



# NEW MEMBER GUIDEBOOK

# WELCOME

## *Scouting for Everyone!*

The Baden-Powell Service Association - United States (BPSA) offers an alternative and community-oriented Traditional Scouting program for youth and adults, boys and girls in the United States. We are not affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America or the Girl Scouts, USA. We are members of the World Federation of Independent Scouts. As such we are not in competition with other American scouting associations; we consider them our brothers and sisters in scouting. BPSA is volunteer-run and we have no full- or part-time paid staff, either locally or at the national level —this allows us to keep costs down for parents and youth interested in the scouting program.

Everyone deserves a chance to have the Scouting Experience!

## Why 183 Tonkawa?



When a new BPSA Scout Group registers for a charter, it has to have a name. The name of the group must somehow be reflective of the community in which the group scouts, whether it's a geological feature, flora or fauna indigenous to the area, a historical event, etc. We chose to name ourselves in honor of our community's original scouts. Before registering the name, we contacted the Tonkawa Tribal Council at their reservation in northern Oklahoma. We explained who we are, outlined our goals as an organization and introduced them to BPSA. We asked for their permission to use the name "Tonkawa" to represent our organization as they were among the most prevalent of

the native tribes in our immediate region. The tribe had served as "scouts" for Texican settlers and the US Army when they arrived in the area. The Tribal Council approved our request to use the name following their investigating BPSA and careful consideration. They also sent us wonderful items such as their flags, Tribal history and language books and CDs so that we might get to know them better. We look forward to working closely with the tribe in order to help preserve their heritage and teach our 183rd Tonkawans about our namesake. The blessing of the Tonkawa Tribal Council is something we greatly respect, and we plan to work hard to make the Tonkawa Tribe proud.

For more information regarding the Tonkawa Tribe, please visit their website at <http://www.tonkawatribe.com/>.



**“B.P.”**

Lieutenant-General **Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden-Powell**, OM GCMG GCVO KCB (22 February 1857 – 8 January 1941), also known as **B-P** or **Lord Baden-Powell**, was a lieutenant-general in the British Army, writer, founder of the Scout Movement and first Chief Scout of The Boy Scouts Association.

After having been educated at Charterhouse School in Surrey, Baden-Powell served in the British Army from 1876 until 1910 in India and Africa. In 1899, during the Second Boer War in South Africa, Baden-Powell successfully defended the town in the Siege of Mafeking.

Several of his military books, written for military reconnaissance and scout training in his African years, were also read by boys.

Based on those earlier books, he wrote *Scouting for Boys*, published in 1908 by Sir Arthur Pearson, for youth readership.

In 1907, he held the first Brownsea Island Scout camp, which is now seen as the beginning of Scouting.

The first Scout Rally was held at The Crystal Palace in 1909, at which appeared a number of girls dressed in Scout uniform, who told B-P that they were the "Girl Scouts", whereupon B-P and his sister Agnes Baden-Powell formed the Girl Guides Movement. After his marriage on 30 October 1912 to Olave St Clair Soames, Baden-Powell and his wife actively gave guidance to the Scouting and Girl Guiding Movements.

Baden-Powell lived his last years in Nyeri, Kenya, where he died and was buried in 1941.

**My Scout is a:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scout's Leader is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Asst. Leader is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meetings are at:** Twin Lakes Family YMCA  
204 E. Little Elm Trail  
Cedar Park, Texas 78613

**Day of the week:** Thursday

**Start Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**End Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Group Scoutmaster:** JD Murphy  
512.731.9728  
jdmurphy@live.com

**Group Auxiliary Chair:** Lori Murphy  
512.779.1381  
lorimurphy817@gmail.com

**Website:** [www.183tonkawa.com](http://www.183tonkawa.com)

**Facebook Page:** [www.facebook.com/183rdtonkawabpsa](http://www.facebook.com/183rdtonkawabpsa)

**Private Facebook Page:** [www.facebook.com/groups/183rdParentsAndMembers](http://www.facebook.com/groups/183rdParentsAndMembers)



# THE COST OF BEING A SCOUT

## 183 TONKAWA SCOUT GROUP



Note: We aim to ensure that cost is never a barrier for any family to join. If cost is an issue, we **highly** encourage you to reach out to the GSM or Auxiliary Chair about fee reductions and/or waivers.

