

KLONDIKE DERBY 2026 CHIEF SEATTLE COUNCIL MTN SERVICE TERRITORY UNIT LEADERS GUIDE

Be There and Be Square

The Camp Koinonia Klondike Derby is organized by youth of the

Order of the Arrow- Lamonti Tupso Illahee Chapter,

T'kope Kwiskwis Lodge



Camp Koinonia
January 23rd-25th, 2026

850 Camp Koinonia lane
Off West Nelson Siding Rd
Cle Elum, WA 98922
509-674-5767
Interstate 90 Exit 78

<http://www.campkoinonia.org/>

If you have any questions or need additional info, please contact

Brent Schmidt
jbssc1976@gmail.com

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Online Registration

All units are expected to **Register on BlackPug by Sunday, January 16th, 2025, at 11:59pm.**

Online registration can be found on the Chief Seattle Council website.

Walk-in registrations will not be accepted, so please register for the expected number of participants from your unit.

Event Fee: \$35.00 for both adults and youth participants, for one or two nights.

Late Fee: \$5.00 per person for any sign-ups after January 16 at 11:59 PM

Refunds: Please see the [refund policy](#) on the Chief Seattle Council website.

Lodging: This is a **tent camping only** event. Camp Koinonia **cabins will not be available for rent.** Alternative lodging is the responsibility of the Unit or individual.

Final registration deadline: **January 21, 2025, at 11:59 PM**

For **Order of the Arrow staffing opportunities**, please refer to the **OA Staffing Opportunities** section of this guide.

Cub Scouts at Klondike

We recognize that many Scouting units and families wish to bring Arrow of Light Scouts to Klondike either to support recruitment efforts or because they believe their Scouts are ready for more advanced outdoor experiences. After careful consideration and further discussion with the Chief Seattle Council Camping Committee, Arrow of Light Scouts will not be permitted to participate in this year's event.

This decision is based on the historically unpredictable and often extreme weather conditions experienced during Klondike, which present challenges in maintaining a safe and age-appropriate environment for younger youth.

Units or families interested in winter camping opportunities appropriate for Cub Scouts are encouraged to attend one of the Winter Camping Weekends at Camp Sheppard, which provide safe and engaging overnight experiences for Cub Scouts throughout the season.

OA Staffing Opportunities

Order of the Arrow Staffing Opportunities

The Klondike Derby is a unique event that is planned 100% and executed by the Scouts of the Order of the Arrow. This event offers an excellent opportunity for young people to develop leadership skills, gain experience in large-scale event planning, and contribute meaningfully to the success of one of our Council's premier winter camping experiences.

We encourage all eligible Arrowmen to consider taking part in this rewarding leadership opportunity. If you are a member of the Order of the Arrow and would like to participate in the planning or staffing of the event, please attend one of Lamonti Tupso Illahee's regularly scheduled Chapter meetings held at the Issaquah Sportsmen's Club, on the second Friday of each month.

Staff Eligibility Requirements

- All youth intending to serve on Klondike staff must meet the following qualifications:
- Hold a minimum rank of First Class, with preference given to Life or Eagle Scouts
- Have been inducted into the Order of the Arrow (completed their Ordeal)
- Not currently serving in a leadership position such as SPL, ASPL, or Patrol Leader for an active troop or patrol participating in the event

All staff members must contact the Chapter Chief or the Event Coordinator Brent Schmidt for more information.

Staff Expectations and Preparation

- Staff meals will be provided throughout the event.
- Staff will be responsible for running event programs and assisting with logistics during the weekend.

All staff must come fully prepared with personal camping equipment, including:

- Tent
- Sleeping bag and sleeping pad
- The Ten Essentials
- Appropriate winter clothing, including a rain shell, gloves, and waterproof insulated snow boots

Important Notices and Preparation Notices

First Aid Notice: All Scouts and adult leaders are expected to review and practice cold-weather first aid procedures prior to attending the event. There is a significant risk of frostbite and hypothermia during Klondike if participants are not familiar with recognizing the signs and symptoms of cold-weather injuries and illnesses. There will be a medic on site.

Training Notice: All Scout leaders are encouraged to complete the Hazardous Weather Training available through the My.Scouting.org training portal. Additionally, all adult leaders should review and be familiar with the Winter Activities section of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

Competition Notice: The Chili Cook-Off is a mandatory portion of the competition. Please refer to the Competition Section for complete details. The design and theme of your sled will also play a crucial role in determining this year's overall winner.

