

PO BOX 16117 **DOWERGLEN** 1612

25 May 2010

Ref: Troop 2010/04

**Re: General Announcements** 

Dear scouts and parents

# Congratulations:

Congratulations to Jarred and Douglas on their investiture into the troop. We trust that you will have many happy years with us and will do us proud!

Congratulations also go out to Ashton Du Toit on achieving his Pathfinder Badge and on being awarded his Second Stripe.

# Cub Night Hike

Please remember that the cub night hike will taking place this Friday at Modderfontein emergency centre. Directions will be sent out via email.

We will be meeting at the scout hall at 16h00 in order to pack equipment and will thereafter

depart for Modderfontein. The hike starts at 18h00 and you can be collected from the scout hall at 21h30.

Please do not forget your scout uniform as well as warm, old clothes for use during the evening. Hotdogs etc will be on sale but it is recommended that you bring a light packed dinner.

Older scouts are reminded that you may be assisting with the firefighting demonstration.

Please RSVP for transportation purposes to your PL.





**Troop Scouter:** Assistant Troop Scouters: Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (advcampbell@mwebbiz.co.za) Mark Brown 082 788 0139 (Mark.brown@mweb.co.za)

# Group Fun Day:

A reminder that the group fun day will be taking place at Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve this Sunday (30 May) The event is open to all cubs, scouts, rovers, parents and friends of the Bedfordview Scout Group. Friends and family are more than welcome. The scouts are meeting at the venue at 08h30.

Full details have been sent out under reference Group 2010/01 and I will not repeat the details of the event here. If you have any queries please refer to this letter or contact me.

The hike which we will be doing is over 10km and as such may be logged for the Pathfinder advancement badge if you wish.

## Troop Boot Hike:

The annual troop boot hike will be taking place at Gilbanken (between Bapsfontein and Bronkhorstspruit) on 4 June 2010. We will be joined by members of the Jan Smuts Scout Troop for this event.

Scouts should meet at the scout hall in full scout uniform at 18h30 on the Friday evening. You can be collected at the hall at 09h30 on the Saturday morning. Those scouts with early morning sports commitments may arrange to be collected at Gilbanken early on Saturday morning and should contact me in order to obtain directions.

You will need to bring the following on the boot hike:

- A warm sleeping bag, pillow and simple ground mattress
- Strong shoes for walking in, together with socks
- Warm clothing (a beany or similar headgear is recommended)
- Old clothes for use during the hike (you will leave your uniform in camp)
- Full scout uniform
- A consent form (attached) and R50,00 (the cost of the hike)
- A water bottle
- A note pad and pencil
- A torch with batteries
- A simple messkit (plate, mug, knives, fork, spoon etc)
- A simple toilet kit (soap, toothbrush etc)
- A day pack or similar bag to carry your equipment
- Snacks

Patrol leaders should ensure that their patrols have the following items:

- A simple first aid kit
- A compass that works
- A watch or similar time-keeping device
- A patrol tent (complete with pegs, hammer, poles etc)
- Bribes for base staff

#### • A STA kit

Friends are more than welcome to attend. Patrol leaders need to advise me by no later than Saturday 29 May 2010 of who will be attending from their patrol (including friends).

You will be provided with a cereal breakfast in the morning.

Please note that this will be the last formal scout meeting of the term.

# Advancement during the holidays:

There will be no formal scout programmes run during the upcoming school holidays. The last formal programme will be run on 4 June 2010. Formal programmes will recommence on 16 July 2010. Some patrol leaders have indicated that they will be running patrol meetings and other patrol events during this time though, and patrol members are encouraged to attend these events.

At the request of the Court of Honour, there will be informal badge testing sessions run during the holidays on Friday evenings from 19h00 until 20h00. Scouts should not wear uniform to these sessions and attendance is optional. No attendance register will be kept during this period.

Those scouts who want to work on badges are well advised to attend these sessions though. Scouters will be on hand to test various items and to help to train scouts who want to acquire skills needed for a specific badge. Please warn us beforehand if you need specialised training or testing so we can ensure that the proper equipment is available.

There are four places where you should be able to check what you need to work on for your advancement. The first is your green card, which should have been given to you when you joined scouts. This has a summary of what you have passed and what you have not. Lost or damaged cards can be replaced at a cost of R5,00.

