



ALASKA 2010 HIGH ADVENTURE INFORMATION

Dear Scout,

This is your invitation to join Troop 171 for the Alaska 2010 High Adventure. Several weeks ago, we held our first information/planning session for the Alaska Adventure. It is now time to get a firm commitment in order to secure airline tickets and an exact date.

IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES:

- Alaska Signup Sheet DUE: Final deadline Dec. 21 (via email to Scott) to hold airline ticket.
- Non-refundable Deposit Due with signup - \$50.
- Trip dates fall in a two-week window between June 20 and August 8.

ADVENTURE DETAILS

DATES: Two-week window in the range of **June 20 to July 8**. We will have exact dates after we get our final bid for airline tickets the last week of December.

COST: Estimated cost (including airfare, food, sightseeing and transportation) is approximately \$2000. The exact cost will be available in January after we finish setting the kayaking, vehicles and trip itinerary. As usual, if the cost of a trip is the only reason you cannot attend, please see me privately. We cannot pay for a trip of this size, but we do have some alternatives that may help.

Deposit (Due with this page)	Due With Signup	\$50.00	** (\$50.00 paid to date)
Payment #2	Due Feb. 1	\$400.00	(\$450.00 paid to date)
Payment #3	Due Mar. 1	\$400.00	(\$850.00 paid to date)
Payment #4	Due May 1	\$400.00	(\$1250.00 paid to date)
Payment #5	Due June 1	\$400.00	(\$1650.00 paid to date)
Payment #6	Due July 1	\$350.00	(\$2000.00 paid to date)

** Deposit is non-refundable

Final payment or refund will be due/completed when we return and all costs are reimbursed.

SPECIAL NOTE – IMPORTANT: As you are probably aware, there has been a significant jump in airfare between our last trip and this one. Also, each activity has shown VERY increased prices. To keep the trip within the price above, various portions of the trip may be changed or eliminated.

TRIP REQUIREMENTS - Scouts: Any Scout in troop 171 who is age 14 or above by the start of the adventure is eligible. Additional requirements to attend the trip include:

- **AGE:** The age for BSA High Adventure activities is 14 at the start of the trip. The Troop 171 Stair Step to Adventure provides appropriate activities for all ages of Scouts (Mini, Micro and High). The appropriate ages for this trip are 14 to 17.

- **ACTIVE SCOUT:** Be active in Troop 171 including Monday meetings and campouts. A casual visit now and then does not meet this requirement.
- **CAMPING:** Have an active Scout camping record during the past 12 months shown by meeting one of the following campout minimums:
 ___ Option A: Attend a minimum of SIX nights of monthly camping with the troop during the 12 months preceding the trip, not including summer camp or other adventures. (July 2009 – June 2010)
 ___ Option B: Attend a minimum of FOUR nights of monthly camping with the troop AND SIX nights of summer camp, mini adventure or high adventure in the 12 months preceding the trip (10 nights total). (July 2009 – June 2010). It is important to check the pre-trip requirements for the other mini and high adventures if you will be using them for the Alaska High Adventure.

Campout Notes: Chimney Park and Klondike Derby, count as two nights.

- **RANK ADVANCEMENT:** Life or Eagle Rank or above and advanced at least one rank during the 12 months prior to the trip (special consideration for Life Scouts - specific advancement agreement completed with trip signup – mb's and project).
 - Camping Merit Badge
 - Cooking Merit Badge
 - Canoeing Merit Badge
 - First Aid Merit Badge
 - Swimming Merit Badge
- **MEETINGS:** Attend troop and crew meetings on a regular basis. Knowing high school commitments, this would be at least 50% participation at Monday meetings.
- **OTHER ATTENDANCE:** Attend planning, food buying, packing and shakedown meetings.
- **MEDICAL:** BSA Medical Form with a physical exam completed.
- **TETANUS:** A current tetanus inoculation is required for all high and mini adventure trips.

TRIP REQUIREMENTS - ADULTS: Scouting High Adventure trips are meant to present challenges for Scouts ages 14 to 17. There are certain risks inherent in these activities. It is important that the adults leading and participating in these trips have sufficient background, training and physical abilities to insure success for themselves and the Scouts in the crew.

It is important that the adults in the crews are not the limiting factor for the crew. This is a very challenging adventure.

- Participated in at least one previous Troop 171 adventure (high or mini).
- Attend a minimum of two monthly campouts within the 24 months preceding the trip.
- Have a current Red Cross First Aid and CPR certificate (or other certifying agency).
- Completed Troop 171 Adult training sessions (provided last spring and will be again next spring).

