



# HIGHLIGHTS OF VARSITY SCOUTING

**Varsity Scout Pledge**

As a Varsity Scout I will:

Live by the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan;

Honor the dignity and worth of all persons;

Promote the cause of freedom;

and Do my best to be a good team member

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Great Salt Lake Council  
Varsity Scouting



# GREAT PROGRAMS AND GREAT ACTIVITIES

## BIATHLON

The Biathlon is a timed event with two stops in the snowshoe race route to shoot black powder rifles. There will be team building games and other activities to participate in while waiting for your run time. Overnight camping is available but not necessary to participate. A great winter activity to try your skills and aim!

mountain-top ceremonies, competition in various areas of performance, making and learning to use On Target mirrors, learning about and using ham radios, or an awards banquet at which prizes are awarded for outstanding performance during On Target.

## ON BELAY

This is your opportunity to take part in an enjoyable outdoor learning experience and discover what Varsity Scouting is all about! This course is for all youth and adults connected with the Varsity Scout program: coaches, assistant coaches, boys, charter organizational representatives, committee members and district staff members.

## **B** **i** **g** **THE VARSITY** **g** **BIG EVENT** **g** **Come and enjoy the** **g** **Great Outdoors!**

**B**  
**i**  
**g** **The Big Event offers over 50**  
**g** **hands on activities in the five**  
**g** **fields of emphasis:**  
**g** **1. High Adventurer/Sports**  
**g** **2. Personal Development**  
**g** **3. Service**  
**g** **4. Special Programs and**  
**g** **Events**  
**g** **5. Advancement**



## ON TARGET

Operation On Target is a great mountain-top experience that centers around hiking to a mountain summit and signaling to other Scout units with special On Target mirrors, signaling base-stations can also be set up on the valley floors at which parents can come. Other fun and exciting activities that can be included in Operation On Target are

## TURKEY SHOOT

Each team will consist of five members. One member may be an adult leader. Each participant will shoot at 25 clay pigeons. The shooter will fire one round at each target. Targets (clay pigeons) are provided; however, each shooter must bring their own shells and shotgun.

# LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

## FAST START

The Varsity Scout Leader Fast Start is available on video, DVD or at [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org) and supports the orientation of new Varsity Scout leaders.

## NEW LEADER ESSENTIALS

New Leader Essentials is an introductory session that highlights the values, aims, history, funding, and methods of Scouting. It addresses how these aims and methods are reached in an age-appropriate style within Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, and Venturing. Videos, discussions, and hands-on reinforcement are presented during the 90-minute training session. Ideally, all unit-based volunteers—Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Venturing leaders—take this session at the same time, so they see how they are all striving for the same results with the youth they serve. Each leader completes New Leader Essentials training only once.

## VARSIITY LEADER SPECIFIC TRAINING

Once a volunteer has a solid overview of the BSA's values-based program, he or she can begin training for a specific Scouting position through Leader Specific training. This training provides the specialized knowledge a new leader needs to assume a leadership role.

## OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Outdoor skills are critical to the success of the Scouting program, and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills will provide leaders with the basic outdoor skills information needed to start a program right.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills is the required outdoor training for all Scoutmasters, assistant Scoutmasters, and Varsity Scout coaches. The skills taught are based on the outdoor skills found in *The Boy Scout Handbook*. The course is also ideal for Venturing leaders because it focuses on skills that build confidence and competence in leaders conducting outdoor camping experiences.

The course is a day and a half long, but a leader can move at an accelerated pace by demonstrating mastery of a specific skill. The emphasis is on the skill, rather than on attending the course.

## ON BELAY

On Belay presents "hands on" training for planning and conducting successful Varsity Scout programs and outdoor activities. It reinforces — but does not duplicate — adult Wood Badge training. This is a full week of fun and learning.

On Belay will focus on the Aims and Methods of Varsity Scouting. Scouts will be very busy planning activities,

while the adult participants will share in making them happen. Daytime activities will include initiative games, rappelling and climbing, shooting sports, and more. There will be opportunities for cooking, service, advancement, and team participation in fun competitions. Evening campfires will be entertaining for all Scouts and leaders.

Boys learn that working with adults can be rewarding and fun. They will learn how to manage a program that **they** have developed while using the Varsity Coach and his committee to provide the necessary support.

Leaders will get an understanding of the program and their responsibilities, in order to have a positive influence on the boys in their unit. While learning the necessary skills and available resources,

leaders will gain the confidence to carry out their roles.

## **WOOD BADGE**

The course is designed to be a highlight - "a mountaintop experience" -- for the course participants. Careful planning and strict attention to detail provides a physical/logistic support and program second to none. Add to this a thoroughly prepared and enthusiastic staff and its little wonder that most Scouters return from Wood Badge inspired and prepared to do an even better job of providing Scouting to boys. In addition to a fine course, all the traditions and heritage of Scouting are stressed and used to inspire those attending.

