

# AdvanceCamp 2019

## Leader's Guide



20<sup>th</sup> Year

September 27-29, 2019  
Solano County Fairgrounds

## Key Contacts

Executive Director - Steve Hoagland (925) 303-9689  
Registration Directors – Sheryl Wayne (925) 325-5359 and Marcia Molina  
marciamolina925@gmail.com (925) 351-3996  
Staff Director – Rich Stockand (415) 412-2854  
Trailhead Director – Ben Reed (925) 470-6827  
Aquatics Director – Mike Long (510) 685-4537  
Building Coordinator Director – Deborah Long (510) 685-0203  
Logistics Director – Steven Hoagland (925) 597-0362  
Food Services Director – Maria Salazar maria.salazar10@yahoo.com (925) 852-4698  
Treasurer – Pam Spinadel jcspinadel@sbcglobal.net

## General Information & Guidelines

**What:** Scout units from across several Councils come together in the spirit of Scouting. AdvanceCamp provides scouts with the opportunity to complete requirements for merit badges and for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class ranks. These requirements could have been started at another scout event, started or continued and completed or partially completed during AdvanceCamp, or contact made with a counselor to complete a merit badge at a later time.

**Where:** The event will be at the Solano County Fairgrounds, 900 Fairgrounds Dr, Vallejo, CA 94589

**When:** September 27-29, 2019. This is a Friday night-Sunday event.

**Arrivals:** The Solano County fairgrounds is located where Interstate 80 and Highway 37 meet. Whether you are coming from the East or West take Hwy 37 to the fairgrounds drive exit. Camp is across the street from the Six Flags Amusement Park. **All Scouts will report here and will be bussed to their offsite locations.**

**STAFF: Swimming, Lifesaving and Welding Merit Badge Counselors can go direct to their assigned locations.** If you are an offsite counselor, we'll have breakfast & lunch brought to you. The Aquatics Director will have the counselor packets at the pool. All other counselors will pick up their packets in McCormack Hall.

**Registration & Fees: Register your Unit online only at [www.AdvanceCamp.com](http://www.AdvanceCamp.com)**

Early Bird: \$35.00 August 1-August 31, 2019  
Regular: \$45.00 September 1 -September 15, 2019  
Late: \$60.00 September 16-24, 2019  
At Camp: \$75.00

Please note: Climbing, Programming, Plumbing, Search & Rescue, Aviation, Robotics, Archery and Welding will carry an additional \$25 fee. Online registration closes September 24th at 11:55pm. All additional registrations will be taken at camp.

**NO CLASS CHANGES WILL BE MADE AT CAMP.**

Contact your Troop for registration. NO INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS.

Units must pre-register online on and after August 1 at [www.advancecamp.com](http://www.advancecamp.com). Registration will shut down on September 24 at midnight to finalize class assignments. Classes fill on a first-come first-serve basis. Each class is capped based upon logistical considerations and counselor input. Some classes are capped at 8-10 scouts while most others are capped between 12-20 scouts per session. **Scouts not included on the assignment list will be turned away and re-directed to their assigned class.** As such, we strongly encourage your scouts to stick to their class assignments except that they may drop in to the partials area at any time.

**Forms:** As per Safe Scouting guidelines, all participants must have a current BSA Annual Health and Medical form. Medical forms and medication are to be maintained and controlled by each unit at camp (Camp Staff will not check or collect medical forms). Additional forms are located on the Advance Camp webpage at: <http://www.advancecamp.com/forms/>.

**Unit Campfires:** No campfires are allowed (per County rules). Cooking is allowed on stoves and barbecues only.

**CAMPING SITES:** Given that Scouts are coed, all female scouts will be assigned to camp in one area and the male scouts in a separate area. AT NO TIME SHOULD male scouts be found in the female scout area and AT NOT TIME SHOULD female scouts be found in the male scout area. THIS WILL BE GROUNDS FOR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM CAMP.

**Webelos:** As per BSA regulations, Webelos Scouts may not attend Camp. Please make sure newly bridged Webelos Scouts are registered in your troop before they attend Camp.

