



SCOUTS | BSA

TROOP 318



Scouts|BSA Troop 318 – New Parent Orientation

Important Links:

Troop Website: <http://www.OrlandTroop318.org>
New Scout Portal: <https://bit.ly/T318NewScouts>
Subscribe to our Newsletter: <https://bit.ly/T318Subscribe>
Troop 318 Facebook Page: <https://bit.ly/T318FB>
Troop 318-G Facebook Page: <https://bit.ly/T318GFB>
Crew 318 Facebook Page: <https://bit.ly/Crew318FB>

1. Introductions

- a. New Member Coordinator or Committee Chair

2. Troop Chain of Command / Org Chart

- a. Charter Org. Rep: Tim Murray (tmmurray19@gmail.com)
- b. Committee Chair: Michael Sullivan (mpsullivan@mpsullivan.com)
- c. 318 G Scoutmaster (SM): Maria Finatri (OPTroop318G@gmail.com)
- d. 318 B Scoutmaster (SM): Dave Scoigletti (OPTroop318B@gmail.com)
- e. Crew 318 Advisor: Darren Tabor (darren_tabor@hotmail.com)
- f. New Member Coordinator: Sean McQuaid (seanmcquaid68@gmail.com)
- g. Treasurer: Art Lubinski (a_lubinski@hotmail.com)
- h. Camping Coordinator: Jonathan Grabowy (jonathan.grabowy@gmail.com)
- i. 318 G Senior Patrol Leader (SPL): Maddie Kasmer (until 4/30/25)
- j. 318 B Senior Patrol Leader (SPL): Jimmy Sullivan (until 4/30/25)

3. Registering with the Troop

- a. Dues are made up of National, Council, and Troop dues.
- b. Youth must register with the Troop. Youth who are currently registered with BSA (as Cub Scouts, or with another unit) only have to pay Troop Dues their first year.
- c. Adults may register with the Troop. Per national BSA policy, adults must register with Scouts BSA and complete YPT to attend campouts/summer camp. Adults who are currently registered with BSA (as Cub Scout leaders, or with another unit) only have to pay Troop Dues their first year.
- d. National dues may be payable at different times from the troop dues. Troop dues are used to pay for supplies, trailer repairs, patrol gear and more.

4. Troop Meetings

- a. Troop Meetings are held on most Thursday evenings throughout the school year.
- b. Attendance is not taken at Troop Meetings. While we encourage Scouts to attend as many meetings as possible, we recognize that from time to time, or seasonally, other important activities, like sports or band, may conflict with Troop meetings.
- c. Troop Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and run until 9:00 PM. Separate monthly Troop 318-G meetings run from 7:00 PM until 8:30 PM. Refer to the Troop Calendar for meeting times.
- d. Troop Meetings typically take place at Orland Junior High (OJH) at 14855 West Ave, Orland Park, IL 60462. When OJH is not available Troop Meetings may be held at the Orland Park Police Department, Incarnation Parish, or the Orland Park Public Library. Separate monthly Troop 318-G meetings are not held at OJH. Refer to the Troop Calendar for meeting locations.

5. Important Basics

- a. Two-deep leadership
- b. YPT Training / Background check
- c. Scout and Adult texts or email must have two adults on the communication
- d. Behavior – Code of Conduct – We have the Scout Oath and Law
 - i. Guidelines and disciplinary actions are in the [handbook](https://bit.ly/T318Handbook) (<https://bit.ly/T318Handbook>).

6. What does my Scout need now?

- a. The Troop provides:
 - i. ScoutsBSA handbook & cover
 - ii. Basic patches: Troop, rank, patrol, epaulets, purple fleur de lis
 - iii. Neckerchief & slide
 - iv. Name tag
 - v. Also gear, tents, canopies, stoves, grills, pots and pans.
(3 trailers of gear)
- b. You provide:
 - i. Tan ScoutsBSA shirt, sash (Optional?), water bottle, first aid kit
 - ii. Patch Sewing
 - iii. Class Bs for campouts and other activities (see below)
 1. Cub Scout T shirts are fine.
 2. Scouts can make there own Class B shirts.
We do it at the spring meeting before summer camp.
 3. Order form for Troop Class Bs is [on the website](https://bit.ly/T318ClassB). (<https://bit.ly/T318ClassB>)

- c. About the uniform.
 - i. Why we wear it - To be part of something bigger than us alone... as in sports teams, etc...
 - ii. Class A (Field Uniform)
 - 1. Scouts are expected to wear the Class A uniform at Troop meetings.
 - 2. Per BSA the full Class A uniform consists of:
 - a. Tan Scouts BSA shirt (with appropriate badges)
 - b. Troop Neckerchief
 - c. Green Scouts BSA socks
 - d. Green Scouts BSA pants or shorts
 - e. Green Scouts BSA belt
 - f. Merit Badge Sash with all awarded badges
 - 3. Of the above list Troop 318 only requires the Tan Scouts BSA shirt and Troop Neckerchief. Pants/Shorts, socks, etc should be appropriate, but can be of any color or type.
 - 4. Members of the Order of the Arrow (OA), Scouting's Honor Society, receive a special OA sash. This sash is only worn at OA functions.
 - iii. Class B (Activity Uniform)
 - 1. An optional activity uniform is available consisting of a red t-shirt containing the Troop logo and can be ordered from the Troop Website. The "Class B" activity uniform is used when there will be a high level of physical activity such as campouts, hikes, and other outings.
 - 2. Class A uniforms will still be required for certain portions of campouts, such as morning flags.

