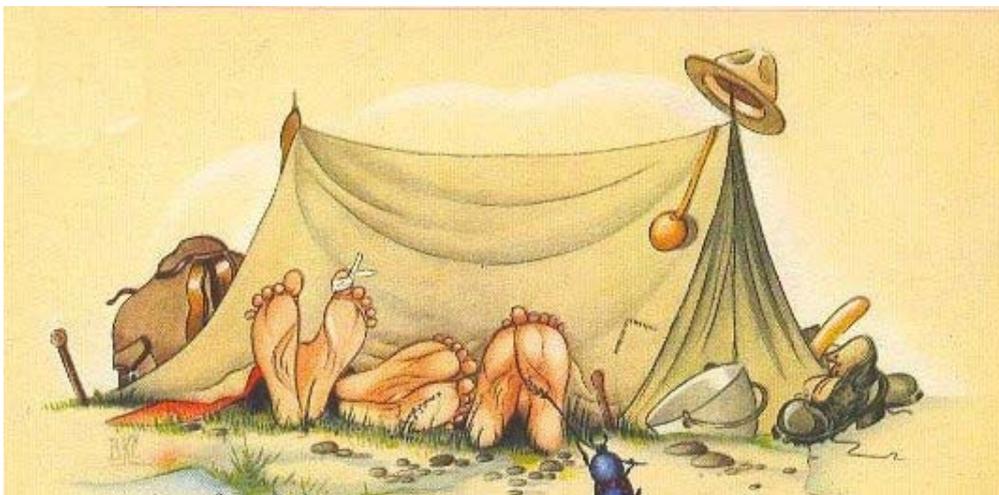




Scout Section

# ***CAMPING STANDARDS***



## Table of Contents

1. Purpose of Standard.....	4
2. References.....	4
3. Program.....	4
3.1. Camp Program.....	5
3.1.1. Parades.....	5
3.1.2. Games & Activities.....	5
3.1.3. Meals and Menus.....	5
3.1.4. Campfire.....	6
3.1.5. Scouts Own.....	6
3.1.6. Wide Game.....	6
3.1.7. Patrol Time.....	6
4. Camp Rules.....	6
5. Risk Management.....	6
6. Approvals.....	7
7. Transport to and from Camp.....	7
8. Dressing for Health, Safety and Public Image.....	8
9. Camp Layout.....	8
9.1. General.....	8
9.2. Tents.....	9
9.2.1. General.....	9
9.2.2. Queensland Ridge Tent.....	9
9.2.3. Dome Tents.....	10
9.3. Dining/Kitchen Area.....	10
9.4. Latrine Construction.....	10
10. Equipment.....	11
10.1. Taking Equipment to and from Camp.....	11
10.2. Axes and Bush saws.....	11
10.3. Storage of equipment.....	11
11. Hygiene.....	11
11.1. Rubbish Disposal.....	11
11.2. Personal Hygiene.....	12
11.3. Kitchen Hygiene.....	12
12. Fires and Fireplaces.....	12

12.1.	General.....	13
12.2.	Wood Cooking Fires .....	13
12.3.	Gas Cooking.....	13
12.4.	Other Fuels.....	14
12.5.	Wet Cell Batteries .....	14
13.	Meals & Cooking .....	14
14.	First Aid.....	14
15.	Duty to My God .....	14
16.	Parades.....	15
17.	When Its over .....	15
17.1.	Leaving Camp .....	15
17.2.	Back at the Den .....	15
18.	Camp Judging .....	15
19.	Application of this standard .....	16
20.	JAMBOREES .....	16
21.	Source.....	16

### **Appendices**

How To Erect A Queensland Ridge Tent .....	17
Erecting a Dome Tent.....	22
Camp Score Sheet .....	24
Camp Evaluation.....	25

## 1. PURPOSE OF STANDARD

The purpose of this instruction is to provide minimum guidelines for Scout Section Leaders in the planning and conduct of Scout camps.