**Uniforms:** The "Class A" uniform is to be worn while traveling and at morning flags. Troop t-shirts or scout activity shirts may be worn during merit badge classes and trailhead events and while scouts are in their troop campsite. **Scouts going to the Welding, Plumbing, Climbing and Search & Rescue Merit Badges should come dressed in the clothing instructed on the permission slip. ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**Vehicles:** Vehicles will be allowed in designated AdvanceCamp parking lots only, except to drop gear. Please bring the minimum number of vehicles necessary to transport people and gear. Any vehicles parked inside the camp area NOT in parking lots will be towed without warning any time after 30 minutes needed to unload equipment. **Note that the parking lot gate for overnight camping will be closed after 10 P.M.** This is to prevent unauthorized access to the area. Contact the executive director for access after 10 P.M.

**Pick up & Drop Off Directions:**

**TROOPS:**

**UNIT LEADERS MUST MEET YOUR DROP OFFS AT THE MAIN GATE AND YOU MUST SUPERVISE YOUR SCOUTS TO BE PICKED UP AFTER CAMP**  
**\*\*\*YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SCOUTS\*\*\***

**DROP OFFS & PICK UPS:**

Pull into the fairgrounds parking lot and drive to main entrance. Staff will direct you. Do not park or loiter at the main entrance.

**You will drop the Scouts off with your Unit Leaders – do not leave them unsupervised!!**

**Campsites:** Campsites will be assigned by the logistics director. Larger sites are assigned to larger troops. Final site selection is at the discretion of camp staff.

**First Aid:** AdvanceCamp has a first aid station and camp doctor. Each troop is required to provide its own first aid kit. The camp nurse and doctor will be on-site during camp to provide first-response medical assistance as needed or for serious injuries. First aid is also available in the trailhead area at the first aid station.

**Weather:** The weather at this time of year is typically dry and HOT. Scouts and scouters should bring a hat and wear sunscreen. Evenings and mornings, however, can be cool so warm clothing should be brought to camp, plan accordingly.

**Water:** AdvanceCamp provides water that will be located in areas throughout camp. Please check the posted map for locations. Scouts should carry water bottles with them during classes and encouraged to drink small amounts of water often.

**Toilets:** Toilets are in various locations around the fairgrounds including inside both McCormack and Expo Halls. For trailhead, there is a restroom in the trailhead work area. For adult training the restroom is inside the building.

**Scout Spirit:** Have it, demonstrate it and make it contagious.

**Flags:** Units are encouraged to have their U.S. and Troop Flags on display at their campsite.

**Ribbons:** Advance Camp provides an attendance ribbon to each unit.

**Buddy system and two-deep leadership:** In accordance with BSA rules and regulations, the buddy system and two-deep leadership will be strictly enforced. Scouts shall remain in the program area unless released and supervised by a unit adult leader. Adult leaders shall be Youth Protection trained, BSA registered and comply with the youth protection provisions in the most recent version of the Guide to Safe Scouting. An electronic copy is available on the Scouting website at: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/toc/>

**Checkout:** Each unit's campsite must be inspected and cleared by the Logistics Checkout Staff.

**Program Area:** Scouts will take down their tables and chairs after the last session (1-4:30PM). Building coordinators will direct this activity.

**Unit Leader, Staff & Counselor Evaluations:** Most important to post camp are the completed unit leader evaluations. These can be completed with hard copy paper in the Troop Check-In Packet, the Appendix of this booklet or online at [www.advancecamp.com](http://www.advancecamp.com). Each year in our history these evaluations have been used to advise us of corrections and improvements to make the overall success of the event even greater, due to your input.

## Camp Etiquette - “Leave No Trace”

As it should be in all camping, it will be expected that all units will practice the principles of *Leave No Trace* (LNT) while on this outing. Leave No Trace is “awareness and attitude”, rather than a set of rules:

- \* **Plan ahead and prepare**
- \* **Camp and travel on durable surfaces**
- \* **Dispose of Waste properly (Pack it in, Pack it out)**
- \* **Leave what you find**
- \* **Minimize campfire use (No campfires are allowed in this camp)**
- \* **Respect wildlife**
- \* **Respect others**

### LNT principles as they apply to camp:

**Conduct: LNT Principle 7 – Respect others.** Any troop or patrol that seriously violates the Scout Oath or Law, and the offender may be required to leave AdvanceCamp. The Scout Oath and Law is our guide for getting along with others. Each unit’s Scoutmaster is responsible for handling disciplinary problems. Skits are to follow “MDSC Campfire Program Standards”.

