

First Class Emphasis Program, Troop 957 2014

The overall objectives of Troop 957 First Class Emphasis (FCE) are

1. To learn basic skills for weekend camping, and
2. To provide opportunities for new scouts to complete rank requirements (up to first class).

Additional Resources (can be downloaded from the website)

Webelos Quick Info sheet. (A brief summary about the troop)

Incoming scout budget info. (An example of typical costs for a scout)

Calendar. (Troop Calendar for next 6 months)

Simple things that will help on First Campout & Equipment for First Campout.

Guide to Troop Operations

Meditations for Trail

Song Book

Troop Meeting Notes

Campout Duty Roster

***FCE Requirements Videos can be viewed. Link on website*

Please note that following is a guideline of what are the objectives. Therefore, if the patrol takes longer to go over the material than planned, there is time later in the schedule to make up requirements.

Overview of Troop 957 FCE Program

| Special Note | Date | Title (Details on following pages) |
|----------------|----------|--|
| Parents Attend | 4/1 | First meeting –Parents attend |
| 630 PM start | 4/8 | Tenderfoot physical fitness, Scout Rank, First Aid kits |
| Saturday | 4/12 | First Aid Day. 8 am – noon |
| | 4/15 | Trailer/Equipment shed, troop Equipment, chuck box, set up tents in gym |
| | 4/22 | Campout planning including menu discussion. |
| Campout | 4/25-27 | First Campout. BRING HANDBOOK AND PARENT NEED TO SIGN |
| Parents Attend | 4/29 | Summer Camp Meeting for first year scouts. Parents attend. |
| 630 PM start | 5/6 | Physical fitness retesting, campout menu planning, patrol identity |
| Saturday AM | 5/10 | Service Project: Food Drive with Pack 957 |
| Saturday PM | 5/10 | Swim test and requirements. |
| | 5/13 | Campout planning, Swimming Merit badge paperwork |
| Campout | 5/16-18 | Second Campout. |
| | 5/20 | Board of Review (BOR) for Tenderfoot (if ready), Campout review, reqt catch-up |
| | 5/27 | ?Wacky Tuesday or requirement catch-up |
| Parents Attend | 6/3 | Troop Summer Camp Meeting. All scouts and parents attending |
| Family Attend | 6/10 | Court of Honor |
| Saturday | 6/20 | Load truck for camp |
| Summer Camp | 6/21-29 | Summer Camp |
| | | July and August, no specific FCE meetings. |
| | 8/26 | Troop elections |
| Family Attend | 9/2 | Court of Honor |
| | ?date | Orienteering Event at Challenger Park |
| | 9/9 | Orienteering and Map/Compass |
| | 9/16 | Campout planning, Map/Compass |
| Campout | 9/19-21 | Campout. Tubing (backup 5 mile patrol hike) |
| | 9/23 | BOR, Campout review, First class cooking introduction |
| | 9/30 | First class cooking, begin lashings |
| | 10/7 | Practice flag ceremony, First class cooking, lashings |
| Monday | 10/13 | Nassau Bay City Council Meeting. Opening Flag Ceremony |
| | 10/14 | Campout planning |
| Campout | 10/17-19 | Campout – 5 mile hike |
| | 10/21 | BOR, Greenery sales, lashings continued |
| | 10/28 | Camp gadget, lashings, reqt catchup |
| | 11/4 | reqt catchup |
| | 11/11 | Campout Planning, reqt catchup |
| Campout | 11/14-16 | Campout |
| | 11/18 | BOR, LAST FCE meeting, reqt catchup |
| Family Attend | 12/2 | Court of Honor. Scouts will be placed in regular patrols |
| | December | Fire Building Clinic for Webelos |
| | January | Mini-O at Challenger Park |

Note. Dates not on a Tuesday are designated with "*" before the date.

First Meeting. Orientation

April 1, 2014

This meeting should be attended by the scout (bring his Boys Scout handbook, pencil and paper), and his parent(s). The troop will be providing a 3-ring binder for the scout to keep his papers together.

