

“Pathways”...The New Scout Program

The process of advancement to First Class teaches the basic Scouting skills which will form the foundation for all other activities. We believe that the New Scout requirements are best completed as part of a Troop's own program.

Therefore, Goose Pond's New Scout program is designed to supplement, but not to replace, the unit program. As such, Units are required to send one leader (or older youth) for every 8 Scouts from the Unit that are registered for Pathways, to assist with the scout skills instruction.

Please review each Scout's advancement to determine what advancement opportunities would best meet his needs. The Goose Pond staff will not sign Scouts' handbooks; instead, a summary sheet detailing the requirements completed is issued to the unit leader at the end of the week. Scoutmasters are encouraged to take the opportunity after camp to review all skill requirements with the Scouts before signing their handbook.

Pathways at The Pond...

Pathways is an integrated New Scout program which meets from nine o'clock each morning until twelve noon with the Pathways staff to work on requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. Skills and knowledge are taught in content groups, e.g. first aid, nature, knots & lashings, and not by individual rank.

This program is designed for new Scouts who are not yet Tenderfoot and need to work on all, or substantially all, of the New Scout requirements.

The noon hour is scheduled for lunch; some days the Scouts will cook their own, but most days they will eat in the Dining Hall. During the 1:00pm hour, Scouts may opt to take the "Handicraft Duo" (Basketry + Woodcarving or Leatherwork merit badges) or one of the other badges appropriate for new Scouts scheduled during that hour. The afternoons, 2:00pm-5:00pm, are free for patrol programming and open program activities.

Scouts who participate in the Pathways program will be recognized at the closing campfire on Friday evening and receive a distinctive Pathways patch.

Scouts participating in Pathways should have "Pathways" listed in the 9, 10, and 11 hour blocks on the program registrations and sign up for the 12:00pm lunch.

Rank Programs

First-year campers are directed to the full Pathways program. However, Scouts who are already Tenderfoot or Second Class rank, or second year campers who still need to complete some New Scout through First Class requirements should participate in the "Drop-In Sessions"

Drop-In Sessions

The Pathways staff will be available most afternoons for Scouts to complete Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class requirements also. Groups of Scouts or individuals who want to complete specific requirements or a large number of requirements should speak with the Pathways Director at the new Scout program meeting on Sunday after dinner, to work out a schedule and/or make an appointment.