7. Scout Leadership & Patrols

- a. Scout Led Program—Adults provide guidance.
- b. Patrol Method – Troop and Patrol organization.
 - i. SPL, ASPL, PL, etc...
- c. Rank Advancement
 - i. Senior scouts sign-off younger scouts.
 - ii. SM conferences & Boards of Review
 - iii. Adult role in the Scout's Advancement
- d. Learning leadership via camping and other outdoor programs

8. What a Scout can get out of scouting

- a. Leadership development
- b. Personal growth – gain confidence
- c. Independence – no longer cub scouts
- d. Service
- e. Opportunity to do things they might not otherwise do.
- f. Learn how to interact with troop leaders and other adults

9. Camping

- a. Why camping?
 - i. Outdoor Program
 - ii. Learn to share responsibilities and cooperate.
 - iii. Outdoors is a laboratory to learn Ecology and practice conservation.
 - iv. Learning not just from books
 - v. How often do we camp? Nine months out of the year
Typically we do not camp in February, August or December.
 - vi. What do we do on campouts?
 - vii. Where do we go? How far?
- b. Tents
 - i. The Troop provides two person, four season, tents for Scouts to use on campouts.
 - ii. Scouts must use Troop provided tents.
 - iii. The Troop does not provide tents for adults.
 - iv. After each campout the Scout must bring the tent home to clean and dry and return at the next troop meeting (two meetings max).
 - v. Scouts may tent alone, or with another Scout of the same gender, provided they are within two years of age (by days, not years). Siblings of the same gender may tent together with parent permission regardless of age.
- c. Scout responsibilities
 - i. Plan Meals, purchase food, and prepare meals and clean up
(With their Patrol)
 - ii. Setup tents
 - iii. Have fun

- d. Adult responsibilities
 - i. Provide and take care of your own tent and gear.
 - ii. Help set up camp.
 - iii. Volunteer to prepare a meal.
 - iv. Help with meal cleanup.
 - v. Assist leaders with activities.
 - vi. Help break down camp.
 - vii. Participate in Boards of Review
 - viii. Help maintain two-deep leadership.
 - ix. Activities
 - x. Getting your Scout to campouts, prepared
- e. See gear list on [website](https://bit.ly/T318GearList). (<https://bit.ly/T318GearList>)

10. Summer Camp

- a. Ransburg Scout Reservation in Bloomington, Indiana
- b. Typically the week that 4th of July falls in
- c. See summer camp gear list on [website](https://bit.ly/T318RansburgGearList). (<https://bit.ly/T318RansburgGearList>)

11. Adult Participation

- a. YPT for registered members
- b. Additional Adult training opportunities
 - i. Online Training
 - ii. In Person Training
 - iii. Adult classes at Ransburg
 - iv. Woodbadge
- c. Attend Monthly Committee Meeting
 - i. Occurs on the second Tuesday of each month
- d. Participate in Boards of Review
- e. Take part in fundraising and service events
- f. Help coordinate activities.
- g. Attend campouts.
- h. Tow trailers
- i. Assist various committees.
- j. Provide General assistance as needed.
- k. Become a Merit Badge Counselor (<https://bit.ly/T318MBC>)
- l. The adults have fun together and get along!!
- m. We may ask some folks to take on more responsibility as they become more active and familiar with the troop. New families don't need to jump in the deep.

12. Being involved is crucial to providing the best experience to our Scouts and helps the Troop remain strong.

13.Merit Badges

- a. About the Merit Badge Program
- b. How to earn a Merit Badge
 - i. The Scout meets with the Scoutmaster to discuss. The Scoutmaster may recommend a merit badge counselor, and then signs a Blue Card.
 - ii. When the Scout has completed the merit badge, the Merit Badge Counselor completes the Blue Card and sends it to the Scout.
 - iii. When complete the Scout reviews and sends to the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster will sign the Blue Card and return it to the Scout.
 - iv. The Scout then forwards the completed Blue Card to Mrs. Torres (raqueltorres2466@gmail.com), a member of our Advancement Team.
- c. How to contact a MB Counselor
- d. Pamphlets and the Library
- e. Workbooks
- f. How to become a MB Counselor (<https://bit.ly/T318MBC>)

14.Resources

- a. Troop Website
 - i. How to access password protected pages
- b. [Connect to Troop Calendar](#) (Apple or Google/Android)
 - i. <https://bit.ly/T318CalendarHelp>
- c. Troop Handbook
- d. Scout Handbook
- e. Troop Leadership

15.Questions

- a. Questions now??

Questions later—just ask we are friendly bunch and have had our time drinking from the firehouse

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