

Troop 755

Policies for High-Adventure Trips

Adopted by the Troop Committee, December 2, 2001
Amended May 5, 2002

- 1) Purpose
 - a) High-adventure trips can be a terrific way to accomplish many of the objectives of the Boy Scouts of America, such as developing leadership, character and outdoor skills. Troop 755 high-adventure trips should be designed primarily to achieve these objectives.
 - b) Our high-adventure trips should provide incentives for our older scouts to stay active in the troop. These would include activities and destinations not available at monthly campouts or summer camp, and by providing a higher degree of youth leadership.

- 2) Approval
 - a) The troop committee must approve all high-adventure trips before:
 - reservations are made with high-adventure bases,
 - the trip is announced to the scouts,
 - any troop money is committed.
 - b) For approval, each proposed trip should provide the approximate dates of the trip, a general description of the program, approximate cost, and estimated size of the group (scouts and adults).

- 3) Youth Participation
 - a) Participation in a high-adventure trip is a privilege, not a right.
 - b) To participate in T-755 high-adventure trips, scouts must be Venture-eligible, which is 14 years old and Life rank at the time of the event.
 - c) Eligibility policies different from 3a & 3b above must be approved by the troop committee.
 - d) In addition to age and rank, scouts must have demonstrated that they are ready for the trip. They must have demonstrated sufficient physical ability, emotional maturity and teamwork ability for the activities of the trip.
 - e) The fulfillment of these requirements, and ultimately the participation of each scout, shall be at the judgment and discretion of the adult leaders of the trip.

- 4) Adult Leadership: adults who attend T-755 high-adventure trips will:
 - a) Be currently registered as adult leaders with the Boy Scouts of America.
 - b) Have completed Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Training, including Outdoor Leader Skills or the equivalent, and Youth Protection Training.
 - c) Have CPR certification and Basic First Aid training or the equivalent.
 - d) Have demonstrated that they are in sufficient physical condition for the requirements of the trip.

- 5) Parental Notifications
 - a) Parents or guardians of participating scouts should receive written information regarding:
 - The trip program, including travel plans and activities, so that they can understand the potential risks and hazards involved.
 - The fees involved with the trip, payment schedule and the refund policy.
 - T-755's youth participation requirements, as described above.
 - b) Parents or guardians of participating scouts must sign permission slips that include:
 - A waiver of claims against Troop 755 and the Boy Scouts of America.
 - An acknowledgment of their understanding of the inherent risks involved with the trip, the youth requirements, and acceptance of the decisions of the adult leaders.

- 6) Financial Policies
 - a) T-755 high-adventure trips should be financially self-supporting, i.e. no troop funds should be required.
 - b) The troop may advance money for the trip (camp deposits, travel deposits, etc.) but money should be collected from participants within two months to cover these deposits.
 - c) Individual scouts seeking financial assistance may talk to the Scoutmaster regarding camperships.
 - d) The nature of high-adventure trip costs (such as camp fees and transportation expenses) often do not allow for refunds. Refund policies should be provided in writing to participants prior to their first payment of money towards the trip.
 - e) Fundraisers are encouraged, and must follow BSA and Detroit Area Council guidelines.

- 7) It is required that T-755 high-adventure trips be fun.

- 8) BSA Policies: T-755 high-adventure trips will follow all relevant BSA policies, including:
 - a) Filing of proper tour permits.
 - b) Rules regarding use of alcohol and tobacco.
 - c) Water-safety rules, such as safe-swim defense and safety afloat.
 - d) Rock climbing and firearms safety.
 - e) Limits on the number of daily driving hours.