Annual Registration Fee (covers our annual Group Charter, insurance premiums, scout registration with BPSA-US, background checks for adults, the 186rd Tonkawa shoulder patch \$45/scout **or** \$60/family

Monthly Dues (covers supplies costs, proficiency badges when earned, handbook/packet), paid September – May \$10/scout **or** \$20/family/month

### :: UNIFORMS ::

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Chipmunk Shirt  | \$5.00  |
| Chipmunk 27" Necker   | \$6.00  |
| Otter Hat & Shirt   | \$8.00  |
| Otter 32" Necker  | \$18.00 |
| Timberwolf Hat & Shirt  | \$8.00  |
| Timberwolf 32" Necker   | \$18.00 |
| Pathfinder Uniform Shirt  | \$25.00 |
| Pathfinder Hat Option 1 - Beret with pin (BPSA Quartermaster Website)                                     | \$19.00 |
| Pathfinder Hat Option 2 - Stratton Campaign Hat with pin (Miller Uniforms and BPSA Quartermaster Website) | \$94.00 |
| Pathfinder/Rover 36" Necker   | \$23.00 |
| Pathfinder personal kit (Knife, Compass, Firemaker, 1st Aid Kit,  | ~ \$75  |

Beyond these costs, there are costs for various trips, activities, program fees. We try hard to keep this down, and the trips and activities are always optional.

COSTS CAN CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE, THESE ARE GENERAL PRICES

# YOU ARE READY TO BE A SCOUT!

## Step 1 – Fill out Registration and Release Forms

- Forms are included at the end of this guidebook; fillable forms are available under the “Forms” section of our website (<http://www.183rdtonkawa.com/tonkawa-tribe/>)
- Medical and liability form must be completed before scouts can participate in any capacity

## Step 2 – Acquire a Uniform

- We expect it to take a few weeks to get your uniform put together.
- YOU DO NOT NEED A UNIFORM TO START ATTENDING MEETINGS.
- Uniform pieces can be purchased from the Group Scout Master (JD Murphy) or can be purchased online – please reach out to JD for uniform brands/colors if purchasing elsewhere to ensure you get the correct style/color.
- Order the neckerchief from the GSM.

## Step 3 – Meet with your Section Leader

- Pay annual registration fee and monthly dues, payable by credit card or PayPal online (our preferred method) or by check at any meeting
- Go over Health Forms, etc.

## Step 4 – Your Scout is Invested

- After your scout meets the minimum Investiture Requirements, your Scout will receive their neckerchief in a ceremony at a meeting.

# ADVANCEMENT & PROFICIENCY BADGES

Most BPSA Advancement is handled through completion of requirements which include activities and demonstrating current proficiency of certain skills.

Every level in BPSA has proficiency badges and awards.

To earn each proficiency badge, the Scout must complete each requirement as stated. The Scout may need to demonstrate a skill, submit a report, perform an activity, or make an explanation of a subject to the Scoutmaster or an authorized examiner.

While some requirements may be completed by some accomplishment, like a required membership or certification, that may have been completed before joining BPSA, the expectation is that generally requirements will be completed while registered in the BPSA.

In some cases, the Scoutmaster authorizes the Scout to submit a parent's or expert's note verifying participation in an activity. When satisfied the requirement has been met, the Scoutmaster will sign off the requirement in the Scout's Book.

With the exception of making accommodations due to a permanent handicap or disability, we do not change the requirements in any way. Accommodations must be approved, in advance, by the General Scoutmaster (GSM).