It is intended to be used for the training of Leaders, for the self-assessment by Leaders of Troop performance and for Patrol Leader training. It is NOT intended to dictate a method of camping but to encourage camps that meet the objectives of Scout camping.

Camp hygiene and tidiness is of prime importance at any Scout camp. Your comfort really depends on you. How much effort you put into your camp site translates directly into your enjoyment of the camp. Show pride in your Patrol, show pride in yourself and be proud to be called a Scout.

## 2. REFERENCES

National documents:

- Policy Organisation and Rules (PO & R)
- Field Book for Australian Scouting
- Troop Programming
- Camping and Hiking

Queensland Branch documents:

- Queensland Branch Scouting Instructions (QBSI)
- Specialist Outdoor Activities Policies and Procedures (SOAPP)
- Scout Safe Policy
- Activity Advice & Approval Form (C5)
- Notification of Camp/Outdoor Activity (C4)
- Application to Camp or Travel Interstate (C2)
- Camping Made Easy course.

## 3. PROGRAM

### *Camping With a Purpose*

To meet the expectations of young people joining Scouts, Scout camping must be adventurous and enjoyable. It should provide more than camping by itself by including extra challenge and participation for Scouts. So called “fun” or “rest” camps with no program are not recommended as little or no training is provided and misbehaviour results from lack of program – all camps should be fun. Region and District camps may be held as a means of improving the skills for the Scouts (refer to section 18 Camp Judging)

- ☞ The program must be varied and should be planned by the **Patrol Council** for Patrol camps, and by the **Troop Council** for Troop camps.
- ☞ The program should be detailed with timings, resource requirements, activity leaders, etc as per a Troop Night Program.
- ☞ All Scout camps should be run on the “Patrol System” with each Patrol being an integral unit, completely self-contained and self-reliant. Each Patrol should have its own program. On Troop camps Patrols may come together for inter-Patrol and combined activities.

- ☞ Troop night programs prior to camp may provide the training required in preparing for camps and for the associated skills and activities used on camps. The Patrol must learn the basic skills **before** going on camp. Tent pitching, camp layout, building fireplaces, cooking etc should all be practiced at the Scout Hall.
- ☞ Badge work requirements are incorporated into the camp program. By participating in the camp, Scouts meet many of the requirements of the Campcraft Target appropriate for their level. Scouts should be encouraged to carry their Australian Scout Record (Green) Book on camp so as activity completed can be recorded at that time. Having prepared a program for the camp, it is important to keep to the prepared program as much as possible to ensure goals are achieved.

Scout camps are the opportunity to put into practice all the skills learnt during Troop nights. Most Scouts join Scouting so that they get to go on Scout camps. Every Scout should have the opportunity to attend a camp every 6 weeks, therefore planning and preparing a program is essential to “make it happen”.

### ***3.1. Camp Program***

Just as you have a program for Troop night meetings, a program is essential for Scout camps. A program is necessary to ensure that the purpose and goals of the camp are achieved and that the camp is conducted in a worthwhile and safe manner for the Scouts attending.

Whether a camp is conducted with the whole Troop or a single Patrol, the

## ***PATROLS ALWAYS CAMP AS A PATROL***

to give the PL the opportunity to lead.

Full explanation on Scout camping is given in your training course handouts. The operation of Scout camps is further explained within this standard.

The program for Scout Camps is dependant on a number of factors such as:

- ☞ site
- ☞ time of year
- ☞ purpose
- ☞ length of camp
- ☞ stage of training/ability of Troop members

Scout Camps consist of a number of elements similar to Troop night programs as follows:

#### ***3.1.1. Parades***

As for Troop night meetings, Parades are conducted at the start and finish of camp and the start of each day with Flag and Prayer. Flag down is conducted at sunset.

#### ***3.1.2. Games & Activities***

A great chance to put the skills learnt at Troop night meetings into practice in the outdoors.

