



TRAIL LIFE USA™

New Parent Guide

Published by:

Troop CA-1011

Dear Parent,

Greetings and welcome to Trail Life USA Troop CA-1011!

We look forward to meeting you and your son, and discussing your involvement in Trail Life. You are very welcome to come visit our Troop meetings and check out the program.

From September to June, our troop generally meets on the first, second, and third Tuesday of every month from 6:30p.m. to 8:00p.m. Troop Meetings follow the academic calendar; regular breaks from troop meetings will occur for the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter holidays. In addition, there will be monthly, troop-wide and patrol-specific "Hit the Trail" events for you and your son to attend to build skills and character, experience adventure, and form friends.

When you attend your first meeting, we want you to feel welcomed and have all of your questions answered. To that end, we encourage you to contact one of the members of our leadership team ahead of time to let us know when you will be attending. Your contact for the Troop is:

Kevin Clark, Onboarding Chair
kclark4jesus@gmail.com

We strive for an active outdoor adventure program that is enriching and instructive for your boy. When you visit one of our Troop meetings, we will be happy to provide you with a calendar of current Troop campouts, hikes, service projects and activities.

Attached, please find some information about our Troop and the Trail Life program. Again, we are VERY excited to have you join us on the Trail.

Walk Worthy!

Kevin

Trail Life USA Ideals

VISION

To be the premier national character development organization for young men which produces Godly and responsible husbands, fathers, and citizens.

MISSION

To guide generations of courageous young men to honor God, lead with integrity, serve others, and experience outdoor adventure.

MOTTO

“Walk Worthy”

Colossians 1:10 “... so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ...”

OATH

On my honor, I will do my best To serve God and my country; To respect authority; To be a good steward of creation; And to treat others as I want to be treated.

Program Emphasis

Wisdom, Heritage, Teamwork, Leadership, Character, and Faith

Statement of Faith

We believe there is One Triune God – God the Father; Jesus Christ, His one and only Son; and the Holy Spirit – Creator of the universe and eternally existent. We believe the Holy Scriptures (Old and New Testaments) to be the inspired and authoritative Word of God. We believe each person is created in His image for the purpose of communing with and worshiping God. We believe in the ministry of the Holy Spirit, Who enables us to live godly lives. We believe each of us is called to love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We believe God calls us to lives of purity, service, stewardship and integrity.

Membership Standards for Trail Life USA

Trail Life USA welcomes boys of any faith – or no faith at all. But all materials and activities consistently emphasize our Christian worldview and our hope to make faithful disciples. For that reason, all adult members must ascribe to the TLUSA Statement of Faith and Values.

Achievement Transfer from BSA to Trail Life USA

Trail Life USA is a new, unique and separate youth outdoor activity from the Boy Scouts of America, but there is a system for receiving credit of ranks and achievements earned as Scouts in BSA when joining Trail Life USA. Any former Scout wishing to join Trail Life USA should log onto the TrailLifeUsa.com website. There, you will find an easy to use transfer module that can be downloaded, filled out and brought to your Trail Life leader.

(more information can be found at www.trailifeusa.com)

Youth and Trail Life USA

As a Christ-centered organization our faith is woven throughout the program without being necessarily “religious” or “churchy.” Adult and youth members receive Biblical instruction and training to deepen and strengthen their faith and sharpen the faith of their peers.

Youth membership in the program is open to all who meet the membership requirements, and is currently designed for biologically male children under the age of 18. All boys ages 5 through 17 are welcome irrespective of religion, race, national origin, or socio-economic status. We welcome boys whose parents are seeking a faith-based outdoor adventure program that places an emphasis on character development, leadership, and moral purity, and who aspire to live in accordance with the values expressed in the program’s Oath and Creed. Youth age ranges are:

Woodlands Program (K-5, three Patrol Levels)

Foxes: Kindergarten and at least 5 years old by October 31st

Hawks: 2nd Grade and at least 7 years old by October 31st

Mountain Lions: 4th Grade and at least 9 years old by October 31st

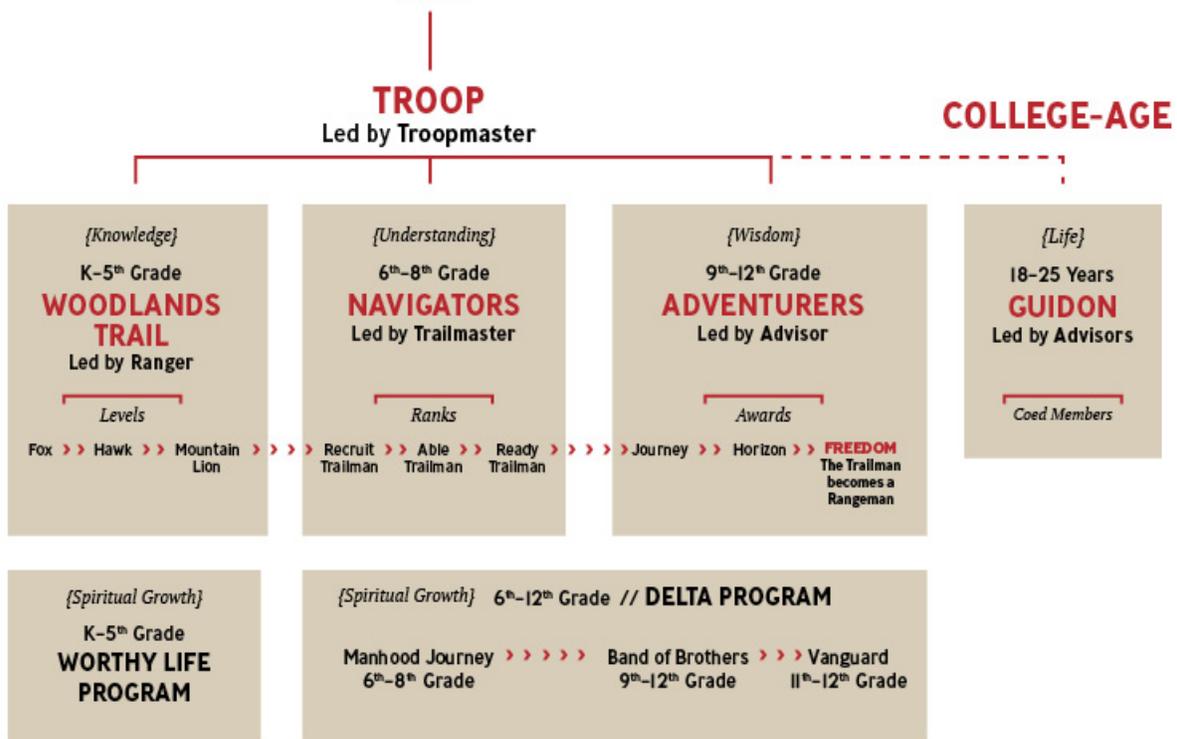
Navigators Program: 6th Grade and at least 11 years old by October 31st

