

Grand Columbia Territory Klondike Polar Bear Mush Camporee

February 23-25, 2024

Camp Scout-a-Vista

Elevation 3,373'

*Welcome to the Scout-a-Vista Grand Columbia Territory Polar Bear Mush Camporee!
We hope you have come well prepared for winter camping and will have a great snowy time
participating in our events.*



Overview:

Location:

Approx. 47.3123483°N, -120.3847928°W Address: 3275 Mission Ridge Road, Wenatchee, WA 98801

Directions: 16 minutes from Central Wenatchee; 2 hours and 2 minutes from Electric City; 2 hrs and 37 min from Oroville; 1 hour and 3 minutes from Chelan; From Moses Lake 1 hour 24 minutes; from Yakima 2 hours 7 minutes; from Ellensburg 1 hour 40 minutes; 1 hour and 3 minutes from Chelan; From Moses Lake 1 hour 24 minutes; from Yakima 2 hours 7 minutes; from Ellensburg 1 hour 40 minutes.

Directions from Hwy 97/US2: Cross the Columbia River and exit on 285/North Wenatchee Ave. Stay right to be on South Chelan Ave; continue straight onto South Mission Street, After 0.9mi continue onto Squilchuck Rd for 7 miles then it changes its name to Mission Ridge Rd and 1.4 miles the camp is on your left.

Camp's phone for emergency use only: (509) 663-7416

In Brief

- * Bring a scout built sled**
- * Each scout must have and carry their own day pack with scout essentials including a compass and lunch**
- * Each unit brings and prepares the own food**
- * Each unit/patrol must make a dessert for the dessert challenge**
- * Yak tracks or a similar traction device needs to be on your footwear before getting out of your vehicle**
- * Adults and Scouts need a completed A and B Med form**
- * SPL meeting is Friday at 8:30 in the Dining Hall**

Check in

4:00PM – 8:00PM Friday Night Arrival and check-in. Late arrivals please contact the event SM in advance Have your medical forms all ready for adults and youth.

Campsite selection and set up

8:30PM SPL Meeting in Lodge

Details:

You will need your completed medical forms Parts A and B in hand for check in.

BSA Medical form parts a and B are here: https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf?_gl=1*39xdi1*_ga*MTAwNDE1Mjg3Mi4xNjMxOTA2NTY5*_ga_20G0JHESG4*MTYzNDUyODkxOS4zMS4wLjE2MzQ1Mjg5MTkuNjA.

Upon Arrival, the SPL and the Scoutmaster should proceed to the lodge and check in with the following:

- The total number of webelos, scouts, and adults camping.
- A check for any balance owed
- Medical forms A and B for every person staying
- The number and names of patrols that will be competing.

Please leave a card on the dashboard with the driver's name and unit # so we know whose vehicle is whose

Park facing out

You must carry all your gear from the parking area to your site. There will be snow so pack/sled/boot up accordingly.

Lodge Welcome-Stop by the lodge and enjoy the fire and a snack

SPL Meeting - Friday, 8:30

All units need to be represented at the SPL meeting on Friday Night. A great deal of information will be shared during the meeting, and troops will be asked to sign up for clean up or service duties and find out event schedule and details.

SPL, ASPLs, and one Scoutmaster from each unit are welcome.

Safety Reminders:

- BSA policy prohibits passengers in beds of pickup trucks
- Drivers, please maintain safe speed and drive cautiously on camp property, watching out for adults and youth. It may be dark when you arrive, so take extra care.
- Drivers- bring chains that fit your vehicle and a snow shovel or two.
- Follow manufacturer's safe storage instructions when using liquid or propane fuel for cooking or illumination.
- Keep an appropriate fire extinguisher rated for flammable liquids accessible in your campsite.
- "NO FLAMES IN TENTS!" That includes tent heaters that have a flame!!
- Units should take care of minor injuries. We have a medic on site for anything larger than a bandaid.
- Wet gear may be brought into the lodge to dry out

Site Rules:

- Do not cut live trees.
- Do not dig any holes or trenches in the ground; in the snow is fine!