Secondly, there is a notice board in the scout hall with details of advancement. This board was recently updated and scouts should be able to check at a glance what work they need to do. There should be a similar advancement sheet in your patrol den – the third place. (If your den does not have such a list, ask your PL why not. Maybe consider doing your scribe badge to help).

Finally, I have an individual record card for each scout stored on my computer. Scouts may approach me for details of their advancement.

"The Scout Trail" contains all the information needed for you to be able to pass the various advancement requirements. Copies of the scout trail should be available at The Scout Shop or at Trappers Trading in Boksburg. Each patrol should also have a patrol copy in their patrol den, ask your PL if you can borrow it for the holidays if you do not have your own copy. Alternatively, "The Scout Trail" is available online at <a href="https://www.scouting.org.za">www.scouting.org.za</a> under the section for members (in the library).

Those scouts hoping to attend the World Jamboree next year are reminded that you need your First Class Advancement Badge in order to do so. This is a good opportunity to make inroads into the required advancement.

# Cellphones:

In the last letter to the troop scouts were warned not to bring cellphones to troop meetings or camps. Since that letter was sent out (ref: Troop 2010/03) there has been another incident involving the loss of a borrowed cellphone. This could have been easily avoided if the warning issued in the letter was taken note of.

As such, you are again warned that **CELLPHONES ARE NOT PERMITTED AT SCOUT EVENTS**. They create an unwelcome distraction, can easily be damaged or lost and are far better left at home.

In no way does SASA or its scouters accept any responsibility for damaged, stolen or lost cellphones.

#### Communication:

Are you receiving scout newsletters via email? If not, please let Gaynor Du Toit know what your email address is an she can add you to our mailing list. Gaynor's email is gaynord@za.ibm.com. Make sure you know what is going on!

# World Jamboree Fundraising:

In an attempt to raise funds for next year's jamboree the PLs have started a small tuckshop which will sell snacks after scouts.

There is also a collection receptacle next to the door to the hall where you can put any spare change if you so desire.

# <u>Upcoming Events:</u>

28 May Cub Night Hike 30 May Group Fun Day

4 June Troop Boot Hike – last meeting of the term

16 July Scout reopens

# SOUTH AFRICAN SCOUT ASSOCIATION GAUTENG AREA CONSENT FORM

To: The Scouter 1<sup>st</sup> Bedfordview Scout Group

I, (Full names of Legal Guardian)
Postal Code
Tel. No: (011)
hereby make formal application for my ward to take part in the activities connected with the Boot Hike to be held at the Gilbanken Camping Ground, between Bronkhorstspruit and Bapsfontein from 4 June 2010 to 5 June 2010.
I hereby appoint and authorise the Scouter in charge to act in my place as Guardian with full authority to consent to my ward undergoing surgical or other medical treatment. I undertake to pay the cost of such treatment.
I fully understand and accept that all activities are undertaken at my ward's own risk. I am aware that neither the South African Scout Association nor its Scouters accept responsibility for any loss, injury or damage that the person or property of my ward may sustain whilst engaged in any Scouting activity and I waive any right that or my ward may have to claim compensation against the South African Scout Association or any of its Scouters or other members in respect of any loss, injury or damage incurred whilst engaged in any Scouting activity howsoever arising and I indemnify them against all claims.
I confirm that I have read the letters explaining the nature of this activity and that I have discussed any concerns that I may have in respect of the hike with the scouters.
I consent to my son swimming (Yes / No)
SIGNED: (Legal Guardian)
WITNESS:
DATED this day of 2010

# SOUTH AFRICAN SCOUT ASSOCIATION GAUTENG AREA

# **HEALTH CERTIFICATE**

I certify to the best of my knowledge, my ward
A. Is not suffering from any physical disability or illness which makes it inadvisable to attend the hike, but I wish to draw your attention to the following (please include allergies):
B. Is not suffering from any infectious disease and has not been in contact with anyone so suffering during the past 14 days.
C. I <b>DO/DO NOT</b> give my permission to take part in any swimming activities.
D. Name of Medical Aid:  Member's Medical Aid Number:  Name of Member:  (Please include a copy of your medical aid card)
E. Name of Doctor:  Doctor's Phone Number:
SIGNED:(Legal Guardian)
Telephone: (H):
DATED this day of 2010
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER</b> (i.e. A number where the Legal Guardian or a relative can be contacted during your ward's activity. Please choose a different number to the one furnished above).
TEL. Nº ()