



YUCCA COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Proudly Presents

The Annual

BOY SCOUT
KLONDIKE DERBY

JANUARY 17, 2009

AT

CAMP DALE RESLER

Welcome to the 2009 Klondike Derby. This year's Derby will be held in the tradition of the Great Northwestern events of the long ago 70's. Some details may be different from what we have seen in recent years. **Please review this leader's guide carefully.** For example this year it is essential that all Patrols go through the central customs check point between each city visit (even if the two cities are very close to each other) so that an equal distance is traveled by all patrols.

What is a Klondike Derby?:

The annual Klondike Derby is the Boy Scout re-creation of the great Yukon Gold Rush of the 1890's where prospectors raced dog sleds across the frozen Alaskan wilderness in search of gold. In our Boy Scout version we use sleds but they are pulled by teams of "husky" Scouts rather than teams of dogs. Instead of searching for gold in the wilderness the Scouts will race to different Alaskan "cities" attempting to display their skills in Scouting events, general problem solving, physical strength, and other activities in an effort to earn "gold" by outperforming the other teams.

The point of a Klondike Derby is for Scouts to put their Scouting skills to work in the field, to demonstrate that their patrol can use team work to accomplish difficult tasks, to demonstrate Scout spirit that comes from being a member of a superior group of young men who do things that the average boys can't, and most of all to have fun.

When is the Klondike Derby?:

The event will be held on Saturday, January 17, 2009. Preregistration will be open thru December 31, 2008. The Camp will be open for camping beginning Friday night thru Sunday afternoon.

Where is the Klondike Derby?:

Camp Dale Resler near Cloudcroft, NM.

Who is in the Klondike Derby?:

All Boy Scout Troops are welcome. All participants must be registered Boy Scouts. Most events will require that eight Scouts from the Patrol participate so the ideal sled team size will be eight boys (however, fewer or more Scouts in a patrol will work). The Boy Scouts will be expected to set out across the frozen Alaskan wilderness on their own without a Scoutmaster or other adult escort.

What is the Cost of Klondike Derby?:

The cost is \$10.00, \$15.00 after the December 31 preregistration deadline, and one day of exhausting labor pulling a sled thru the frozen Alaskan wilderness and showing your skills per Boy Scout. \$5.00, \$10.00 after the December 31 preregistration deadline, and one day of light volunteer work under the guidance of the Mayor of one of our Alaskan cities per Adult. This cost includes a patch and awards.

Vehicles:

Please be prepared for winter conditions. 4-Wheel drive vehicles are recommended for travel into Camp Dale Resler during the winter months. For safety reasons, vehicles without 4-wheel drive may not be permitted past the gate at the entry point depending on road and weather conditions. If non-4-wheel drive travel is prohibited then a 4-wheel drive pickup will be available to help with the transportation of equipment from the gate to the derby start area.

Camping:

Units are encouraged to camp overnight either Friday or Saturday. Units may stay both nights if they so desire. Units leaders should consider this option for safety reasons if they need to drive a long distance. Units will need to provide all tents, meals, equipment, and all other needs for overnight camping.

Clothing:

One of the most important parts of a Klondike Derby is to keep warm and dry. Each Scout must know what to wear. Winter weather is very changeable, requiring preparedness for almost any condition. A nice sunny day can turn into a raging blizzard very quickly. Your best protection is your common sense. Dress in layers. Avoid working up a sweat, and keep yourself comfortable by removing or adding layers of clothing.

Waterproof boots are essential. Wear socks of wool or other material that wicks away perspiration. Wool stoking cap or similar head gear with ear coverings is necessary both during the day and at night in the sleeping bag to retain warmth. Scarves are recommended to protect the face from the cold and biting wind. Boys should wear wool mittens covered with a water repellent shell. Gloves may be worn. But they are not as warm at mittens.

Scouts are more vulnerable to the cold at meals, because they do not move around as much. Prior to any meal, ask every boy if all his clothing is dry. If not, have him change into dry clothes before eating.

Clothing Inspection: Unit leaders should visually inspect each boy before he takes off on the trail. If any boy is not adequately dressed, he will not be allowed to enter the frozen Alaskan wilderness.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Check in and late Registration 8:00AM to 9:00AM Saturday Morning

Race and events competition will run from 9:00AM-4:00 PM

Please be flexible actual times may vary.

The Race.