Camping Notice: All units must ensure that youth share tents only with age- and gender-appropriate tent partners, in accordance with Scouting's Safeguarding Youth Policy.

Unloading Notice: For the safety of all participants, vehicles are not permitted at campsites—no exceptions. All units must unload gear and park in designated parking areas as directed by event staff.

Parking Notice: Parking at Camp Koinonia is limited. Units should plan to carpool whenever possible to reduce congestion and ensure adequate space for all participants.

Emergency Plan Notice: Each vehicle driver must provide the make, model, color, and license plate number of their vehicle, along with valid contact information, in case of an emergency.

If your vehicle requires towing during the event, contact event administration immediately before arranging any private towing services.

Electric Vehicle Notice: No electric vehicle charging stations are available in or near Camp Koinonia. Please plan accordingly.

Fire Safety Notice: Units must bring fire pans for both campsites use and the Chili Cook-Off competition. Limited firewood will be available on-site—please bring your own supply as needed.

All units must be prepared to fully extinguish coal and pack out ashes at the end of the event.

Water Notice: Units should bring large group water containers. Water spigots may not be immediately accessible at all campsites.

Cold-Weather Preparedness

All Scouts must be properly outfitted for cold and inclement weather, including potential snow, rain, hail, and wind. Units are encouraged to conduct equipment shake-downs before arrival to confirm that each participant has the appropriate gear.

Recommended cold-weather items include:

Hand warmers (HotHands or equivalent), Traction devices (Yaktrax or micro spikes), Extra pairs of wool socks, Insulated Waterproof Boots, Insulated Waterproof Gloves

Check-In

Check-In Times:

Friday: 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Saturday: 6:00 AM – 7:30 AM

All units must arrive, unload, and be fully prepared before the SPL/Scoutmaster meeting at 7:30am on Saturday. Due to limited parking capacity, carpooling is required and strongly encouraged during travel planning. Upon arrival, drivers must follow the directions of the Arrow men managing parking and unloading. These Scouts have developed and coordinated the event's traffic and parking plan your cooperation is greatly appreciated to ensure a smooth and safe check-in process. Please note: No electric vehicle charging facilities are available.

Required Items at Check-In

Unit Check-In Form and Vehicle Information Form

These forms are critical for our Emergency Preparedness Plan. Please ensure all vehicle details (make, model, color, and license plate) are accurately completed.

BSA Medical Forms A & B

The unit leader must have a complete set of current medical forms for all Scouts and adults at the time of check-in. We recommend having them in alphabetical order in a folder or a notebook

- Digital forms will not be accepted.
- Do not mail medical forms to the Council office.
- **Participants without complete medical forms will not be permitted to take part in the event and will be sent home.**

Final Patrol Roster

A complete list of patrols and patrol names must be submitted at check-in.

- Patrols may include up to 10 Scouts (ideal size: 8).
- Each patrol must have a minimum of 3 Scouts to participate in event activities.

Check-out and Campsite Clean-up

Checkout hours are Saturday after awards and closing flags, and Sunday morning from 7 AM until 11 AM. Troops **must** have their campsites inspected by an OA Staff Member before they will be allowed to Check Out. Med forms will not be returned until admin had been given approval by a staff member to dismiss your unit.

- Units will be held up to the standards of Leave no Trace and the Outdoor Code
- All equipment and trash must be removed from the premises and packed out
- All snow sculptures, structures etc. should be collapsed and filled in prior to check out
- The SPL will be expected to organize a unit-wide trash sweep across the campsite.
- Fires will need to be extinguished and ashes packed out!
- Lost and Found Items not claimed by scouts in your unit may be brought to admin
- Units who leave prior to awards and Closing Flags will forfeit all awards and prizes.

Winter Camping Safety

There is magic to camping in winter. It is one of the most challenging outdoor adventures. The Boy Scouts of America. Special considerations for winter camping are:

