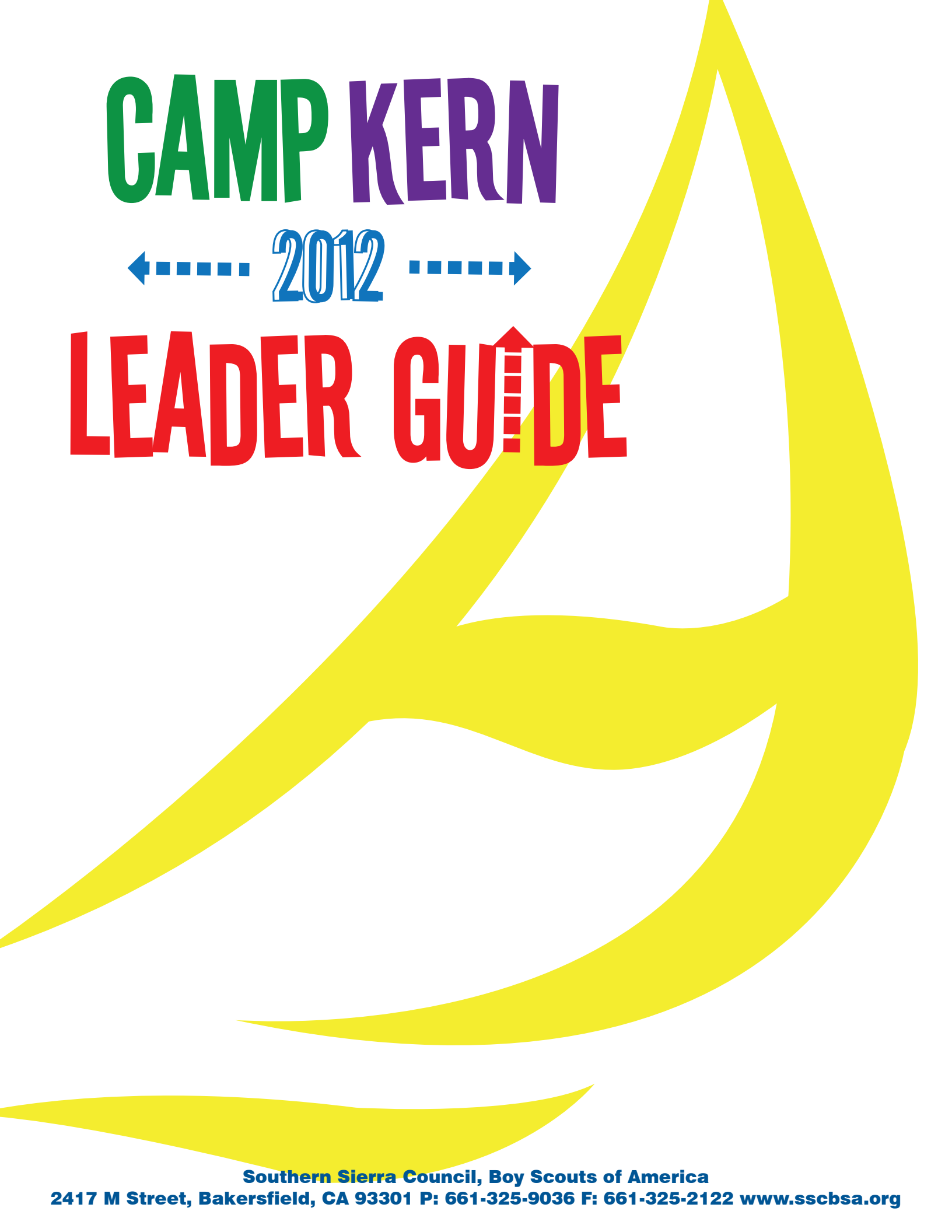


CAMP KERN

←..... 2012→

LEADER GUIDE





The Southern Sierra Council, Boy Scouts of America does not discriminate against any child or adult because of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap in becoming a member of the Boy Scouts of America.



Camp Kern is a Boy Scout resident summer camp operated by the Southern Sierra Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Camp Kern is a fully accredited camp certified by the Boy Scouts of America National Council and operates under strict guidelines established by the State of California, Fresno County and Huntington Lake Community Association.

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Other forms are available at www.sscbsa.org

THE SUMMER CAMP ADVENTURE

Every hike and overnight campout is a rehearsal for the biggest event of the Scouting year: the Unit's summer camp. A time when the whole gang sets out for a week of real honest-to-goodness, out-of-doors Scouting.

To a Scout, summer camp is the greatest adventure that Scouting can offer.

To you, the Unit Leader, summer camp is the greatest chance you have to get to know each of your boys, and by knowing him, help him to grow - to help him become physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Take a boy to camp and immediately you set out to work a multitude of influences. The activities of each camp day harden the muscles of his body. The sun tans his skin. The fresh air sweeps through his lungs. He picks up new Scoutcraft skills. He develops some of the resourcefulness and self-reliance of the pioneer. He learns teamwork and team play, learns to get along with other boys, to do his share in common duties.

Nature around him touches him deeply - the stillness of the forest, the freedom of the sky, the beauty of the sunset.

Life in camp has a way of bringing out the character traits of a boy, and the fact that you are there in camp with him, twenty-four hours a day, and can watch his reactions, gives you a clue as to what you can do for him.

You can give him, the shy boy confidence by encouraging him to mix with others. You can give the tongue-tied boy a chance to entertain the gang with a stunt at the campfire. You can confront the bully with the challenge to lend a hand to the boy he bullied; make the shirker realize that when he works for the good of his patrol he works for himself too; make the braggart see himself as others see him.

You can strengthen the unity of each patrol and bolster the leadership of each patrol leader by standing squarely behind him in his efforts.

The ideal method for Scout camping is Unit camping under the Unit's own leadership - its own Unit Leader, assistant unit leaders and the unit's youth leadership.

And Pack or Troop camping is simply the unit camping together - just as a Troop meeting is simply patrols meeting together, and the Pack meeting is simply Dens meeting together.

Good Camping!

WELCOME TO CAMP KERN

Welcome to beautiful Camp Kern located at Huntington Lake, one of the most famous sailing lakes in North America. Located 7,000 feet above the San Joaquin Valley in the high Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, the camp operates under a non-discriminatory special use permit issued by the USDA Forest Department.

About a four-hour drive from Bakersfield, California, Camp Kern offers more than a traditional Scout camp experience. Under the guidance of an experienced staff you will enjoy an outstanding program. This will be the summer camp experience to remember for the rest of your life. Once you have had a taste of Camp Kern, you will want to return year after year.

Camping in the outdoors is the highlight of the troop's annual program as Scouts apply the skills they have learned and practiced all year long. With hour-long Scout meetings each week, the average troop spends about 52 hours of Scouting in one year. One week at Camp Kern can provide 70 or more hours of concentrated programs. Summer camp is a years' worth of skill practice and adventure in seven days! It's no wonder you can't spell "Scouting" without "outing."

This leaders guidebook is designed to help you prepare for camp and to make your stay both easy and enjoyable. If there are any questions or concerns for you or your troop please feel free to contact the Southern Sierra Council office (661.325.9063) or Camp Kern (559.893.3387) after June 19, 2011. We will be happy to talk with you or answer any questions you might have about camp. We are excited to have you at Camp Kern and we will work to make it the best Boy Scout camp experience you have ever had.

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CAMP KERN

- Camp Kern experiences a broad range of weather conditions. Conditions can change from hot to cold, from dry to wet within a 24-hour period, so pack and dress appropriately. Keep in mind that some years have had snow at the beginning of the camp season.
- Depending on your scheduled week, the type of clothing you should bring may vary. Warm clothing is recommended for the morning and night, and lighter clothing during the day. Although we seldom experience rain, it is a good idea to be prepared. For updates on current weather conditions at Camp Kern, feel free to call us at 559.893.3387.
- There are no roads into camp; access is by boat only. All Scouts, leaders, gear, food, and supplies are transported to camp on our barges.
- Potable water for the camp comes from springs that have passed inspection by the Fresno County Health Department. As it comes straight from the mountain, Camp Kern's water is extremely fresh and tastes great!
- You will be camping in the wilderness, so you can expect to encounter spiders, ants, mosquitoes, and other insects. Be sure to bring insect repellent.
- The Kaiser Wilderness is also home to bears, deer, birds, squirrels, and other assorted wildlife. It is their home, and they will occasionally visit Camp Kern. Please be aware of your surroundings, always do activities with a buddy, and respect Mother Nature and the wildlife therein.
- We provide tents, and, in some cases, cabins for our campers. The assignment of campsites is completely logistical. That is to say, we assign campsites in a way which fits all troops in the best possible way. Please bring your own bedding. **It is highly recommended that you bring a comfortable bedroll, inflatable mattress, or sleeping pad. Cots are available for adult leaders only upon request.**

PREPARING FOR CAMP

Before you go to camp, certain promotional and informational data should be shared with the Scouts and parents in your unit.

SCOUTS

- ❖ What to bring
- ❖ What activities to prepare for
- ❖ What merit badges are offered & prerequisites

PATROLS

- ❖ Get Patrol Flag ready
- ❖ Sharpen skills for inter-patrol competition

PARENTS

- ❖ What are camp costs
- ❖ When fees are due
- ❖ Camp dates
- ❖ How to send mail
- ❖ How to contact camp for an emergency

UNIT LEADER

- ❖ Needs to know all of this and more
- ❖ Recruit transportation
- ❖ Recruit camp adult leadership
- ❖ Review **ALL** Medical forms for current signatures, dates, medicines your Scouts are taking and medical concerns
- ❖ Review **ALL** Firearms Permission Forms and know restrictions
- ❖ Know custody status of all Scouts

TROOP LEADERS

- ❖ Need to remember the advancement and activity goals set by their Troop Leader's Council and plan their participation accordingly.

Many Units hold a PARENTS INFORMATION MEETING a few months before camp. This meeting can take place at a Court of Honor, A Committee Meeting, or in place of a Unit meeting. It is here the details of camp are presented to the parents. Questions and Answers will take up a majority of the program. Do not expect to have all the answers, but assure the parents that a reply can be found either in this leader's guide, the camp specific guide or through the Council Service Center.

SUGGESTED AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Hand Out Information Sheet
3. Explain Date, Location, Costs
4. Explain Program Highlights
5. Describe Advancement Opportunities
6. Questions and Answers
7. Final Reminders and Adjourn

CAMP PROMOTIONAL IDEAS

- ❖ Encourage Webelos to cross-over in February, so that you may prepare them for camp.
- ❖ Have fundraising projects to help boys earn own camp fees.
- ❖ Initiate a program whereby boys who perform well in the Troop get a full or partial scholarship to camp.
- ❖ Invite former or current staff members to your Troop.
- ❖ Talk about the activities at camp to heighten interest.
- ❖ Have the Order of the Arrow Camp Promotion team make a presentation to your Troop.
- ❖ Review advancement goals of each boy and show them how they can meet these goals and still have fun at camp.

TIMELINE FOR PLANNING YOUR CAMP EXPERIENCE

By February 1:

- _____ 1. Inform all Scouts and their parents of your camp dates.
- _____ 2. Provide promotional information--video, presentation--at unit meeting.
- _____ 3. Recruit adult leaders for camp. Review Leadership Requirements in this book.
- _____ 4. Schedule Youth Protection training for all adults attending camp.
- _____ 5. Note camp fee payment deadlines.
- _____ 6. Assemble individual Scout/Adult packets from forms section and distribute to each camper. Parents update medical form/schedule physical exam as needed.

By March 30:

- _____ 1. Review program guide for specific camp.
- _____ 2. Begin working on any additional program items for camp--skits, flag, songs, etc.

By May 1:

- _____ 1. Plan for the adult leaders attending camp to attend pre-camp meeting.
- _____ 2. Inspect pack equipment and program items for camp.
- _____ 3. Coordinate transportation to and from camp.

One month before camp:

- _____ 1. Turn in Tour Plan to your local Council Service Center for processing.
- _____ 2. Collect permission slips for travel to and from camp.
- _____ 3. Collect medical forms for each Scout/adult as required. It is recommended that **copies** be taken to camp; parents should keep the originals for future use.
- _____ 4. Notify Council Camping Registrar **in writing** of Scouts with medical/dietary restrictions.
- _____ 5. Complete camp specific program forms as required.
- _____ 6. Collect Camper Early Release Forms for all Scouts attending camp.

