



Benowie District Scouts

Easter Camp

Everything you need to know!



Easter Camp is run annually by Benowie District at Glenfield Scout Activity Center over the Easter long weekend.

Overview

Approximately 100 Scouts and Leaders from all over our District come together to enjoy a weekend full of fun, games, activities, sports and fellowship.

It is a standing camp (no hiking) where Scouts camp in patrols and look after their own campsite for the weekend. While the camp is organised by the Benowie District team, Scouts' home Unit and Scout Leaders are responsible for the patrols in camping, catering and Scout Unit activities.

As well as all of the activities, the camp includes a competition to see which patrol does best at keeping their campsite in order. Patrols need to be sure to work together to get the washing up done and keep their tents and campsite tidy to avoid losing marks!

When is it?

The District Team sets up from about midday on the Thursday.

Scout Units are welcome to bump in any time from Thursday 12pm with Scout patrol set up only from Thursday at 5pm until midday on Friday, when the camp opening parade is held, and activities commence.

Closing parade is held on the Monday at 3.30pm, and we depart camp by about 4.00pm.

Registration and Fees

Each person (Scouts and Leaders) who wishes to attend Easter Camp must register using the Scouts Events online registration system
<https://events.nsw.scouts.com.au/region/sn>

If you have previously registered for an event using this system your details should be saved, so all you will need to do is check they are current, update them if needed, and save any changes.

If you have not previously registered in this system you may need to set up a profile and enter all your details to get started. But the good news is that those details will be saved and can be used again for future events!

The fee for Scouts to register for Easter Camp is \$120, which is payable when you complete your registration. There is no registration fee for Leaders.

Please note that this is the camping and activities fee only, and there will be an additional amount to pay to your group to cover food and other expenses. Please check with your Scout Leader who will let you know how much that will be.

Camping at Glenfield Scout Activity Centre

Permission has been granted by the Humer Region for us to use the Glenfield Scout Activity Centre. The use of this Scout Camp is a privilege. We must ensure that no damage is done to the Scout Camp or its environs, and that it is left as well as, if not better, than how we found it. The limited natural resources of the area will necessitate bringing onto the site all your requirements in the way of tents, fire drums, firewood etc. Your PL and Scout Leaders will help you get all this organised.

Patrol Camping

Scouts camp in patrols and have their own separate campsites including sleeping tents, dining fly, fireplace, wet pit, firewood store and food stores. Scout Unit with multiple patrols camp in the same area together, overseen by their Leaders. Scout Unit camping areas are assigned by the District Team.

Scouts are responsible for managing their own food store, doing their own cooking and washing up, airing their tents and equipment, and keeping the patrol site clean and free from hazards, among other things.

There is also a competition for best patrol campsite – more on this below!

Patrol Site Gateway, Signage and Gadgets

Each patrol site must be clearly fenced off from other patrols, so it is clear what area they are using. It can also be fun to construct a gateway with a sign which clearly identifies the entry to your patrol site.

Items within your patrol site should also be clearly labelled with your patrol name – e.g. dining fly, wet pit, food store etc.

As well as the usual camping gear, patrols are also encouraged to construct gadgets for use at camp. These can be anything you like which helps make life at camp a bit easier, and often include things like a handwashing stand, dish washing stand or drying rack, or mess kit holder. The only rule is that you must bring the necessary items with you and construct the gadget(s) while you are at camp.

Parades

The dress for camp opening and closing parades is uniform shirt, scarf and hat.

District Flag Parades are held each morning, the parade will be run by Youth Members, the dress is hat and group scarf, together with other appropriate camp attire. You are also welcome to dress up in theme if you would like!

Because there is a lot to do and we need to keep things running on time, the last patrol to arrive for morning parade each day will be assigned "**Dunny Duty**" (hosing out and cleaning the toilets) Also those who arrive on Parade without a hat. – don't say you weren't warned!

Theme and Program

Patrols are encouraged to incorporate the theme into as many aspects of their camping that they can, eg: Patrol name, gateway design, costumes (which can be worn to morning parade), campsite decoration etc.

A detailed timetable of all the activities is attached, but some of the highlights include:

● **Movie**

After a busy day setting up camp and participating in the first SpeedBall round,

everyone is welcome to join us at District HQ on Friday night for a movie. The movie is different every year and based around the camp theme.

Bring a blanket (and a tarp or chair to sit on if the ground is wet), settle in and enjoy the action on the big screen!

● **Benowie SpeedBall**

All patrols play in the SpeedBall competition. This is a friendly competition designed to encourage participation – all members of each patrol should get some time on the field.

A District Scout Team that will be heavily stacked by the Scouts will then compete in the hotly contested match against the Leaders' team on Monday morning

Please also refer to the Easter Camp SpeedBall rules attached. 

● **Adventurous Activities**

This year we are offering Adventurous Activities .

● **Carnival Sports**

Carnival Sports are held on Sunday afternoon from 12.45pm. Please see the attached CarnivalSports instructions for details of the games which will be run.

Your Patrol is required to bring to camp the equipment outlined in the Carnival Sports instructions – be sure to bring everything you need!

● **District Campfire**

Held after dinner on Sunday night everyone in camp settles in around the big campfire for a night of singing and entertainment.

Some changes are happening with campfire this year, District Leader Alan “Chip” Todd will be in touch with your leaders.

● **Wide Game**

This is different every year, based around the camp theme, and is always great fun for everyone!

● **SYC**

You will be used to holding Patrol Councils, and PLs and APLs would be familiar with Unit Councils where they help plan their Unit's program each term.