#### ***3.1.3. Meals and Menus***

Meals are prepared and eaten in Patrols and are an important time of development and sharing for Patrol members. Menus should take into account allergies, food intolerances and

cultural issues of participating Scouts. Preparation of, and shopping for, the camp menu should be done as a Patrol. Meals should only be based on self catering when necessary during hikes.

### ***3.1.4. Campfire***

Singing songs and sharing skits and yarns around a specially prepared campfire is a great way to end the day's activity in camp.

### ***3.1.5. Scouts Own***

Take time out to observe Duty to God. This is not necessarily held on Sunday and can be held anytime or anywhere to best suit the location and program. (There are various Resources available on Scouts Own)

### ***3.1.6. Wide Game***

A wide game is a game or activity over a wide area, usually held in the evening at camp.

### ***3.1.7. Patrol Time***

Time at the end of camp for the Patrol Leader to check off badge work completed by Patrol members and to assess the success of the camp for both the Patrol and each individual.

## **4. CAMP RULES**

### ***Camps should be an enjoyable experience.***

Campers are to be reminded that the Scout Promise and Law are to be obeyed at all times in camp as well as when travelling to and from camp.

Specific camp site rules should be sourced and communicated to all campers, e.g. property owners requirements.

Particular attention is to be given to the following:

- ☞ In accordance with QBSI, alcohol is not to be taken or consumed on any activity where youth members are participants.
- ☞ Timber for structures or construction must not be cut from standing timber on site without the permission of the property owner.
- ☞ No aerosol spray cans of any description or Xylene based felt pens are to be taken on camps by youth members.
- ☞ Camp raiding, interfering with food stuff and initiations are banned on Scout Camps.
- ☞ Accelerants and volatile fuels are not to be used on or near campfires or naked flame.
- ☞ Firearms and other dangerous weapons are banned on Scout Camps.

All campsites are to be left in a clean and tidy state – better than before arrival.

## **5. RISK MANAGEMENT**

### ***Remember our obligation to exercise “duty of care” at all times.***

Careful thought must be given to identifying and managing the risks that are associated with camping. Leader and Youth camp craft training should include safety procedures and requirements. There is a defined difference between taking undue risks and having fun.

Leaders should read the relevant Queensland Branch Scouting Instructions (QBSI) as part of preparation for camp.

Local Leaders and property owners should be consulted about potential problems and how to overcome them. For example, changes in weather conditions that could affect access and egress. Where appropriate, Emergency Services may need to be notified of the camp location and the numbers in camp.

Scout Safe policy and all reasonable safety precautions must be followed.

## 6. APPROVALS

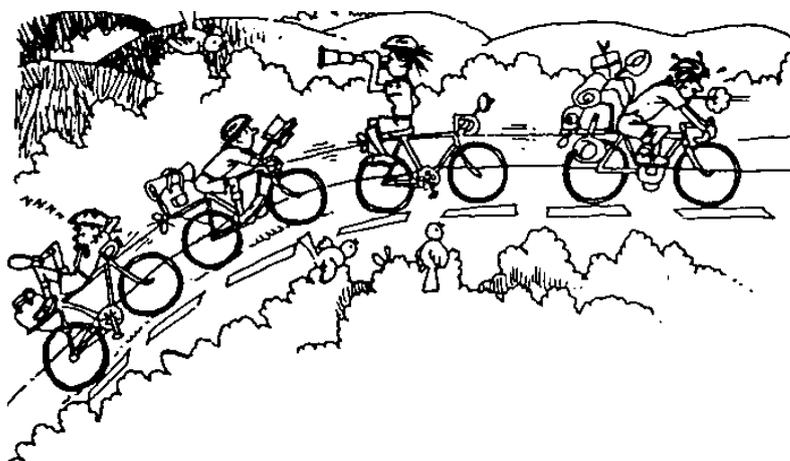
*The job's not done till the paperwork is complete.*

The following approvals are required before the event.

