be put together that can be presented during the evening. Many troop invite parents for the evening meal and the campfire.

### Friday evening

Friday evening's campfire will be held in the firebowl is the time for you and your troop to help entertain the parents and other troops. All troops in camp are invited and expected to attend. During the week you and the other SPL's will meet with the Program Director to determine the structure for the campfire. The SPL's will also be asked to suggest a Master of Ceremonies (MC) for the campfire. The MC can be one of the SPL's or a troop member who is comfortable getting up in front of the

### Saturday activity

The Saturday morning events are a good way for your scouts to work together, show their teamwork and have a lot of fun. The events for the Camp-wide Relay and Aquafest will be discussed and selected in the SPL meetings with the Program Director. Be sure to encourage your troop to join in the activities and cheer on your troop members if there are not among the participants

### Departure

Departure is on Saturday morning (11:00 AM) after the camp-wide relays and Aquafest. To help speed up your departure use you leadership skill to organize the Patrol Leaders in getting all of the equipment packed and the campsite thoroughly policed for any trash that may have been dropped. You will not be released to leave until the staff member assigned to you campsite is satisfied with the look of the campsite. Remember there will be another troop moving into your campsite within 24 hours for their week at camp.

## **Special Programs**

### Baden Powell Honor Patrol

This program was started to encourage use of the Patrol Method in the Troop and in Camp. The requirements of the Award must be completed in camp and the patrol will be recognized at the end of the week. The requirements are:

1. Have and carry, in camp, a patrol flag.
2. Have and use, in camp, a patrol cheer and song.
3. Have and post in your campsite, a patrol duty roster including: latrine cleaning, waiter duty, fireguard duty, water duty, firewood duty, et cetera.

4. As a patrol, participate in at least 2 special Area Program Opportunities Ex: Nature Hike, Scoutcraft Competition, Canoe Wars, Capture the Spirit, et cetera.
5. As a patrol, conduct at least 2 patrol activities in camp. Example: patrol hike, patrol campfire, patrol cookout, et cetera.
6. As a patrol, do a service project for the camp. This can be a camp improvement or a conservation project. The project must be approved in advance by your Scoutmaster and either the Eco/Con Director (conservation projects) or the Commissioner.
7. Participate, as a patrol, in a Wednesday night campfire (possibly with another Troop).
8. Baden-Powell Honor Patrol awards will be presented at the closing campfire when all requirements have been completed. Get approval from your Scoutmaster and submit to the Camp Program Director for final approval.

**Have a great time at Camp Long Lake and the rest of the summer.**

**We hope that your troop will sign up to come back in 2007.**



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Delivering Values & Outdoor Adventure

# Camp Long Lake Potawatomi Area Council