At this meeting, we will provide some handouts and point out where the additional resources can be downloaded off the website. In this first meeting, we will talk about the differences from Webelos and Boys Scouts, the ranks up to First Class, and the troop's FCE program.

April

Objectives: Complete Scout Rank, go on first campout (safely!), and begin work on Tenderfoot requirements.

Meeting 1: Tenderfoot Physical Fitness, Scout Rank, First Aid Kits

April 8, 2014

Tenderfoot Physical Fitness. **Scouts meet at 630 PM CHURCH** for testing and initial physical fitness planning. Scouts should download from the website a physical fitness log sheet and bring with them. In addition, the scouts will do a series of stretches that they can use for warm-up prior to exercising (can downloaded from website). Scouts are expected to exercise a total of three times per week and log it on the sheet. We will meet again in a month to evaluate their improvement.

The Troop Guide and Instructor review Scout rank material with Scouts and initial it off in the Scout Handbooks. The Patrol will choose a patrol and assistant patrol leader as well as a patrol name. Plan for physical fitness is discussed. Knot tying practice ropes are handed out and Scouts demonstrate the Square Knot.

First Aid Kits As part of safe camping, scouts need to carry the "10 essentials" (*see website library file*). A personal first aid kit (2nd class requirement) supplies will be provided in the meeting.

First Aid Field Day

**April 12 2014 Saturday. 8 am to Noon.*

Note that this is a SATURDAY day event that will be held at the Church. At this event, first aid knowledge required for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class will be taught by non-FCE scouts (including Troop Guide and Instructors). The event is geared to both FCE scouts and older scouts (as a review).

Meeting 2: Trailer/Equipment Shed, Troop Equipment, Chuck Box, Set-up Tents in Gym

April 15, 2014 (Quartermaster to assist, if possible)

Scouts will orient to the trailer and equipment shed. The scouts will bring their chuck box out and review the equipment in the chuck box (as well as how to repack the box). Scouts will set up Tents and take them down.

Meeting 3: Campout Planning including cooking discussion

April 22, 2014

Explanation of what will happen at campout will be discussed – includes what to bring, how to pack, events Friday at Church, at Camp Friday, and Sunday.
Camping discussion: Ten Essentials, Buddy System, (if time, Safe Hiking Rules, Leave no Trace).
Duty roster, camp menu will be made.

Cooking Discussion An introduction to patrol and rank requirement cooking will be covered. Troop Guide and Instructor will lead the patrol in campout planning including meal plan. Troop Guide will be grubmaster for this

campout and demonstrate the duties and the forms used. Campout duty roster will be made. Scouts will be asked to bring a skit or song to rehearse at the next meeting. To be performed at the campfire at campout.

For the menu at campout, we will plan Silver turtles for dinner, dutch oven for cracker barrel

First Campout: Leave Friday Night and Come Home Sunday

**April 25-27, 2014*

In order to have a Scoutmaster conference, the scout needs to bring his BSA handbook with him and have all the requirements completed and signed off. **The only requirement that a parent can sign off is a Scout Rank requirement showing that the parent and scout have completed "Pamphlet Exercises". If the scout does not have his handbook with him OR if the requirement is not signed by the parent, then a scoutmaster conference is not possible.

**Reminder: We travel in Class A uniform (including Neckerchief) to and from campouts. BRING scout handbook to campout for sign-offs.

We will be leaving for campout Friday night. On Friday night, we will set up tents only. On Saturday, the rest of camp setup will be done. (This includes dining fly, stove, chuck box.) The morning will be used for clean up (KP demonstration), camp setup and begin working ropes and knots. During lunch, we will spend some time discussing fire safety, and scout law. In the afternoon, Scouts will work on ax yard, learn how to build campfires. Scouts should bring pocket knives and sharpening stone (if they have one). (The scouts should earn Tote-n-chip at the campout.)

In addition, the scouts should work on basic knots for camping: taut line, two half hitches. If time, they can also work on patrol yell.

In the afternoon, we will work in some free time and do scoutmaster conferences for Scout rank. We will be awarding these ranks during our campfire. Sunday morning will be spent just on cleaning up and packing up.

