

# LEADERS GUIDE

A winter-themed poster for a Mason Dixon Council event. The background is a dark blue night sky with white snowflakes. In the center, a dark blue shield-shaped area contains the text. At the top of the shield, it says 'MASON DIXON COUNCIL 2023'. Below that, the word 'Winter' is written in a large, white, cursive font. Underneath 'Winter', the words 'CAMPOREE & KLONDIKE DERBY' are written in a white, bold, sans-serif font. A yellow ribbon banner across the middle of the shield contains the text 'AT COWANS GAP STATE PARK' in black, bold, sans-serif font. Below the banner, the price '\$20 per participant' is written in white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the shield, there is a small blue and white logo featuring a fleur-de-lis with a shield in the center. The entire shield is set against a background of snow-covered evergreen trees and mountains.

MASON DIXON COUNCIL 2023

Winter  
CAMPOREE  
& KLONDIKE DERBY

AT COWANS GAP STATE PARK

\$20  
per participant

FEBRUARY 3-5, 2023

Dear Unit Leader,

The Mason-Dixon Council invites you to attend the Winter Camporee and Klondike Derby. This Camporee is open to any registered Scouts BSA Troops, Venture Crews, and Sea Scouts. It is also an opportunity for Troops to invite Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts to come see what adventures may lie ahead for them if they continue in their Scouting journey. Please review this leader's guide to learn more about the camporee. This camporee will be a weekend of fun-filled activities at Cowan's Gap State Park. This is a great location to hold this event with everything Cowan's Gap has to offer. Cowan's Gap was chosen as the Camporee site for this Camporee because it was a former site for the Mason Dixon Council's summer camp before summer camp found it's home at Sinoquipe. At this winter camporee we remember and celebrate the history of our council's events by hosting an "old school" scoutcraft skills camporee and Klondike Derby at a former camp location.

Our next camporee will celebrate Sinoquipe's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Mark your calendars now to join us at Sinoquipe May 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> for the Diamond Jubilee!

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the troops who have stepped up to help make this camporee possible by sponsoring a station. Thank you to Troops 19, 66, 95, 99, 199, 1946! This event would not be possible without these troops and the support and guidance of their leadership.

Thank you for your interest in the camporee. And we will see you at the Gap!

Penny Beatty

Mason Dixon Council BSA Program Committee Chairperson

## **PRE-REGISTRATION**

***All units must pre-register to attend the Camporee. No unit will be allowed to check-in without pre-registering. Cost is \$20 for each participant (Scout or Leader). The day guest fee is \$10. This will cover supplies for the event (such as portable latrines and a warming station) as well as an event patch. The deadline for registration is January 27, 2023. All participants should be registered and paid by that date. Refunds will not be given for no shows!***

## **GUESTS**

**Guests** are individuals who are at the camporee for a short period of time (excluding a parent dropping off a scout). A guest is someone visiting the camporee for longer than an hour but not overnight. Guests must be preregistered. Guests must sign in at the headquarters tent and receive camporee identification. Guests must sign out before departing. The fee for guests is \$10.00 and will include an event patch.

## **WEBELOS and Arrow of Light Scouts**

Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts are invited to visit the Camporee as a guest of your troop through-out the day on Saturday between the hours of 8am and 5pm. Time and space permitting they may be able to participate in age-appropriate camporee activities. **Visiting Webelos/AOs must register in advance and will receive a camporee patch.** Cost is \$10 per Webelos/AOL. Please contact your neighboring packs and invite them to visit with you. If a troop is not able to come to the camporee but there are Webelos/AOLs who would like to attend, please reach out to Penny Beatty ([Scouter74MDC@gmail.com](mailto:Scouter74MDC@gmail.com)).

### **CHECK-IN**

Registration will occur at the designated site at Cowan's Gap Pavilion #1. At this time units will be asked to submit their completed roster as well as a copy of each participants' BSA Annual Health and Medical Record parts A and B. **All fees are to be paid in advance.**

Check-in time for troops is 5:00 – 9:00 PM on Friday. No unit should arrive before 5:00 PM Friday.

### **CHECK-OUT**

Before any unit may depart the Camporee, staff will complete check-out and site inspection. Units who wish to depart before Sunday 10:00 AM should inform camporee staff at registration.

### **PARKING**

All vehicles must park in the designated areas. Vehicles are expected to stay in the parking area for the duration of the event. Parking will be strictly enforced. Your troop trailer will also be in the parking area. Please plan to transport all supplies to your campsite. We encourage you to pack lightly and you may bring a dolly, wagon, or even use your klondike sled.