Scouts are expected to re-demonstrate their proficiencies for certain skills from time to time in order to continue to wear their proficiency badges.

# UNIFORM & KIT

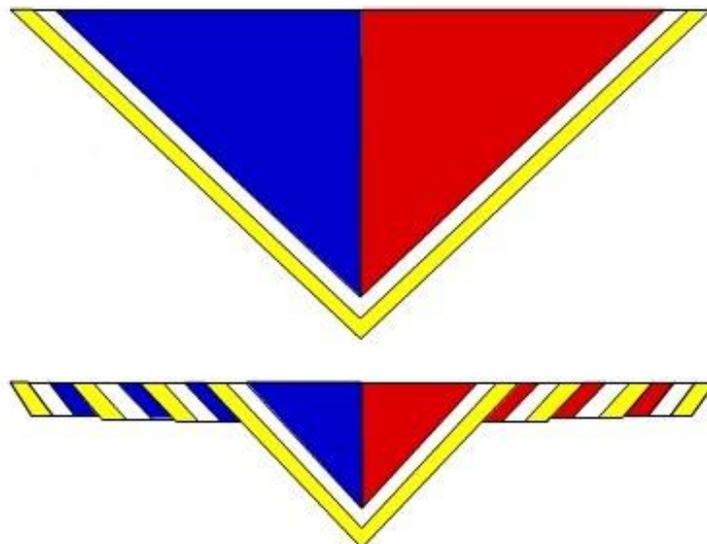
B-P said, in what is probably his most-quoted writing about the uniform, “I don’t care a fig whether a Scout wears the uniform or not so long as his heart is in his work and he carries out the Scout Law.” However, this quote is out of context, as B-P goes on to say, “But the fact is that there is hardly a Scout who does not wear the uniform if he can afford to buy it. The spirit prompts him to it.”

Scouting uses the uniform both as the great equalizer between youth from families of modest means and those who are well off. The uniform, apart from erasing any class distinctions, also fosters the spirit of belonging into a single society in which all members are equal to one another and responsible to one another. It gives the scouts a sense of pride of belonging to a worldwide movement.

## BPSA-US SCOUTING UNIFORM

For a detailed reference on the pieces of our uniform, BPSA refers members to the adopted 1938 PO&R document. This document describes the proper uniform, and any options, for each section of the association. We realize that uniforms in other scouting organizations are typically expensive, and so we try to find resources with the idea of keeping the cost down as much as possible, while also attempting to offer uniforms that work in our hot climate. This section will list the approved and required uniform pieces for the Otter, Timberwolf, Pathfinder and Rover sections in the association.

Our group neckerchief is half red and half blue with white and yellow trim in honor of the colors of the Tonkawa Tribe.



