

THE 33RD KERRISDALE SCOUT GROUP

POLICY AND STANDARD HANDBOOK



This handbook contains guidelines and standards of Scouting in the 33rd Kerrisdale Scout Group. We constantly review these guidelines to ensure that our members receive the best possible experience, and that our leaders are held to a high standard. As we are a constituency of Scouts Canada, all Scouts Canada's bylaws, policies, standards, and procedures will take precedence. Please refer to <https://www.scouts.ca/resources/bpp/search.html> for a complete list of all policies.

Revision History		
Date	Description of Revisions	Name of Editor
April 8, 2023	Current document outline created	Stephen Yip
July 12, 2023	Formatting, minor additions	Nathan Kwok
Sept. 7, 2023	Parent Volunteer Hour Clarification	Nathan Kwok

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Regular Meeting Time and Meeting Place

Every Saturday:

Section	Time
Beaver Colony	12:30pm - 1:30pm
Cub Scout Pack	2:15pm - 4:30pm
Scout Troop	2:00pm - 4:30pm
Venturer Company	2:00pm - 4:30pm

Location: St. Titus Anglican Church (680 W 49th Ave, Vancouver, BC V5Z 2S4)

Cubs and Scouts may be asked to come earlier or stay later to help with Duty Six/Patrol requirements (flagpole and clean-up duties).

Attendance and Absence

An average of 85% attendance rate is expected. This translates to roughly 1 *unexcused* absence every 2 months, though absence of any kind should be duly avoided. Absences with a valid reason will not affect a member's attendance.

A written note of absence with reason, delivered via physical note or email, should be sent to the Section Leader at least one day prior to the meeting or activity. Social gatherings (birthday parties, family gatherings) are not considered valid reasons for absence. Members with a low attendance rate will be reviewed at the Progress Review Conference, and may not be invited back the following year.

Members are expected to arrive and leave on time. Any member arriving later than 5 minutes later than the expected start time will be recorded for reviewing purposes at the Progress Review Conference. A written notice with valid reason should be sent to the Section Leader at least one day prior to the meeting for cases of leaving the meeting early.

Uniform

Proper uniform should be worn at all Scouting events. Exceptions to this rule are outdoor physical activities, where the Group purple t-shirt or Sun Run T-shirt must be worn. All other exceptions can only be made by the Section Leader. Please ensure your child has: dark blue pants with belt loops, calf-length dark blue or black socks, black uniform shoes with laces, and a dark blue waterproof jacket. The beret, neckerchief and woggle, and Region badges will be provided by the Group and will need to be purchased from the Group (kun.wang@scout33.org.)

Members are encouraged to come to meetings with minimal jewelry/heavy scents. Those with long hair will need to tie their hair back.

Members with improper uniform or missing items will be recorded for review at the Progress Review Conference.

A hoodie, jacket, or vest is permitted to be worn at meetings and outings; however, large logos must not be visible.

Badges

Badge testing time for Beavers will be from 1:30pm-2:00pm on Saturday, right after meeting. Badge testing time for Cubs and Scouts will be from 1:30pm-2:15pm on Saturday, right before meeting.

To ensure a spot, members must make an appointment and sign up with the Parent

Administrator one week prior:

Beaver - colony.badge.test@scout33.org

Cub - pack.badge.test@scout33.org

Scout - troop.badge.test@scout33.org

Badge Progress Standards are determined by the Section Leaders. Every member is expected to make consistent badge progress throughout the year, according to their own ability. Performance will be evaluated together with the leaders, parents, and the members in the Progress Review Conference.

Activities

Our Group Schedules a number of Activities each year, including hikes and camps. Times, meeting places, costs, and uniforms will be announced in advance of each activity via a permission form. These permission forms should be submitted to the Parent Coordinator on time, as specified on the form. Any late or missing submission will be recorded and discussed in the Progress Review Conference.

Outdoor activities are an important part of Scouting, and members are expected to attend all outings unless a valid reason is given. We believe that every member should have the opportunity to enjoy Scouting; please do not hesitate to reach out if you require financial assistance.

Code of Behaviour

The 33rd Kerrisdale Scout Group is committed to establishing a safe, secure, and positive environment for members to learn. Each member is expected to be well-behaved and to show consideration and respect to all members. Section Leaders will take responsibility for the maintenance of discipline within their own Sections.

The following will not be tolerated in the 33rd Kerrisdale Scout Group:

- Corporal punishment and physical abuse
- Confinement
- Withholding food
- Humiliation, name-calling, or verbal abuse, including cyber-bullying

The use of alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs/substances is strictly prohibited at any Scouting activity where youth are present. Members must always ensure that their ability to think or act is not impaired.

Electronic devices are not to be used during regular meetings, except to take pictures or by express permission. Inappropriate use of electronic devices will result in temporary confiscation and a warning.

There will be no profanity used at meetings and outings.

Communication

Parents and members are expected to regularly check their email in order to receive information from the 33rd Kerrisdale Scout Group. If you are not receiving our emails, please check your spam folder, or let a Section Leader know.

Advertisements, commercials, or personal promotions are not allowed in any of the Group's channels of communication.

It is the parent and member's responsibility to be prepared for all meetings and outings. Preparedness will be evaluated in the Progress Review Conference.

Media, Communication, and Photo Release Consent

Upon logging into your MyScouts profile and navigating to "Directory, Photo and Fundraising Options," you will find an option to select whether you give media consent for your child. We strongly recommend that parents click "yes" for the photo consent; you may find photos from previous events on our FaceBook page.

If you do not want your child to appear in photos, you must:

- Select "No" on the Media Consent page;
- Tell your child to avoid these situations, and;
- Inform your Section Leader.

Please note that the Group is not responsible for media taken by news stations or other people in public locations and activities (field trips, NiteHikes, Jamborees, etc.)

Emergency Procedure for Meetings at Church

- All Leaders are prepared to take good care of your child. There will always be at least one certified First Aider on site.
- Fire
 - Section Leaders will escort their Section to the church parking lot. Parents will be contacted to pick up their child; should no one be available, Section Leaders will stay until a trusted guardian arrives.
- Earthquake

- Members will be instructed to take cover and protect their heads, counting 60 seconds from the time shaking stops. After 60 seconds, Section Leaders will assess the situation and monitor news sources and authorities for instructions.
- Code Red/Lockdown
 - Section Leaders will ensure that their members are present and accounted for. Another Leader will shut and lock the exterior Church doors and turn off interior lights. Members will be instructed to stay still, quiet, and not check their phones. Section Leaders will wait until police arrive and adequately identify themselves before re-opening doors.

Fundraising and Volunteering

The 33rd Kerrisdale Scout Group is run entirely by volunteers, and all activities and meetings are self-supported. In order to cover the costs and make events affordable for all to attend, the Group often holds fundraising events. The Group welcomes and appreciates participation in fundraisers, either by donation or by volunteering.

Volunteering in the group is a great way to be involved in the Scouting Movement with your child. Parents are required to complete 25 volunteer hours throughout the year¹; upon completion, parents will receive their volunteer cheque back. Some ways to volunteer include helping to badge test, staying at camps as cookhouse or program volunteers, or showcasing special and unique skills.

¹ To clarify: a total of 25 hours must be completed by a parent for each member in order to receive the volunteer cheque back. The 25 hours may be split between two parents, and may be done concurrently (i.e. 2 parents volunteering at a 2 hour event will earn 4 hours.) However, if a household has 2 registered members, a total of 50 hours must be completed.

Contact

For any questions, comments, or concerns relating to Group policy, standards, and procedures, please email coreteam@scout33.org. All other Section-related inquiries may be directed to your Section Leader.