### **SECURITY**

**It is important to keep a safe environment for our participants.** Everyone attending the camporee will be required to wear event identification. This includes all Scouts, leaders, visitors, and guests. **The identification tag is to identify those who are approved to be on site. Those without proper identification should be directed to the headquarters tent immediately.**

## **CAMPFIRES**

**Absolutely no ground fires are permitted!** Barrel stoves, etc., must be elevated and off the ground. Each unit is responsible for bringing their own stoves and firewood. Only firewood from Pennsylvania will be permitted to be used at Cowan's Gap. If units have Pennsylvania firewood, they are welcome to bring it. We would be happy to assist units from Maryland to acquire Pennsylvania firewood. If you need assistance with firewood, please contact Penny Beatty ([Scouter74MDC@gmail.com](mailto:Scouter74MDC@gmail.com)) before February 1<sup>st</sup>. An ash disposal site will be available. No cutting of standing or downed trees is permitted. No chainsaws are permitted. Fire safety will be strictly enforced. **Any wood found onsite is property of Cowan's Gap and should not be used!**

## **RESTROOMS**

Portable toilets will be available throughout the Camporee. These are the only facilities available to Camporee participants. **A scout is clean. Please be courteous to other participants.**

## **CAMPSITES**

Campsites will be assigned based on the size of your unit. There will be several sites with Hammock camping available. If your troop has Scouts or Scouters who will be using Hammocks, please email Penny at [Scouter74MDC@gmail.com](mailto:Scouter74MDC@gmail.com) so we can assign your troop to an appropriate campsite. No camping trailers are permitted in the campsites. We recommend you pack light because you will be packing it in and out. Camporee staff will be on hand to direct traffic and answer your questions. Please follow their instructions. Remember a Scout is Obedient!

## **MEALS**

Troops will be responsible for meals for themselves and their visitors throughout the weekend.

## **HEALTH LODGE AND WARMING STATION**

We will have a health lodge and warming station staffed 24 hours a day.

## **WATER**

Troops are encouraged to bring water. If you do not bring enough water, we will have a water source available at the camporee but it will be limited.

## **TRASH**

You brought it in – you take it out. We encourage you to use reusable items and to recycle items when you return home. “Leave No Trace”. There is limited trash service at the park in the wintertime and we are their guests.

## **EQUIPMENT**

Patrol and troop equipment will be carried to the camping area from the parking lot, no vehicles are permitted to enter the camping areas. Troops are encouraged to bring their own wood and water. They should also bring the supplies for their pioneering project as well as a Klondike sled.

## **LIGHTS OUT**

A Scout is Courteous! All Scouts should be ready for bed at designated times. Leaders are asked to enforce quiet time after lights out.

### **TOBACCO/SMOKING/VAPING**

Adults should refrain from smoking, vaping, or using tobacco products in the presence of Scouts. Any youth caught smoking, vaping, or using tobacco products will be asked to leave.

### **RELIGIOUS SERVICE**

An interfaith worship service will be held at the Camporee Sunday at 8:30am

### **LEADERS MEETING AND CRACKER-BARREL**

There will be a Leaders Meeting and cracker-barrel held on Friday night at 10:00 PM, at the Camporee Headquarters area. **Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader only please!**

### **BEHAVIOR**

All Scouts, leaders, and guests should conduct themselves according to the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Remember - we are guests of Cowan's Gap.

### **WEATHER**

Weather conditions may dictate changes from the information published in this Leaders Guide. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### **CAMPOREE PROGRAM**

The Saturday Camporee Program will be split into a morning and an afternoon block. During one of those blocks Scouts will be given time to work on their Pioneering camp gadget, participate in the service project, fish (if they choose), and a hike to the overlook. The other block will be a round robin of scout skills which include fire starting, first aid skills,

orienteering, and knot tying among other essential scout skills. Evening activities will include a cooking competition and campfire program.

**Pioneering Competition:** Each unit will be asked to construct a camp gadget with only wood and rope. Units should come prepared with enough wood and rope to make the gadget(s) they plan. Units will be judged on proficiency of knots/lashing, creativity, and functionality.

**Hike:** Overlook Trail hike is a 2.5 mile out and back hike over moderate to hard terrain to an overlook of Cowan's Gap State Park. Hike should take 1.5 hours. There is also a smaller hike around the lake available to Webelos and Arrow of Light Cubs who visit.

**Fishing:** Scouts are welcome to fish at the camporee. However, all PA Fishing regulations must be followed. This means Scouts ages 16 and over are required to have a fishing license. Fishing gear will not be provided, but troops are welcome to bring their own.

**Klondike Derby Race:** Units should bring a Klondike sled that can transport 50lbs. There will be a race to see which unit can successfully transport the package quickest across a set distance.

**Cooking Competition:** All submissions must be cooked in cast iron and over a campfire/charcoal. No propane or other fuel source allowed. Submissions will be judged on creativity, presentation, and flavor.

Youth Submission: Dessert

Adult Submission: Appetizer

**Campfire:** Each unit will be asked to perform a skit or song.

Other program opportunities may be added, weather depending.



## ***Tentative Camporee Schedule***

### **Friday**

5:00-9:00pm	Troop Check in
10:00pm	SPL and Scoutmaster Meeting
11:00pm	Quiet Time

### **Saturday**

7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast (on your own, at the troop campsite)
8:00am	Webelos and AOL Check in (open all day)
8:30am	Flags (Parade Field)
9:00-11:30am	Program Block
11:30am-1:30pm	Lunch (on your own, at the troop campsite)
1:30-4:00pm	Program Block
4:00pm	Pioneering Camp Gadget Judging
5:00pm	Cooking Competition Adult Appetizer Judging
5:00-6:30pm	Dinner (on your own, at the troop campsite)
7:00pm	Cooking Competition Youth Dessert Judging
8:30pm	Campfire
11:00pm	Quiet Time

### **Sunday**

7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast (on your own, at the troop campsite)
8:30am	Chapel Service
9:00am	Flags and Awards
9:30am	Dismissal and Check out