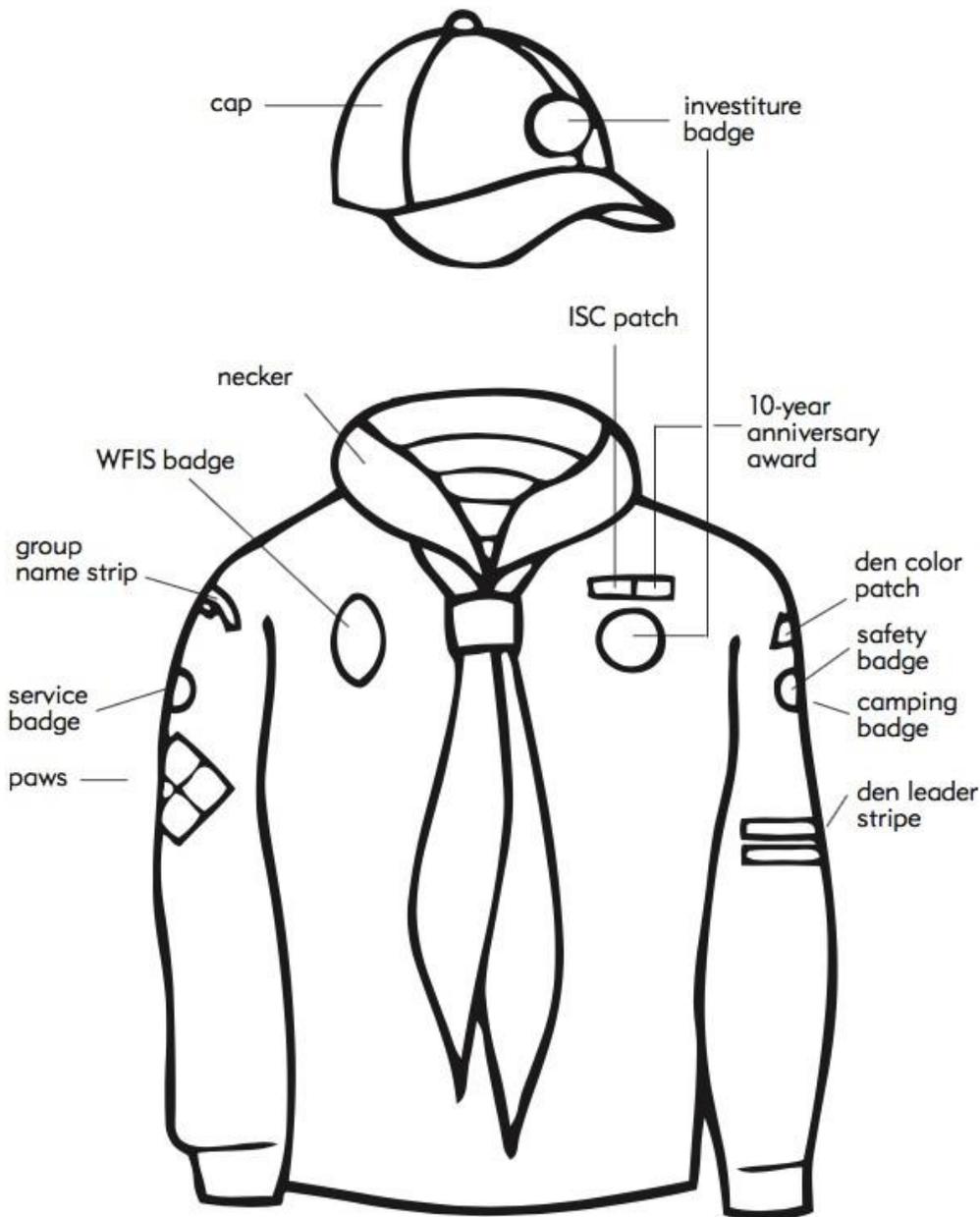
# OTTER SECTION

**Hat:** Red baseball-style cap with the Otter Badge centered on the front.

**Shirt:** Red jersey tee (BPSA-US lists long sleeve, we have adapted to short-sleeve for the climate) with no collar.

**Shorts/Pants:** Either long-style Khaki cargo pants or shorts preferred. **Necker:** 32" square neckerchief of the group's colors, worn with a ring or slide ("woggle") at the throat

