

KLONDIKE TIPS

Our own Noel Peine from the Westmond Ward was the chairman of the 2016 Klondike, and he gave us an excellent introduction at the November Round Table and answered more questions later.

I also attended the January 2016 Klondike and took pictures of our boys. Here's some things I've learned.



APPLIES TO ALL SCOUTS:

- Klondike is a winter camp and derby for the combined David Thompson and Old Mission districts. It is well attended and a lot of fun (parking is tight, so carpool). Boys go from station to station along a 2.5 mile trail through the woods.



- The stations are known as cities and the mayor of each city gives "gold" nuggets for skills and teamwork. The boys demonstrate scout skills as requested by the Mayor, such as first aid, building a fire, lashing, at each stop. The patrols with the most nuggets at the end win.

- Ideally, patrols are made up of 4 to 8 boys. A smaller patrol size is preferred as the boys get more hands-on time at the skills stations earning nuggets for demonstrating scout skills.

- Whatever the weather, Klondike will still continue. If there is no snow, sleds will need to have wheels. If there is rain, mud, subzero weather, heavy snow, winds, Klondike will not be cancelled.

- Prepare for the weather. All boys should wear snow pants and snow boots. Bring rain ponchos. Being wet and cold is not fun.
- Bring everything listed in the online packet, but not duplicates because it gets heavy. There will be bandits along the way, who may take gold nuggets if you are not prepared or give your patrol extra nuggets if you are.
- Bring a hot lunch to heat and eat on the trail. It will be graded, too.
- Each patrol needs to build (or borrow) and bring their own sled. The basic style is like an Alaskan dog sled, pulled by the scouts. Old skis make great runners on the sled. In case of no snow, have a backup plan for adding wheels to your sled. Google "Klondike sled" for images, ideas, plans, etc.
- LDS scouts do not camp over Sunday. They go home Saturday night.



- A Tour Permit is needed, just as with all camp outs, day camps, and activities more than 3-4 miles from the usual meeting place. Although 21 day advance is recommended, it is not required. You can print the permit online much closer to the activity. No one is reviewing the information at the scout office. You have to meet the online requirements to print your permit.
- There is a new location this year, at Camp Cowles, about 7 miles past Newport. Turn at Diamond Lake.
- Register online and see the flyer at nwscouts.org by clicking on the calendar, then the link on January 22 or 23 or just go to <http://www.nwscouts.org/event/1819784>. Note the cost goes up if you wait until the last minute to register.
- All the regular scout expectations apply, such as two-deep leadership and the buddy system.

WEBELOS:

- Webelos have a shorter course. They will go from station to station with their own separate patrol and their own sled. They do not combine with the boy scouts.



- Leaders of Webelos go with them to supervise the boys. They should not help with scout skills at the stations.

- LDS Webelos do not camp over, ever. They arrive at Klondike on Saturday morning and come home Saturday night.

11 Year Old Scouts:

- 11 Year Old Scouts should coordinate with the Boy Scout patrols in their troop as they can be included in a patrol with the older boys.
- This is a fun opportunity to do one of the 3 allowed campouts for LDS 11 Year Old Scouts.
- Leaders are not required to go with the Boy Scouts from station to station.