One week before camp:

- _____ 1. Final check on transportation.
- _____ 2. Prepare 3 copies of your camp roster (one for the Director, one for the Medical Staff and one for yourself)
- _____ 3. Inspect individual and pack gear.
- _____ 4. Remind campers to bring a sack lunch or money for lunch to and from camp.
- _____ 5. Review items on Unit Leader Arrival Day Checklist.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CAMP CONTACTS

Throughout the process of preparing for camp, you may need to contact individuals associated with Camp Kern. The following is a list of whom to contact and the best way to reach them:

Camp Registrar: Carolyn Zullo Phone: 661-325-9036 Fax: 661-325-2122
E-mail: czullo@bsamail.org

Camp Director: David Hopkins Phone: 801-589-0587
E-mail: dave@campworksinc.com

Camp Kern Website: www.sscbsa.org (click on "Council Camps")

Camp Phone Numbers: (June 24 – Aug. 11 only)
Business phone: 559-893-3387
Fax: 559-934-4202

Camp Mailing Address:
Scout / Adult Leader Name
Troop Number / Week #
Camp Kern, B.S.A.
PO Box 348
Lakeshore, CA 93634

Camp Emergency Phone Number: 661-325-9036 ext. 110, 111

2012 SESSION DATES

Week 1:	July 1 – 7	Week 4:	July 22 – 28
Week 2:	July 9 – 14	Week 5:	July 29 – August 4
Week 3:	July 15 – 21	Week 6:	August 5 – August 11

CAMP FEES

Youth:	\$350	(Out of Council	\$360)
First 2 Adults:	\$130	(Out of Council	\$130)
Additional Adults	\$350	(Out of Council	\$360)

Adults who replace leaders during the week can share fees. Adults coming to camp who do not replace a leader in their troop are charged at a rate of **\$65 per day**, to be paid in the business office upon arrival. This price includes room, board, and use of camp facility. Please notify Camp Kern of all leadership changes.

CAMP FEE DISCOUNTS

Sibling	\$10 off the second and third brothers who attend together ; this discount is given at time of final payment.
In Council	\$10 off per person (Scouts and additional leaders) if final payment is paid in full by April 15, 2012; this discount is given at time of final payment.
Out of Council	\$10 off per person (Scouts and additional leaders) if troop attended Camp Kern in 2011; this discount is given at time of final payment.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Camp Reservation \$150.00 per unit, per camp session

January 13, 2012 Camper Confirmation of \$50.00 per youth/Adult

February 24, 2012 \$150 per camper and additional leader, plus \$75 per 2 adult leaders due

April 20, 2012 Remaining Troop Balance Due

April 23, 2012 \$30.00 Late Fee per camper not paid in full

CAMPERSHIPS

A Scout is Thrifty and as such is encouraged to do all he can to help pay his way to camp. At times, however, it is difficult for a Scout and his family to raise the full fee for summer camp. Limited financial help is available from the Southern Sierra Council on an individual basis for Scouts who could not otherwise go to camp due to financial hardships. Scoutmasters in the Southern Sierra Council who know of any youth with a legitimate need for financial help are encouraged to help that Scout apply for a Campership. The Campership Application is available on the council website. Camperships are available for *youth members of the Southern Sierra Council only*.

REFUNDS

The \$150.00 reservation deposit is non-refundable.

Because the Southern Sierra Council must begin making financial commitments for staff, supplies, etc. many months prior to the camp sessions, all participants are required to make a financial commitment to summer camp of at least \$50.00 by the deposit deadline. This per person camper confirmation deposit is non-refundable, but may be applied to an *additional* camper from the same unit, as long as the total number of youth scheduled to attend does not decrease.

If the camper confirmation deposit is not made by the deposit deadline, the unit will be charged in full for the number of reservations claimed on the original camp reservation.

The Council reserves the right to cancel the reservation if payments are not received in full by each of the payment schedule dates, and to adjust campsites or to add another unit to the campsite if campsite capacity is not met by the number of camper confirmation payments.

All fees become non-refundable after the full payment deadline. Individual fees, however, may be refunded at the discretion of the Southern Sierra Council in the following cases:

- camper/family emergency - serious illness, death or out-of-the-area relocation
- required summer school during the camp session

There will be a cancellation fee of \$150.00 per camper; no exceptions.

Only the Unit Contact Person may make a refund request. Please provide the following information.

- unit type and number and district
- name of camp attended
- camp session attended
- reason for refund

Refund requests must be received at the Council Service Center in Bakersfield no later than **August 31st**. No refunds will be considered for requests received after this date. Refunds will be made payable to the unit only. **It is the responsibility of the unit leadership to understand and abide by the Council Refund and Resident Camp Fee policies.**

BOY SCOUT PROVISIONAL CAMPING

Scouts who cannot attend camp with their unit **or** who want an extra week at camp **or** units unable to provide two deep adult leadership will become members of the provisional troop. Individual Scouts are encouraged to attend with a friend. Scouts attending with friends will be assigned to the same unit and site. You will still need to pay camp fees as above, just indicate on the application that you are a provisional camper or unit.

CAPACITY POLICY

PLEASE, if your camper numbers increase (or decrease) please notify the camp registrar and/or the Camp Director IMMEDIATELY. The US Forest Service limits camp properties to a certain number of campers per session. Increasing or decreasing the total number of campers affects every troop in camp that week. Every attempt will be made to place your troop in a larger campsite, but a larger site cannot be guaranteed and you may have to bring the extra tents necessary to accommodate the additional campers. **Please be considerate when adding additional campers by informing the Camp Registrar or Camp Director at least 2 weeks before your scheduled session.**

VISITORS TO CAMP

- ❖ Visitors are welcome at any time. However, certain days (such as the last full day of the session) will serve better than others.
- ❖ All visitors must check in with the Camp Office upon arrival.
- ❖ Guest meals are available for a modest fee.
- ❖ Siblings and friends are not allowed at camp without prior permission. **They do not participate in program activities.**
- ❖ No pets allowed in camp, except for Seeing Eye dogs.

LEADERS MAY NOT BRING THEIR CHILDREN IF THEY ARE NOT A REGISTERED MEMBER OF A UNIT THAT IS ATTENDING CAMP THAT WEEK.

Scouts are not allowed to leave camp with any person unless the parent or guardian who has legal custody has granted permission. Unit leaders are advised to know the custody status of all Scouts.

MAIL SERVICE

You may receive mail at Camp Kern from friends and family. Please encourage them to mail these things well in advance of your time at camp to ensure their arrival during your scheduled week. Mail should be sent via the United States Postal Service to:

**Scout Name
Unit Number (Week Number)
Camp Kern
PO Box 348
Lakeshore, CA 93634**

*Mail that is not picked up by troop members will be returned to the sender or to the Southern Sierra Council office.

ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

TRAVELING TO CAMP

Each unit is responsible for furnishing its own transportation to and from camp. Each Scout must have a signed Parent Authorization for Trip/Activity Medical Treatment for travel to and from camp. This signed form should be given to the driver of the vehicle in which that Scout rides, and collected by the unit leader on arrival at camp.

Traveling to camp in caravans is discouraged. Arranging for several checkpoints en route is preferable. Use cell telephones or CB radios in the front and rear vehicles to maintain contact during the trip. Most importantly, make sure all everyone has had a good meal and plenty of rest before making the trip to camp. Units traveling distances of more than two hours should plan at least one rest stop on their way to camp. Remember, in most cases the first meal the Scout will have could be as much as six hours after arrival at camp. Make sure your Scouts are physically prepared for the day.

Under NO circumstances are youth or adults to ride in the backs of trucks, trailers, or campers.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

The shortest route from Southern California runs north on Highways 99. Take the Kingsburg off-ramp and travel north through Kingsburg, continuing through Sanger to Highway 168. Turn right on Highway 168. From Northern California, take Highway 99 to the Herndon Avenue exit east to Highway 168.

Follow Highway 168 east for about 90 minutes through the town of Prather and Shaver Lake all the way to Huntington Lake. Be sure to follow the road to the north end of the lake past China Peak Ski Resort. Once you see the ski resort sign, you are almost there. Continue about ¼ mile along the north shore of Huntington Lake, and just past the Rancheria Marina and turn left into the Boy Scout parking area. If you pass the U.S. Post Office, you have gone about a quarter mile too far. The staff will be there to welcome you to the parking area and help get your luggage loaded onto the barge beginning at **2:30 pm**.

Please plan to arrive at the Boy Scout landing by **2:00 pm** on Sunday. Your punctuality allows for a smooth check-in process. Parking passes will be issued to vehicles that will be parking in the BSA parking lot. In cases of high camper attendance, parking spaces may be limited. In cases such as these, any excess cars will be relocated to an overflow lot about a mile away. Barge loading will be done under the direction of our staff and according to available space. We will do all we can to get everyone to camp in a swift manner. Each barge is filled with campers and equipment to maximize each trip across the lake. **If you know you will not be arriving on-time due to car troubles, traffic, or other reasons, please notify the camp at (559) 893-3387.**

PARKING

Vehicle parking is restricted to the Boy Scout parking lot only. The parking lot has limited space and is shared with another Scout property. Where possible, please back into parking spaces. **DO NOT** park in the Rancheria Marina parking areas. Your vehicle may be ticketed or towed at the owner's expense.

PACKING YOUR GEAR

We recommend one bag per person, and that it is a backpack, military style duffel bag, or another type of soft bag. No personal equipment should be attached to the outside of bags. Please do not pack items that could break easily. All fishing poles should be well-marked in a separate, hard case.

Luggage will likely pass through many hands before it ends up in your campsite, so it is **extremely important** that your entire luggage is clearly marked with at least your unit number. It might not be a bad idea to include contact information, as well. Any personal items that are left at Camp Kern will be taken to the Southern Sierra Council office. Camp Kern and/or the Southern Sierra Council cannot be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged articles while in transport or while in camp.

Note: Do not pack medical forms, fee payment receipts, or other check-in materials (e.g. troop rosters, merit badge sign-up sheets, etc). Every Scoutmaster should carry these items with them into camp.

MONDAY ARRIVAL

Troops that are traveling to camp on Monday must notify the Southern Sierra Council office with their intention to do so. Please be at the Camp Kern parking lot no later than 8:00 am. This will allow for a smooth check-in process. If you know you are not going to arrive on-time due to car troubles, traffic, or other reasons, please notify the camp at 559.893.3387.

SATURDAY ARRIVAL & ACCOMMODATIONS

In order to give the staff adequate time off, Camp Kern cannot facilitate troops arriving on Saturday. If you are planning on arriving on Saturday, you will need to make arrangements at one of the public campgrounds across the lake. There are seven public campgrounds at Huntington Lake which include: Upper Billy Creek, Lower Billy Creek, Catavee, Deer Creek, Kinnikinnick, College and Rancheria. At Badger Flat above Huntington Lake is a group campsite which is available to reserve. You can make reservations at www.recreation.gov or by phoning 1-877-444-6777. Reservations must be made at least one day in advance.

CHECKING OUT OF CAMP

During your week at camp, troop leaders may want to leave camp to visit the town of Lakeshore. Camp Kern requires the following when adults leave camp:

1. Adequate adult leadership remains in camp to supervise the troop. Note: the two-deep leadership policy must always be followed.
2. Persons who are leaving must sign out on the provided check-in/check-out sheet in the program office. This will allow us to account for people who are out of camp. Please remember to check-in when you return to camp.
3. Alcoholic beverages should not be purchased while in town, as they will not be allowed back into camp. Furthermore, any persons showing any signs of intoxication will be expelled from camp.

CAMP FACILITIES

CAMPSITES

Each campsite is supplied with the following equipment:

Wood platforms and canvas tents	Flag Pole
Shovel, rake, broom, hose, fire bucket	Picnic Table
Campfire pit and fire tools	Water
Bulletin board	

Equipment each unit should bring:

Lantern (battery, propane/butane or gas)	Insect repellent (non-aerosol)
First aid kit	Pushpins for your bulletin board
Patrol flags	Skits, songs and stunts for campsite campfire time
American Flag	Tablecloth or cover
Unit flag	Cots (provided for leaders only)
Air mattresses	

TRADING POST

The Camp Kern trading post, ran by our friendly and courteous staff, is stocked with a wide variety of program supplies, souvenir t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, patches, pocketknives and much more. We carry general camping supplies, personal hygiene items, and an excellent selection of snacks and beverages. We encourage each Scout to bring an adequate amount of spending money. The trading post is open every day and the average Scout will spend \$50-\$75 throughout the course of the week. Trading post hours will be posted and announced regularly at camp.

