



Greater Manchester West Scout Camping and Backwoods Competition 2023

Details

Date – 7th -9th July 2023

Venue – 5th Urmston Scout Group, Easbrook, Urmston. M41 9JA

Cost per team - £90 (Full Entry) / £30 (Backwoods Cooking entry only)

Registration – 19.15-19.45 – Friday 7th July

Presentation – 15:00 – Sunday 9th July

RULES

Camping Competition

Patrols

1. A Patrol is to consist of 6 Scouts. All current Scout age at the date of the competition (i.e., 10.1/2 to 14). Scout Patrols must have a bona-fide PL, APL and four Scouts preferably from the same troop. Patrols must have an average age of no more than 13years old.
2. All patrols **must** be issued with an **Event Passport** as per the Night's Away scheme by a Nights Away permit holder. This must be handed in at Registration with a folder containing:
 - a. Menu (to include times for each meal)
 - b. Program
 - c. Equipment List
 - d. **Contact Details** to include the SLs contact and another contact if the SL is not contactable during the weekend.
 - e. **Activity Information Form** to include personal details - age, personal contact details and **Medical Details**.

The patrol must also have their own copy.

If this is not presented on arrival the patrol will not be allowed to camp.

There will be a uniform inspection at registration at 19:15 (top half only).

3. Leaders and other visitors will not be allowed on site during the competition unless by arrangement with the judges.
4. Although there are a lot of rules etc. the aim of the competition is to have fun and have the experience of camping without troop leaders. The judges will be there to help and to give



advice if needed. Do ask. If there is any incident, please let the judges know straight away. We know that most will not have camped much during the last 2 years and support will be provided.

5. Entry to be made via the online form via the GMW Scouts Website. 2 entries allowed from each District and teams must have permission to enter from their ADC Scouts.

Equipment

1. The previous requirement of the erection of a patrol tent has been removed (these are not readily available to all groups). However, if you so wish to use a patrol tent it is not against the rules, nor will additional points be awarded. Canvas craft will still be judged regardless of the type of tent used so it is important that they are put up correctly.
2. As for normal patrol camp of two nights, the following tentage must be erected (and used) by the patrol (i.e., minimum of 3 tents/shelters):
 - a. Suitable store tent
 - b. Suitable dining shelter
 - c. Suitable sleeping tent(s)
 - d. Other additional tents may also be used if so desired.
3. There should be fire/cooker safety equipment including fire bucket and fire blanket.
4. Each team is to have a first aid kit.
5. All equipment is to be stored away at night.
6. All sharp cooking knives shall be marked and held within a container. All bush craft knives knife, saws and axes are to be registered at the start of the competition with the judges. The patrols should know the safety rules for all equipment.
7. Prepared gadgets will not be allowed (except tables and benches etc.) but material for making gadgets may be allowed at the discretion of the judges.
8. Rubbish that can be recycled shall be recycled, particularly batteries, glass and tins. Make sure non-burnable materials are not thrown on to fires.

Meals

1. All meals will be considered part of the competition apart from the Backwoods Cooking which is a separate competition. Cooking need not be done on wood other than for the Saturday evening meal and Backwoods Cooking Competition. Something hot is expected at breakfast and evening meals. All meals must be prepared and cooked on site.
2. The Saturday evening meal will be judged as a three-course meal with extra consideration to presentation. Two out of the three courses shall be cooked and hot at time of serving. It shall be cooked on wood. Quantities should be calculated to allow the judges to taste a small amount of the food – **you do not** need to prepare a complete extra portion.



3. Marks for the meals (except suppers) will be given. Please can a patrol member give 5 minutes notice to the judges so that they come to judge the meal. They will just sample the meal and there is no need to lay a separate meal out. If there is a greater delay than 10 minutes from the judge coming to inspect, the patrol should start the meal rather than it getting cold.
4. Food other than Saturday lunchtime is to be brought by the patrol.
5. Hot food is NOT expected to be cooked by the Patrols on Friday evening.

Programme

1. Saturday from 9:45 till 11:30 the judges will be available to provide training covering camping skills etc. to help patrols improve their skills. The judges will visit the patrol site to provide skills training as needed.
2. Saturday from 11:30 am to 14:00 there is to be a Backwards Cooking Competition which will be separately marked and there will be a separate trophy. See separate set of rules below. Patrols not entering the Backwoods Cooking Competition must include a programmed activity for this period.
3. Activities should be included in the program for Saturday morning (skill's training will be provided alongside), Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. These activities are to include constructive/service/active/fun activities as per the scout balanced program. They should not just be a general camping activity such as collecting firewood, putting up tents, making gadgets, washing etc.
4. There will a joint wide game run by the judges on the Saturday evening and a campfire at approximately 19:30 on the Saturday. The campfire will be run by all the patrols in the competition, each patrol will be marked on sketches/stunts/songs that they perform. Each Patrol to provide a song and a sketch/stunt.
5. There will be a flag break at 9:30 on the Saturday and Sunday. A Scout's Own will follow Sunday's flag break. Neckerchiefs are to be worn for the Saturday flag break and top half uniform for the Sunday's flag break and Scouts Own. Each Patrol will be expected to contribute to the Scouts Own.

Inspections

1. There will be a uniform inspection at Registration.
2. There will be marks awarded for the provided Programme, Menu, Equipment and Contact List.
3. There will be site inspections after the breakfasts at 9:00 and at night-time and periodically during the competition. Marks will be given for gadgets and marked on Saturday.



4. Marks will also be given for setting up camp and striking camp.
5. There will be a final inspection of the site at 14:30 on the Sunday with a pots/pans/utensil inspection at 14:00 beforehand. Do not pack these before they are inspected. The site is expected to be clear for the final inspection. However, the equipment may be left stacked neatly if the leaders/parents have not arrived to pick it up.
6. Marks will also be given for the activities conducted as part the program provided.
7. Marks will be given for Leadership, Teamwork, Camp Craft and Team spirit throughout the competition.
8. Marks can be deducted for any serious misdemeanours and bonus marks added for anything out of the ordinary.
9. There will be a final uniform inspection at 14:45 just before the presentation on the Sunday.

Saturday's Backwoods Cooking Competition

1. Patrols are expected to produce a two-course meal and a hot drink using the food provided.
2. The fires must be started from afresh and not from existing fires. Existing fires should be allowed to die down after breakfast. Wood may be collected beforehand. A Starter Kit including kindling will be provided for each patrol.
3. Previously made gadgets may also not be used, however gadgets can made during the competition.
4. Teams will need the following equipment and no more.
 - a. Matches, Newspaper, 1 metre of Tin Foil, Axe, Saw, String, up to 3 Pen Knives, Water Bottles (which may contain water before the event), First Aid Kit, one small Billie pan for boiling water only.
 - b. A fire bucket should be on hand.
 - c. No other utensils/pots/pans/knives/fork/spoons etc shall be used. Marks will be deducted.
5. Marks will be awarded for Team Spirit, Teamwork, and Leadership.
6. Marks will be awarded for Presentation, Taste, Use of Ingredients and Hygiene for each course and hot drink.
7. There will also be marks for the fire, wood pile and any gadgets made.
8. There will be marks for clearance of the food, any items used etc. Fires should NOT be put out at the end.



9. The competition will start at 11:30 with the food inspection being from 12:40 to 13:40 The final site inspection shall be at 14:00. The results will be given at the presentation on the Sunday.

As always, the judges' decision is final.

Good luck.