- ☞ Camps must be approved using *Activity Advice & Approval Forms (C5)* and the procedure for the use of this form in the Scout Section.
- ☞ An appropriately completed *Notification of Camp/Outdoor Activity (C4)* form must be obtained for all youth members participating and these forms are to be carried by the Patrol Leader or Scout Leader in charge at the camp..
- ☞ If going interstate, an *Application for Approval to Camp or Travel Interstate Form (C2)*, should be completed. This form is to be forwarded through the line system 2 months prior to travel if there are accommodation requirements or 1 month if not.
- ☞ Owner permission must be obtained before using private property. A certificate of currency for Qld Branch's insurance is available from the Branch website.

## 7. TRANSPORT TO AND FROM CAMP

*Survive the drive.*



In accordance with QBSI Transportation Safety Policy, the following should be checked; currency of driver's licence, vehicle registration and vehicle owner's permission. A suggestion is to roster a Group committee member to undertake this responsibility.

Seat belts must be provided for all members using private transport (as required by law).

Leaders are to be advised when any person leaves or returns to camp.

## 8. DRESSING FOR HEALTH, SAFETY AND PUBLIC IMAGE

*Remember to slip, slop, slap; and be proud to be a scout.*

Minimum camp dress is to take into consideration the weather, sun protection and foot protection. This is preferably a broad brimmed hat, shirt, shorts, and enclosed shoes.

Thongs, Crocs and sandals are **NOT** acceptable footwear on camp. Such footwear may be worn inside shower enclosures, but not to and from the ablution blocks.

Appropriate enclosed footwear must be worn in swimming holes and when travelling to and from the swimming area.

Demonstrate Scouting to the public by:

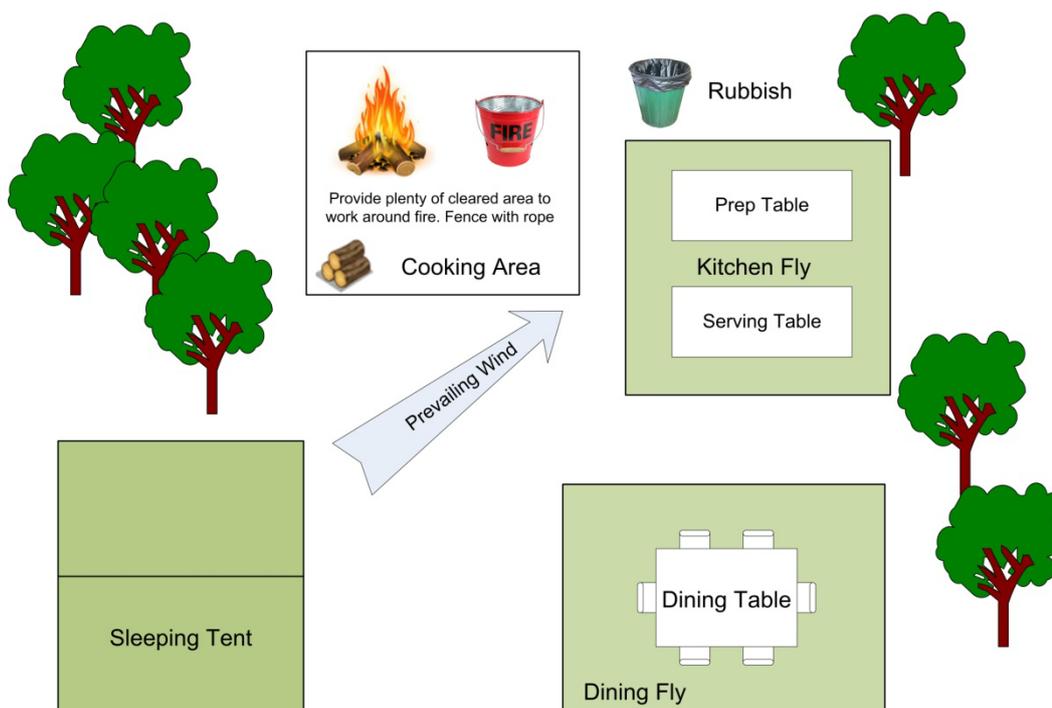
- ☞ Full uniform must be worn when travelling to and from camp.
- ☞ A suitably shady hat, preferably Scout hat, and scarf are minimum uniform requirements for when in the public eye.
- ☞ Hat and scarf must be worn on first parade each day.