- Follow BSA “Leave No Trace” camping guidelines (chapter 7, Boy Scout Handbook, 12th Edition).
- Store food properly in patrol boxes and ice chests using bungee cord or other method to secure lid.
- Use three pot method for dishwashing
- Polar Bear Camp is a GREEN camp, therefore bring mess kits and utensils, no paper or Styrofoam.
- Trash that your troop generates must be taken secured at night and brought home with you when you leave.
- The Scout Oath and Law is the guideline for conduct.
- Please read over and follow the Guide to Safe Scouting <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/toc/>
- Note-There is no cell service in camp. If you have a devise similar to a Garmin In-reach bring it. Some cell providers get spotty service but generally there is no service. The camp’s phone number for incoming emergency use only is (509) 663-7416

Meals:

Your unit is responsible for all their meals.

There will be a cracker barrel with snacks Friday and for the camp after the campfire.

Please plan warm nutritious dinner and breakfast with snacks.

Everyone must carry their lunch with them, so they do not have to go back to their Troop campsite and you will eat lunch in the lodge.

NOTE:At the moment the camp has frozen pipes so no water. Please bring your own. You can label it and store some in the lodge where it will not freeze. Be prepared”

Be Prepared- in advance

Well before your troop comes please spend a meeting or two preparing for winter camping both gear and cold weather and frost /hypothermia prevention and first aid.

Here are some links to resources for you so you can be prepared:

<https://scoutingmagazine.org/2015/12/winter-camping-tips/>

<https://scoutingmagazine.org/tag/winter-camping/>

Hypothermia Safety Moment is a great one to cover with all scouts and adults attending: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/hypothermia/>

Special Note: Your troop/each patrol needs to build a sled and bring it to camp. This takes advance planning and building. Not a lot of cost but you will need at a minimum a pair of old skis, wood and binders twine or rope. Links to plans for building a sled are included in this guide.

What to Bring:

- Roster of participants
- Parts A+B medical forms and copy of medical insurance card for each camper
- Some back up water! You may store your water at the lodge if you wish, so it does not freeze. Please label it with your unit #.
- **A sled with brakes that your troop/patrol has built.** See specifics.
- **Snow shovels**
- Ax /hatchet for cutting wood (it is quartered only)
- Troop and or patrol flags
- Troop first aid kit
- Note-There is no cell service in camp. If you happen to have a device similar to a Garmin In-reach bring it.
- Lanterns, matches, flashlights **NOTE NO FLAMES IN TENTS!**
- Standard troop camping equipment (tents, food, cooking equipment, etc.) but with an eye towards winter stable tents. Extra ground cloth so that one is under the tent and another inside the tent.
- **Water!** Currently the pipes in camp are frozen. So there are portable toilets and you must bring your own water for cooking and sanitation.
- Pay particular attention to insulation underneath. **NO** thick air mattresses (too much air is hard to heat from your body on top and cold under). 2 closed foam cell pads or a closed cell foam pad/therm-a-rest type pad and a double reflective insulation pad (looks like reflective bubble wrap) works well.
- Super warm sleeping bag or 2 sleeping bags. A rectangular bag and a mummy one inside work well in combination. Or one bag and rand extra blankets or a liner
- A knit cap (or 2)
- Warm gloves (2 pair in case 1 gets wet) with scout's name
- Wool socks or other non cotton socks (bring extra in case they get wet) About 7 pairs change every meal and at bedtime (no lie)
- Warm long underwear and warm pjs
- Layers- at least 3 one being water proof (snow happens)
- Water proof shoes or snow boots
- Bike helmet to wear for the sled
- Day pack with 10 essentials including a compass to be carried by each scout
- A traction device on your shoes is a smart idea like Yak Tracks or the like. The roads get icy and care and traction on shoes / boots helps prevent falls
- An extra change of dry, clean clothes and a plastic bag or 2 for wet gear

- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Snow shovel(s) This is repeated for emphasis
- Optional: hand warmers
- **Tip:** wise leaders bring a few extra sleeping bags or blankets, extra tarps and plastic bags for wet things
- **Uniforms of the Day:**

Scouts BSA Field uniform (Class "A") is required for Saturday morning & evening flag. Otherwise be warm and water proof

General Schedule of Events *(Specifics given to SPLs at Friday's meeting)*

Friday

FYI Sunrise is at 6:53AM and Sunset is at 5:37 However once the sun dips below the mountain the temperatures go down fast
Historical Average Temp for Feb 23rd 29-40 degrees

9:00AM-4:00PM Staff arrival, set up and snow shoveling

4:00-8:00 Unit arrival, check in and camp set up and...

