



The Varsity Letter

San Diego-Imperial Council - Boy Scouts of America

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100% Huddle: January 20, 2011

The January 100% Huddle has always been our most successful and important Huddles of the year. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending with all the Varsity responsible leaders in your Ward or Stake.

Each year we ask for Varsity Teams to put up a display showing us the great Super Activity or Service project your team did last year. There are three reasons for doing these displays. One is to help other unit leaders with ideas of successful activities. Another reason to give due credit to the unit leaders that are getting the job done with great trips. And lastly to give us a good warm feeling when we are in a room surrounded by pictures, noise and great ideas.

This year we are planning on holding all of the 100% Huddle in the cultural hall. So your display will be viewed by everyone in attendance.

Displays can be a slide show, board with pictures or maps, handouts, equipment or even bring a scout or two to tell about what you did. We would really like to see a dozen different units putting on displays this year. If you have a slide show, reserve early, there is only so many tv's available to show them on.

Please contact the Huddle Commissioner, Lon Atkinson with any questions or to reserve your corner of the room for your display.

Lon@AtkinsonStudios.com

The Aims of Varsity Scouting

1. Character Development
2. Citizenship Training
3. Mental and Physical Fitness

The Methods of Varsity Scouting

1. The Ideals (Scout Oath & Law)
2. The Team Method
3. The Outdoors
4. Advancement
5. Association with Adults
6. Personal Growth
7. Leadership Development
8. The Uniform

The Values of Varsity Scouting

Varsity Scouting is a values-based organization. Its ideals, found in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout motto, and the Scout slogan, are the same as those every Boy Scout troop observes. With prior experience as Boy Scouts, most young men becoming Varsity Scouts already firmly understand and believe in these ideals. Along with youth who are new to the BSA, they will find that the values of Varsity Scouting serve as valuable guidelines for their Varsity Scout team, and for life.

The Varsity Pledge

As a Varsity Scout I will:
Live by the Scout Oath,
Law, Motto, and Slogan,
and the Outdoor Code,
Honor the dignity
and worth of all persons;
Promote the cause of freedom; and
Do my best to be a good team member.

Gathering Time Activities

Gathering time activities can start before your regular start time. These activities, if done regularly will encourage your boys to not only come on time, but to come early.

DUAL STRENGTH TESTS

Match your scouts by size to make it fair. Or let them decide who they want to wrestle.

Hand Wrestling:

Opponents place right feet together, clasp hands, and attempt to pull each other off balance.

Indian Leg Wrestling:

Two players lie flat on back, arms clasped at elbows, facing opposite directions. Inner leg is raised to greatest height, and attempt made to pull over opponent in hooking knees.

Stick Pull:

Both opponents in sitting position, feet touching stick grasped between them. Object, to pull and raise opponent from sitting position.

Rooster Fight:

Players hop on one foot with arms folded, shoulder each other to make opponent place other foot on the floor.

Stick Wrestling:

Opponents grasp stick with both hands and attempt to wrestle, pull or twist stick out of opponent's grasp



A Joke: So Your Scouts May Think You Really Are Funny!

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a Harley Davidson motorcycle when he spotted a well-known cardiologist in his shop. The cardiologist was there looking for the service manager to look at his bike when the mechanic shouted across the garage, 'Hey Doc, want to take a look at this?'

The heart doctor, a bit surprised, walked across the garage to where the mechanic was working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I opened it's heart, took the valves out, repaired the damage, and then put them back in, and when I finished, it works just like knew. So how come I make \$10 an hour and you get the really big bucks when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The cardiologist paused, smiled and leaned over, then whispered to the mechanic..."Try doing it with the engine running."

2011 Varsity Scout Dates:

Varsity Scout Leader's Huddle:

January 20th (100% Huddle)

March 17th

May 19th

July 21st

September 8th

November 17th

Varsity Triathlon:

April 22nd - Camping

April 23rd - Triathlon

Varsity On-Target:

July 16th

Mountain Man Rendezvous:

September 16-17th

Varsity Leader Training:

March 11,12th: Escondido So. Stake Center, Felicto Road and I-15

October 21-22nd. Santee Stake Center



Varsity Contact Information

Varsity Chairman:

• Barry Baker,
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• Lon Atkinson
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Breakfast Sausage Souffle

12-15 slices bread; cubed 3/4 cup milk
6 Tbs. butter; melted 1 tsp. dry mustard
1 lb. shredded Cheddar cheese
salt and pepper to taste
18 eggs 1 lb. cooked sausage

Add bread cubes to a well greased 12" Dutch oven.

Drizzle butter over bread then sprinkle cheese over the top.

Whisk together eggs, milk, and mustard. Season with salt and pepper.

Pour eggs over bread and cheese.

Sprinkle sausage over the top.

Cover and bake using 6-8 briquettes bottom

and 12-14 briquettes top for 30-45 minutes until eggs are set.

Serves 8-10



New Downloads on the San Diego Varsity Scout Website

Our Varsity Website continues to grow. After each Varsity Huddle, all the handouts from the Huddle can be found on the website and can be downloaded. Information on up coming activities and special events can also be found there.

<http://varsity.sdicbsa.org/>

On the resource page you will find the handouts from Huddle as well as each months Varsity Vision Newsletter. Under Fields of Emphasis: Advancement, you can find info on the many special awards available to the Varsity Scout and Leader.