**Shoes:** Closed toed, suitable shoes



Otter Uniform Patch Guide

# TIMBERWOLF SECTION

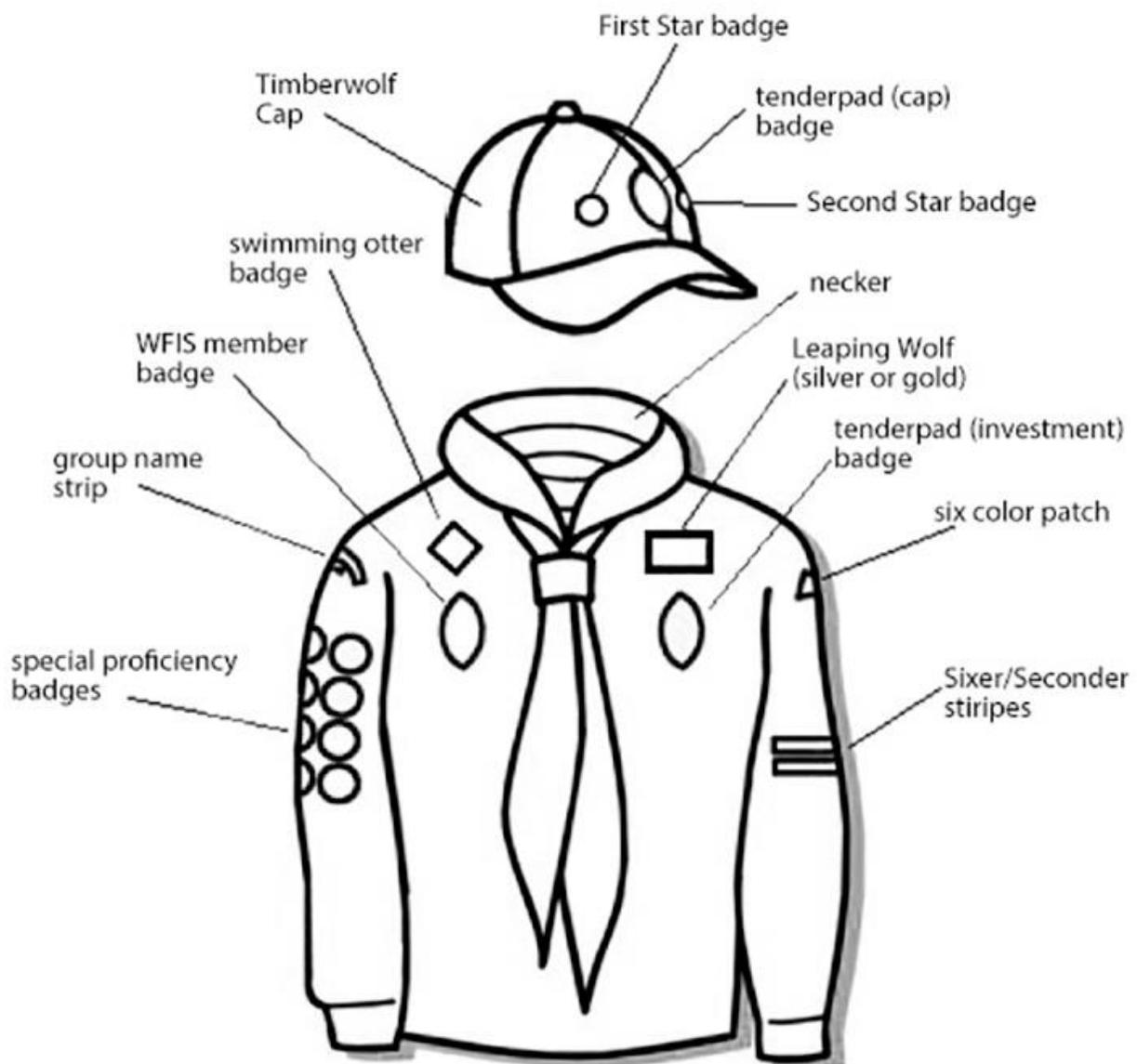
**Hat:** Navy blue baseball-style cap with the Timberwolf Badge centered on the front

**Shirt:** Light Grey jersey tee (BPSA-US lists long sleeve, we have adapted to short-sleeve for the climate) with no collar.

**Shorts/Pants:** Dark (navy) blue like hat. Khaki, green or gray is OK, too. **Necker:** 32" square neckerchief of the group's colors, worn with a ring or slide ("woggle") at the throat

**Stockings (optional):** Dark (navy) blue, khaki, green or gray, plain, for wearing with shorts. Green garter tabs may also be worn with shorts.