**Garbage: LNT Principle 3 – Pack it in, Pack it out. Trash cans are available on site for disposal of garbage.**

**Camping: LNT Principles 2 & 7 –** Camp in the area designated for your unit by the AdvanceCamp Staff. No campfires are allowed. Keep your campsite clean and orderly. *DVD players, radios, video games and music players are not allowed at AdvanceCamp.* **Cell phones may not be used by scouts during activities – better yet, leave your phone at home.**

**Cooking: LNT Principle 1 – Plan ahead & prepare.** Careful meal planning, proper equipment and food repackaging will reduce food waste and trash.

*Remember LNT Principle 3.* Each patrol will camp and cook as a unit under the leadership of the patrol leader. **Dinner and breakfast will be prepared in the unit.**

Units may bring and use patrol or personal stoves, (i.e. “Coleman” stoves or backpacking stoves). LPG and liquid fuel type stoves and lanterns may be used only in the presence of an adult or staff member’s direct supervision. **All liquid fuel shall be contained within a liquid fuel stove, lantern or approved backpack type fuel bottles.** Larger items such as tables, stoves, fuel, shovel and fire buckets may be transported to campsite by vehicle on Friday evening only.

**Fires: LNT Principle 5 – No campfires are allowed at AdvanceCamp.** No open flames are allowed in tents. Use only battery-operated flashlights in tents. The requirement for “No Flames in Tents” signage still applies.

## Activity Schedule

### Friday September 27, 2019

- 4:00pm-10:00pm Troop Check-in for campers at Fairgrounds Entrance
- 4:00pm-10:00pm Troop Activity: Six Flags Fright Night, additional charge (see website)
- 6:00pm-10:00pm Counselor Check-in McCormack Hall if camping Friday night
- 8:00pm-10:45pm Light refreshments for Adult leaders and SPLs
- 10:30pm **Wilderness Survival Merit Badge** Check-in for overnight in Expo Hall
- 11:00pm Lights out for Scouts

**No Boys shall be allowed in the Female camping area. No Girls shall be allowed in the Male camping area. NO EXCEPTION! THIS IS GROUNDS TO BE REMOVED FROM CAMP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!**

### Saturday September 28, 2019

- 6:30am-8:00am Troop wake-up & Troop breakfast on your own
- 6:30am-7:45am Saturday Troop Check-in at Fairgrounds Entrance (Not needed if troop checked in Friday night)
- 6:30am-8:00am Counselor Check-in and breakfast in McCormack Hall
- 8:00am-8:15am Flags on Midway next to registration
- 8:30am-12:00pm Morning Merit Badge and Trailhead Sessions
- 12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch on your own. AdvanceCamp Volunteer Staff Lunch in McCormack
- 1:00pm-4:30pm Afternoon Merit Badge and Trailhead Sessions
- 4:00pm-4:30pm Service Projects: Scouts will clean up at location of their pm class
- 4:30pm-10:00pm Troop Activity: Six Flags Fright Night, additional charge (see website)
- 11:00pm Lights out for Scouts

**No Boys shall be allowed in the Female camping area. No Girls shall be allowed in the Male camping area. NO EXCEPTION! THIS IS GROUNDS TO BE REMOVED FROM CAMP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!**

### Sunday September 29, 2019

- 6:30am-8:00am Troop wake-up & Troop breakfast on your own
- 8:30am-11:30am Campsite breakdown and departure. Make sure your camp area is clean before you leave

## Food

NOTE: Units should plan on providing and preparing their own meals throughout their stay at AdvanceCamp. Advance Camp provides light refreshments for adult leaders and senior patrol leaders on Friday night. Hot and cold drinks will be available for VOLUNTEER STAFF ONLY throughout the day on Saturday, in both McCormick and Expo Halls.

## **AdvanceCamp Volunteer Staff Meals. NO SCOUTS ALLOWED**

AdvanceCamp provides free breakfast and lunch to registered AdvanceCamp Volunteers and Staff only. Staff meals will be served in McCormack Hall. Breakfast on Saturday morning in McCormack Hall between 6:30-7:30 A.M. Lunch will be served between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm. All volunteers must be wearing a wristband.