This year's race will be the total time of the Patrol on the trails between the Start line, the central custom check point, each city and the finish line. Once the patrol leaves the start line they will need to report to customs. Once checked in at customs they will need to proceed to their first city and time will halt upon arriving at that city and the patrol checking in with the local custom officer of that city. The patrol will remain "off the clock" until they complete the task of that city and check out with the local customs officer. From the first city the Patrol will need to go to customs to check in and then to their second city where once checked in they will then again be off the clock until they check out. This pattern will continue until the Patrol has visited all nine cities. Upon leaving the ninth city the Patrol will need to proceed once again to the central customs check point and from there to the finish line where their final time will be recorded. **It is essential that all Patrols go through the central customs check point between each city visit** (even if the two cities are very close to each other) **so that an equal distance is traveled by all patrols.** It is the responsibility of each patrol to be sure that they check in and out of each city. The total distance that the patrols will need to travel is about two miles so this is more of a cross county run than a quick sprint.

The Cities and Events

Once checked in with the local custom officer at a city the Patrol Leader should find the Mayor of that city to get further instructions. The actual tasks to be completed at each city will not be known to the Patrol ahead of time; however, the skills required for each event are taken from the Scout through First Class Scout requirements within the Boy Scout Handbook or are very general in nature. All the cities will require the patrol to work together to complete a given task. Most cities will require that eight Scouts from the Patrol participate. For patrols having more than eight scouts the patrol leadership should see that participation is divided between the scouts. For patrols with fewer than eight scouts the general requirement will be that all scouts must try an event once before any scouts tries twice and that all scouts try twice before any scout makes a third attempt and so on.

The Noon Meal

At lunch time a horn will sound. At the sound of the horn all travel is to stop right at the spot the Patrol is (please clear off any roads in case of the need for an emergency vehicle arises). Each Patrol will be required to prepare a **Hot** meal for all Patrol members and **up to three guests** using full Leave No Trace principles. The guests will be judging the meal for quality, nutritional balance, cleaning up and leaving no trace. The total time allowed for preparation, eating and clean-up will be ninety minutes. During this time no Patrol will be allowed to move their sleds. At the end of the ninety minutes the horn will sound again for the event to continue.

Equipment

Each patrol is expected to carry all needed equipment on its sled. This includes your lunch and cooking materials. Equipment needed for the derby and events will include:

- At least one Compass
- A method of starting a fire without matches or fuel, such as a flint and steel, hot spark, or bow and drill, ect.
- A 25 foot length of rope suitable for throwing.
- A two foot long log that is a least six inched in diameter.
- Ten lengths of rope suitable for lashing two 4 inch logs together.
- A least one copy of the Boy Scout Handbook.
- The patrol flag.
- The patrol first aid kit.
- A good supply of water for each Scout to drink during the day.
- A change of clothes for each boy in a large zip lock or plastic bag.
- Lunch for your Patrol and up to three guests.
- Cooking and cleanup materials (remember this is a "pack it in – pack it out" event)
- One piece of a standard 2x4 that is up to 1-foot long.

The Sled

The Sled must be made of wood with the exception of skies that are used as runners. The sled should be durable enough to carry all the patrol equipment for required for the day and one team member. **Length of the sled should be a minimum of 60" to a maximum of 78". The width should be a minimum of 18" to a maximum of 24". The height is a maximum of 42"**. Sleds may be built in any style as long as they meet the measurements above. Sleds made of PVC or other materials will be disqualified.

Final notes

Please remember, it is essential that all Patrols go through the central customs check point between each city visit (even if the two cities are very close to each other) so that an equal distance is traveled by all patrols.

On December 19, 2008 a map showing the position of the start line, the compass heading and distance from the start line to the central customs, and compass headings and distances from the central customs to each of the cities will be provided to Troops preregistered by December 15, 2008. This information will be provided on January 6, 2009 to Troops preregistered by December 31, 2008. The same information will be provided to all other Troops when they check in the day of the Derby.

Did I mention that it is essential that all Patrols go through the central customs check point between each city visit (even if the two cities are very close to each other) so that an equal distance is traveled by all patrols?

Any Questions can be emailed to Geoffrey Becker at GBecker1@elp.rr.com provided that you avoid my spam filtering by putting BSA Klondike Derby in the subject line.

Registration Form

2009 YUCCA COUNCIL Klondike Derby

January 17, 2009

Patrol Name _____ Troop No. _____

District _____

Adult Leader Contact Name _____

Position _____

Address _____

Phone (_____) _____ - _____

Email _____

Number of Boys _____ @ \$10.00 each Total \$ _____

Number of Adults _____ @ \$ 5.00 each Total \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Deadline for preregistration is December 31, 2008. If you register after December 31, 2008 please be sure that you add \$5.00 for each person.

Make Check Payable to:

Yucca Council

Mail completed form along with payment to:

Yucca Council, 7601 Lockheed, El Paso, TX 79925

Questions can be e-mailed to Geoffrey Becker at GBecker1@elp.rr.com. Please put BSA Klondike Derby in the subject line