But did you know that Councils run by youth members are also held at the District, Region and State levels? This is your opportunity to have a say in how Scouts as an organisation is run, and the sorts of activities you would like to participate in. So be sure to attend or provide suggestions for your PL to put forward on your behalf.

● **Scouts Own**

Traditionally held on Sunday mornings on weekend camps, Scouts Own is a time to reflect and be thankful for life, Scouts, the universe and everything!

We encourage scouts to consider presenting a short song, story or reflection appropriate to the occasion – please speak to your Scout Leaders and the District Team if you are interested helping to lead or participate in Scouts Own.

Visitors Day

Sunday is Visitors Day, from 12:00 (before Carnival Sports) to 21:00 hours (after Campfire). Please extend a warm invitation to your parents, family members and friends to come and visit us. They will enjoy watching the carnival sports in the afternoon and may wish to stay for campfire in the evening from 19:30.

CubOut

Older Cubs from your group may come to join your patrol as part of the CubOut program on Sunday. Please welcome the Cubs into your patrols and treat them as Scouts for the day. They should be encouraged to participate in all activities with you, including Benowie SpeedBall and Carnival Sports. They are your potential future patrol members, so be sure to make them feel included!

District Camping Competition

Among all the fun and games, a more serious focus of the camp is the patrol camping competition, which is held across the weekend to find the champion patrol and Scout Unit in the District. The Camping Competition is judged by the District Inspection Team headed by Wes Leverton, Region Commissioner for Adventurous Activities.

Although there is a prize awarded to the patrol who receives the highest score, the main purpose of the competition is to encourage everyone to focus on improving their camping skills.

Patrol campsites are inspected regularly throughout the weekend with points awarded based on how well the campsite is (or is not!) maintained, with a particular focus on safety and hygiene.

A copy of the inspectors' notes and the score sheet are attached – please refer to the notes to ensure you understand what is expected.

Note: *In 2025 we will continue to use gas stoves/burners for heating water and cooking breakfast and lunch, with fire drums used to cook dinner.*

Patrol camps must be kept in **Inspection Order** while the camping competition runs from Parade on Saturday morning until 12:30 (midday) on Monday.

1. General inspection will be once per day (Saturday and Sunday after morning parade). If a folder or clipboard is left for the inspectors in the patrol dining shelter, they will leave a note about any faults or hazards found. Take time to read these notes and make the necessary changes to avoid losing marks at the next inspection!
2. The Inspection Team will also conduct spot inspections **at any time**, which may include when patrols are off site participating in camp activities. If carried out after dark, the interior of tents will not be inspected. Particular attention will be paid to hygiene items eg ensuring cooking utensils are kept clean, washed after use and stored appropriately.
3. PLs may accompany the inspection team on spot inspections, and questions may be asked.
4. Points will be **deducted** during spot inspections for any faults and hazards, the location and type determining the penalty (up to the maximum points allocated for that item on the score sheet). For example:
 - Uncovered axes or knives in the kitchen shelter – 6 points penalty (Hazard)
 - Dirty food containers – 6 points penalty (Bad Hygiene)
5. Where a wet pit is dug, the grass sods must be removed carefully, stored, and kept well-watered, for replacement on leaving the site. Dry pits are not to be used - all rubbish should be placed in the bins provided or removed from site in

garbage bags or containers. **Trenches must not be dug unless you are specifically instructed to do so by District or your Scout Leader.**

6. Camp gadgets will be judged once only on Sunday.
7. Camp fraternisation – inviting another patrol to eat with you – will score 10 extra points for the **host patrol**. See attached sheet for details.
8. Adult Leaders may offer verbal advice but **must not give** physical assistance to any patrol. Any leaders found to be assisting will result in the patrol being heavily penalised.

Attire and Packing

Appropriate camp attire must be worn at all times. The Easter weekend can be hot and sunny so be sure to be sun smart – shirts with sleeves (preferably also with a collar) and hats must be worn at all times during the day. Closed toe shoes must also be worn when moving around camp (A point is lost for every toe that is seen by Camp Inspectors, please keep your Shoes on!). We also have bull ants on site at Glenfield, please keep your shoes on.

Remember to bring sunscreen and apply it frequently!

Easter is often also wet – so be sure to also bring a raincoat and other wet weather gear if rain is forecast.

Remember, appropriate attire for the weather, hat, and closed shoes should be worn at all times during Easter camp.

Because there are a number of wet and muddy activities, be sure to bring plenty of changes of clothing, suitable for each event, and a plastic bag to take your messy clothes home again. A suggested packing list is attached as a guide.

Hygiene

Hygiene regulations and guidelines will be followed during the camp, including sanitizing, hand washing etc.

Scout Safe

In Scouts NSW our aim is to create a safe and secure environment where everyone understands they have a right to feel safe. Scouts Australia NSW has a zero-tolerance policy towards abuse of any kind.

It is important that every adult and child in Scouting in NSW is aware of and familiar with the NSW Youth Protection [Policy](#) and [Procedure](#) and understand who they can approach and the appropriate steps to take, should any form of abuse occur or be brought to their attention.

Please read the attached Scout Safe Messaging for Scouts before you come to camp. Please come to see us at District HQ if you have any questions or concerns.

Child Protection is our number one priority and is everyone's responsibility.

[Questions?](#)

This guideline contains a lot of detail about the camp and what to expect but please read through it and ask your PL or Scout Leader if there is anything you don't understand.

We look forward to seeing you for a fun weekend at Easter Camp!

Michelle Dalmaris

District Scout Leader