

Boy Scouts of America

Scouts BSA Troop 773B

National Capital Area Council

Potomac District

Chartered by Potomac United Methodist Church
9908 South Glen Road
Potomac, MD 20854

Troop 773 Handbook

Welcome to Troop 773. Troop 773 was founded in 1958 and serves Potomac, MD, and the adjacent communities. The troop meets weekly, camps monthly, meets for special programs, attends summer camp, and rotates four high adventure camps. The troop is chartered by Potomac United Methodist Church but is not religiously affiliated. The troop is open to Scouts of all religions.

Troop meetings: The troop meets every Tuesday from 7:30 pm to 9 pm except the first Tuesday of the month. Pickup is at 9 pm sharp. Troop meetings are a Class A uniform event. The troop does not meet on holidays or when MCPS is closed due to weather.

Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) Meetings: The PLC meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 7:30 pm to 9 pm. Scouts that should attend are Senior Patrol Leader (SPL), Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL), Patrol Leaders (PL), Troop Guide (TG), Scribe, Quartermaster (QM), and Junior Assistant Scoutmasters (JASM). The SPL may ask other Scouts to attend PLC meetings. PLC meetings are a Class B uniform event. This meeting typically ends early.

Troop Committee Meeting: First Monday of the month from 7:30 pm to 9 pm. Parents are invited to attend and or join.

Troop Campouts: The troop camps monthly. Each patrol will assign one Cook. The Cook plans the meals, buys the food, and collects funds from each participant. The Cook takes home the Chuck Box for cleaning and resupply. Campout registration closes on Tuesday night before the campout. If a Scout has registered for a campout and drops out after registration closes he owes his Cook money for his food. Parent chaperones are always needed in campouts. If you can camp, join us as much as your schedule permits. Troop campouts are the most fun activity of Scouting. Parents of special needs Scouts may need to attend campouts.

Troop Special Events: The troop participates in several special events such as the Potomac Day Parade, service projects, Eagle projects, Scout Sunday, Scouting for Food, and the troop spaghetti dinner

fundraiser. Scouts of all denominations should attend Scout Sunday. Parents and siblings should attend Scout Sunday.

Court of Honor: The troop typically holds three Court of Honors per year. A Court of Honor is an awards ceremony that parents and siblings should attend. Court of Honors are held in the church sanctuary.

Spaghetti Dinner: Each year the troop hosts a spaghetti dinner fundraiser. Each Scout is required to sell 12 tickets. If a Scout does not sell 12, tickets parents are responsible for the funds. Parents are required to volunteer to help with the spaghetti dinner. Scouts are required to volunteer to help with the dinner. Prizes are awarded to Scouts that sell more than 12 tickets.

First-Year Scouts: The troop runs a First-Year Scouts program for scouts new to Scouts BSA. The program runs the entire year meeting weekly. The goal of the program is for Scouts to achieve the rank of First Class.

Troop website: <https://www.troop773.com/>

Troop calendar: <https://www.troop773.com/calendar/>

Troop calendar link to sync phones or calendars: Sync your phone and calendar. Troop calendar updates will appear automatically.

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/scoutmasters%40troop773.com/private-c811f5325331892e858d5d7b1c164e86/basic.ics>

Troop email group: Scouts and parents should join the troop email group to receive troop emails. The troop sends a weekly "Tuesday email". troop773potomac@googlegroups.com

<https://groups.google.com/d/forum/troop773potomac>

Troop events: Troop event details are emailed and posted.

<https://www.troop773.com/events/>

Scoutbook: Scout advancement tracking website. Parents must register and then allow their Scout to join Scoutbook.

<https://www.scoutbook.com/mobile/signup.asp>

Facebook: The troop has a closed Facebook group for posting photos. "Troop 773 Potomac MD". Scouts and parents should join our Facebook group to view troop photos. Ask to join.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/268224186531266/>

PayPal: The troop uses PayPal for most payments. Sometimes the troop will add a fee to cover the cost of PayPal.

SignUpGenius: The troop uses SignUpGenius for event registration. The troop will sometimes use SignUpGenius payments to collect funds.

DocuSign: The troop uses DocuSign for some signature forms.

Google G Suite: The troop uses Google G Suite for email and document storage.

Asset Tiger: The troop uses Asset Tiger for inventory management. A scout or parent email address will be added to Asset Tiger.

QuickBooks Online: The troop tracks finances with QuickBooks Online.

Troop Documents: Important Troop documents are posted on the troop website.