We will also discuss Scout's Own (Interfaith Service).

Meeting 6: Parent and Scout Summer Camp Meeting

April 29, 2014

This meeting is geared to first year scouts and parents of first year scouts to answer questions about summer camp including equipment needed. There will be a general parent meeting later in May for all parents.

May

Objectives: Second campout, Service Project (Food Drive), Swimming requirements and checks, Tenderfoot requirements

Meeting 5: TF Physical Fitness Testing (at 630 pm), Patrol Identity, Campout Menu Planning

May 6, 2014

Similar to Meeting 1, the patrol will meet early at 630 PM at the CHURCH to be retested on Tenderfoot Physical Fitness. Wear Class B uniform.

The patrol will review the campout – what worked, what didn't, what they liked, what they didn't. Additional cooking options will be discussed including one pot cooking, grilling, and alternatives to eggs for breakfast. Several recipes will be given out.

Patrol Identity: If not done yet, scouts should work on yell and flag.

ALSO, the patrol will make plans for the food drive (Saturday morning) and swim checks (Saturday evening).

Food Drive: Saturday, Mother's Day Weekend

**May 10, 2014 (morning)*

Working with Pack 957, this is our annual Food Drive benefitting Interfaith Caring Ministries. The Troop will be split into several parts either working at stores getting donations or sorting food at Brookwood Elementary. At noon, the food is taken to the ICM Food Bank and unloaded. Scouts receive service hours credit for participating for 2nd Class Rank.

Swim Checks: SATURDAY

**May 10, 2014 (evening)*

All Scouts and Adults that participate in any water activities with the Troop must complete an annual swim check. This is done at the Brookwood Pool after normal pool hours and the pool is rented by the Troop. Reviews of Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, and reaching and throwing rescues are also performed. This check must be made up if missed or else the Scout will be classified as a non-swimmer and not be allowed to participate in water based activities. This will complete 2nd Class requirements (7bc) and 1st Class requirements (9abcd).

******May campout is water based for the troop.**

Meeting 8: Campout Planning, Swimming Merit Badge paperwork

May 13, 2014

The patrol will create menu for campout, duty roster. (A FCE scout will be grub master!) Scouts will be asked to think about a skit at campfire.

Scouts will work a one-page plan for using swimming for aerobics. (This is a requirement for Swimming merit badge that they will take at summer camp.) We will then discuss the plans.

Swimming Merit Badge, Requirement 10

10c. Write a plan for a swimming exercise program that will promote aerobic/vascular fitness, strength and muscle tone, body flexibility, and weight control for a person of Scout age. Identify resources and facilities available in your home community that would be needed for such a program.

10d. Discuss with your counselor the incentives and obstacles for staying with the fitness program you created in requirement 10c. Explain the unique benefits that could be gained from this program, and discuss how personal health awareness and self discipline would relate to your own willingness and ability to pursue such a program.

May Campout

**May 16-18, 2014*

The FCE will have time in the afternoon to participate in water activities, but in the morning they will work on flag etiquette, ropes and knots. Lighting lightweight stoves can be done also. They should complete patrol identity The FCE Patrol will perform outdoor flag ceremonies. For those needing scoutmaster conferences, there will be time to complete at campout.

Meeting 9: Campout review, Requirements catch-up

May 20, 2014

Board of Reviews for Tenderfoot.

Campout review. Cooking discussed. Requirements missed or not completed will be focused on.

Meeting 10: Wacky Tuesday?

May 27, 2014

June: Summer Camp, Court of Honor, Family Life Merit Badge

Objectives: Finish up requirements covered, begin Family Life Merit Badge, SUMMER CAMP!

Meeting 11: Troop Summer Camp Meeting. Scouts and Parents

June 3, 2014

Mandatory meeting for scouts and parents for summer camp.

Court of Honor: June

Usually held early in June.

June 10, 2014

Court of Honor (COH) is a family event. Parents and family should attend to celebrate their scout's achievements.