It is suggested that each unit have one or more adults acting as bankers, holding and disbursing money to each Scout as needed. They can also ensure that money allocated by the parent for a T-shirt or hat is used to make that purchase.

SHOWER AND RESTROOM FACILITIES

Showers and restrooms are available for all campers at any time, but should be used before quiet time. These facilities consist of individual, lockable units which allow them to be used by both Scouts and adult leaders alike. We ask for your help in maintaining the good condition of our restrooms and showers by treating them with respect and immediately reporting any malfunctions to the staff. In keeping with youth protection guidelines, adults should be aware of their troop's behavior and maintain discipline by providing supervision while the boys are at the shower units. If there are any difficulties with other campers, please contact the staff. **Due to the sensitive nature of our septic system, Units are prohibited from bringing their own toilet paper and paper towels to camp.**

LAUNDRY FACILITIES

There are no laundry facilities available for campers at Camp Kern. There are, however, staff laundry facilities onsite. Should a camper have an "accident" or another reasonable cause, special arrangements may be made to ensure a safe and sanitary environment.

DINING HALL

We eat “cafeteria style” at Camp Kern. Everyone in the troop will have a chance to play an active role in food service during the week. Depending on the number of campers at Camp Kern during the week, the camp may be divided into two meal shifts. Each meal shift will gather at the assembly area for grace. From there, troops will be dismissed one by one, in a predetermined order, into the dining hall. Troops will sit at their assigned tables for the entire week. Troops will be joined by their troop friends at each meal. If you are sharing a table with another Troop, please work out a waiter rotation schedule with them.

WAITER DUTY

We ask that you provide one waiter for every table that is assigned to your troop. The duties of the waiters are as follows:

1. Report to the dining hall fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled mealtime **with washed hands**.
2. Set table with appropriate condiments and refresh them throughout the meal.
3. Wipe down table and clean area around table after the troop has eaten.
4. Accept further direction from the dining hall staff.

Please assign one adult per troop per day to supervise the clean up after meals.

PHONES AND PHONE USE

Outgoing personal calls are not allowed on the camp telephone except in the case of an emergency. Some cellular service providers have excellent coverage at Camp Kern, namely Verizon and Sprint; AT&T does work in limited parts of camp. Please check with your service provider to determine whether you have coverage in this area.

There is no public phone available. If campers wish to contact their parents they need to use either their own or one of their adult leaders' cell phones. Any leader bringing a cell phone can charge it in the business office on the power strip provided. Do not bring your own power strip. All leaders charging cell phones do so at their own risk. Camp Kern is not responsible for cell phones that are lost or stolen. Although we leave it to your discretion, we recommend that Scouts do not bring cell phones to camp.

INTERNET AND COMPUTER USE

The Camp Kern program office computer is for business use only. There is no internet access available to campers. There is, however, free wireless internet access at a local restaurant across the lake. In the case that you need internet access, we can barge you to the Scout parking lot from which you can drive to the restaurant.

CAMPSITE PROCEDURE

The campsite is your unit home at while at camp. Your troop friend and commissioner will be available to assist you if necessary. The troop's conduct while in the site is the adult leaders' responsibility. Please instruct your Scouts to respect the other Scouts and troop campsites. Do not enter them unless invited. Failure to respect other troop campsites and personal belongings could result in individual or troop expulsion from camp. Control noise, respect quiet hours, and leave other people's personal property alone. Damage to tents and campsite equipment will be charged to the Scout troop to which the responsible person(s) belongs.

DAMAGED EQUIPMENT

It is expected that Scouts will properly take care of all equipment they use. Sometimes, however, equipment gets damaged and needs to be repaired or replaced. If members of your troop damage camp equipment due to misuse or negligence, the cost of repairing or replacing any damaged equipment is expected to be settled before your unit leaves camp. Please see below the base chart of fee charges for major items.

Please report any damage of camp equipment to your commissioner. In the event damages are discovered after your departure from camp, an invoice will be sent to your unit for payment. When a Scout causes damage, whether it is intentional or not, it will be charged to the Scout or troop. Please see the infraction and cost grid below of some of the most commonly damaged items at camp.

If you find something that needs to be repaired in your campsite, please notify your troop friend or commissioner, and they will notify the ranger staff. Our ranger staff prides themselves on meeting your needs in a timely fashion.

DAMAGED ITEM	ESTIMATED COST AND FEES
TOILET	\$300.00 (Toilet is \$125.00 plus \$175.00 installation)
BATHROOM DOOR (METAL)	\$250.00 (\$125.00 metal door plus \$125.00 installation)
TENT DAMAGE	\$300.00-\$600.00 (to repair or replace tent)
CABIN DAMAGE	UP TO \$5000.00 (depending on damage caused)
CAMP EQUIPMENT OR LOSS OF	Cost of item plus a \$75.00 fee

These are just examples of the typical types of damage found at camp. Items not listed here will be dealt with on an individual basis. The camp director will determine all repair and replacement fees according to professional estimates.

POLICY INFORMATION

QUIET HOURS

All campers will be provided with at least eight hours of quiet time. Between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am, each day we ask that you enforce this quiet period. If there is a problem in your campsite or with campers from another troop, please notify a commissioner. Please do not take matters into your own hands. Let the staff deal with such problems.

DUTY TO GOD

The Boy Scouts of America is an *all-denominational* organization, which encourages each member to actively participate in his religious beliefs and responsibilities as he sees fit. Camp Kern has a chaplain on duty and a chapel for Scouts, individuals, or groups to use for religious worship. An *all-denominational* religious service is a highlight of our Sunday evening program, and all Scouts are encouraged to attend. Grace will be said before each meal, and many campers will have an opportunity to participate. Please let your Scouts know they should feel free to pray as is their custom, and remind them of the importance of showing respect for all forms and traditions of prayer.

TOUR PLANS

Out of Council units must file a Tour Plan Application. Contact your local Scout office for the proper form and further information. This plan protects the troops as they travel on outings throughout the country. A copy of the tour plan will be asked to be shown upon check-in. The unit leader needs to hold on to the tour plan in case they leave camp with their Scouts for any reason.

Southern Sierra Council units do not need to file tour plans to attend Camp Kern.

INSURANCE

Every unit attending camp **must** be covered by some type of accident and sickness insurance plan. All units registered in the Southern Sierra Council are covered under the BSA Campers' Accident and Sickness insurance plan. Some Councils also provide this insurance to their registered units, others offer the insurance to their units at a small fee. Some units are covered by their chartered partner.

All units from Councils other than the Southern Sierra Council must provide proof of Accident and Sickness insurance to the Camp Registrar no later than June 1st. **If proof is not received by June 1st, the Southern Sierra Council will purchase the BSA Campers' Accident and Sickness insurance for the unit at a cost to the unit of \$1.00 per person per day. The cost will be billed to the unit.**

LEADERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ The role of adult leaders at summer camp is very important. In planning, supervising, teaching, and participating, their influence and support is critical. Start recruiting your leaders early and have alternates standing by, in case of emergency or inclement events.
- ◆ Each unit is required to have at least two adult leaders. The recommended ratio is one adult for every eight to ten Boy Scouts.
- ◆ The unit leader at camp must be a registered adult Scouter at least 21 years of age, preferably the unit's year-round leader or assistant leader.
- ◆ The second adult may be a registered Scouter, 18 years old or older, or the parent of a participating Scout.

LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

Adult supervision is a critical component of a successful youth program. The leadership and guidance you provide your Scouts during your stay will keep much safe and enhance their overall camping experience. We ask our staff to lead by example specifically by living Scout Oath and Scout Law, and we would ask that Scouts and adult leaders do the same.

- ◆ Adults should know where the Scouts are and should sit with the boys at meals and monitor the Scouts' behavior: Whittling on trees and "sword fighting" with sticks are unacceptable.
- ◆ Activity areas requiring specialized supervision--such as the waterfront, archery range and rifle range--are supervised by qualified, certified adult staff members. Any program supervisor may request the assistance of adult leaders.
- ◆ Enforce the buddy system: **Scouts are not to go off by themselves.**
- ◆ Damage to camp property is not tolerated. Southern Sierra Council expects full restitution, including the full cost of materials, labor, and other costs related to replacement or repairs.
- ◆ Unit leaders must follow instructions under "YOUTH LEAVING CAMP PROPERTY" section of this guide for any youth needing to leave camp early.
- ◆ It is the responsibility of the unit leader to inform the camp, in writing, of the physical or mental disabilities of any youth or adult camper, so that the camp can provide proper accommodations.
- ◆ Please help us follow all written, spoken, and implied rules and regulations as they are in place to protect the children, adults, staff, facility, equipment, property, and the environment.

MALE AND FEMALE SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

- All leaders are expected to reflect high moral standards established by custom, traditional values, and religious teachings.
- Male and female leaders require separate sleeping facilities. Married couples may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available.

YOUTH PROTECTION

All adults participating with their unit at camp must be trained and listed on the Youth Protection Training Form. Each unit is responsible for making sure all adults receive this training before arrival. Contact your district training chair for assistance.

The Youth Protection policies of the Boy Scouts of America begin with selecting the best possible leaders. The following policies provide additional security for boys in the program and protect adult leaders against false allegations of abuse.

- ◆ **Two deep leadership.** Two registered adult leaders or one registered adult leader and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age, are required on all trips and outings. The chartered organization is responsible for ensuring that sufficient leadership is provided for all activities.
- ◆ **No one-on-one contact.** One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, the meeting should take place in view of other adults and youth.
- ◆ **Respect of privacy.** Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes or taking showers at camp. Adults should intrude only to the extent that health and safety requires. They should also protect their own privacy in similar situations.
- ◆ **Separate accommodations.** When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in a tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian.

- ◆ **Proper preparation for activities.** All activities should take into consideration the capabilities of the participating Scouts. No activity should be undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures.
- ◆ **No secret organizations.** The Boy Scouts of America does not recognize any secret organization as part of its program. All activities are open to observation by parents and leaders.
- ◆ **Appropriate attire.** Proper clothing for activities is required--for example, skinny-dipping is not appropriate in Scouting.
- ◆ **Constructive discipline.** Discipline used in Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.
- ◆ **Hazing prohibited.** Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.

YOUTH LEAVING CAMP PROPERTY

Once a boy has checked into camp he is not authorized to leave the property except in an emergency or if he is participating in a camp program. Authorization can be granted for a boy to be picked up by a parent or family member using the following guidelines:

- ◆ The Camp Director must be notified in writing from the parent or guardian having custody of the child through the Scout leader in charge of the unit upon check-in. If a camper is to be picked up before the end of the camping session, this notification must also say who is authorized to pick up the child. The Camper Early Release Form must be filled out completely and signed.
- ◆ Upon arrival of the adult having permission to pick up the camper from the camp, the adult must check in with the Camp Director at the camp office.
- ◆ The Camp Director will notify the adult leader of the unit who will verify whether this is the correct adult to pick up the camper.
- ◆ If the adult picking up the camper is the correct person confirmed by the adult unit leader, the boy will then be contacted and released to the adult by the Camp Director.
- ◆ If an adult camp leader is taking a boy home during the camp week, he must check out with the Camp Director and must inform the Camp Director upon his return to camp. If the child is not directly related to the adult leader, two-deep leadership guidelines as stated in the youth protection training must be followed. Upon returning to the camp property, the adult leader must check in with the Camp Director.

Note: Parents should be encouraged not to pick up a child until the conclusion of the total session program, usually following breakfast on the last day of camp.

The Camp Director will require the unit leader to complete the Camper Early Release Form when emergency situations occur, such as death in the family or serious injuries.

Verification of authorized persons to remove campers in case of emergencies shall be by telephone with the youth's parent or legal guardian. The Camper Early Release Form shall be kept as a part of the camp's permanent file. In the absence of the Camp Director, the Assistant Camp Director, Business Manager or Camp Program Director shall coordinate the early release of a camper. The above listed camp personnel shall be trained by the Camp Director.

CAMP HEALTH

MEDICAL INFORMATION

All participants who come to camp **must** have a current BSA Annual Health and Medical History. Medical evaluation must be performed by a physician licensed to practice medicine and must be current within 12 months (BSA Annual Health and Medical History form can be downloaded from the Southern Sierra Council website). The approved medical form also contains an authorization form for medical treatment. The parent of all minors **must** sign this medical form. All Scouts and adults will go through medical rechecks and evaluations by the camp health officer during the swim-check process.

