



January 24, 2020

## Troop 4 Summer Camp at Camp Resolute 2020 Information for Parents

Dear Parents and Scouts,

This year, Troop 4 will attend Mayflower Council's Camp Resolute in Bolton, Massachusetts for our week long summer camp.

We will be camping from Sunday, July 19th through Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> (Session 3). At Camp Resolute, a troop reserves one of about 12 troop campsites for its scouts. Each troop has its own site and we camp as a troop. This year we have requested our favorite site, "Nomolos". Scouts sleep in 2-man tents on wooden platforms. There is a cot with a mattress for each scout. Meals are eaten in a dining hall along with about 150 scouts from other troops who are in camp for the week.

A typical camp day consists of merit badge classes in the mornings that are run by camp counselors. The classes are fun and scouts get the opportunity to learn about many outdoor merit badges. Each Scout selects the classes that he would like to attend. The afternoons are reserved for individual scout activities and interests.

Hopefully, the information, below, helps answer most of your questions. Please understand that the Camp has not finalized cost and payment information (i.e. dates, etc.) and the information it has provided to us is a DRAFT. That being said, I don't anticipate any significant changes and I provide this information to you here so that you may begin to plan for Camp.

Please call or email me if you have any questions that remain unanswered leading up to Camp. The troop has had many great adventures at Camp Resolute and this year will be another fun and adventure filled week.

Hope to see you there!

John/Mr. Comisky

### **Camp Resolute Scout and Parent Guide**

The Camp Resolute [2020 Scout and Parent Guide](#) has yet to be posted on the Camp Resolute website. For information purposes, I have posted a recent guide on the Troop 4 website. The guide may be accessed at [2019 Camp Resolute Scout & Parent Guide](#). Please review the guide as it really has not changed much from year to year and it contains helpful information about

Camp Resolute.

### Important Troop 4 Dates

- April 2, 2020. Let Mr. Comisky know via e-mail if you will be attending Camp this year.
- April 16, 2020. Bring merit badge selections to April 16<sup>th</sup> Troop Meeting.
- May 7, 2020. Early Bird Payment Troop Deadline.
- June 11, 2020. All Camp forms due to Mrs. Dulak
- July 19-24, 2020. Camp (Family BBQ on the 24<sup>th</sup>; discounted BBQ Tix available on the 19<sup>th</sup>)

### Check In on Sunday

Troop 4 will meet at the Camp Resolute parking lot at 1:00 PM on Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. At 1:00 PM, we will be welcomed by the camp and proceed to our Troop campsite (hopefully, the “Nomolos” site). Parents and other family members are welcome to help the Scouts carry their gear and move in (scouts should do most of the carrying, however). Families can stay and tour the Camp during the afternoon, or leave as soon as their Scout’s gear is at the campsite. The camp is about a ½ hour drive from Milford a few turns off of Route 495 and down Route 117.

### Check Out on Friday Night / BBQ / Closing Campfire

Check out is Friday night, any time after 2:00 PM and before the Camp Resolute barbecue at 5:30 PM. Parents and families are encouraged to stay for the barbecue and the closing campfire. Guests may purchase tickets for the BBQ at the Trading Post after checking their sons in on Sunday. The cost of BBQ tickets if purchased on the July 19<sup>th</sup> is \$7.00 for Adults, \$5.00 for children 5 to 10 years old and under 4 years old are free; tickets purchased after Sunday are \$2.00 per ticket more. (I’ll update this information should it change.) There is no charge for the scouts or adults who attended camp for the week.

The Camp puts on a great closing campfire that the Scouts and their families may attend after the barbecue on Friday night. The campfire generally concludes around 8:30 PM.

### Presentation of Merit Badges Earned at Camp

Troop 4 does not hold a Court of Honor at camp. Instead, we will present the awards that your sons earn at camp during our Court of Honor in October.

### Troop Pictures

Each year the Council has a professional photographer take each troop’s picture (the pictures are ready for pick-up Friday night). For those who would like to purchase a troop photograph, the troop will be collecting the \$10 fee upon arrival on Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup> at camp. Please make checks payable to the photographer, not Troop 4. (I’ll update this payment information with the actual name of the photographer when the photographer is selected.)

### Emergencies

If you have an emergency and need to contact your son, you can call the Camp at (978) 779-

**2777.** At check-in on Sunday, we will have several cell telephone numbers of the different Troop 4 Adult Leaders attending camp that you can call.

All serious medical emergencies will be treated at the UMass Marlborough Medical Center and parents/guardians will immediately be notified by the Reservation Director or his representative of all details as they become available.

## Visitors

Visitors are welcome any time. Please follow the Camp check in procedures and they will assist you in locating our Troop in camp. All visitors to camp must sign-in and sign-out at the Administration Building and must wear a visitor's badge. Guests and visitors may eat with our Troop. Meal tickets can be purchased at the Trading Post. Meal costs for visitors and guests are: Breakfast \$4.00; Lunch \$5.00; Dinner \$7.00. (I'll update this information should it change.) If your visit is because you are helping the Troop with daytime coverage, the Troop will pay for the cost of your meal.

## Forms to Fill Out

All required camp forms are attached to this letter. The forms also will be posted on the Troop website shortly. You must use these forms; no substitutes. The Camp wants the forms before scouts arrive at camp in order to review them and speedup the check-in process. Therefore, please turn them in at any upcoming Troop Meeting, but no later than the final troop meeting. This deadline is June 11<sup>th</sup>. Those that cannot attend the final regular season troop meeting can drop the forms off at Amy Dulak's house at 12 Radcliffe Drive, Milford, MA 01757. Amy will be organizing and tracking status of incoming forms, and she will contact you if there is a problem.