- Have previous backpacking experience and physical conditioning sufficient to meet the challenges of backpacking up to 15 miles per day in difficult mountain terrain that includes steep grades and river crossings.
- Have previous canoeing experience to provide leadership and safety for aquatic activities (canoeing, sea kayaking, swimming, etc.) - available from pre-trip training.
- Complete BSA Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training (available from Troop 171 or on-line).
- Attend planning, food buying, packing and shakedown meetings.
- BSA Medical Form with a physical exam completed within the 12 months prior to the trip.
- Tetanus: a current tetanus inoculation is required for all mini and high adventure trips.
- NOTE: there may be modifications to these requirements depending on the trip elements chosen by the Scouts.

CREW SIZE: At this time, we are planning on 2 crews of 7 Scouts and 3 adults each. This number can be changed if there is sincere interest and the adult support to have more crews.

PARENTS and OTHER ADULTS: In keeping with high adventure policies, crews must be made up of a majority of Scouts. National B.S.A. recommendations are for crews of 7 Scouts and 3 adults. There must be a minimum of two adults per crew, one of which is over 21 years of age. In the event that we have more than this number, support positions would be available. These positions will meet crews at trailheads, haul boats, move vans, etc. This is a fine line. We need to have enough adults to run the crews, but we need to keep in mind that these trips are for Scouts. Further details are included in the attached sheet regarding adult training.

DEPOSIT: a \$50.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit must accompany each signup sheet. This will be used to hold the airline reservation. If a Scout has sufficient funds in their Scout account, the fee may be deducted directly. This fee will only be refunded if there is not space available on the trip.

PLANNING MTNG: There will be several required planning meetings to prepare for this trip. We will be scheduling them soon. Watch the upcoming newsletters for exact dates.

OTHER INFO: Other information such as payment schedule, itinerary, equipment list, etc. will be available during the next several months. Specific questions can be addressed to either Scott Miller.



Alaska 2010 High Adventure Signup

(Due December 21, 2009 in person or via e-mail)

SCOUT (please print): _____

Please reserve a space for me on the Troop 171 Alaska Adventure. I realize that I must meet the requirements listed below and meet the payment schedule shown on the attached page.

Scout Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

PARENT/ADULT INTERESTED IN GOING: _____

NOTE: Parents/Adults – please see "Parents and Other Adults" information on the previous page and the adult training requirements sheet.

TRIP REQUIREMENTS - Scouts must meet the requirements listed below:

Advancement (Rank) As of January, 2009	HAVE	NEED	
• Life or Eagle rank	_____	_____	_____ Current Rank
Merit Badges (Can Be Completed Next Summer)			
• Camping Merit Badge	_____	_____	
• First Aid Merit Badge	_____	_____	
• Cooking Merit Badge	_____	_____	
• Swimming Merit Badge	_____	_____	
• Canoeing Merit Badge	_____	_____	

Campout Activity

- ✓ **Option A:** Attend a minimum of **SIX** nights of monthly camping with the troop during the 12 months preceding the trip, **NOT** including summer camp or other adventures.
- ✓ **Option B:** Attend a minimum of **FOUR** nights of monthly camping with the troop **AND** six nights of summer camp, mini adventure or high adventure in the 12 months preceding the trip (10 nights total).

			Option A (6 Nights Min.)	Option B (10 Nights Min.)
Sep. 2009	(Caribou Road)	(1 nt.)	_____	_____
Oct. 2009	(Camp Patiya)	(1 nt.)	_____	_____
Nov. 2009	(Gordon Gulch)	(1 nt.)	_____	_____
Dec. 2009	(Green Mtn. Res. Copper Mtn)	(1 nt.)	_____	_____
Jan. 2010	(Pre-Klondike)	(1 nt.)	_____	_____
Feb. 2010	(Klondike Derby)	(2 nts.)	_____	_____
Mar. 2010	(Chimney Park - X-country ski)	(2 nts.)	_____	_____
Apr. 2010	(TBA)	(1 nt.)	_____	_____
May 2010	(TBA)	(1 nt.)	_____	_____
Summer Camp 2010	– Flaming Gorge	(6 nts. max.)	N.A.	_____
Mar. 2010 Spring Break	Desert Adventure	(6 nts. max.)	N.A.	_____

===== → **TOTAL PLANNED** =====