**Shoes:** Closed toed, suitable shoes



Timberwolf Uniform Patch Guide

# PATHFINDER SECTION

**NOTE:** Pathfinders and above are expected to maintain their own uniform. They will sew on their own patches, launder, and iron them. These are all important life skills and every Scout should know them.

**Hat:** Olive or Brown Campaign style (Brown preferred), flat-brim, four-dent hat with leather band on the crown. OR a green beret is also permitted with appropriate metal pin or patch on front.

**Shirt:** Dark gray short sleeve (BPSA-US lists long sleeve, we have adapted to short-sleeve for the climate) Safari/Bush-style shirt with two front pockets (flap w/ buttons) and optional shoulder epaulets.

**Pants:** Blue, khaki, olive, or gray in color and of a comfortable outdoor/cargo style.

**Belt:** Brown leather or webbing belt.

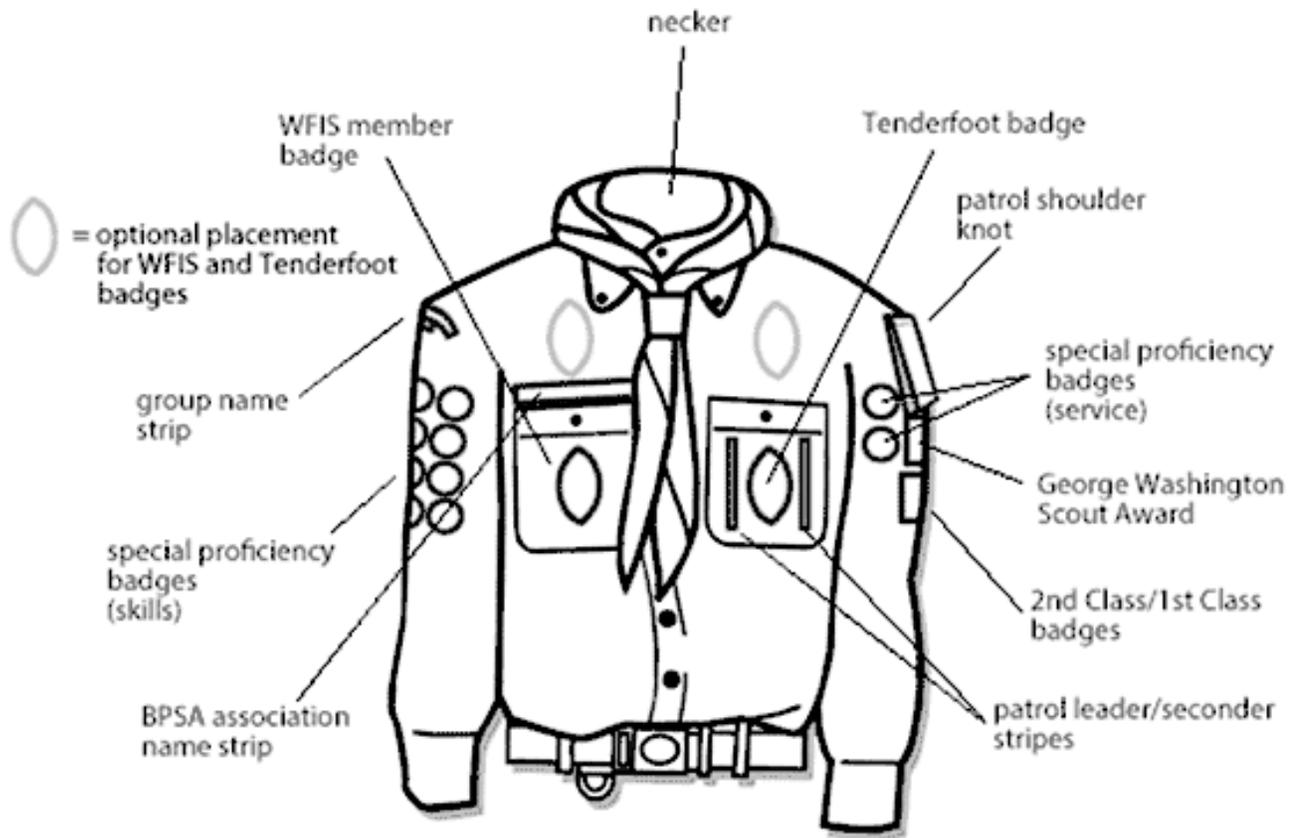
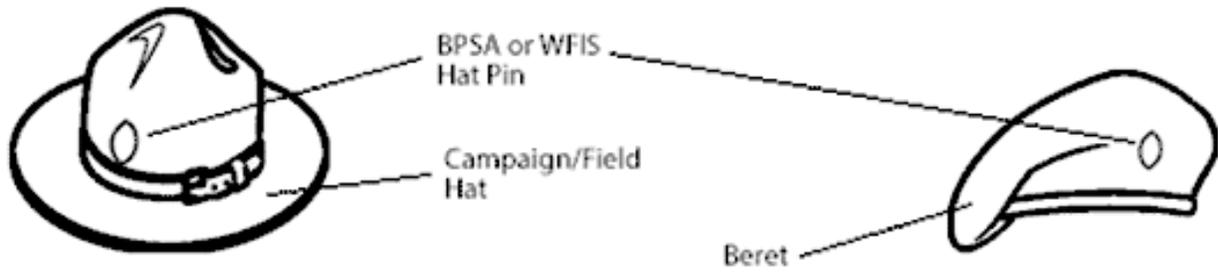
**Necker:** 36" square neckerchief of the group's colors, worn with a ring or slide ("woggle") at the throat.