All troops should bring a complete first aid kit with them for minor injuries. Appoint an adult in the troop as the medic whose primary responsibility is to take care of Scouts with headaches, coughs, scrapes, minor cuts, and bruises, etc.

Each troop is required to carry adequate and proper liability and health insurance. Please prepare to verify that each camper is protected and brings a copy of his insurance card or numbers in case of an emergency while at camp. Troops and Crews who are not members of the Southern Sierra Council must bring proof of accident and sickness insurance from their local council.

Our Health Lodge is equipped with supplies to handle most injuries in camp. A licensed first responder, EMT, nurse, or physician will usually be on site 24-hours a day to handle such emergencies. Serious injuries, which require immediate advanced medical support, will be handled by the paramedics at Lakeshore, who are never more than 10 minutes away from Camp Kern. For less serious injuries, but which still require medical attention, troop and unit leaders will be responsible for transporting the injured person to the nearest medical treatment facility.

Practitioners of the Christian Science faith must provide the camp with a written letter from the practitioner.

NO MEDICAL EXAMINATION – NO CAMP!!!! NO EXCEPTIONS!

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

There are three options regarding dispensation of prescription medications at camp.

- Parents at camp are entitled to distribute medication to their own children.
- An adult who is designated as the troop medic can be responsible for dispensing troop medications.
- If you would like, the camp medical officer will assume the responsibility of dispensing medication.

In any case, all troop medications should be locked up in a container which is accessible to adults only. Any medications that require refrigeration must be checked with and dispensed by the camp health officer. Medications such as inhalers, EpiPens, insulin, etc. should be carried on the person who uses the medication

In an effort to make the administration of medication as smooth as possible, we ask that you have parents fill out the attached medical administration form. If the health officer will be dispensing your troops' medications, this form must be turned in upon arrival at camp.

FIRST AID

The Health Lodge is designed to meet the medical emergency needs of our campers. All injuries will be reported and properly recorded. We are ready with emergency support and will make necessary contact with the emergency medical response team in Lakeshore in cases that require such medical attention. Due to the high cost of over-the-counter medicine, such medicines will only be distributed from the health lodge in emergency situations. Persons who have non-emergency medical situations will be sent to their troop medic for assistance. Some medications for common ailments (i.e. colds, headaches, sore throats, coughs, etc) will be sold in the trading post, but it is highly recommended that all troops come to camp equipped with a well-stocked first-aid kit. Over the counter medicine will be sold to adults only.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Scouts with special medical concerns:

- ◆ Must have a written record of the nature of ongoing treatment and care.
- ◆ May be required to have a parent accompany the Scout to camp.

Special dietary needs of Scouts or adults: If you have special dietary needs, such as allergies or religious observances, while at camp, please let us know in writing and/or by telephone at least two weeks before your arrival. We are happy to do what we can to meet your needs; however, since food is purchased in large quantities, those with very restrictive diets (e.g. gluten allergies) will need to make arrangements to bring specialty items to camp. Arrangements will be made to store and prepare foods brought to camp for those individuals

Religious Waivers: in keeping with established policy, it is understood that there may be instances where the medical examination policy is in violation of the religious convictions of the individual. The requirement is waived with a written statement from the camper/camper's parents and proper church officials that a definite violation of religious conviction is involved.

PREVENTING HOMESICKNESS

One of the biggest problems for Scouts attending camp may be that of homesickness! Each family can be of great assistance to the unit leaders by stressing to their Scouts the fun they will have, the new friends they will meet, the fantastic Scouting adventure they will experience, and the achievements they will conquer! Family members should not mention how much they will miss the boys or that the boys will miss mom or dad, TV or video games.

Scouts will be kept busy with a variety of activities and the unit leaders and camp staff will look for signs of homesickness. The staff can be especially helpful in case of homesickness so that each boy will be able to remain in camp and have a positive experience.

Another problem associated with homesickness is caused when a boy telephones home. Once a boy talks to mom or dad, if he was not homesick there is a good chance he will be after calling. Please have parents discourage their sons from telephoning home, except in an emergency. If the boy insists on telephoning home from camp, he should get permission from his unit leader. When unit leaders receive such requests, they should discuss the situation with a commissioner before allowing the boy to use the telephone.

CAMP SAFETY

For the well-being of Scouts, leaders, and parents at camp, the camp staff encourages the following important practices:

CAMPSITE COURTESY

The campsite and the camp is your troop/unit home during the week. Your troop friend and commissioner are in camp to serve you; however, **troop conduct is always the responsibility of the adult leadership in the unit.** Please instruct your Scouts to respect the campsites of others. Do not enter them unless invited. Control noise, respect quiet hours, and leave other people's personal property alone.

During sessions with a large number of campers, it may be necessary for different troops to share the same campsite. In cases such as these, we ask for your understanding and help in maintaining a spirit of brotherhood and camaraderie in the campsite.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AND INFORMATION

As part of the first flag ceremony, the camp will demonstrate the camp's emergency alarm system, the Camp Kern bell. Any other alarms during the week will signify an actual emergency. If you hear the alarm, proceed to the assembly area, join your troop, and account for everyone therein. Further instructions will be disseminated at the assembly area. Be sure that your troop discusses and understands what to do in case of emergencies.

ECOLOGY

1. **Animal Conservation:** Please make certain that all Troop members understand the delicate balance of plant and animal life at Camp Kern and the Sierra National Forest. Everyone should do their best to ensure that all wildlife is treated with respect. Please walk only on designated trails and roads.
2. **Pets:** No pets of any kind should be brought to camp.
3. **Plant Conservation:** The vegetative life in the forest sustains a very fragile ecosystem. Please make every effort to stay on the trails. Do not pick the flowers or collect specimens unless directed to do so under the direction of a staff member. Do not use living, natural materials for camp construction projects. The trees are a particularly special part of Camp Kern. Please do not climb, carve into, hang items from, or do anything else that could damage them.
4. **Fire:** The smallest spark could potentially be a deadly threat to wildlife and campers alike. Please be responsible when handling or managing your campfire. No fireworks are allowed in camp.

Please help us keep the campers on the designated roads and trails, as this will help conserve the natural habitat and beauty of Camp Kern!

AXE YARD AND WOOD CUTTING

Upon arrival at your campsite, designate a safe area to cut wood, and construct an ax yard. All woodcutting must be done in this area. Please bring your own axes and hatchets to camp.

LIGHTNING

Thunderstorms storms occasionally strike Camp Kern. The waterfront and shooting ranges will be closed when lightning presents a considerable danger. During severe weather, stay away from tall trees and wires. Head for cover and follow the direction of the staff. For more information about how to handle inclement weather, see the BSA's Weather Hazards training at myScouting.org.

WATER

Conservation and wise use of water is a top priority at Camp Kern. We ask for your help in conserving water by taking short showers and turning faucets all the way off. Please stress this with your Scouts.

BEAR COUNTRY

Camp Kern is situated in a beautiful corner of the Sierra National Forest with a number of local animals and trees. One of the most spectacular and misunderstood of these creatures is the California Black Bear, several of which live near Huntington Lake. It is important for troops to remember that they are visitors in the bears' natural habitat and should act accordingly. In particular, Scouts and leaders should avoid keeping food or other attractants in their campsites. All attractants such as deodorant, toothpaste, and food products must be kept in a "bear-proof" (specifically designed for storing attractants) container or in the dining hall each night.

PERSONAL SAFETY

- ◆ Wear shoes at all times (except in the showers where beach thongs are recommended). An old pair of shoes or "water socks" may be worn at the waterfront to protect your feet.
- ◆ Do not run unless it is part of a program activity. Stay on the trails and out of the non-staffed program areas.
- ◆ Do not walk on or dislodge rock or wood trail outlines or markers.
- ◆ Please respect the privacy of the camp staff by staying out of their living areas.
- ◆ Do not throw rocks, sticks, pine cones, or other objects, except in designated areas.
- ◆ Report any maintenance problems to the Maintenance Director or Camp Director immediately.
- ◆ Do not leave food, candy, etc. in tents or unit campsites at night. Food smells attract unwanted camp visitors.
- ◆ The camp operates on the buddy system. Scouts should always be with at least one other Scout, including in the tent at bedtime.
- ◆ Help keep camp clean; leave camp better than you found it. Put all trash in garbage cans.

AQUATICS SAFETY

- ◆ Aquatic areas are under the supervision of adults certified by the BSA National Camp School at all times.
- ◆ The Safe Swim Defense plan and Safety Afloat principles are followed at all times on the waterfront. Swim checks are required of all Scouts and Scouters before participating in aquatic activities. All aquatic activities follow the buddy system. Scouts are paired within the same ability groups.
- ◆ The aquatics program is primarily recreational. Boating activities (canoes, rowboats) are limited and operate under the guidelines of Safety Afloat.
- ◆ Scout adult leaders are required to take Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training prior to any unit activity involving aquatics outside of Scout resident camp. For your convenience, these two training courses may be offered at camp.

FIRE SAFETY

Fire always presents a danger to the Sierras. For that reason, we ask that Scouts and Leaders pledge to be careful with fire by adhering to the following guidelines:

1. Campfires in unit sites must be under adult supervision at all times--fires must be dead out after use.
2. Scouts are not allowed to play with matches, lighters, or hot sparks.
3. Fires must always be kept at a reasonable height (approximately 24") and contained within the designated campfire rings. Please do not build new campfire rings.
4. Fires must always be managed safely under the direction of the designated troop fire warden. **All troops must fill out and post the fire guard chart provided by the camp.**
5. Adults wishing to smoke must only do so in specially designated areas away from the Scouts. Do not smoke while hiking, or in any camp building or activity area.
6. Flames from any source are not permitted in tents or within 10 feet of tents. Only battery operated lanterns or flashlights are allowed. All tents must be posted with "NO FLAMES IN TENTS".
7. If a fire starts in a tent, exit immediately and collapse the tent poles inward.
8. A Forest Service Campfire Permit, available from a ranger station or Forest Service Officer, is required for any campfire off camp property.
9. Fire drills are held during each session, in accordance with state law. Upon hearing the alarm, all Scouts must report immediately to the camp designated assembly area. Adult leaders then report to the Camp Director or staff designee that the unit is present and everyone is accounted for.
10. Never remove the fire tools from your campsite.
11. In case of fire, the central alarm system or camp staff member will notify you.

SHOOTING SPORTS SAFETY

Field sports training teaches skills, discipline, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and conservation--all elements of character that Scout leaders try to instill. Objectives to be learned are:

- 1) Skill in the activity
- 2) Safety through self-imposed discipline
- 3) Attitudes and habits, which help build good character and physical fitness

To achieve these objectives:

- The shooting ranges are under supervision of adults certified by the BSA National Camp School at all times. Boy Scouts have the availability to shoot .22 cal rifles, black powder muzzle loading rifles, shotguns and bows and arrows at most camps. Cub Scouts have the availability to shoot BB guns and bows and arrow at most camps.
- Permission slips are required from parents or guardians authorizing their Scout to shoot firearms. This form must be turned in to the Field Sports Director prior to any Cub Scout or Boy Scout handling any firearm or bow and arrow.
- Personal firearms of any caliber, ammunition, hunting arrows, cross bows, throwing knives, and bullwhips may not be brought to camp.
- In order to maintain the safe operation of any firearms range and the archery range, the Field Sports Director will ask that all personal coaching be performed by the range staff only. This limits the distractions while Scouts are shooting and allows all participants to hear the range commands.

GUIDE TO SAFE CAMPING

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

"It is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances are not permitted at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America or at any activity involving participation of youth members."

The Guide to Safe Scouting

This policy will be strictly enforced for all those that use camp facilities.

SMOKING

The Boy Scouts of America's position on smoking strongly urges leaders neither to use tobacco products in any form nor to allow their use in the presence of youth. Therefore, due to medical evidence and growing community sensitivities, a *smoke-free* environment policy was developed. "All buildings and facilities under control of the Southern Sierra Council are to be designated as nonsmoking facilities. Smoking outside entrance/exit doors is prohibited at any location. In addition, all Scouting functions, meetings, or activities will be conducted on a smoke-free basis with permitted smoking areas located away from all participants."

The Camp Director will identify those limited outdoor areas where smoking is permitted once at camp. In most cases, smoking is limited to the rock behind the dining hall **only!** Smoking will not be allowed in program areas, campfire bowl and all buildings.