Summer Camp

No meeting June 17, 2014

Trailer loading Saturday June 20, 2014

Summer Camp. June 21 – 29, 2014

July/August (Before School Starts)

FCE scouts will participate with troop activities, including completing merit badges done at summer camp. FCE should still be working on Family Life MB.

Meeting 13: Troop Elections

August 26, 2014

FCE scouts will be voting during the troop elections.

Patrol will review the plans for September – December and important dates.

September

Objectives: Basic Orienteering, Patrol Hike, Fire Building

September Court of Honor

September 2, 2014

Again, Family Event.

Meeting 12: Orienteering and Map/Compass, Family Life MB

September 9, 2014

Orienteering Introduction to be done. Scouts will need their compass.

Basics of how to use a compass.

Map and Compass Use: Bring your compass. Scouts will be looking at the differences between topographic and orienteering maps. Handouts include map symbol pages for the different types of maps. Scouts will be learning how to find bearings between objects on the maps.

September Saturday: Houston Orienteering Club Meet – Date to be announced.

Meeting 13: Campout Planning, Review Map/Compass

September 17, 2014

Campout planning. 10 essentials discussed for Patrol Hike (to be done in September or October campout depending on if tubing will be possible in September.)

Review of Map/Compass

September Campout: Tubing with backup plan of Patrol Hike, Fire Building, Knots

**September 19-21, 2014*

Plan is for Tubing down a river in hill country. If river levels OK, then the campout will be focused on this all day event on Saturday. If not OK, then the patrol will work on a 5-mle 2nd class hike with troop guide/instructors utilizing orienteering skills. In addition, fire building rank requirements to be done.

Meeting 14: Campout Review, First Class Cooking Introduction

September 23, 2014

Board of Reviews. First Class Cooking Introduction. Homework – bring menu for breakfast to next meeting

Meeting 15: First Class Meals Continued, Introduce lashings

September 23, 2014

Review breakfast menu and work on this meal. Begin working on next two meal planning. Scouts will begin lashings with square lashings.

October

Objectives: First Class Cooking Menu, Flag Ceremony Nassau Bay City Council Meeting

Meeting 16: Flag Ceremony Practice, Finish First Class Cooking Menu and preparation, Lashings

October 7, 2014

Practice flag ceremony. Scouts will meet with an assistant scoutmaster to have first class cooking preparation (menu etc) signed off. This will allow scouts to do first class cooking at campouts.

Flag Ceremony Nassau Bay City Council

**October 13, 2014*

The FCE patrol will perform opening flag ceremony for city council (requirement 4, second class rank). Prior to the council meeting, the patrol will meet with city official and practice the flag ceremony.

Meeting 17: Campout Planning

October 14, 2014

Campout Planning.

October Campout: Patrol Hike, Fire Building, Knots

**October 17-19, 2014*

If not done in September, the patrol will work on a 5-mile 2nd class hike with troop guide/instructors utilizing orienteering skills. In addition, fire building rank requirements to be done. There will be time in the afternoon to participate in the water activities.

If done in September, fire building can be done in the morning or participate in water activities all day.

Meeting 18: BOR, Greenery Sales Meeting, Lashings

October 21, 2014

Continue working on lashings. Discuss Camp Gadgets.

Meeting 19: Camp Gadget Planning, Campout Planning

October 28, 2014

Discuss possible camp gadgets, have scouts determine what they will need. Campout planning. First cooking menus need to be signed off.

November/December: Lashings, Camp Gadget, First Class Cooking, Move to Regular Patrols

Objectives: First Class Cooking, Camp Gadget

Meeting 20: Requirement Catch up

November 4, 2014

Meeting 21: Campout Planning, Requirement Catch up

November 11, 2014

November Campout:

November 14-16, 2014

Lashings and camp gadget. Clean up requirements. First class cooking for some scouts.

Meeting 22: BOR, Last FCE Meeting

November 18, 2014

Catch-up Materials as needed.

December Court of Honor

December 2, 2014

FCE Scouts will be placed in regular patrols!

December Saturday: Fire Building Clinic for Webelos. To be scheduled.

Orienteering at Challenger Park

January 2014

HA scouts will set up orienteering course at Challenger Park.