- **Qualified Supervision.** A Trained Scout Leader must be an experienced winter camper with strong character and **Common sense.**
- **Equipment.** Be completely outfitted for cold weather. Equipment should be checked to ensure good condition for the activity and proper maintenance while in use. Youth should be adequately clothed, and blankets/Sleeping Bags should be of suitable quality and weight.
- **Physical Fitness.** Youth should be suitably fit for the activity. Periodic rests while building snow caves and engaging in other strenuous cold-weather activities will help prevent accidents and overheating.
- **Buddy System.** Having Youth paired aids in monitoring each other's physical condition and observation of surroundings and circumstances.
- **Planning.** Safe activities follow a plan that has been conscientiously developed. In winter, plan to cover no more than 5 miles per day on snowshoes or 10 to 12 miles on cross-country skis. Allow ample time to make it to camp at the end of the day.
- **Safe Area.** Leaders should determine whether an area for winter camping is well-suited and free of hazards.
- **Weather Check.** Weather conditions, potential hazards, and the appropriate responses should be understood and anticipated. Go to my.scouting.org for Hazardous Weather training.
- **Burning.** Never use flames in tents, teepees, or snow shelters. This includes burning any solid, liquid, gel, or gas fuel; using features of tents or teepees that support stoves or fires; and use of chemical-fueled equipment and catalytic heaters.
- **Discipline.** Rules are effective only when followed. All participants should know, understand, and respect the rules and procedures for a safe winter camping experience. Applicable rules should be discussed before the outing and reviewed by all participants when leaving for the winter campout.

All scouts in attendance are expected to adhere to the Guidelines of Safe Scouting and Youth Protection.

Emergency Preparedness

- Tent Camping in the snow can be a challenging experience, and all scouts must understand the importance of dressing in the appropriate attire. Inadequate or improper clothing for winter weather conditions can result in frostbite and hypothermia. Cotton kills, so please avoid wearing cotton while snow camping.
- Equipment Shakedown before the event are expected.
- Please Prepare all Scouts attending with the knowledge and training to recognize the symptoms of hypothermia and frostbite before attending the event.
- Please pay close attention to weather reports and drive in weather-appropriate vehicles.
- **Chains are required to be carried on the Pass.**
- Ensure you have an accurate headcount of everyone in your unit and patrols.
- Please fill out the Unit check-in form and Vehicle ID Form before attending and be prepared provide it to staff at check-in.

Event Schedule

Friday Night:

5:00 pm - Check-in & Setup

9:30 pm - Cracker Barrel - **Troops/Units - Please Bring Snacks to Share at Cracker Barrel**

11:00pm - Lights Out

Saturday:

6:00 am-7:30 am – Morning Check-in

7:30 am – 8:00 am SPL/Scoutmaster Meeting

8:30 am – 9:00am- Opening Ceremonies

9:00 am – 12:00 pm Stations

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Chili Cook-Off Required

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm Chili Cook-off Grading

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Unfinished Stations and Snowman Building Competition

2:00 pm- 3:30 pm – Iditarod Race

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm – Score Tabulation

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm – Pack Up Camp if not staying Second Night

4:45 Closing Flags & Awards

We ask that you please be flexible with the schedule.

11:00 pm – Lights Out

Sunday Morning:

7:00 am – 11:00 pm – Checkout

Competition and Other Events

Fire Building – Build a Shape

Orienteering - Graphing

First Aid – Plus or Minus a Limb

Bear Bag

A Frame Relay – Triangle Frame

Shot ski – Parallel Lines

Knots & Lashings – Elite Knot Knowing

Blind Square

Prism Break – Blindfold Maze

Tarp Shelter – The Tarpenting

Iditarod (additional information below):

- Sleds must carry all required equipment.
- To ensure safety Scouts are not allowed under any circumstances to be in the sled during the race
- All members of the patrol must cross the finish line at the same time in order to complete the race.
- A scout is courteous do not ram other sleds or you will be disqualified
- Sleds will be judged before the sled race.

Chili Cook-Off

For 27 Years and counting the scouts of Klondike Derby have been cooking Chili at the Klondike Derby. Over the years we have seen many great chilies come and go. Will your Chili go down into Klondike history as the tastiest and most flavorful of all?

- **The Chili Cook-Off is a Required** part of the Competition.
- Chili must be cooked in the parking lot near staff quarters, not in campsites.
- Units are allowed to share a chili between patrols, but patrols are encouraged to each have their own individual chili recipe.
- Pre-cooking your protein at home is required.
- Please ensure you follow Food Safety Measures.
- Please provide a list of ingredients with the chili submission exact measurements not required
- Vegan and Red Chilies will be accepted.
- Cold Chili will be disqualified.
- Make it spicy edible and flavorful!
- Must be cooked in Dutch Oven
- Units must provide their own charcoal.
- Patrols should prepare for Dutch oven cooking in cold and inclement weather.
- Chili will be graded on Taste, Presentation, Spice, Temperature
- Chili should be served in small cups. Cups will not be provided
- Toppings should not be added prior to presentation and will not impact grading

Required Unit Equipment

Sled Equipment (on the sled for race and stations)