## Parental Authorization Form

Families must complete a release form to allow their scout to use firearms at the ranges and for their photos to be taken during camp. The form is included in Scout and Parent Guide and also will be posted on our website. Please download the form, sign, and submit along with your health forms per the dates above.

## Volunteers; CORI and SORI Checks

Many of our regular adult leaders volunteer to attend camp with our scouts during the week. If you would like to stay overnight or volunteer to stay during the day, the troop must (per Massachusetts law) submit your name, maiden name (if applicable), date of birth, social security number, address and phone number to the Council so that they can have a CORI and SORI (Criminal/Sex Offender) check done. Any adult who would like to stay overnight also must provide the Camp with current medical forms (see below). The Camp conducts a CORI/SORI on all adult leaders and volunteers even though we previously have been investigated upon becoming a leader.

## Medical Forms

There are a few required medical forms, one of which must be signed by the Scout's doctor, plus one additional form that must be completed if the Scout is taking any prescription

medicine. Again, any adult who plans to spend the night must have a current health form on file at the health lodge. Medical forms for adult leaders also are required as in past years.

## Merit Badge Sign-Up

The merit badge course listing will be in the 2020 Scout and Parent Guide (they also are listed in the Leaders' Guide). Some merit badges have prerequisites that need to be completed before camp in order for the scout to complete the badge at camp. If a scout does not complete the badge at camp, he receives a "partial" completion and can finish the merit badge later with a Troop 4 merit badge counselor.

This year the troop will be pre-registering scouts online before camp. Have your son(s) follow these steps:

1. Select the merit badges from the list in the 2020 Scout and Parent Guide. Each scout should sign up for 4 merit badges. In addition, if a first year camper is fairly good at swimming, he should take the Swimming merit badge - it's an Eagle required merit badge that is hard to get outside of summer camp.
2. Check the merit badge course time schedule to make sure that you don't have any time conflicts. Some merit badges (Lifesaving, Small Boat Sailing for examples) are two periods long.
3. We are finalizing merit badges early this year. Bring your selections to the April 16<sup>th</sup> troop meeting, where a Troop leader will review them, help you make changes if needed, and then we will register your scout in the council's on-line system. If you can not attend that meeting, email your selections beforehand to Mr. Comisky. Early selections will increase your chances of getting the badges you want.
4. The most important thing to remember when signing up for merit badges is - Have Fun! Have your son(s) sign up for badges that he will have fun doing.

If your son will be completing badge prerequisites before camp (this is highly recommended), we must provide the camp a note indicating completion. If a prerequisite is required, it is indicated in the Resolute Scout/Parent Guide.

## Pocket Money

Scouts usually need \$30.00 to \$35.00 for the week for snacks, supplies, handicraft items, etc. Scouts can bring plenty of snacks to camp, but please be sure that the snacks can be kept in the Scout's footlocker or duffel bag.

## Uniforms

All Scouts are required to have the full uniform (official pants are not required) including the Troop neckerchief. Official BSA shorts are suggested, but not required. The Scouts usually wear T-shirts and shorts during the day for activities. It is a good idea to buy "Troop 4" T-shirts for use at camp. We will be placing a new order for Troop 4 shirts soon. They generally cost about \$12 per shirt.

## What to Bring to Camp

The list in the Camp Guide is a good list to follow. The mosquito netting is the size that fits over a camp cot sized bed (can get at Wal-mart or sporting goods store). The Scouts sleep in 2-man wall tents with a wooden floor and a camp cot for each Scout. The dowels to hold up the netting are good to bring, but are not necessary as you can use sticks at the campsite that work just as well. Bring twine to attach the dowels/sticks to the cot. For extra clothes, one change per day is adequate. Slippers are not necessary, but beach sandals are a good idea. A mattress cover is not necessary (I bring one), as a piece of plastic will do just as well to cover the cot mattress.

Clothes and gear can be kept in a duffel bag or footlocker while at camp. A backpack can be also be used to carry some of the equipment for the week.

## Sign-Up for Camp

Please let me know via e-mail NLT April 4<sup>th</sup> if your son will attend camp this year. That will help us plan for the merit badge selections at the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The troop is required to collect the camp fees from the scouts and remit the total camp fee for the troop to the Council. The early bird (reduced fee) due date for scouts is the May 7<sup>th</sup> Troop meeting (the Troop has a May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline to pay Council). Checks should be made payable to "Troop 4" (the troop remits one check to the Council with the list of scouts). Note that scouts can still sign up for camp after the early bird date but each fee is then \$25.00 more.

As mentioned, the camp is owned and run by the Mayflower Council. This year's early bird fee is \$450.00 per scout. The "brother fee" for a brother that is also attending \$350.00.

Please see Mr. Comisky if the fee is a hardship. Mayflower Council sponsors a campership program is to provide financial assistance to deserving campers who would otherwise not be able to afford the camp attendance fees. The campership program requires an application that should be completed no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>. Information about the Council's Campership program is available on the Council's website at: <https://www.mayflowerbsa.org/camping/summer-camp/resident-summer-camp/>. All hardship requests are confidential.

The Troop will complete the on-line camp and merit badge registration process for all of Troop 4's scouts. Please do not worry about the registration instructions that you may find on the Camp Resolute website as all of this will be done for you.