Hello Scouts,

Thank you for coming to our joining night / crossover of the scouting 2022 year. Below are some basics on how a Troop is setup and operates!

If you are new to scouting welcome to the Troop 131 family, we are glad to have you join us. Below are a few bulletin points for you to remember:

***First Troop meeting for you & your scouts:***

***Date:***

***Place: St. Jude’s Church (Youth Room) 1515 N Greenville Ave Allen TX***

***Time: 7pm to 8:30pm***

***Extra Info: Stay for a welcome new parent meeting during that time.***

The Troop is different than the cubscout pack…. The scouts (boys) in a Troop run the program by having scout (boy) leaders and they make those program decisions thru voting during the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC). Adults (Committee members) are only there to guide the scouts (boys) when necessary during the PLC.

**1. Your child is a member of a Patrol**

A. Has four to eight scouts.

B. Patrols have a Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol leader.

**2. Your scout is a member of the Troop**

A. The Troop is boy led, by boy leaders elected by the Troop members

B. The Troop is made up of Patrols.

C. The Troop meets once a week every Tuesday from 7pm to 8:30pm at St. Jude’s church youth room ‐ all Scouts and parents are expected to attend.

D. Troop meetings are led by the SPL (Senior Patrol Leader).

E. Scouts are responsible to ask the scoutmaster or assistant scoutmasters to sign off on rank requirements weekly. They can work with an older scout to practice those requirements before talking to a scoutmaster / assistant scoutmaster.

F. Having a physical scoutbook from the scoutshop (in Fairview) is essential for the scout during all troop meetings and campouts.

G. Troop meetings include games, work on rank advancements, merit badge sessions, presentations and or a service project.

**3. PLC (Patrol Leader’s Council)**

A. The PLC meets every third Thursday of the month.

B. The PLC is made up of scout members of the Troop.

C. The PLC decides what activities will take place at each weekly troop meeting.

D. Any scout of the troop is welcome to attend the PLC meetings.

**4. Troop is advised by the Troop Committee**

A. Made up of at least 3 adults not registered in another Troop position

B. Meets once a month or more often if needed.

C. Led by a Committee Chairman.

D. The Committee is made up of adults that are registered with the troop (BSA)…. They usually have a scout in the troop but don’t have to.

E. Some of the Committee responsibilities include helping to select adult leadership, supervising finances and equipment, assisting the Scoutmaster and other adult leaders, ensuring that all scouts receive a year‐round, quality program, keeping advancement records, and helping train and recognize leaders.

We are always looking for adult volunteers to assist us in running the troop, so don’t be shy and come to one of our committee meetings on Zoom, the last Thursday of the month at 7pm.

Your Scoutmaster, and Committee Chairperson’s contact information are below:

Scoutmaster: Dave Patton (Thomas.d.patton1@gmail.com)

Committee Chair: Robert Thomas (rtct567@gmail.com)

We use scoutbook, (a BSA website), for tracking advancements, email communications about campouts, weekly troop meeting reminders, and other special events. If you have just joined us it will take a few weeks before you and your scout to show up in our system so until then we will communicate to you via email or you can listen to the end of troop meeting circle every Tuesday night to hear the most recent announcements.

If you have any further questions please feel free to reach out to myself or anyone on the contact sheet.

Yours in scouting,

Robert Thomas

Committee Chair Troop 131 Allen TX