Join us in the lodge for a snack and to visit after your camp has been set up

8:30 SPL/SM Meeting in the Lodge

Saturday FYI Sunrise is at 6:53AM and Sunset is at 5:37PM

Note-bring lunch and sled ready for your day to flag

10:00 Flag

10:30-12:00 Events

12:00-12:30 Lunch (eat your bag lunch in the lodge)

12:30-4:00 events

4:00 Flag

Dinner & Clean up

6:30 Full Belly Bear Dessert sample due at lodge for judging

7:00 Campfire skits, songs, awards

Sunday FYI Sunrise is 6:50AM

9:00 Interfaith Worship Service in Lodge

Please be out of camp by noon



Events-

There are always points awarded for scout spirit and the "Snowball Award". Then there is the "Polar Bear" Award for the over-all competition winner!

"Mush 1: The dog sled's design and function

This is the place to be to learn all about the how's and why's of dog sled construction and function. Not a completion but the information is cool/cold/freezing.

Mush 2: Sled Dogs

You can't get anywhere with a sled unless you have an awesome dog team. Here you'll learn all about sled dogs and their care and feeding.

"Lunch on the Trapline Trail" - bring your bag lunch and eat in the dining hall where it is warm while you hear about trail food along a dog sled race course. How do they not eat frozen food? There might be some tasting for the brave.

Afternoon Competition Events:

Mush 3: Safety & First Aid Along the Dog Sled Trail- 1-10 points awarded This is a competition

You will be given a variety of scenarios that involve natural hazards and first aid scenarios you will need to come up with solutions for /treatment for. Hint- you can be prepared to do well if study such things ahead of time.

°Webelos/Arrow of Light dens will get instruction on these things instead of the expectation that you will know the answers.

Mush 4: Sled Design & Construction-1-10 points awarded. Each patrol/ or troop has built a sled. Your sled will receive proper attention and be judged on its construction, durability, carrying capacity (of gear and for the race, 1 scout sits in it and the rest pull)and originality. **It must have brakes!** Helmets required for sled people . If you need to borrow a helmet speak up now and this **must be** on your sled and worn later. All required gear for the day safely stowed on your sled. Hint: first aid kit and any station supplies, clothing layers, sunscreen, snacks, water, Patrol Flag.

Webelos/Arrow of Light Dens- May bring and use a commercial plastic sled. Webelos/or whatever they create. and bring for home. (subject to a safety check). You still need to have proper clothing layers, snacks, first aid kit and day packs with your 6 essentials. All sled participants need to have a helmet. If you need to borrow one ask now.

No saucer s or tubes.

Mush 5: Sled Race aka “Scout Mush”- 1-10 points awarded for the fastest completion of the Polar Course. You pull it through; no going off course. This event is timed and each sled races by itself. Helmets are required. But cheer on everyone else. This is an all-camp event.

Webelos/Arrow of Light dens can race their sleds too. You can race multiple ones.



Campsite! 1-10 points for a great well prepared, clean and organized site.

(Not a webelos event)

Arrangement of camp- best use of terrain; fire above ground; kitchen area and sleeping well spaced apart; first aid kit visible; camp gadget; troop and patrol flag displayed

Campsite Safety and Cleanliness- free of litter; all personal and troop equipment properly stored; food stored properly; fire tools (shovel) and extinguishing agent evident; defined wood cutting area with tools sheathed and wood supply neatly stacked; fire guard sheet posted.

Campsite Cooking Area- Dishes, pots, pans and utensils clean and stored properly; Food prep and eating areas clean; menus and duty roster posted or tied to a tree or visible (no nails or staples). Trash secured.

Full Belly Bear Dessert Challenge- you may prepare a dessert in camp and bring the judges a tasting sample. This sample is due at the lodge no later than 6:30PM

Webelos /Arrow of Light Dens will rotate through all events together. Instead of competition you will receive instruction. Webelos/Arrow of Light Dens may bring and use a plastic sled or other commercially made product or home-made sled to use as their sled (no saucers or tubes). Don't forget helmets are required for sledding. We are so glad you are coming!

There are many sled designs and videos.

Here are links to some:

Good basic intro and tips https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvxQ_5bvMol

https://scoutdocs.ca/Klondike/Klondike_sled_plans.php

<http://www.scouters.us/sled.html>

<https://skcscouts.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Klondike-Derby-Sled-Plans.pdf>

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/7605768/ez-klondike-derby-sled-plans-troop1-of-milford-ct>

http://storage.trcbsa.org/event/docs/4776/bluenose_guide_2018.pdf

Note- A scout is thrifty.

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