# **ADVANCEMENT AND AWARDS**

## **EAGLE SCOUT**

The full rank advancement program, which is available to Boy Scouts, is also available to Varsity Scouts. It is strongly encouraged that all Varsity Scouts earn their Eagle rank.



## **Varsity Scout Letter**

Youth and adult members may earn the Varsity letter. It is given in recognition of the achievement and participation in

Varsity Scout activities and by living by the Scout Oath and Law.

## **ACTIVITY PINS**

At the completion of each sports season or ultimate adventure, each participating Varsity Scout will receive a pin to wear on the letter.

## **DENALI AWARD**

The Denali Award is available only to a Varsity Scout team's youth members who have already earned the Varsity Scout letter. Denali is the name American Indians gave Mount McKinley, in central Alaska.

# National and Local Council Support

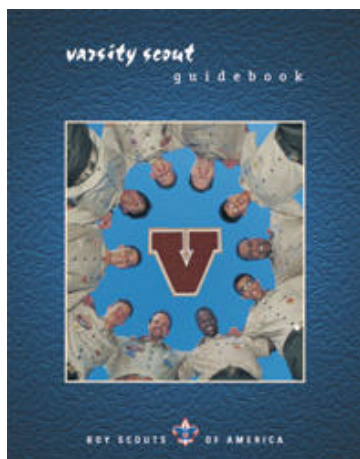
## Varsity Scout Guidebook

205 pages of guidance, direction, program support and assistance for the Varsity Coach, Varsity Team Committee, Sponsoring Organization and parents of Varsity Scouts. This book is a must have for a successful Varsity Scout Program.

This book includes:

- Team organizational helps
- Direction in the Five Fields of Emphasis:
  - High Adventure/Sports Service
  - Special Programs and Events
  - Personal Development
  - Advancement
- Team Meetings
- Understanding Young Men
- Planning
- Finances
- Training Team Leaders
- Uniform options

In addition to everything else, this book has an appendix full of forms and resources to help you be successful in your Varsity Scout program.



## Program Features

Three Volumes of program ideas for your Team, an easy and ideal way to put spark into the weekly, monthly and yearly team plan.

### Volume one covers the following program features:

- Backpacking
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Canoe camping
- Caving
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Cycling
- Discovering America
- Fishing

### Volume two includes:

- Freestyle Biking
- Frontiersman
- Mechanics
- Operation On-Target
- Orienteering
- Rock Climbing and Rappelling
- Roller Hockey
- Shooting Sports
- Snow Camping

### Volume three includes:

- Soccer
- Softball
- Survival
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Triathlon
- Volleyball
- Water skiing
- Whitewater Canoeing

## **Varsity Scout Program Helps**

This document is available at the Great Salt Lake Council website [www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity](http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity) and is full of additional ideas for your program. It includes basic team organization, team meeting formats and examples, as well as resources quickly available to help you hit the ground running with your team.

## **The Disappearing Varsity Scout Workbook**

This is a tool to organize your team and committee with handout pages for Program Managers and Program Advisors. This is also available from the Great Salt Lake Council website. It is a take apart book of job descriptions for your youth and adult leaders. Now there is no excuse for “not knowing what I’m suppose to do.”

# **Great Salt Lake Council Camps**

The Great Salt Lake Council offers three camping and High Adventure programs that will capture all the thrill, excitement and adventure you are looking for in a High Adventure Activity

### **Teton High Adventure**

Located south of Jackson, Wyoming at Hoback Junction, the Teton High Adventure Base is a premier High Adventure opportunity for your team. This base features whitewater canoeing and rafting as well as backpacking, mountain biking, Yellowstone National Park trips, scenic float trips through the Grand Teton National Park and a great C.O.P.E. course that will challenge and bring your team together as a group. Come build memories, create bonds and life long friendships with your boys and leaders.

### **Bear Lake Aquatics**

The Bear Lake Aquatics Base is situated on the east shore of Bear Lake with a beautiful view of the surrounding area. The Aquatic Base offers a variety of high Adventure activities for your Varsity Scouts: aviation, catamarans, Life Guard courses, SCUBA, water skiing and a climbing and rappelling tower are among the many program features offered at this facility. Whether you love the water or the land, there are many fun and rewarding activities here for you.

### **Uinta High Adventure**

Our newest high adventure opportunity is found at the East Fork of the Bear Scout Reservation on the north slope of the Uinta Mountains. Unlike our other bases, here you get the beauty of the high mountain atmosphere where your team can participate in backpacking, shotgun shooting, climbing and rappelling, fly tying and fishing on the East Fork of the Bear River. Kayak instruction is also available on one of our beautiful lakes. This camp program can be geared to the skill level of all your young men.