

# Klondike Derby Activity Guide

## Goals

- Learn how to survive and enjoy cold-weather camping
- Have fun using scout craft skills and racing sleds in competition with other patrols

## Achievements Satisfied

This activity satisfies the following achievements.

- One or two nights of camping for the Camping Merit Badge
- An outing with Troop for rank advancement
- Chance to work on cooking requirements
- Chance to demonstrate lighting campfire/camp stove
- Polar bear patch

## Materials

- Sled
- Survival kit

## Tips

- Troop campsites are traditionally B31-34. Activities are in loops A and E playfields.
- Keeping warm
  - Patrol leaders should ensure scouts have a warm sleeping bag (or two) and change into dry sleeping clothes...adults should ensure patrol leaders understand this is a mandatory safety check.
  - Honey roasted peanuts and Reese's mini peanut butter cups make a good before-bed snack to keep scouts warm.
  - Chemical hand warmers are useful below 20 degrees F.
  - Sleeping bags are typically comfortable to 10 degrees above their rated temperature if thermal underwear is worn. Two three-season sleeping bags can be used instead of buying a winter bag, and may be needed below 20 degrees F. Piling coats or clothes on top of a bag will compress it and make it colder.
  - If there is rain or deep snow, bring quarters for the clothes dryer (back of nature center, lower level)
- Typical patrol does 5-10 activities. Winning patrols typically do 23 of the 24 activities. Activities are 15 points each. Specific activities are generally not announced ahead of time, but include orienteering, lashings, knots, fire building, teamwork exercises, first aid, and other scout craft activities.