HAZING

Older Scouts sometimes feel that new Scouts should be "initiated" into the Troop with a hazing activity. You should be alert to this desire of older boys and direct efforts into meaningful initiation programs. Hazing has no place in Scouting, nor does running the gauntlet, belt line or similar punishments.

DISCIPLINE

Corporal punishment will not be tolerated in camp. Physical abuse such as manhandling, pushups, and loud, abusive screaming are also not allowed as punishment for youths. For problems in camp, please see the Camp Director for proper action.

FIREWORKS

Fireworks are especially dangerous at camp. Both State and County agencies prohibit their use in these mountains. NOTHING of this sort may be brought into camp for any reason. Seriously, fireworks will NOT be tolerated or permitted and any that are found will be CONFISCATED and not returned. Persons having fireworks are subject to immediate dismissal from camp.

POLICY ON USE OF CHEMICAL FUELS (LIQUID, GASEOUS, OR JELLIED)

For safety reasons, knowledgeable adult supervision must be provided when Scouts are involved in the storage of chemical fuels, the handling of chemical fuels, in the filling of stoves or lanterns, or the lighting of chemical fuels.

Battery operated lanterns and flashlights should be used by Scouts in camping activities, particularly in and around canvas tents. No chemical fueled lantern or stove is to be used inside a tent.

Kerosene, gasoline, or liquefied petroleum fuel lanterns may be used for outdoor lighting. Strict adherence to the safety standards and instructions of the manufacturers in fueling and lighting such devices must be carried out under the supervision of a responsible and knowledgeable adult.

Both gasoline and kerosene shall be kept in well-marked approved containers (never in a glass container) and stored in a ventilated locked box at a safe distance (minimum 20 feet) from buildings and tents.

The use of liquid fuels for starting any type of fire is prohibited. This includes damp wood, charcoal, and ceremonial camp fires. Solid type starters are just as effective, are easier to store and carry, and are much safer to use for this purpose.

GUIDELINES FOR SAFE USE OF CHEMICAL STOVES AND LANTERNS

1. Use compressed or liquid fuel stoves and/or lanterns only with knowledgeable adult supervision, and in Scout facilities where and when permitted.
2. Operate and maintain regularly according to manufacturers' instructions included with the stove or lantern.
3. Store fuel in approved containers and in storage under adult supervision. Keep all chemical fuel containers away from hot stoves and campfires, and store below 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
4. Let hot stoves and lanterns cool before changing cylinders of compressed gases or refilling from bottles of liquid gas.
5. Refill liquid gas stoves and lanterns a safe distance from a flame, including other stoves, campfires, and personal smoking substances. A commercial camp stove fuel should be used for safety and performance. Pour through a filter funnel. Recap both the device and the fuel container before igniting.
6. Never fuel a stove or lantern inside a cabin; always do this out of doors. Do not operate a stove or lantern in an unventilated structure. Provide at least two ventilation openings, one high and one low, to provide oxygen and exhaust. Never fuels, ignite, or operate a stove or lantern in a tent.
7. Place the stove on a level, secure surface before operating.
8. Periodically check fittings on compressed gas stoves and on pressurized liquid fuel stoves for leakage with soap solution before lighting.
9. When lighting a stove keep fuel bottles and extra canisters well away. Do not hover over the stove when lighting it. Keep your head and body to one side. Open the stove valve quickly for two full turns and light carefully, with head, fingers, and hands to the side of the burner. Then adjust down.
10. Do not leave a lighted stove or lantern unattended.
11. Do not overload the stovetop with extra heavy pots or large frying pans. If pots over 2 quarts are necessary, setup a separate grill with legs to hold the pot and place stove under grill.
12. Bring empty fuel containers home for disposal. Do not place in or near fires. Empty fuel containers will explode if heated.

PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

Along with the great location and staff, Camp Kern offers outstanding camp programs. Scouts and leaders will experience a myriad of activities that are fun, challenging, and designed to facilitate personal growth. Merit badge courses, free-time elective activities, and special programs will ensure that everyone in your troop is busy having a great time. Be sure that your Scouts know which merit badges they want to take prior to coming to camp (see merit badge sign-up sheet) below.

TROOP SERVICE PROJECT

We provide opportunities for your unit to do service projects while in camp. This is an important part of the camping experience and helps Scouts feel a sense of ownership in Camp Kern. The ranger staff will tailor projects to your troop's skill and ability level. If you have any ideas about the service project you would like to perform, simply let us know. Tuesday evening—troop friend night—is designed for Scouts to have a chance to work on service projects with their troop friends.

ADULT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

There are many facility improvements that are on-going at Camp Kern. We are always looking for people who would like to help make Camp Kern a better place. Anyone interested in contributing in this manner during their stay at camp should notify the camp director. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

If you would like to participate in cutting wood or in any other project that would require special tools, feel free to bring your own equipment. If you have a special skill set and would like to share it during your stay Camp Kern, do not hesitate to let the camp director know. You can always call the camp at 559.893.3387 to find out what type of projects we are working on at the moment.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Roundtables will be held for Scoutmasters and adult leaders on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. These meetings are designed to keep you informed about the daily program while simultaneously infusing leadership concepts and tactics into your experience at camp. They are also a great time during which questions can be answered. We highly encourage that **at least** one adult leader from every troop attends the daily roundtable so that they can relay the appropriate information to their troop.

Those adult leaders needing to be trained in Leave No Trace, Adult Bouldering Facilitator, and Safe Swim Defense & Safety Afloat will have the opportunity to do so. Please contact the camp director or program director, once at camp, for information concerning these certifications.

BROTHERHOOD OF THE MOUNTAIN MAN

Camp Kern has its own in-camp honor society known as The Brotherhood of the Mountain Man. Scouts who meet the rank-appropriate requirements will advance in the Brotherhood of the Mountain Man and will be given the corresponding arc, which symbolizes their standing in the brotherhood. Adult leaders can also advance in the brotherhood as they complete requirements at camp. The Brotherhood of the Mountain Man round patch can be purchased in the trading post for \$3.00 per patch. The senior patrol leader, under the direction of the Scoutmaster, is ultimately responsible for keeping track of the each Scout's progress. As Scouts and leaders return to Camp Kern year after year, participate in the program, and fulfill all of the requirements for rank advancement, they will advance as follows:

1st year: Woodsrunner	3rd year: Trapper	5th year: Frontiersman	7th year: Mountain Man
2nd year: Pathfinder	4th year: Chief Trader	6th year: Booshway	

HONOR RIBBONS

Each troop will have the opportunity to earn the Camp Kern Honor Award as they participate and progress in the program during the week. This award honors those units who are proactive in promoting the values of Scouting through their service to the camp and others. This is not a competition between troops, but rather a goal to work toward while simultaneously building troop unity and facilitating personal development. Scouts, under the direction and encouragement of their adult leaders and the staff, will strive to for success. Ribbons will be presented to each unit at the closing campfire so that deserving troops may be recognized.

CAMPER TOTEM

Each Scout will be given a leather totem bearing annual Camp Kern logo. Throughout the week, each camper will be recognized for participation in Camp Kern programs by being presented with different colored beads that correspond with each activity that they participate in.

CAMPFIRES

Camp Kern facilitates three different campfires throughout the week. The camp staff will perform an opening and closing campfire for the campers. The Wednesday night commissioner campfire allows each troop to participate along with the staff. Please come to camp ready to perform a run-on, skit, song, and cheer as a troop. Your troop friends will be ready to help you, if needs be. Please keep all performances scouting appropriate.

HIKE DAY

Camp Kern and Huntington Lake border the Kaiser National Wilderness. This 22,700-acre wilderness area gives Scouts and adult leaders opportunities to hike, backpack, and fish at elevations between 7,000 and 10,320 feet. Listed are just a few of the many natural, high mountain lakes, beautiful meadows, and impressive rock formations that will create a spectacular hiking experience for all ages and levels:

- Indian Pools: Between 7 and 9 mile round trip hike that offers spectacular views and shallow pools at a leisurely pace. After eating lunch and swimming at the pools, enjoy a pleasant stroll back to camp.
- Rancheria Falls: An enjoyable, 10 mile round trip hike that goes to a spectacular falls that are 150 high by 50 feet wide and which run year round. After cooling off in Rancheria Creek and eating lunch, return to camp.
- Ridgeline to the Dam: This hike is perfect for troops seeking a challenging, yet very pleasant hike. Hike about 2.5 miles for a gain of about 800 feet up to the ridgeline and then down to the first dam. Once there, eat lunch and then return 2 miles along the shore back to camp. This hike can also be an addition to the Captain Jack's hike, if you'd like a slightly greater challenge.
- Captain Jack's: About a 5 mile hike one way and a 1.5 mile canoe ride the other way, this hike provides adventure on land and on the lake. At the halfway point, enjoy a milkshake from Captain Jack's before you head back to camp.
- Around the Lake: This 20-mile hike is relatively flat, but not for the faint of heart. Starting from Camp Kern, proceed in a clockwise direction around Huntington Lake. Stop at Captain Jack's for milkshakes, if you'd like.
- Nellie Lake: This moderate to difficult 10 mile round trip hike begins by the Upper Billy Creek Campground and ends at beautiful Nellie Lake. After eating lunch, doing some fishing (provided Scouts have required licenses and equipment), and swimming at the lake, return home the way you came.

- Kaiser Loop Trail: This is a strenuous hike that combines a climb to an outstanding panoramic view of the High Sierras with a tour through the forest and meadows of the lower portions of the Kaiser Wilderness. This challenging 20 mile hike is recommended for older Scouts and those who have hiking experience. A 10 mile version of this hike involves hiking the same route to and from Kaiser Peak. Either way includes a gain of 3,000 feet in altitude.

BIKES IN CAMP

We have a number of bikes that are used by our ACE and High Adventure programs. Bikes will also be available for check-out during free-time. You must know and follow all of the BSA and Forest Service bicycle rules, which includes wearing a helmet and staying on the trails while riding. Due to lack of space, bike riding in camp is prohibited; therefore, if you plan on biking, we recommend that you sign up with the ACE program. Otherwise, you will need to check out of camp. We discourage bringing your own personal bikes, but you may do so at your own risk and as long as you comply with the camp guidelines stated above.

NATURE AREA AND TRAIL

Camp Kern offers many opportunities to discover and learn about the environment and the unique ecology of the High Sierra's. We offer nature trail tours which are given by our nature staff. Take in the diverse terrain and abundance of wildlife in their natural habitat.

RIFLE, SHOTGUN, AND ARCHERY RANGES

Rifle and archery ranges are available for use by all campers who have a signed parental release form. Shotgun shooting is available to those who are 14-years-old and older. All participants must participate in a safety orientation from the range instructors prior to using any of this equipment. Ammunition and arrows are provided at the range. There is no charge for ammunition at Camp Kern; however, Scouts taking archery must purchase an arrow kit that is sold at the trading post.

SWIMMING

Huntington Lake offers some of the best water recreation in the Sierra Nevada's. Camp Kern's swim area operates in strict accordance with BSA policies and is used for merit badges, rank advancement instruction, and free-time swims. Although the water temperature is usually safe for regular water-related Scouting activities, there might be times during the beginning of the summer when it is slightly frigid. During these times, it is recommended that each camper bring a wetsuit if they plan to spend a great deal of time doing aquatics merit badges, participating in ACE water activities, or simply swimming during free-time.

BOATING

Camp Kern provides sailboats, catamarans, canoes, rowboats, and motor boats (there is a one-time \$10.00 fuel fee for use of the motor boats). All of these items are available for use during all free-time. Huntington Lake is home to world-class sailing. We recommend that you and your Scouts take advantage of the great sailing opportunities offered during free-time. In accordance with BSA's Safety Afloat, everyone in a water vessel must wear a PFD and have had passed the BSA swimmer test. An orientation and demonstration of ability is required to use equipment. It is highly recommended that each camper bring a wetsuit if they plan on spending a lot of time using the boats or other water vessels.

MILE SWIM

This is an individual activity that is open to all campers, Scouts and adult leaders alike who pass their BSA swimmer test. The mile swim is a program that consists of an 800 yard swim on Tuesday, a half-mile swim on Thursday, and a full mile swim on Friday. Participants must participate in all three swims in order to receive the Mile Swim Award. In addition, they will need another troop member to supervise them and count laps. The waterfront director will assign times, locations, and equipment to be utilized.