<https://www.troop773.com/membership/>

Links to other Scouting websites: <https://www.troop773.com/scouting/>

Scout responsibilities: Attend as many meetings and events as possible (homework comes before Scouting). Responsibly care for troop equipment. Be a cook at least once a year. Dry and clean a tent at least once a year. Cheerfully help your patrol and troop.

Parent responsibilities: Troop 773 is boy-led but needs parents to run. Parents are expected to volunteer in some aspect for the troop. The troop needs parent chaperones for all activities. Parents are especially needed for troop campouts. Parents are required to help with the troop spaghetti dinner fundraiser. Parents are expected to pick up their Scout on time. Parents are financially responsible for troop equipment in their Scout's possession, including damage by neglect or loss. Parents are responsible to make sure their Scout cares for troop gear properly.

Troop dues: The troop collects dues each year to support the troop program. Scholarships are available.

Refunds: The troop will make refunds only when the troop is refunded by the vendor.

BSA Health and Permission: Scouts are required to submit the BSA AB permission and health form. Scouts that attend camp are required to submit BSA ABC permission and health form. The troop stores these forms in the troop Google G Suite account so they may be accessed in case of emergency. To opt out of electronic storage, email the Scoutmasters.

Code of Conduct: Scouts are required to sign and follow our troop Code of Conduct.

Scout Uniform: The BSA Class A uniform is the full Scout uniform complete with Scout pants, belt, and socks. The troop also wears a yellow troop neckerchief. The Class B uniform is a red troop tee-shirt worn with Scout pants and socks. The yellow troop neckerchief and red Class B tee-shirt are provided by the troop.

Troop Equipment: The troop provides tents and patrol cooking equipment. Scouts should provide personal equipment. See troop website for camping lists. The troop does not supply tents for parents however parents are welcome to use spare tents.

Scout Equipment: Scouts require some basic camping equipment. High-top hiking boots, a backpack, a sleeping bag, rain gear, and such. See equipment list suggestions for specifics on the troop website. See campout-specific list for different trips.

BSA Transportation Policy: The Boy Scouts of America's transportation policy requires all drivers to be at least 18 and have a valid driver's license.

<https://www.ncacbsa.org/blog/2017/02/13/new-bsa-transportation-policy/>

Summer Camp: The troop attends summer camp typically at Goshen Scout Reservation, Camp Bowman.

High Adventure: The troop attends four high adventure camps in a four-year rotation. High adventure camps are for Scouts age 13 or 14 and up (depending on which camp). The four high adventure camps the troop attends are Philmont, Northern Tier, Sea Base, and Summit Bechtel Reserve.

Merit Badge Counselor: Parents may sign up as Merit Badge Counselors of topics of expertise. Parents may be a Merit Badge Counselor for as many Merit Badges as they choose. The troop holds several Merit Badge classes each year.

Troop Parent Volunteer Positions: The troop has several open parent volunteer positions. Please consider one of these parent volunteer positions.

Advancement – Chris Mayhugh	Plan and lead a campout – Open
First Year Scout Coordinator - Open	Plan and lead a special event - Open
Goshen Coordinator - Marianne Beardall	Plan and lead a troop meeting - Open
High Adventure Coordinator - Swati Gupta	Scout Trainer – Open
Membership – Kristen Vaughn	Spaghetti Dinner Coordinator – Kathleen Whisenhunt
Merit Badge Counselor – Open	Treasurer – Mukti Gupta
Merit Badge Coordinator - Petrina Hollingsworth	Webmaster - Open

Troop Leadership: scoutmasters@troop773.com - (Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters)

Ken Rotert – Scoutmaster	Matt Jilling – Assistant Scoutmaster
Kathy Brinsfield – Assistant Scoutmaster	Kimberly King – Assistant Scoutmaster
Wes Chou – Assistant Scoutmaster	Dan Ladd – Assistant Scoutmaster
Darin Curtiss – Assistant Scoutmaster	Anuj Shah – Assistant Scoutmaster
Joe Garland – Assistant Scoutmaster	Jon Sieg – Assistant Scoutmaster
Rich Golland – Assistant Scoutmaster	Mark Whisenhunt – Assistant Scoutmaster
Vishal Gupta – Assistant Scoutmaster	

Troop Committee Leadership:

Steve Hartmann – Committee Chair
Glen Ireland – Chartered Organizational Representative

Scouts BSA Troop 773G

Contact Michelle Colacicco-Mayhugh at mgcolacicco@gmail.com.