Adventurers Program: 9th Grade and at least 14 years old by October 31st

Boys will jointly participate in a common opening ceremony for all ages before separating into their respective age groups (Patrols) for patrol-specific lessons taught by Trail Guides and reunite as a full troop for closing ceremony and prayer. Older boys will often teach a younger boy a badge or skill at meetings or outdoor activities. Other common events like service projects, family camping trips, and awards ceremonies will bring all ages together.

For child-protection purposes, there will never be less than two registered adult leaders present with a patrol. All adult leaders will undergo background checks, fingerprinting (requirement of Fremont Presbyterian Church) and will take and pass a Child Safety Youth Protection Training course.

TRAIL LIFE USA

Adults and Trail Life USA

Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their son's program, whether by attending meetings, completing in-home activities, teaching a specific skill at an outing, or just providing encouragement. Foxes (youngest members of the Woodlands Trail program) are required to have at least one parent in attendance at all meetings.

Christian men and women who sign and abide by the membership standards and the organization's Statement of Faith may become adult leaders. All leaders must be at least 21 years old with the exception of Trail Guides, who must be at least 18 years old. The annual overhead cost of the program will be funded primarily through membership fees.

Money, Insurance and Trail Life USA

Membership Fee: \$26 per registered adult/boy per year. The Membership Fee is required to register as a member of Trail Life, USA Troop CA-0127. Trail Life requires that all adults who will serve in any leadership capacity be registered with the Troop. Registration is done online through our troop management program, Troop Track (www.trooptrack.com/trail_life_usa). We will send you an email to get the process started.

Annual Dues: \$50 per boy per year. Dues are paid into the Troop treasury to cover Troop expenses during the year. TRAIL LIFE USA is a 501(c)3 organization. For accounting purposes, all monies will be deposited and distributed through the Charter Organization Institutional Head and the Troop Treasurer.

Uniforms: \$45 - \$125 (<https://www.trailifeusa.com/shop/>). Registered members will be required to purchase and wear a Trail Life uniform to all meetings and activities. The Trail Life “formal” uniform is required to be worn at meetings and dress activities by leaders and members enrolled in the program.

Fundraiser: Troop CA-0127 will hold at least one fundraiser per year in order to raise money for the troop treasury to be used to fund troop parties, outdoor activities, leadership training, supplies, equipment, and other needs as voted on by the Leadership Committee. All families are expected to participate in fundraisers.

Fingerprinting/LiveScan (required once for all Trail Life Leaders and Registered Adults): **\$10-\$30**

Insurance: Trail Life, USA will supply liability and accident insurance for (youth and adults) participating in Trail Life USA activities.

Steps To Register Your Son

1. Contact the Troopmaster and request an online registration link.
2. You will receive an email from Troop Track with a link to complete registration and pay \$26 fee to Trail Life.
3. Order Uniform
Pay \$50 membership troop dues to the troop Treasurer
4. Begin working on Joining Requirements based on the program level your son will be in.

TRAILMAN JOINING REQUIREMENTS

- Memorize the Trailman Oath
- Learn the Trailman Sign and when to use it
- Learn the Trailman Salute and when to use it
- Learn the Trailman Handshake
- Memorize the Pledge of Allegiance
- Understand how to properly fold the American flag (Mountain Lions only, 4th and 5th grade)
- Give your Patrol Leader's name, patrol name, and patrol yell. (Adventurers/Navigators only, 6th-12th grade)
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TRAILMAN OATH:

On my honor, I will do my best

To serve God and my Country;

To respect authority;

To be a good steward of Creation,

And to treat others as I want to be treated.

TRAILMAN MOTTO:

“Walk Worthy”

“...so as to walk with a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.”
(Col. 1:10, ESV)



TRAILMAN SIGN



TRAILMAN SALUTE



TRAILMAN HANDSHAKE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

FOLDING AMERICAN FLAG WEBSITE:

<http://www.usflag.org/foldflag.html>

NOTE:

Patrol leader's name, patrol name, patrol yell and Troop Safety Program requirements will be completed during Troop meetings.