## **Program**

### **Merit Badges**

Each troop is to provide scouts with blue cards for merit badge advancement. AdvanceCamp provides the setting for scouts and counselors to work on advancement. AdvanceCamp directors and staff do not approve a scout's work or determine whether or not a scout passed the requirements, rather the scout must demonstrate to the counselor's satisfaction that all work (including prerequisites) were completed. AdvanceCamp has available online an Activity Verification Form that may be completed by the unit leader to demonstrate the scout completed a prerequisite. Signed blue card (partials) are suitable as well. **However, the counselor may require substantiation beyond the unit leader's certification or possession of a signed partial blue card.** Please check with your counselor as to whether or not they will accept the Activity Verification Form or signed partial blue card. Additionally:

- All merit badges will be completed using worksheets available at [usscouts.org](http://usscouts.org), so print out the worksheets for each merit badge you plan to work on and bring them along with you to camp.
- Special Requirements: Many Merit Badges require that the scout have permission slips, special clothes or shoes, extra clothes, etc. Please check the details of every Merit Badge and make sure that your scouts are prepared to work on that badge. **Badge specific requirements for clothing MUST be adhered to. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Swimming: Scouts going for the Swimming MB, Lifesaving MB or Trailhead Swimming. **It is not an instructional class** to teach you how to swim, but a verification of your swimming skills and knowledge. Be sure to bring a change of clothes for some of the requirements.
- Citizenship in the Nation is recommended for scouts in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade or later.
- Lifesaving merit badge has a 400 yard swim test (requirement 1b) before the badge may be attempted. **Please do not register Scouts that are marginal swimmers or cannot successfully complete this requirement as they will be sent back to camp and no partial will be given.**
- Permission slips for off-site locations must be signed by scouts and parents. Only Scouts with wristbands will be allowed across Traffic Bridge to enter the Archery Merit Badge activity area.

### **Special Note About Welding and Plumbing Merit Badges**

**Scouts taking the Welding or Plumbing Merit Badge will be excused before flags by their unit leaders with their permission slips in hand & proper attire to board the bus at the front of the fairgrounds. This bus will leave before flags are complete so scouts not on the bus will miss their opportunity for provided transportation to Concord location of UA342. Please provide these scouts with a bag lunch! SCOUTS NOT IN PROPER ATTIRE FOR THESE MERIT BADGES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BOARD THE BUS AND ATTEND CLASS.**

Please note that adult leaders and parents are not allowed to accompany scouts to this facility.

## Partial Merit Badges

We will also be offering a **Partial Merit Badge Booth** from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. for items that you have completed and just need to be verified and checked off. No appointment necessary. The longest wait times will be 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. This is a drop-in, first-come first-served opportunity in McCormack Hall. Please be prepared with the following items: Partial Blue Card, Blank Blue Card, Merit Badge worksheet completed, Merit Badge booklet and any other completed work needed to demonstrate a requirement. If an activity is needed, please complete the Activity Verification Form. Note: Archery Partial MB carries an additional \$10.00 fee and will be in separate area.

## NOVA Award

Go for the NOVA Award! The Boy Scouts of America's NOVA Awards program incorporates learning with cool activities and exposure to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Details at <http://bsaseabase.org/scouting/stem/awards/aboutnova.aspx>. AdvanceCamp offers many NOVA required merit badges only.

## Trailhead

AdvanceCamp provides seven stations at Trailhead covering Tenderfoot, Second and First Class requirements. Swimming requirements are offered at Solano Community College and a five-mile compass hike is conducted at Blue Rock Springs Park (650 Columbus Pkwy, Vallejo) **Scouts are bused to the pools and to the park. All Scouts must check in at Camp with their Troop & be transported to these activities by AdvanceCamp busses!!** All Trailhead classes at the fairgrounds are drop in. Advance registration for trailhead helps in arranging for trailhead staff and assistants, planning trailhead events, and purchasing accurate trailhead supplies. Make sure to register early to reserve your sessions and help make the camp experience more enjoyable for all by enabling us to be prepared. The following Trailhead advancement is available:

- Scout: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 4a, 4b, 5
- Tenderfoot: 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 4a, 4b, 4d, 5a, 5b, 5c, 7a, 8
- Second Class: 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 4, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, 6e, 8b, 9a, 9b
- First Class: 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 6a, 6b, 6e, 7a, 7b, 7c, 9a

Each Scout should bring a compass for the 2nd and 1st Class Trailhead Map and Compass work. **If you don't have a compass, we cannot sign off on your card.**

Some helpful hints:

- The most heavily attended station will be KNOTS AND LASHINGS, which will cover two Tenderfoot requirements and four First Class requirements.
- The HIKING station will cover two requirements for Tenderfoot and one for Second Class. We will have one five-mile hike which leaves in the morning and continues into the early afternoon. Map and compass reading are covered.
- The FIRST AID station will cover two Tenderfoot requirements, three Second Class requirements and three First Class requirements.



