

PATROL DEFINITION GUIDELINE

It is important that all Patrols enter a competition with the belief that if they prepared well they have a good chance of doing well at the competition. This belief is broken when they must compete against Patrols that are significantly older or higher rank than their own. Whenever possible, Boy Scout Leaders should make every effort to register their Patrols as they naturally function within the Troop.

<u>REGULAR PATROL CRITERIA</u>	<u>SENIOR PATROL CRITERIA</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Average age¹ less than 15.0 years ❖ Average rank² less than 4.0 (Star) ❖ Operates naturally as a Regular Patrol within a Troop or a Den within a Pack ❖ Operates naturally as a New Scout Patrol³ within a Troop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Average age¹ 15.0 years or greater ❖ Average rank² 4.0 (Star) or greater ❖ Operates naturally as a Senior Patrol within the Troop. ❖ Any Patrol can register as a Senior Patrol ❖ Crews must register as a Senior Patrol
<p>If a Patrol meets any ONE of the “Senior Patrol Criteria” above, the Patrol must be registered as a Senior Patrol.</p>	

¹ Add the ages of each patrol member then divide by the number of patrol members will calculate the average age.

² Add the following rank numbers for each Scout then divide by the number of patrol members will calculate the average rank:

New Scout 0	Second Class 2	Star 4	Eagle 6
Tenderfoot 1	First Class 3	Life 5	

³ New Scout (transitional) patrols have only New, Tenderfoot, and Second Class Scouts in 5th or 6th grade. The purpose of the patrol is to teach new boys the Scout skills. All such patrols will compete as a **Regular Patrol** with their Troop Guide(s). In this manner the new Scouts will not be at a disadvantage and will have the opportunity to learn the Scout skills as part of the competition.

PACK and TROOP LEADERS

Webelos: Two (2) adult leaders may accompany the patrol during the competition. Adults may advise Webelos but not physically participate in the station’s activity.

Scouts: **NO** adults (Leaders or any other adult) may accompany patrols during the competition. Judges will deduct points from a patrol if they are accompanied by adults. **It is expected that Boy Scout leaders and adults will assist at stations, not chaperone their Scouts.**