

Uniform Policy

The Scout uniform helps to achieve the objectives of Scouting. The uniform itself cannot make a good Scout or a good troop, but its use has been proven to improve both the Scout and the troop because it is a visible symbol of Scouting and unity. While the official BSA uniform is the standard for Troop 216, the Troop Committee and/or Scoutmaster have authorized variations for specific activities/occasions.

Each Scout is required to have and wear, within a reasonable amount of time after joining the troop, the official BSA uniform. If a Scout cannot purchase an official BSA uniform, he should discuss this with the Scoutmaster or the Troop Committee Chairperson.

Parents are expected to understand the uniform requirements and to encourage their Scout to be properly dressed for all Scouting events.

Official BSA Uniform for Scouts

The Official BSA uniform, often called the “Class A uniform”, consists of:

- Official BSA tan short or long-sleeve shirt with all patches and insignia properly placed (see the inside cover of the Scout Handbook for information regarding the placement of patches and insignia). With the possible exception of the top button, all buttons should be fastened. Shirrtail should be tucked into pants.
- Official BSA green short or long pants.
- Troop 216 yellow and red neckerchief with a Scout theme slide. The neckerchief should be neatly rolled and worn under the shirt collar.

Note: The Troop Committee and/or Scoutmaster may designate the wearing of an alternative troop neckerchief (e.g., the blue 25th anniversary troop neckerchief) for an event, activity or period of time.

- Official BSA web belt or Scout theme leather belt and buckle set (e.g., Philmont or Jamboree belt and buckle).
- Official BSA green and red socks worn with closed toe shoes or boots.

Optional elements of the official BSA uniform include:

- Official BSA or Scout theme hat worn appropriately (i.e., baseball style caps with bill forward).
- Merit badge sash worn over the right shoulder. The merit badge sash is never worn tucked into the belt.
- Order of the Arrow (OA) sash is worn only when directed by the OA representative and/or Scoutmaster.
- Up to five (5) BSA medals may be worn over the Left shirt pocket. Note: Religious Medals are not BSA medals. They are worn on Scout Sunday, religious events supported by the troop or as directed by the Scoutmaster.

While Scouts will be encouraged to wear the official BSA uniform for all troop meetings, events, activities and ceremonies, it will be worn for all rank advancement functions, on Scout Sunday and during luminary delivery. Rank advancement functions include the Scoutmaster Conference, Board of Review, Court of Honor and Eagle Ceremonies.

A Scout *will not* be admitted to a Scoutmaster Conference or Board of Review unless in the official BSA uniform. A Scout *may* be prohibited from participation in all functions at a Court of Honor unless in the official BSA uniform. The final decision as to whether a Scout is “in” uniform will be made by the Scoutmaster for Scoutmaster Conferences, Court of Honor and luminary delivery and by the Chairperson of the Board of Review for a Board of Review with or without consultation with the Senior Patrol Leader and/or Troop Committee Chairperson.

Troop Duty Uniform for Scouts

The troop duty uniform, or “TDU”, consists of:

- Official BSA tan short or long-sleeve shirt with all patches and insignia properly placed. With the possible exception of the top button, all buttons should be fastened. Shirttail should be tucked into pants.
- Official BSA or any other green short or long pants.
- Official BSA web belt or Scout theme leather belt and buckle set (e.g., Philmont or Jamboree belt and buckle).
- Official BSA green and red socks worn with closed toe shoes or boots.

An optional element of the TDU is:

- Official BSA or Scout theme hat worn appropriately (i.e., baseball style caps with bill forward).

As a substitute for the official BSA uniform, the troop duty uniform may be worn to troop related meetings, while traveling with the troop, during meal times on campouts and any other times designated by the Senior Patrol Leader, Scoutmaster and/or Troop Committee.

Troop Activity Uniform for Scouts

The troop activity uniform, often called the “Class B uniform”, consists of:

- Troop T-shirt or Scout theme T-shirt (e.g., Scout summer camp T-shirt). Shirttail should be tucked into pants.
- Official BSA or any other green short or long pants.
- Official BSA web belt or Scout theme leather belt and buckle set (e.g., Philmont or Jamboree belt and buckle).
- Official BSA green and red socks worn with closed toe shoes or boots.

An optional element of the troop duty uniform is:

- Official BSA of Scout theme hat worn appropriately (i.e., baseball style caps with bill forward).

The troop activity uniform may be worn to service projects and during activities on campouts and any other times designated by the Senior Patrol Leader, Scoutmaster and/or Troop Committee.