

2021 KLONDIKE SLED MATERIALS LIST AND SLED TEAM PREPARATION

The 2021 Klondike is a challenge for mind and body, pitting traditional Scout skills against a simulated survival situation. Each sled team is to prepare as if they found themselves on a real journey through the wilderness in winter. Consequently, rather than providing a detailed list of all materials needed, each sled team will need to decide what they are going to bring, keeping the following in mind:

- **NO MATERIALS OR EQUIPMENT ARE TO BE PROVIDED – EACH TEAM MUST CARRY ALL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT ON THEIR PERSON OR ON THEIR SLED, OVER A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE. THIS INCLUDES “PACKING OUT” EVERYTHING YOU CAME WITH (EXCEPT BURNT WOOD / HOT COALS).** Ensure that your sled and your Scouts are prepared to carry the weight and bulk of equipment. Make sure your sled is in good repair and sufficient for the job and it is operational in both snow and without snow (see further information and link to a Google document, below).
- Scouts will be judged primarily by their own Scoutmaster or Adult in attendance in accordance with social distancing protocols. While the score sheet will not be disclosed to the Scoutmaster until the day of the event, the scoresheet will center different aspects of the below challenges.
- While contained within the confines of Ingersoll Scout Reservation, the intent is to simulate a journey and survival situation: Any tests of skill are expected to be carried out as if “for real” (within the constraints of COVID and Scouting safety practices)
- Units camping overnight will be allowed to drive the unit trailer to the site.

Therefore, this is how you should prepare and provision your team:

1. You will face **first aid** challenges. On a dangerous winter journey such as this, your team members will sustain (simulated) injuries; you must treat them and take into consideration the impact as if they were real. Be prepared to handle any emergency – “regular” or cold-weather-related -- you might face if truly journeying across the frozen wilderness. You WILL need to respond to these situations. Bring whatever you need, practice and prepare for anything.
2. You will be **navigating** to your site via **compass and orienteering** techniques. You must find your site on your own. Be assured your directions will not be a straight path and line-of-site will not win the day. If camping, the place you camp may not be the same place of your Klondike challenge.
3. Upon arrival at your site, you must **Build and Maintain a Warming Fire**. This is not a “burn the string” demonstration. You will need to transport sufficient wood (tinder, kindling, fuel) to build and sustain a fire that will / would provide sufficient warmth **for your entire team for your entire time** on-site (assume 4 to 6 hours). How much wood to bring? You decide.
4. Your team will **construct shelter sufficient to cover all Scouts sleeping through the night during a light rain or snow** (no real or simulated sleeping is required – the official definition will be a 2x6 foot space for each Scout). You determine what you need to bring with you to accomplish this goal. How you construct it, what materials you use, etc. is up to you. Remember, all Sled Team members (2x6 equivalent each) sleeping at one time in a shelter that would keep the rain or snow off (assume light rain or snow – not storm). It must actually be constructed and be strong enough not to fall down, etc.
5. **Each Scout MUST be provided a hot meal** of your choosing. You can cook over your warming fire or on stoves you provide, etc. This will be the food you will be eating that day (no meal provided by Klondike). All Scouts are not required to eat the same food and COVID safety precautions must be in place. Non-heated / cooked food (e.g. fruit, vegetables, snacks, etc.) may supplement but the **“main dish” must be “hot”** (cooked or

heated on-site). All food and cooking supplies / equipment must be carried with you. The “meal” must be reasonable – heating a marshmallow on a stick is NOT considered a meal. Use your Scouting skill and knowledge.

6. Two of your team members will undertake a journey to a nearby village for special provisions. To make the journey, your team should **construct two pair of makeshift snowshoes or skis at the event** (or one pair of each) so that they can make it through the snow (regardless of actual weather conditions on Klondike day). You can use natural or man-made materials, but they must be brought with you or found on-site. Real snowshoes or skis (i.e. manufactured) do not count.

Other than equipment and material for the challenges as outlined above, each Sled Team should ensure they are ready for an entire day out-of-doors at a winter Scouting event:

- Due to COVID considerations, **expect no shelter to be provided and toilet facilities will be latrines near your team site. **However, the wash-stand water at latrines will NOT be turned on: Bring hand sanitizer or other cleaning products to cover any hygiene needs and sufficient water for drinking, cooking and washing, as needed.**** Real life emergencies will be handled as they normally would, but Scouts (and adults) should not expect indoor spaces to warm up, relax, etc.
- **Dress warmly**, using layers and avoiding cotton clothing. Bring your hats, gloves, boots, etc. for an all-day, outdoors experience and **wear them!**
- **Each Scout should have his / her own full water bottle.** The sled team may consider carrying additional bulk water for consumption, cooking, or cleaning as needed.
- **Consider how you can use traditional Scouting gear** (walking stick, cord or rope, pocket knives, etc.) to complete the challenges and to handle any unexpected circumstances. What would you normally bring to Klondike? How will you start your fire? What gear is needed (or useful) for constructing any items you may need to construct? A Scout Handbook is always a good idea...
- **The construction of your Klondike sled (design, materials used, etc.) is completely up to your team** - there are no specific requirements other than it needs to be capable of carrying your equipment and supplies. Note: It is unknown if there will be slight snow, deep snow, or no snow – be sure whatever you use as your sled (from traditional design to plastic toboggan) will work in any of those conditions (wheels, etc. are fine if you want to use them). You are encouraged to construct and test your sled before coming to Klondike. For more information, [helpful links with a variety of sled designs](#) can be found in this Google Docs [document](#).
- **Medical forms, etc., after being presented at registration, can be retained in a vehicle or kept with the team** (at your discretion and responsibility). Attending units are expected to **follow the BSA’s “Restart Scouting” guidelines**, available at [this link](#). Screen all participants before attending the event and require anyone showing symptoms of COVID to stay home. **** Masks covering both mouth and nose will be required for ALL attendees ****
- **The Key: Plan as if this is a real journey and your survival is at stake: Take neither too much nor too little – decide what you really need and are capable of carrying over a distance.**

How will the event be safe?

- **First Aid** (with a trained emergency responder) **and Emergency warming station** will be provided at Headquarters in RMS lodge next to parking lot. Note: The warming station is not for comfort and convenience but rather only for an individual with a serious cold-related condition. Participants are expected to prepare to dress for the weather, etc.

- **Extra wood** will be available for any units staying the night. This wood cannot be used for the team's participation during the event; only wood brought by the team or natural wood found on site.
- If unit runs out of **water**, it will be available at the RMS lodge. This water will be to ensure no participant becomes dehydrated; it is not a substitute for water for cooking, etc. during the event.