BSA LIFEGUARD

This program is for older Scouts (15 and older) and adult leaders. It will take about 30 hours to complete during the week and will require the person to work on requirements during all three merit badge hours and most of the free-time throughout the week. The candidates will work closely with our waterfront staff throughout the week and learn all aspects of life guarding skills and waterfront operation. If interested, please contact the waterfront director on Monday morning during swim checks.

It is highly encouraged that at least one adult member in each troop certify. This will allow troops and units to participate in all water activities throughout the year while being covered by the rules and regulations outlined in the *BSA Guide to Safe Scouting*.

FISHING PROGRAM

Camp Kern is a great place to fish. The stocked waters of Huntington Lake offer many chances to catch your fair share of Rainbow Trout. We recommend that fishermen practice catch and release, although you can keep the fish if you plan on cooking it in your campsite (note that the kitchen cannot store fish for you in the refrigerator). We also recommend the use of barbless hooks for easy release of the fish after they are caught. Some bait and tackle items will be sold in the trading post, but we recommend that you come stocked with your own bait. Please come to camp prepared to fish with your own equipment. The camp will have a few poles and basic equipment that can be used, but this equipment will be used primarily for those who are enrolled in the fishing merit badge class.

Anyone 16 years of age and older must have a current fishing license to take any kind of fish, mollusk, invertebrate, amphibian or crustacean in California. Camp Kern **will not** have fishing licenses for sale. We recommend purchasing the appropriate license at your local sporting goods store prior to coming to camp. If you do not get a chance to do this, however, you can purchase fishing licenses at the Lakeshore General Store. Make sure you have valid identification on your person in order to purchase a California State fishing license. When fishing at Camp Kern it is the campers' responsibility to know the California State fishing guidelines. Please be aware of and know that Camp Kern will enforce all California State fishing regulations.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

The following are special opportunities for boys to improve their skills and serve others. To have a chance to earn special recognition in these fields you must meet the requirements written next to the award. Those who participate and complete the requirements will be recognized at the end of camp and be eligible to purchase the patch or carry the card that correlates with the award.

- **Firem'n Chit:** Taught in the Handiland or Trail to First Class area during the free-time and is available to all adults and boys.
- **Totin' Chip:** Taught in the Handiland or Trail to First Class area during the free-time and is available to all adults and boys. Scouts must have this certification before they can handle knives at camp.
- **Leave No Trace Training:** Taught on Thursdays at 3:00 PM during free-time. Approximately 30 minutes of instruction on our responsibility to mother nature.
- **BSA Lifeguard:** See BSA Lifeguard requirements above.
- **Mile Swim BSA:** Available to all Scouts. See Mile Swim requirements above.

TRAIL TO FIRST CLASS

The Trail to First Class program is for all Scouts needing to pass off rank advancement requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class. This program is a one period class that is offered every hour during the merit badge class time and anytime during the free-time. We suggest that new Scouts who are focusing on rank advancement take this class, as they will meet everyday to work on requirements. For Scouts who have only a few requirements to pass off, it is suggested that they do not sign up for the class, but rather work on their requirements during the free-time.

Please note that Scouts who come to camp as Tenderfoots will not be First Class by the end of the week, but if they attend class everyday and work hard during the free-time, they will complete many of the requirements needed to advance.

Included in this guide is the form that the counselor will use to mark what the Scout has passed off during the week. This will be returned to the Scoutmaster upon check-out on Saturday morning. Once at home, the Scoutmaster can sign the Scouts' handbooks off according to what has been signed off on the sheet. Below are the requirements that will be covered during the specific days of the week at Camp Kern.

TRAIL TO FIRST CLASS WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday – “Tracker”

- Pass off most requirements dealing with compass use. Knots and rules of safe hiking will also be started.

Tuesday – “Plainsman”

- Knot tying requirements will be completed. Scouts will learn proper care and handling of a knife, ax, and saw. Scouts will also go over requirements dealing with cooking fires and stoves.

Thursday – “Fire Starter”

- On this day Scouts will go over all Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, and 1st Class requirements dealing with First Aid. Scouts will learn fundamentals in CPR and emergency situations.

Friday – “Trapper”

- Scouts will learn basic principles of water safety. Safe swim defense and water rescues will be taught and passed off.

Free-Time

- Scouts can come to the Trail to First Class area anytime during the free-time to pass off any requirements that are taught during the classes. Special activities will also be offered such as the mile long orienteering course, Totin' Chip, Firem'n Chit, and you will use your lashing and knot tying skills to construct camp gadgets. We encourage all Scouts in need to come during free-time to pass of Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, and 1st Class requirements.



ADVANCED CAMPER EXPERIENCE (ACE)

Camp Kern offers a fantastic in-camp high adventure program for all campers over the age of 14-years-old. This program is designed for older boys and adults who want to participate in more high adventure activities at Scout camp. Participation in this program can be done in conjunction with merit badge classes, which will be taken in the morning, or it can stand alone and be the only thing a Scout participates in. Prior to arrival at camp, Scoutmasters and adult leaders need to solidify which Scouts within their troop will participate in this activity full-time during the week. A Scout can take merit badge classes and participate in ACE, but they will miss the ACE morning activities in order to take merit badge classes. Those who participate will be hiking, sailing, canoeing, shooting, biking, and rock climbing throughout the week. Below is a schedule of ACE activities that will take place at Camp Kern during the week.

ACE Week at a Glance

(subject to change)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Swim Checks assigned as troops	Catamaran Sailing Instruction	Breakfast: 6:00 AM Kaiser Loop Trail Hike	Bike to Captain Jack's	Rancheria Waterfall Hike
Rock Climbing/ Bouldering	Black Powder Shooting Catamaran Sailing		Catamaran Sailing Black Powder Shooting Overnighter at Mirimichi	Catamaran Sailing Black Powder Shooting

HORSEMANSHIP

Camp Kern has partnered with D & F Pack Station to provide an outstanding horsemanship experience. Located just across the lake from camp, D & F will teach the Horsemanship Merit Badge in an all day session on each Wednesday of camp. Instead of participating in the hike day, Scouts will barge across the lake and walk ½ mile to the pack station. Following the merit badge instruction, each Scout will enjoy a full length ride around the lake. There is an additional cost for this merit badge and fees must be paid prior to attending camp using the Horsemanship application located online at www.sscbsa.org/councilcamps.

ADVANCEMENT AT CAMP KERN

Rank advancement is primarily the responsibility of the unit leaders and the unit committee. Camp Kern assists unit leadership by providing the finest in instruction and counseling. Although staff instructors and counselors will provide accurate records for information covered and skill accomplished, it is the responsibility of each unit leader to mark rank advancements in each boy's individual record (usually in his handbook). Camp counselors will also sign merit badge cards, but the unit leaders are responsible to ensure proper recording in each boy's permanent record.

ADVANCEMENT POLICIES

1. All advancement will be in accordance with BSA National Standards.
2. Merit badge counselors must be 18 years of age or older.
3. No substitutions for any requirements are allowed.
4. Blue cards for completed merit badges are provided by Camp Kern.
5. Those not completing all requirements for a specific merit badge will be given partial completion slips.
6. Boards of Review may be conducted in camp if adequate adult leadership is available. Appropriate adult representation on the board, however, is the responsibility of each unit's leaders.
7. The Scoutmaster is responsible to prepare, monitor, and verify completion of a Scout's advancement.
8. Completing prerequisites for each merit badge by the Scout is highly encouraged and work done before camp is acceptable.
9. Any Scout receiving a merit badge from Camp Kern will know the subject matter and will have learned the practical skills associated with the merit badge.

Note: Unit leaders are given an opportunity to review all advancement records before leaving camp and are encouraged to review them at home and give the cards to the unit advancement chairman.

MERIT BADGE CLASSES

The teaching of merit badges at Camp Kern is an important part of the program. Ensuring that campers receive the highest quality instruction is vital to the integrity of the Scouting program. While at camp, Scouts must complete all of the requirements—**no more, no less**—in order to receive the completed blue card. Scouts who do not complete the merit badge will receive a partial and will have one year to complete the remaining requirements.

Some of the merit badges offered at Camp Kern have requirements that cannot be completed while at camp. Merit badges such as environmental science (solitary observation), astronomy (night observations), weather (out-of-class observations), first aid (teaching others), to name a few, will require extra effort on behalf of the Scout. It is suggested that the Scoutmaster look through the merit badge requirements that each Scout is taking and plan on fulfilling those aspects before camp begins. This will ensure that the Scout will receive the completed merit badge while at camp. Many of these requirements can be fulfilled at camp with the assistance of the Scoutmaster during the boy's own time.

Scouts should also read requirements before coming to camp and begin any such requirements before coming if they wish to complete the badges at camp.

Camp Kern is not a merit badge mill, where one pays a fee and gets merit badges automatically. Instead, we offer merit badges as only one part of the overall camp experience. It is suggested that leaders limit their Scouts to three merit badges to work on while at camp. This will allow the boy to participate in other areas of camp that create a well-rounded camp experience. We do not want to see a boy come to camp and spend the entire week sitting in classes. Some of the more difficult skill-oriented merit badges are rifle shooting, shotgun shooting (14-years-old+), small boat sailing, and archery.

When a Scout signs up for Handicraft merit badges he will be taught art, basketry, woodcarving, and leatherwork. He will need to spend some free-time working on completing some of the requirements as there will not be enough time to complete all the requirements during the class periods. This is a very hands-on class that allows Scouts to go at their own pace. Some will not complete all four or even need all four, but the opportunity will be presented to them while they are in class. On the sign-up sheet included in this guide handicraft will count as one merit badge class, so please sign the Scout up for two more merit badge classes.

The Bryan Batey Sailing Academy offers outstanding sailing opportunities for Scouts at Camp Kern! We encourage all who wish to sign up for the Small Boat Sailing merit badge to do so. We will have instructors who will work with the Scouts to fulfill the requirements outlined by the BSA. There is no age limit for those taking the Small Boat Sailing merit badge, although we do recommend that Scouts have had experience with canoeing or rowing prior to enrolling in the course. This class is very challenging and requires a good amount of strength and maturity; therefore, it is recommended that only boys who are physically and mentally able to participate do so.

The sailing merit badge will take up two merit badge class times and potentially a significant amount of free-time, so plan accordingly. Remember, when signing a Scout up for this class, only sign him up for one more merit badge class.

At Camp Kern we work hard to see that every Scout gets into merit badge classes that he would like to participate in. We will add additional staff (if they are available) to accommodate the needs of the merit badge classes as needed. It is wise to look for merit badges that are not normally offered in your hometown and try for those while at camp. Try new things and look for variety. Proper planning between the Scout and their adult leader and parents will be a big help once the Scout arrives at camp.

Camp Kern Merit Badge Classes

ARCHAEOLOGY	LIFESAVING**
ARCHERY**(\$)	MAMMAL STUDY
ART* (\$)	MOTORBOATING **(\$)
ASTRONOMY*	ORIENTEERING
BASKETRY(\$)	PERSONAL FITNESS*
BIRD STUDY (\$)	PIONEERING (\$)
CANOEING**	RIFLE SHOOTING**
EMERGENCY PREPARDNESS*	ROWING**
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	SHOTGUN SHOOTING**
FIRST AID**	SMALL BOAT SAILING**(2 MB Periods)
FISHING*	SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION*
FORESTRY	SPORTS*
GEOLOGY	SWIMMING**
HORSEMANSHIP (\$)***	WEATHER
INDIAN LORE (\$)	WILDERNESS SURVIVAL
LEATHERWORK (\$)	WOODCARVING (\$)

*Merit badge cannot be completed in camp without pre-requisites being completed.

**Merit badge classes only offered during class-time and not offered during free-time.

***Horsemanship is offered by an outside company. See Horsemanship application for details.

In order for Scoutmasters to follow the progress of their Scouts throughout the week it is recommended that they come to camp with worksheet packets for the merit badge classes they are taking, with the exception of waterfront merit badges. In all of the nature and outdoor skills classes, the instructors will be requiring Scouts to show knowledge and advancement by having them fill out their workbooks or take notes. In the traditional classes that follow more of a classroom approach these workbooks are great for note taking and placing the learning squarely on the shoulders of the Scout. They can be used for review by the Scoutmaster and allow for greater retention of knowledge.

DON'T FORGET TO PRINT OUT YOUR MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK TO HELP SCOUTS KEEP THEIR WORK IN ORDER AND TO HELP YOU TRACK THEIR MERIT BADGE PROGRESS WHILE AT CAMP KERN. VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.meritbadge.org, TO OBTAIN THESE WORKBOOKS. Just in case Scouts do not come to camp with workbooks for the classes they are taking they will be sold in the trading post for \$1.00.