- The Ten Essentials
- Rope for knots and lashings
- Scout Handbook
- Notebook and Pencil
- Two Large Wool/Fleece Blankets
- Camp Stove and Pot (not a Dutch oven)
- Patrol Size First Aid Kit
- Garbage Bag for trash
- Fire Starter/ Kindling
- Fire Pan (**fire building station** and chili cook-off)

Basecamp Equipment

- Large Group Water Jugs- There is only one water spigot in Camp.
- Portable Pop-up Shelter or Tarp
- Fire Pan – There are no fire pits at campsites
- Firewood - None will be available or limited amount.
- Dutch Oven and Charcoal – Cook-off is required this year.
- Makings for a Dutch Oven Chili
- Trash Bags

WITHOUT THE ABOVE ITEMS, YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO COMPLETE SOME OF THE ADVENTURES YOU MAY ENCOUNTER. SO, BE PREPARED!

Required Individual Equipment

“COTTON KILLS” out of the things you can cut corners on when it comes to winter camping the materials you wear are not one of them. Cotton retains moisture longer, does not keep you warm when wet, and increases the chances of you getting Hypothermia or frostbite.

- Ten Essentials
- Moisture Wicking Base-layers Top and Bottom
- Insulating Mid-layers
- Waterproof Shell/Outer Layers (Top and Bottom)
- Waterproof Winter Boots (Preferably Insulated)
- Waterproof Winter Gloves (Multiple Pair Recommended)
- Minimum 3 Season Tent
- Sleeping Pad with high R-Value
- Winter 15 degrees or below Mummy Sleeping Bag with fleece bag liner.
- Wool Socks- Multiple Pairs
- Micro-spikes or Yak-Trax. (not required but can be very helpful)
- Gaiters (not required but very helpful at keeping snow out of boots)
- Snowshoes (not required but can be helpful)

Winter Camping Resources

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/tips-for-dressing-your-kids-in-winter.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/gaiters.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/snowshoes.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/what-is-down-fill-power.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/snow-gloves-and-mittens--how-to-choose.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/winter-camping.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/how-to-dress-in-cold-weather.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/how-to-keep-hands-warm.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/freezing-level-vs-snow-level.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/layering-basics.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/down-vs-synthetic.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/insulated-outerwear.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/sleeping-pads.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/family-base-camping-tent.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/sleeping-bag.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/sleeping-bag-liners.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/understanding-sleeping-bag-temperature-ratings.html>

<https://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/how-to-prevent-condensation-in-a-tent.html>

Sled Protocol

Sleds must be constructed entirely by patrols. Shopping carts, 55-gallon drums, etc. -are not considered to be constructed by the scouts. Store-bought sleds will be allowed but will not receive any point recognition. For reference on how to construct Klondike Sleds, see the diagram on the following page.

The following plan is for a sled that has minimum and maximum dimensions as shown. The sled below is shown as a guide. Your own design may be used if it conforms to the minimum and maximum dimensions. Make sure the sled is strong enough to bear the weight of your equipment and one Scout will hold together for a long trip. It is best to use screws rather than nails. Drill first to avoid splitting wood. The sled shown uses a single-piece runner. Skis or multiple runners may be used. Varnish the bottom of runners and wax before using. Wire netting or a canvas snow curtain may be added to prevent items from falling off the sled.

