

KLONDIKAVEN NEWS

Fall, 2021

Scoutmaster Edition

Greetings Scoutmasters! Welcome to the fourth Klondike Derby Deep Freeze at Camp Wakpominee!

You and your Troop are cordially invited to attend **The 58th Annual Klondike Derby & Deep Freeze** at Camp Wakpominee that will be held over the weekend of **January 22-23, 2022**. Please make sure that this weekend is reserved on your Troop Calendar.

Cost per registrant can be found in the table below.

	Scouts	Adults
On-line registration (link below)	\$10	\$10
On-site registration	\$10	\$10

Yes, \$10 no matter how you cut it. This cost just covers projected costs and fees. As usual, health & safety team member registration fee is waived.

Registration for the Klondike Derby - Deep Freeze

Two options are available for registration:

1. **PREFERRED:** You can register and pay on line using the Twin Rivers registration method (button on the webpage) with an estimate of how many registrants you'll have. You can change this up or down on-line up until January 15. You can add more scouts at Registration in Gelder Hall on Saturday morning, but removing registered scouts requires Twin Rivers Council approval (usually requires a compelling reason).
2. **ALTERNATIVE:** You can register in Gelder Hall and pay there as we've done in prior years.

Registration in Gelder Hall on Saturday, January 22 will start at 7:45 AM (no sooner). Please show up with **Registration Form filled out**. In addition to paying or adjusting your registration fee at Registration, you will receive Deep Freeze Snowballs, event patches and a Route Card (with map and instructions) for each of your Derby Patrols.

Although the event coordinators do not believe there is an advantage to starting early, we understand some scoutmasters disagree. In order to "keep things fair" if scoutmasters show up before 7:45, we will provide a random start sequence for them up to 5 scoutmasters.

Klondike HQ, Cub Observer check in, and the warming hut will be in Gelder Hall. Closing ceremony will also be in Gelder Hall.

Event Information

In October, all of the event information will be posted to our event website at www.trcscouting.org/mohawk/klondikederby. You can view and print individual pages. Please communicate the website URL to your Scouts and adult leaders. Everyone gets a copy!

Reminders

- (1) **All Derby Patrols must cross the Finish Line.** If a Derby Patrol skips the Finish Line and does not turn in a Route Card to the judges on Saturday, their Derby Score will be zero. They will receive no Station Award Ribbons that they may have won. They will receive no Klondike Derby Participation Ribbon. They will receive no Report Card after the event. This is the only way we have to know for certain that all Patrols have safely returned from their Derby Trail excursion.
- (2) Rent cabins and lean-tos directly from Twin Rivers Council using the standard forms and procedures at least two weeks prior to the event. There is no need to reserve Open Space. Please do not reserve sites that the Staff need (James E West and Bayden Powell); Ranger will help redirect you if needed.
- (3) Troops arriving Friday night should bring water from home. Water can also be obtained at Gelder Hall.
- (4) Adults should set a good example and come to the event properly dressed for the weather conditions that are forecast and maybe even for weather that is a little worse than is forecast. Your Scouts are watching you...
- (5) Bring **PREPARED** Scouts to the event. First-year Scouts in particular... Conduct some pre-Derby training in the skill events. Make sure they bring the equipment they need. All the skill in the world is useless if they don't bring the right tools. A checklist for each Derby event is included on the

website. Conduct a pre-Derby "pack check" at a Troop meeting a week or two prior to the event.

- (6) Attend OKPIK Winter Camping School and learn what your Scouts need to know! Check the website for OKPIK dates... In February there usually is training for Scouts (OKPIK-GAWASA) that will help prepare them for the next Derby event and beyond. Sign your PLs up! Pay their way! Make a good "investment" for your Troop.
- (7) We could always use more adult leader and Senior Scout help at our Skill Stations on Derby Saturday. Contact Brian Campbell (518 265 0061) with names and phone numbers. He will follow up.

Clothing Check... Our Philosophy and Expectations

We all know the Scout Motto: "Be Prepared". Someone once asked Baden-Powell what a Scout should be prepared FOR. His response: "Any Old Thing".

That's why we continue to conduct the Klondike Derby and Deep Freeze: To help our Scouts learn and practice skills that will prepare them for just about "any old thing"... Most any Scout or Scout Patrol can build a fire, construct a suitable shelter, use a map & compass, give first aid, prepare a meal, and maybe even rescue a drowning person and treat for hypothermia. But how many can do all these things when there's three feet of snow on the ground, ice on the pond, and a 40 mph wind blowing up a "white out"? **To Be Prepared to apply these skills under duress, a Scout (or anyone) has to be PROPERLY DRESSED for the weather conditions or they will become part of the problem, not the solution.** That's why we strongly emphasize our Clothing Check at Chilkoot Pass and that's why we conduct it BEFORE a Derby Patrol leaves the Starting Line.

"Klondikaven" is a controlled environment in which to safely teach Scouts how to prepare for the worst. We cringe whenever we see cotton "long underwear" in sporting goods shops or cotton outer garments for sale by purveyors of "work clothes" advertised for winter use. **COTTON KILLS.** If you are active you sweat. Cotton absorbs sweat. Cotton dries very slowly. Wet clothing is a very efficient conductor for heat to escape from the human body. Not a good thing when it's cold and the wind is blowing. Sure, you can stand around all day in your Carharts and be warm and comfy. But go out and trot around the block a couple times and then stand outside in the cold and

wind for a while... Each Derby Patrol covers about 2.5 miles on Derby Day, pushing and pulling a sledge that is laden with all the equipment and supplies they will need for the day's skill events. Not to mention the quarter mile Sledge Race at Shageluk... Polyester, polypropylene, and other synthetic "polys" are different from cotton. Rather than absorb moisture from your skin they wick it away to maintain a dry insulating layer between your body and the next layer of clothing. And the next layer of clothing should also be something other than cotton. Wool, for example: a natural material that retains a large percentage of its insulating ability even when damp.

HYPOTHERMIA KILLS. COTTON KILLS.

So, please keep these things in mind when you see the Mayor of Chilkoot Pass, and his clothing check staff taking a very critical look at the clothing a Derby Patrol shows up at the Starting Line dressed in. We don't do strip searches, but our inspection of the first couple layers is thorough. Please read the Clothing Check description in the literature, review the Clothing Check Score Card on the website and also make sure your Scouts, adult leaders and Derby-visiting parents read it as well. Thank you for your support!

We look forward to seeing you and your Troop at the 58th Annual Klondike Derby & Deep Freeze at Camp Wakpominee (a.k.a. "Klondikaven") in January!

Hint: a light, well-built sledge that is organized and properly equipped can help a patrol complete the Klondike faster. *The 2022 KDDF Staff*