MERIT BADGE PREREQUISITES

The following merit badges require the Scout to do some work prior to coming to camp if they want to complete the merit badge while at camp. If they have completed the requirement prior to camp on the first day of class they must show their work or have their Scoutmaster discuss what they have accomplished with their counselor.

- **Art-** (4) With your parent's permission and your counselor's approval, visit a museum, art exhibit, art gallery, artists' co-op, or artist's workshop. Find out about the art displayed or created there. Discuss what you learn with your counselor.
- **Astronomy-** (6) At approximately weekly intervals, sketch the position of Venus, Mars or Jupiter in relation to the stars. Do this for at least four weeks and at the same time of night. On your sketch, record the date and time next to the planet's position. Use your sketch to explain how planets move.
- **Bird Study-** Scouts taking the class must bring a sketch pad or plan on buying one once they get to camp. This sketch pad will be used every day in the class. Scouts taking the class need to bring a good reliable pair of binoculars to camp for the week.
- **Emergency Preparation-** (1) Earn the First Aid merit badge (this merit badge may be taken in conjunction with Emergency Preparation while at camp) (2c) Meet with and teach your family how to recognize, prevent, and react to the situations on the chart you created for requirement 2b. Then meet with your counselor and report on your family meeting, discussing their responses. (The chart will be made at camp during the class time. After camp the Scout can present the information learned to his family and then report back to his Scoutmaster for passing off the merit badge. (6c) Find out who is your community's disaster/emergency response coordinator and learn what this person does to recognize, prevent, and respond to emergency situations in your community. Bring this information to camp to discuss with your counselor and apply what you discover to the chart you created for requirement 2b (8a) If your troop as a written emergency plan for mobilizing please bring a copy of it to camp with you (8b) Take part in at least one troop mobilization. Before the exercise, describe your part to your counselor. Afterward, conduct an "after-action" lesson, discussing what you learned during the exercise that requires changes or adjustments to the plan. (8c) Prepare a personal emergency service pack for a mobilization call. Prepare a family kit for use by your family in case an emergency evacuation is needed. Come to camp ready to discuss this with your counselor. (9b) Scout needs to come to camp with a floor plan of their dwelling so that they can create and discuss a plan of escape with the counselor.

- **Fishing-** (9) Catch two different kinds of fish and identify them. Release at least one of them unharmed. Clean and cook another fish. ****If a Scout catches a fish they will not be able to clean and cook it at camp unless he does it in his campsite under the direction of an Adult Leader****
- **Personal Fitness-** (1) Have a dental examination and get a statement saying that your teeth have been checked and cared for. Tell how to care for your teeth. (7) Outline a comprehensive 12-week physical fitness program using the results of your fitness tests. Be sure your program incorporates the endurance, intensity, and warm-up guidelines discussed in the *Personal Fitness* merit badge pamphlet. Before beginning your exercises, have the program approved by your counselor and parents. (8) Complete the physical fitness program you outlined in requirement 7. Keep a log of your fitness program activity (how long you exercised; how far you ran, swam, or biked; how many exercise repetitions you completed; your exercise heart rate; etc.). Repeat the aerobic fitness, muscular strength, and flexibility tests every two weeks and record your results. After the 12th week, repeat all four tests, record your results, and show improvement in each one. Compare and analyze your preprogram and post program body composition measurements. Discuss the meaning and benefit of your experience, and describe your long-term plans regarding your personal fitness.
- **Soil & Water Conservation-**(7) Do two of the following: (a) Make a trip to TWO of the following places. Write a report of more than 500 words about soil & water and energy conservation practices you saw. 1. An agricultural experiment 2. A managed forest or woodlot, range or pasture 3. A wildlife refuge or a fish or game management area 4. A conservation-managed farm or ranch 5. A managed watershed 6. A waste-treatment plant 7. A public drinking water treatment plant 8. An industry water use installation 9. A desalinization plant. (b) Plant 100 trees, bushes, and/or vines for a good purpose. (c) Seed an area of at least 1/5 acre for some worthwhile conservation purpose, using suitable grasses or legumes alone or in a mixture. (d) Study a soil survey report. Describe the things in it. On tracing paper over any of the soil maps, outline an area with three or more different kinds of soil. List each kind of soil by full name and map symbol. (e) Make a list of places in your neighborhood, camps, school ground, or park that have erosion, sedimentation, or pollution problems. Describe how these could be corrected through individual or group action. (f) Carry out any other soil and water conservation project approved by your merit badge counselor.
- **Sports-** (4) Take part for one season (or four months) as a competitive individual or as a member of an organized team in TWO of the following sports: baseball, basketball, bowling, cross-country, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, water polo. Your counselor may approve in advance other recognized sports, but not any sport that is restricted and not authorized by the Boy Scouts of America.

FREE-TIME MERIT BADGE CLASSES

- Merit badges, with the exception of **ALL** waterfront merit badges, rifle, shotgun, archery, environmental science, and first aid, will be available during the free-time. For the merit badges listed, it is recommended that your Scouts sign-up for them during the regularly scheduled class periods.
- All Scouts who sign up for a merit badge during the class time can work on skills that fulfill requirements for that badge during the free-time.
- Free-time is also a good time to fulfill requirements for partial merit badges which may have been received from previous counselors. Depending on the requirements that need to be completed, our counselors may be able to assist your Scouts in completing their merit badges.

TRAIL TO FIRST CLASS SIGN OFF SHEET

Scout Name: _____

Troop #: _____

TRACKER:

- TENDERFOOT
 - 4a. whipping and fusing rope _____
 - 4b. tying two-half hitch and taut-line hitch _____
 - 5. rules of safe hiking _____
 - 9. explain buddy system _____
- 2ND CLASS
 - 1a. how a compass works _____
- 1ST CLASS
 - 1. directions day and night _____
 - 7a. when to use lashings _____
 - 7b. tying timber/clove hitch in lashings _____
 - 7c. camp gadget _____
 - 8a. bowline and uses _____

PLAINS MAN:

- 2ND CLASS
 - 2c. proper care of sharp objects _____
 - 2d. preparation of tinder _____
 - 2e. appropriate uses of stoves _____
- 1ST CLASS
 - 4a. plan menu _____
 - 4c. utensils needed for menu in 4a _____
 - 4d. safe handling of food _____

FIRE STARTER:

- TENDERFOOT
 - 12a. Heimlich maneuver and use _____
 - 12b. 1st Aid _____
- 2ND CLASS
 - 6a. what to do for hurry cases/bleeding _____
 - 6b. prepare 1st Aid kit (Prerequisite) _____
 - 6c. 1st Aid _____
- 1ST CLASS
 - 8b. 1st Aid/ bandages _____
 - 8c. transport victims _____
 - 8d. heart attack signs/ CPR _____

TRAPPER:

- 2ND CLASS-
 - 7a. precautions for safe swim _____
 - 7b. jump feet first into water and swim _____
 - 7c. demonstrate water rescues _____
- 1ST CLASS-
 - 9a. precautions for safe trip afloat _____
 - 9b. BSA swim test _____
 - 9c. line rescue _____

FREE-TIME:

- 2ND CLASS
 - 1b. 5 mile compass course _____
- 1ST CLASS-
 - 2. mile hike and measuring _____

FIREM'N CHIT _____

TOTE'N CHIP _____

CAMP KERN TOTEM

(POST IN CAMPSITE)

<u>BEAD COLOR</u>	<u>REQUIRED ACTIVITY</u>
RED	OPENING CAMPFIRE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioner Campfire
YELLOW	SCOUTS OWN
WHITE	SERVICE PROJECT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ranger Approved Service Project
ORANGE	TROOP FRIEND NIGHT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patrol shoot-out at the rifle range• Cobbler
BLACK	HIKE DAY
DARK GREEN	COMMISSIONER GAMES
ROYAL BLUE	HONOR TRAIL
CLEAR SPARKLE	FLAG CEREMONY
LIGHT BLUE	KITCHEN DUTY
BROWN	KYBO
GOLD	PRAYER
MAGENTA	NATURE TRAIL
GRAY	BLACK POWDER
TAN	DIME CLUB w/ SCOPE

CAMP KERN WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	7:00 AM Jed Smith Breakfast Kit Carson Inspection	7:00 AM Jed Smith Breakfast Kit Carson Inspection	7:00 AM Jed Smith Breakfast & Flag Ceremony	7:00 AM Jed Smith Breakfast Kit Carson Inspection	7:00 AM Jed Smith Breakfast Kit Carson Inspection	7:00 AM Jed Smith Breakfast Kit Carson Inspection
	7:40 AM Kit Carson Breakfast Jed Smith Inspection	7:40 AM Kit Carson Breakfast Jed Smith Inspection	7:40 AM Kit Carson Breakfast	7:40 AM Kit Carson Breakfast Jed Smith Inspection	7:40 AM Kit Carson Breakfast Jed Smith Inspection	7:40 AM Kit Carson Breakfast Jed Smith Inspection
	8:45 AM Flag Ceremony	8:45 AM Flag Ceremony	High Adventure Day	8:45 AM Flag Ceremony	8:45 AM Flag Ceremony	8:30 AM Closing Flag Ceremony
	9:15 AM Free-Time & Swim Checks	9:25 AM 1st Merit Badge Session		9:25 AM 1st Merit Badge Session	9:25 AM 1st Merit Badge Session	9:00 AM Depart Camp
		10:15 AM Scoutmaster Roundtable		10:15 AM Scoutmaster Roundtable	10:15 AM Scoutmaster Roundtable	
		10:25 AM 2nd Merit Badge Session		10:25 AM 2nd Merit Badge Session	10:25 AM 2nd Merit Badge Session	
		11:25 AM 3rd Merit Badge Session		11:25 AM 3rd Merit Badge Session	11:25 AM 3rd Merit Badge Session	
	12:20 PM Jed Smith Lunch	12:20 PM Jed Smith Lunch	Lunch on the trail	12:20 PM Jed Smith Lunch	12:20 PM Jed Smith Lunch	
2:30 PM Barge Departs for Camp Kern	1:00 PM Kit Carson Lunch	1:00 PM Kit Carson Lunch		1:00 PM Kit Carson Lunch	1:00 PM Kit Carson Lunch	
	2:00 PM 1st Merit Badge Session	2:00 - 5:00 PM Free-time All program areas open		2:00 - 5:00 PM Free-time All program areas open	2:00 - 5:00 PM Free-time All program areas open	
3:00 PM Arrive & Orientation	3:00 PM 2nd Merit Badge Session					
	3:00 PM Scoutmaster Roundtable					
	4:00 PM 3rd Merit Badge Session					
5:15 PM Jed Smith Dinner	5:15 PM Jed Smith Dinner	5:15 PM Jed Smith Dinner	5:15 PM Jed Smith Dinner	5:15 PM Jed Smith Dinner	5:15 PM Jed Smith Dinner	
6:05 PM Kit Carson Dinner	5:55 PM Kit Carson Dinner	5:55 PM Kit Carson Flag Ceremony & Dinner	5:55 PM Kit Carson Dinner	5:55 PM Kit Carson Dinner	5:55 PM Kit Carson Dinner	
7:00 PM Leaders Meeting @ Assembly Grounds	7:00 PM Commissioner Skill Building Events	6:45 PM Brotherhood of the Mountain Man Intra-Troop Activity Night	7:30 PM Flag Ceremony & Commissioner Campfires	7:00 PM Flag Ceremony & Mountain Man Rendezvous Games	6:45 PM Brotherhood of the Mountain Man Ceremony for Woods Runners	
8:00 PM Scouts Own @ Chapel Area				8:00 PM Honor Trail	7:30 PM Flag Ceremony & Closing Campfire	
8:30 PM Flag Ceremony & Opening Campfire	8:30 PM Brotherhood SPL Ceremony					

**This Week at a Glance is an example of a two-shift meal schedule.
Times may be slightly modified in the event that accommodations require only one meal shift.**

PARENTAL FIREARM* AUTHORIZATION FORM

I give consent for _____ of Troop # _____, who is my son/daughter or ward, to use the following equipment offered at Camp Kern:

Please check all that apply

- Archery
- BB Guns
- .22 Rifles
- Shotguns
- Black powder (14 yrs or older)
- Horseback Riding
- Climbing/Rappelling
- Watercraft (catamaran, sailboats, windsurf boards)

I, the undersigned parent or legal guardian do hereby authorize the Southern Sierra Council to furnish firearms, archery, and other appropriate equipments as marked, to the minor named herein for the purpose of instruction in the safe handling and shooting of firearms, target shooting and related activities under the supervision of the appropriate Area Director staff.