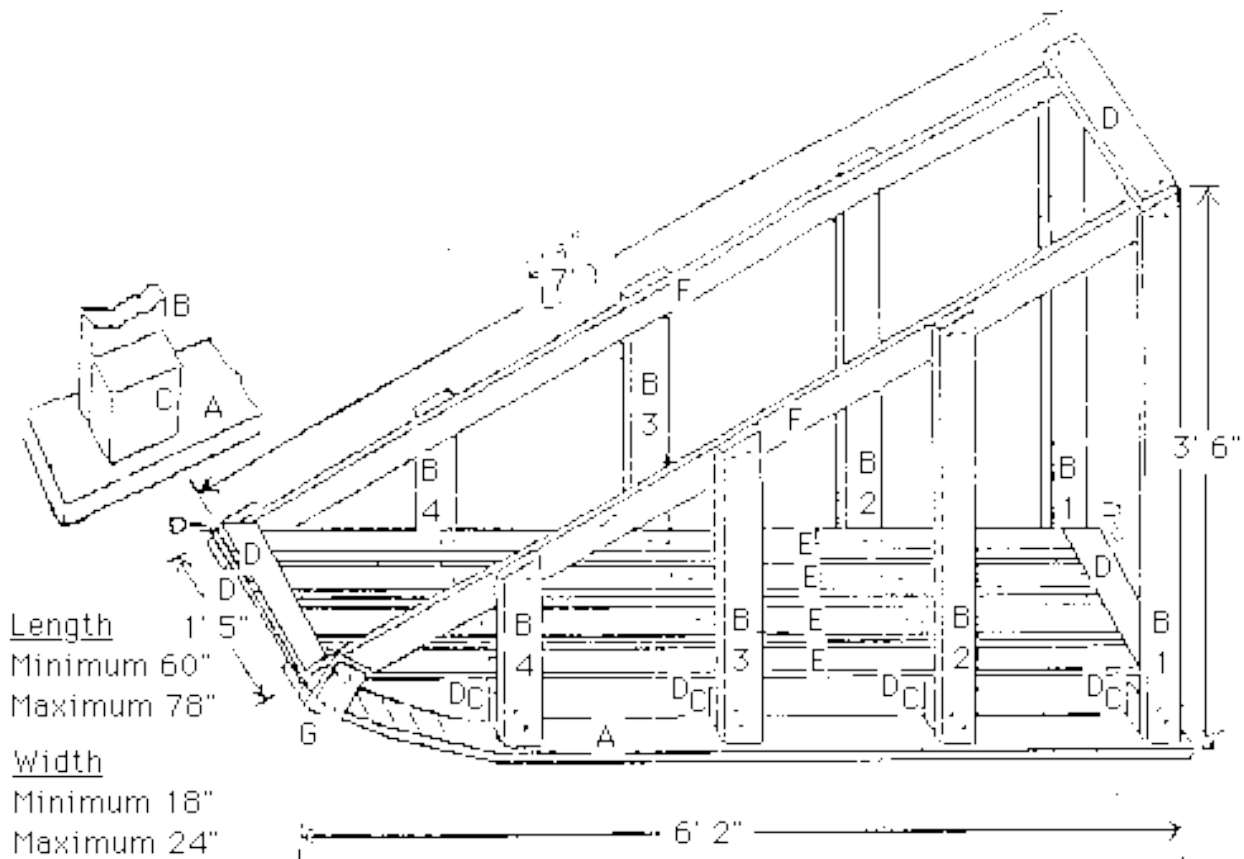
Secure a towing rope at the front.

In past years, the biggest safety problem has been protrusions, like a "push bar" at the rear of the sled, accidentally striking a scout. This year, we ask that you examine your sled for any potential safety problems. The push bar should not protrude more than 6" on each side of the sled. We also ask that no "temporary" additional push bars be placed on the sled during the race. If any member of the Klondike staff notices an illegal protrusion, your sled will be subject to immediate modification.

You can "pad" handles and sharp corners with neoprene foam rubber pipe insulation secured with duct tape, available at hardware or lumber stores.

When constructing the sled please only use bolts, screws, or Lashings. Nails will not hold the sled together.

Item	Label	Quantity	Dimensions
Runners	A	2	1" x 4" x 6'2"
Uprights	B1	2	1" x 4" x 3'6"
	B2	2	1" x 4" x 2'8"
	B3	2	1" x 4" x 1'9"
	B4	2	1" x 4" x 10"
Upright Supports	C	8	2" x 4" x 4"
Cross Supports	D	6	1" x 4" x 1'5"
Floor Strips	E	4	1" x 4" x 6'
Handrails	F	2	1" x 2" x 7'
Front Supports	G	2	1" x 4" x 6"



Unit Check-in Form

Unit #	Adult Unit Leader:					
Head #	SPL:					
SCOUT NAME	Y/18+/A	M/F	Med Form Y/N	Jan -23	Jan-24	PAID
EXP. JOHN DOE	Youth	M	Y	X		\$30.00
1.						
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20.						

PARTICIPATING PATROL NAMES

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

Unit Vehicle Information Form

Unit #	Driver Name:
Vehicle Make/Model	Driver Cell Phone #:
Vehicle Color	License Plate Number

Unit #	Driver Name:
Vehicle Make/Model	Driver Cell Phone #:
Vehicle Color	License Plate Number

Unit #	Driver Name:
Vehicle Make/Model	Driver Cell Phone #:
Vehicle Color	License Plate Number

Unit #	Driver Name:
Vehicle Make/Model	Driver Cell Phone #:
Vehicle Color	License Plate Number

Unit #	Driver Name:
Vehicle Make/Model	Driver Cell Phone #:
Vehicle Color	License Plate Number