

First Presbyterian Church of Clarksville
Troop 500
Boy Scouts of America
By laws

Troop 500 was established in 1951 as part of our church's community outreach mission, to strengthen families and develop young men to be upstanding community leaders. As the Charter Organization our primary duties are to insure Scouts have a safe place to meet, and verify that adult volunteers are trained in accordance with the policies established by the Boys Scouts of America. To these purposes the Session has made space available for Troop 500, in the Activities Outreach Center as well as providing a meeting place for Scout activities from 6:15-9:00 PM Monday nights. Facilities are available at other times by special arrangement with the church office

As per our agreement with the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), we agree to follow the laws and regulations established by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America and our Council. These by laws are intended to clarify, amplify and define standing regulations. In the event of conflict with BSA policy and/or Presbytery rules such action will cease and the Charter Organizational Representative (COR) will ask for clarification from the Middle Tennessee Council and Church Session. The COR is ultimately responsible for Coordination between the Troop, Church Session and the BSA. The COR reviews and approves elected members of Troop Committee.

Troop 500 takes pride in being a Boy lead organization which adheres to the Patrol Method as Outlined BSA Leadership guide. Scout leadership positions are held by Scouts in good standing for 6 months, leadership elections are to be held in August and February and are approved by the Scout Master. It is paramount that the Patrol Leadership Council develop and maintain a Troop long range calendar, and insures patrols are adequately equipped for outings.

Scout Masters are the most important Troop Volunteers. They are our chosen mentors, who we trust with our most important treasure, our children. They participate in outdoor activities, insure patrols are adequately equipped, and follow established safety guidelines. All other adult volunteer positions are or were created to assist the Scout Master and his assistants mentor our Scouts growth. All Scout masters must be trained IAW BSA regulations.

The Troop Committee is made up of the Parents and Guardians of registered youth, but also permits emeritus membership. Our Troop Committee is divided into four sub committees

1) Troop Committee Chairman – Insure all parents are welcome to Committee Meetings, Insure meetings follow Robert's Rules of Order; Verify Adult Volunteers meet BSA standards; hold Monthly committee meetings, Appoint and Head disciplinary committee when requested by Scout Master; Assist COR with filling vacant committee positions; Supervise annual Troop adult elections (February). Assist incoming officers with March Re-charter. Insure minutes of meetings are accurate, posted on the troop web page, and approved at the next meeting.

2) Finance (Treasurer & assistant) – Maintain Troop finances; insure operating capital is available to the Scout Master for consumables; recommend purchase limits to committee; Track each Scouts contributions for activities; set up and maintain accounts as necessary to support troop projects & goals; Provide financial report at monthly troop committee meetings; Verbally authorize emergency expenditures upon request of SM. Recommend amount of annual dues to troop committee and handle collection.

3) Advancement & Recognition (Secretary) –Maintain Scout and Adult training records using Troop master. Insure each Scout is aware they are ultimately responsible for tracking their own advancement; Coordinate Quarterly advancement ceremony; record, purchase awards; Provide access to advancement records & e-mail pdf copies; 12 hour notice is requested for printed copies.

4) Membership & Training –Recruit Scouts, Adult Volunteers; Fill out appropriate applications; Work with Advancement and Finance to Re-Charter Troop (March). Insure adult Volunteers are trained IAW BSA Regulations (Youth Protection) (Defensive Driving) (Positional Fast Start Training)

Parents- Drop off and pick up your Scouts up in a timely manner. Try to attend at least one outdoor activity a year; call or e-mail in special requests in advance; Remember your Son is the Scout, if he has questions ask him, “What does your Scout Manual suggest?” Ask questions.

Scouts – Follow the Scout Law and Oath, Be Prepared and Do a Good Turn Daily. Attend meetings, wear appropriate Uniform, bring your Scout manual, and maintain your advancement records.

Disciplinary action –failure to follow these rules can lead to suspension, expulsion and possibly criminal action. Discipline is to be handled at the lowest level possible in the Scouting Chain of Command (Patrol Leader; Senior Patrol Leader; Patrol leader Council; Scout Master; Troop Committee). All Discipline measures should be referred to the Scout Master to insure it is appropriate, and recorded. He may refer it to the troop committee if necessary. Scouts who are asked to leave the Troop will be given \$1 to transfer to another troop. Any money he has earned, not including dues, will be transferred to another troop if requested in writing within 90 days of expulsion.