Take a few minutes and wander through the website. A lot of useful information can be found there. If you have any questions about the site, or if you have something that you would like to see added, please contact our Varsity Scout Webmaster, Shelley Jackson:

Shelley@AtkinsonStudios.com

God has given us a world to live in that is full of beauties and wonders and He has given us not only eyes to see them but minds to understand them, if we only have the sense to look at them in that light.

Lord Baden-Powell



The SDIC Varsity Centennial Pin is going fast!

Another unit has turned in their paperwork and awarded their young men this once in a life time award. A great award to present at a Court of Honor.

The Varsity Committee of our council designed and created this award for our council only. We had a set number of them made and they are going.

We encourage units to make an effort to have their Varsity Scouts and Leaders work to accomplish the Centennial Award. You can download the requirements and scorecard from our Varsity Website:

<http://varsity.sdicbsa.org/advancement.html>

The requirements must be completed by the end of February, 2011

Please send your completed scorecards to Lon Atkinson or Barry Baker. Contact info can be found on page 3 of this months newsletter.

The Coach's Corner

The Coach's Corner takes place at the end of your Varsity Team Meeting. It is a chance for you or your assistant Coach to take a few minutes and teach an important life principle to your scouts. Here is a good example of a story that teaches a life lesson.

At the 1968 Olympics Bob Beamon set a long jump record that many thought would never be broken but eventually it was. A young boxer named George Foreman won a gold medal and paraded around the ring with an American flag, instilling pride in many Americans. One athlete named John Stephen Akhwari from Tanzania, a marathon runner, probably made the longest lasting impression on people though. While he was running he stumbled and fell, severely injuring his knee and ankle. After receiving first aid he did what no one expected and he got back in the race. Long after everyone else had finished and left, he limped into the near empty stadium to the cheers of a small crowd that was still there and he finished his final lap. When asked why he continued the race after he was so badly hurt with no chance to win he replied: "My country did not send me 7,000 miles to begin a race - they sent me to finish the race".

Do each of you accept responsibility to finish a task when you start one or do you take the easy way out when the going gets tough? Do you keep your promises when you make them, even the ones you make to yourself? A man who doesn't keep his word will not be respected and will not be trusted. What kind of man does each of you want to be remembered as?

Good night Gentleman!

Websites for Varsity Leaders:

LDS BSA Relations:

www.ldsbsa.org

LDS Varsity Scouting:

www.ldsscouting.org/varsity/varsity.html

Duty To God:

www.dutytogod.com

International Dutch Oven Society

www.idos.com

Mormon Battalion Hike Website:

www.imageandink.com/mormonhike

Varsity Insignia Clip Art:

www.clipart.usscouts.org/library/BSA_Insignia/Varstit

Greater Salt Lake Council Varsity Website:

www.varsityscouter.org

Utah Parks Council Website:

www.utahscouts.org

Mesa Arizona Council Varsity Website:

www.mesavarsity.org

Mt. Diablo Silverado, CA Council Varsity Website:

www.bsa-mdsc.org/about/varsity.php

Varsity Scout Awards Requirements:

www.varsity.sdicbsa.org/advancement.html

Cave Exploring: National Guidelines - General Policy

Caving can be a hazardous activity when the proper equipment, skills, and judgment are not used. Trips that are led by adults inexperienced in caving and trips containing large numbers of persons compound the hazards already inherent in the activity and create a potentially dangerous situation.

1. All caving, other than simple novice activities, should be limited to adults and young people 14 and older—members of Venturing crews and older Scouts in troops, and teams. “Simple novice activities” means commercially operated cave excursions.

2. Units (teams, troops, crews) that include cave visits in their program, whether for one trip or many, must adhere to the two-deep leadership policy of the Boy Scouts of America (two registered adult leaders, or one adult and a parent of a youth member, one of whom must be 21 or older). These leaders must be responsible, mature adults who are constantly present with the group. One cave trip leader must be highly qualified through caving experience and must be thoroughly versed in all established safety practices, conservation measures, and courtesy to cave owners.

3. In conformity with the BSA policy on the use of wilderness areas, all caving groups should be limited to 8 to 10 persons and two-deep leadership as required by the Boy Scouts of America for all trips or outings. Caving activities for larger groups should not be conducted. Each group should be organized to function independently, i.e., plan its own trips on different dates, provide its own transportation and food, and function as a separate and distinct group. The only exception to these rules may be trips to

certain commercial caves where special provisions are made to furnish proper supervision by professional guides.

Note: Caving trips have been incorporated in the BSA “Policy on Use of Wilderness Areas by Personnel of the BSA,” with a cross reference to these guidelines. Copies of the wilderness area policy statement are available from High Adventure Programs, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, Texas 75015-2079.

4. Any Venturing crew wishing to learn about cave rescue work or pursue that activity as a specialty must do so under the sponsorship and supervision of an adult cave rescue group affiliated with the National Speleological Society.

5. All Scout groups are required to have an approved tour permit for trips of all kinds. Cave activities are included under that plan. National tour permits are required for a trip of 500 miles or more; local permits are issued to cover shorter trips.

6. The leaders and the individual members of the group must understand these basic practices and policies of caving, which are approved by the Boy Scouts of America and the National Speleological Society. In addition to understanding these tenets, every participant in a caving trip must agree, without reservation, to follow all of the specific guidelines contained in BSA’s Caving publication, No. 19-102A.

For complete guidelines go to:

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS/gss09.aspx>