This authorization will remain in effect for said minor while he is participating in any Boy Scouts of America program or activity related to firearms, unless revoked in writing by the undersigned and said revocation personally delivered to the Council Service Center.

Parent/Guardian's Name _____ Date _____

Phone Number (H) _____ (W) _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

*California Penal Code Section 12522:

S12551. Furnishing Firearm To Minor Under 18 Without Permission of Parent. -- Every Person who furnishes any firearm, air gun, or gas operated gun, designed to fire a bullet, pellet, or metal objective, to any minor under the age of 18 years, without the express or implied permission of the parent or legal guardian of the minor, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby give permission for the Southern Sierra Council and CampWorks, Inc. to use pictures taken of me and/or my son for the promotion of the Scouting program in the Southern Sierra Council and throughout the United States.

Full Name of Participant: _____ Address: _____

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Or

Father/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mother/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Camp Kern Medical Administration Form

Name of Scout: _____ Troop #: _____ Dates attending: _____

Medications to be administered: _____

In the schedule below, please mark when each medication is to be administered:

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning							
Afternoon							
Evening							
Bedtime							

If you have any medications that must be taken at a specific time or at a time that is not listed in the chart above, please note it here: _____

Note: It is BSA policy that all medications be stored in a locked container and administered by the camp health officer. Adult leaders are highly encouraged to keep a copy of this medical administration form and to be present during the administration of their Scouts' medications.

Camp Kern Barge Pick-up Schedule

(the time listed is the time at which the barge will depart)

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Sunday		2:00 – 4:00	8:00
Monday	8:30	12:00 – 1:00*	8:00
Tuesday	8:30	1:30	8:00
Wednesday	7:00	12:00 – 1:00* <small>(extra barge leaving at 4:00)</small>	8:00
Thursday	8:30	1:30	7:30
Friday	8:30	12:00 – 1:00*	8:00
Saturday	8:00 – 10:00		

- If you are waiting for a barge, please call us at Camp Kern (559.893.3387) and let us know.
- Special barge trips can be arranged for \$20 if needs be. If you missed the last barge or simply want a faster pickup, give us a call to arrange a pick-up.
- *Actual barge time varies according to when our food shipment arrives.

Camp Kern Menu*

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Breakfast		Pancakes Hash Brown Patty Sausage Links Fruit Bar Cereal Bar Milk Orange Juice	Scrambled Eggs Biscuits & Gravy Hash Browns Bacon Cereal Bar Muffins Milk Orange Juice	Breakfast Casserole Cereal Bar Bagel & Cream Cheese Fruit Milk Apple Juice	Breakfast Burritos Biscuits & Gravy Fruit Bar Cereal Bar Muffins Milk Orange Juice	French Toast Sausage link Hash Brown Fruit Bar Cereal Bar Muffins Milk Orange Juice	Oatmeal Coffeecake Cereal Bar Fruit Bar Cereal Bar Bagel & Cream Cheese Milk Orange Juice
Lunch		Sloppy Joe Sandwich Carrot Sticks Tater Tots Salad Bar Pasta Bar Ice Tickle Punch	Hot Dog Sandwich Chili & Cheese Chips Applesauce Pasta Bar Salad Bar Rice Krispy Punch	Lunch on Trail Sandwich Carrots Candy Bar Granola Bar Fruit Roll Up Chips Apple	Pizza Bread Stick Salad Bar Pasta Bar Pudding Pie Punch	Chicken Patty Sandwich Baked beans Chips & Salsa Salad Bar Pasta Bar Ice Cream Sandwich Punch	
Dinner	Pork Ribs Baked Potato Mixed Veggies Salad Bar Roll Cake Punch	Spiral Ham Scalloped Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Salad Bar Brownie Milk Punch	Chicken Fajitas Spanish Rice Black Beans Corn Fajita Veggies Salad Bar Churro Milk Punch	Hamburgers French Fries Salad Bar Watermelon Ice Cream Sandwich Milk Punch	Grilled Steak 2x Baked Potato Broccoli Salad Bar Corn Bread Milk Punch	Lasagna Green Beans Salad Bar Bread Stick Cake Milk Punch	

*This is a sample menu from years past. Actual menu may vary.

PERSONAL GEAR FOR SCOUTS AND LEADERS

- ◆ High Sierra weather is unpredictable in the summer months and may change quickly. Bring clothing appropriate for heat, cold, and rain.
- ◆ The Official BSA uniform is appropriate dress any time during the week.
- ◆ Scouts wear full uniforms at evening flag ceremonies and dinner. BSA activity uniform is daytime wear.
- ◆ Be sure all personal items are marked with full name and unit number. Neither the adult volunteers, the camp, nor the camp staff are responsible for lost or misplaced items.

CLOTHING

Uniform, uniform hat
 T-shirts
 Shorts
 Jeans (optional)
 Swim suit and towel
 Pajamas or sweats
 Sweater, jacket, or sweatshirt
 Tennis shoes
 Sturdy shoes for hiking
 Old tennis shoes/water socks for swimming
 Underwear (1 pair per day)
 Socks (1 pair per day)
 Handkerchiefs/tissues

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Camera and film
 Musical instrument
 Sewing kit
 Pen, pencil, paper
 Money for trading post (\$20-\$40)
 First aid kit
 Watch
 Cot for leaders
 Sunglasses
 Whistle on cord
 Compass
 Fishing pole
 Pocket knife (need unit leader permission,
 Totin'Chit/Whittling Chip card required)

PAPERWORK (Signed, dated)

Health form (Class 1 or 3)
 Physical form (Class 2 or 3)
 Trip/activity medical permission slip
 Shooting Sports permission slip

AND VERY IMPORTANT

Prescription medications
 Sack lunch for drive to camp
 Lunch money for return from camp

CAMPING GEAR

Sleeping bag or blankets
 Ground cloth
 Foam pad or air mattress
 Pillow (optional)
 Pack/duffel bag/suitcase
 Day pack/fanny pack
 Canteen or water bottle
 Drinking cup
 Flashlight, extra bulb/batteries
 Clothes line--1/4"(10-20 feet) and pins
 Matches, fire lighting devices (adults only)

TOILET KIT

Toothbrush and toothpaste
 Comb
 Sun screen
 Soap (biodegradable)
 Lip balm
 Insect repellent (non-aerosol)
 Towel, washcloth
 Deodorant
 Shaving gear (adults)

UNAUTHORIZED EQUIPMENT

Hunting bows, crossbows, arrows
 Firearms, ammunition, Cap guns
 Fireworks
 Illicit drugs
 Alcoholic beverages
 Tobacco products
 Matches, Fire Lighting Devices (Adults only)
 Knives with blades longer than 3"
 Fixed blade, sheath knives
 Open toed shoes
 Expensive jewelry
 Portable radios, tape players
 CD players, computer games
 Animals-brought to or from camp

FORMS REQUIRED AND CHECK-IN PROCESS

There are a number of forms--for the group as well as for individuals--required for camp attendance. Overall suggestions for successful forms management include:

Recruit a leader whose only role is to disperse and track forms required for camp.

Read and complete each form carefully.

Ensure that authorized signatures are obtained as required.

The following forms are required for camp:

Unit Forms

- Tour Plan Application.** Available at all Council Service Centers. Submit the form to your local Council Service Center at least **2 weeks prior to your departure**. The signed portion will be requested when you check in at camp.
- Camp Roster.** List all youth and adult campers, with emergency contact names and telephone numbers. Bring 3 copies to camp (one for the Director, one for the Medical Staff and one for yourself)

Individual Forms

- Personal Health and Medical Record.** Available at all Council Service Centers and on the Internet at www.Scouting.org. Every camper must have a health form. See the Health section of this camp guide for further information.
- Parent Authorization for Trip/Activity Medical Treatment.** Provides leaders transporting boys to camp permission to treat them. This form should travel to camp in the same vehicle as the camper, not be held together by the tour leader. It is the one form in this packet that should **not** be handed in at camp. The unit leader should collect them on arrival and hold them for departure.
- Parental Firearm Authorization Form - Consent for Minor to use Firearms, BB Rifles and Archery Equipment.** Must be completed by a boy's parent or legal guardian in order for him to shoot rifles, shotguns and bow and arrows.

The speed of your unit's check in will be greatly improved if:

- All forms** (tour plan, camp rosters, Scout and adult medicals, shooting sports permission) are **organized by type and readily available**. Since the forms are processed and used in different locations at camp, have all medical forms, all shooting sports permission slips, etc. grouped together rather than by individual camper.

UNIT LEADER ARRIVAL DAY CHECKLIST

(Reproduce for unit use)

Before traveling to camp, check that you have the following:

- _____ **Tour Plan approval returned from Council Service Center**
- _____ **Camp Roster--3 copies** (One for the Director, one for the Medical Staff and one for yourself)
- _____ **Personal Health and Medical Record for each Scout and adult (Copy)**
- _____ **Parent Authorization for Trip/Activity Medical Treatment for each Scout**
- _____ **Camper Early Release Form for each Scout who is expected to leave camp early**
- _____ **Parental Firearm Authorization Form for each Scout**
- _____ **Transportation arranged back home from camp**

Check that each Scout has:

- _____ **A lunch for trip to camp and lunch money for the trip home**
- _____ **Spending money for the camp Trading Post**

CAMP ROSTER

UNIT LEADER: _____ **UNIT:** _____ **DISTRICT:** _____

CAMP: _____ **CAMPSITE:** _____ **WEEK:** _____

Page _____ of _____

Adult Leaders	Date in Camp	Emergency Contact	Emergency Phone	Date of Youth Protection Trng
Primary				

As the unit leader responsible for Youth Protection training in this unit, I verify that the above adult leaders have completed Youth Protection Training on the dates listed.

NAME (Print) _____ SIGNATURE: _____

Youth Names	Rank	Age	Emergency Contact	Emergency Phone
SPL				

SPL – Senior Patrol Leader (Troops only)

BRING 3 COPIES OF THIS FORM TO CAMP WITH YOU

CAMPER EARLY RELEASE FORM

Camper: _____ Unit: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Unit Leader Name: _____ Phone: (H) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Unit Leader Signature Approval for Release: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ AM _____ PM _____

Name of Person to Whom Camper is released: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Date of Release: _____ Time of Release: _____ AM _____ PM _____

Proof of Identity of Said Person: _____

Reason for Release: _____

Camp Director's Comments: _____

Camp Representative's Signature: _____

Date _____ **Time** _____

PARENT AUTHORIZATION FOR TRIP/ACTIVITY AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

I, the undersigned parent/guardian of _____
(Scout)

authorize his participation in the Southern Sierra Council summer camp program at

_____ on _____,
(Name of camp) (Dates of Camp)

including travel to and from camp by motor vehicle. I understand the trip/activity will be under the general supervision of _____.
(Registered Adult Leader's Name)

In case of emergency, I understand reasonable effort will be made to contact me. In the event I cannot be reached, I authorize the physicians or hospitals selected by the adult leader to provide medical treatment, including, without limitation, hospitalization, anesthesia, surgery, medication by injection or otherwise, and release to the adult leader.

(Signature of Parent/Guardian) (Date)

(Address)

(24-hour Emergency Phone Number)

(Medical Insurance Co.) (Policy Number)

CAMP KERN MERIT BADGE SIGN-UP SHEET

	WEEK# _____	TROOP# _____	NAME	ARCHERY \$	ART	BASKETRY \$	EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS	FIRST AID	HORSEMANSHIP \$\$\$	LEATHERWORK \$	ORIENTEERING	PERSONAL FITNESS	PIONEERING	RIFLE SHOOTING \$\$	SHOTGUN SHOOTING \$\$	SPORTS	TRAIL TO FIRST CLASS	WILDERNESS SURVIVAL	WOODCARVING	BSA LIFE GUARD	CANOEING	LIFESAVING	MOTOR BOATING \$\$	ROWING	SMALL BOAT SAILING (2 MB periods)	SWIMMING	ARCHAEOLOGY	ASTRONOMY	BIRD STUDIES	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	FISHING	FORESTRY	GEOLOGY	INDIAN LORE	MAMMALS	SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION	WEATHER		
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2																																							
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Note: Please only sign up for 3 classes per boy. Other badges can be taken during free-time or when arranged with class instructors.