**Socks:** Knee length, worn turned down at the knee with green tabbed garter showing on outside with shorts, of approved color: dark blue, khaki, green, or gray.  
Shoes: brown or black (Troop Choice)

**The Kit:** The Motto is Be Prepared, so at every Meeting and Activity, a Pathfinder is expected to have

- A Compass
  - A Knife with Woods Tools Card
  - Handbook
  - Binder W/ Paper
  - Pencil
  - Stave
  - Firestarter
  - Flashlight
  - Sunscreen
  - Personal First Aid Kit
  - Personal Sewing Kit
  - Water bottle
  - Raingear (Weatherproof coat is fine)
- And a Haversack/Rucksack/Shoulder bag to carry it all in.

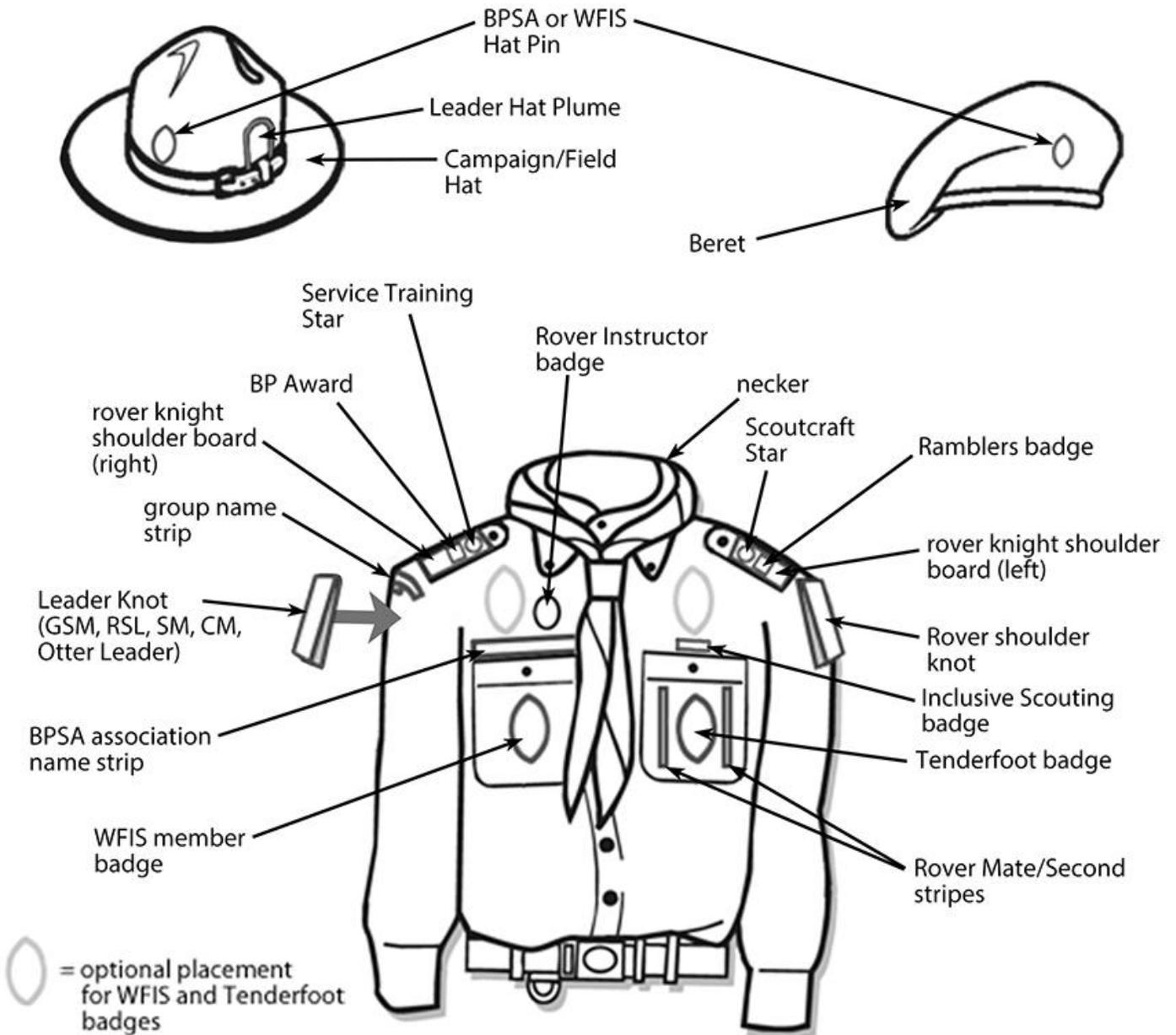
**DON'T JUST RUSH OUT TO BUY THIS GEAR.**  
**The Scouts will receive training in what to buy and how to use it safely.**



## Pathfinder Uniform Patch Guide

# ROVER SECTION

A Rover wears the uniform of the Pathfinder, as laid out in the previous section, with the exceptions that the shirt be dark (forest or spruce) green with shoulder epaulets, and garter tabs are red instead of green (once knighted). For our Rover Crew, we have standardized on Propper Brand Tactical Dress Shirts.



Rover Uniform Patch Guide

# WHERE DO WE GET THIS STUFF?

In General, almost everything the scout will need for uniforms can be purchased from the Group Quartermaster. Notable exceptions:

- Rover Uniform Shirts and Hats
- Pathfinder Hats (Berets are available from BPSA website)

## Socks and Garter Flashes

(Only needed when wearing Shorts)

Garter flashes – USA Kilt, \$9.99 – Timberwolves and Pathfinders wear green, Rovers (once invested as a Rover Knight) wear red.

Socks – Sport Kilt, for adults get the \$14.50 “Mid-grade”, these hold up better and aren’t sheer once pulled over your adult sized legs; plus, these are longer and fit better on adults.

For the younger group (14 and below) the regular Kilt Hose for \$8.00 works fine. These should be the same for boys or girls.

Please note that the knee socks and garter flashes don’t need to be worn with long pants. Just use a matching sock color, but shorter when wearing the long pants (unless you just want to keep warm, then keep the knee socks on).