- The FLAG FOLDING/RAISING station, which also includes a visit with a community leader, will see scouts complete one Tenderfoot requirement and one First Class requirement.
- At the Plant and Wildlife station scouts need to identify 10 kinds of wild animals. For scouts who need to identify 10 kinds of plants, we will take them on a nature hike so they can complete those requirements.
- At TRAILHEAD SWIM, we will travel to Solano Community College from the Bus Stop. **Trailhead swim is not an instructional program but will verify your ability to swim.**
- We will hold two sessions in the morning and the afternoon dealing with KNIVES AND AXES, where the scouts can earn their Totin' Chip cards.
- **An adult troop leader must accompany all scouts working on swimming tests for Second or First class at the swimming pool.**
- Scoutmasters are requested to be available for Scoutmaster's conferences for his Scouts either during the camp or as soon as possible after camp.

## Adult Leader Training

Mount Diablo Silverado Council conducts the following Adult Training Classes at no additional charge (only pay Camp registration fees through your Troop)

- **Scoutmaster Specific Training:** SM Position-Specific training will be offered AM & PM, 4 hours each. AM session will **not** be able to have lunch with their Units, so please plan appropriately.
- **Troop Committee Challenge:** TCC will only be offered in the morning.
- **MBC Training:** Offered Friday night only, McCormack Hall at 7:00pm, no registration required
- **CPR Training:** Red Cross CPR Training will be offered AM & PM, \$40 additional charge for the Red Cross Certification Card, will be held at the County Bldg.

## Volunteering

We need volunteers like you to continue AdvanceCamp! AdvanceCamp is run by volunteers who serve without compensation. **100% of all funds collected goes towards the program.**

Merit Badge Counselors and Camp Staff Volunteers for the day are FREE and receive:

- Friday night camping
- Free Breakfast Saturday morning
- Camp Patch
- Complimentary t-shirt
- Free Saturday lunch

**1. Merit Badge Counselors:** for Merit Badges that we offer. We are always looking to add new Merit Badges as we get volunteers. Advance Camp has always paid for any merit badge supplies used by counselors at Camp or paid for by themselves. Just present the receipts to our Treasurer and he will get a reimbursement check for you. If you are interested in counseling a badge, please contact Rich Stockand at 415-412-2854 ahead of camp.

**2. Trailhead Volunteers:** Ready to help younger scouts progress to First Class? We will have hundreds of Scouts at this important area and need all the volunteers we can get. Any Eagle Scouts and adults that are looking to help, this is the perfect area for you. You do not have to be 18 to help.

**3. General Camp Staff:** Lots to be done from helping in the kitchen, making sure that each building has water in it and that the scouts and counselors have everything they need, bus stop monitors and running general errands around camp.

**4. Building Coordinators:** Building Coordinators ensure that the logistical needs in the program area are addressed.

Contact the Executive Director or Staff Director if you can help. You may register for these positions online at <http://www.advancecamp.com/camp-volunteers/> or at registration: <http://www.advancecamp.com/registration/>

# Appendix

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# AdvanceCamp

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Tax ID# 87-0723483 501C3 Non Profit  
Email:advancecamp@yahoo.com  
or our website @ www.advancecamp.com

## 2019 Unit Leader Evaluation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Troop # \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Council \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Let us start by saying thank you for attending this event. This event could not have been put on for the scouts without help from adult leaders like you. Thank you seems hollow considering how we really feel. You are an important part of this event. THANKS, THANKS, THANKS, THANKS!

1. Did you enjoy this event? YES / NO -  
Why \_\_\_\_\_
2. Would you bring your unit to this event next year? **9/26-27/20** YES / NO
3. Was your unit a MALE UNIT - YES FEMALE UNIT - YES Please circle correct choice
4. When did you find out about this event \_\_\_\_\_?
5. Do you feel we kept you informed throughout the event? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How could we make this event better? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Drive time to the camp \_\_\_\_\_
8. How often do you attend your local roundtable? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What did you think of the camp facilities? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How did we do on providing enough advance information? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What did you think of the unit registration process? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Did your unit and you enjoy yourself today? \_\_\_\_\_
13. How many scouts \_\_\_\_\_ and scouters \_\_\_\_\_ attended with your unit this year?
14. Did your unit have any adults in adult training provided at camp? \_\_\_\_\_

If you could make improvements to the overall event, what would they be

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please use the back of this form if needed for comments. Thanks again for your support of the AdvanceCamp event. You may complete this form and leave it with registration in McCormack Hall before leaving.