## 9. CAMP LAYOUT

*Comfort in camp through planning and effort.*

Typical Camp Layout

### 9.1. General



A typical camp layout is shown above

- ☞ Patrol campsites to be situated separately but within eyesight of each other and the Leaders campsite, i.e. out of hearing but visible (this is to enable Patrol identity to develop).
- ☞ Patrol Leaders should plan the site in consultation with their Patrol before commencing to build the camp.
- ☞ The camp site should be positioned above flood level and away from dangerous overhanging tree branches.
- ☞ The emphasis should be placed on construction of camp tables, chairs and shelter rather than use of portable equipment.
- ☞ Simple gadgets can provide comfort and hygiene whilst training Scouts to improvise and be self reliant, e.g. line for plate bags, personal towels & clothes and billy and tool racks, etc.
- ☞ Leaders should also camp in accordance with this Standard to set the correct example.

The use of the “Queensland Jamboree Rig”, i.e. 2 ridge tents separated by the dining fly, is discouraged for normal weekend Troop or Patrol camping. This is because it is preferred that the kitchen/dining area be situated apart from the sleeping area. A single Patrol does usually does not require two ridge tents and Patrols should camp separately.

## **9.2. Tents**

### **9.2.1. General**

Each Patrol is to be provided with suitable tentage to accommodate the number of campers. In accordance with QBSI, separate sleeping accommodation is to be provided for male and female, youth and adult participants.

Tents should be pitched and maintained as follows:

- ☞ Storm guys are to be provided and secured to separate pegs.
- ☞ Tent guys are to be adjusted to keep the tent in its proper shape.
- ☞ Tent flaps are to be brailed during daylight hours for airing and visibility.
- ☞ Sleeping tents should be pitched on the up-wind side of the kitchen.
- ☞ All personal gear is to be kept tidy in packs during the day, with the tent floor area as clear as possible.
- ☞ No food should be stored or consumed in tents
- ☞ No lit candles, gas or fuel lanterns are to be used inside tents.

### **9.2.2. Queensland Ridge Tent**

In addition to the general requirements:

- ☞ Tents are to be adequately lashed, with pegs in line and correctly placed for safety and correct pitch.
- ☞ Tent flaps are to be brailed during daylight hours for airing and visibility, weather permitting.

- ☞ At least 50% of the floor area should be open to the air and rotated daily.
- ☞ Tents should never be completely laced up in case of an emergency – tent flaps may be pegged but only when absolutely necessary due to local weather conditions.

Refer to Appendix A for guidelines on erecting a Queensland Ridge Tent.

### **9.2.3. Dome Tents**

In addition to the general requirements:

- ☞ Irrespective of size, dome tents are to be opened for ventilation during daylight hours. Where awnings are part of the tent, care is to be taken to ensure rain does not overload the awning and damage the tent.
- ☞ Guy ropes are to be used and pegged for safety and correct pitch. Where applicable, fastenings such as Velcro or other means for connecting the tent to the fly must be used as intended.

Refer to Appendix B for guidelines on erecting a Dome Tent.

## **9.3. Dining/Kitchen Area**

There is to be a dining area which is covered by a tarpaulin of sufficient height so as not to cause stooping by adults. Associated support poles are to be straight with pegs in line and guys adjusted to give good shape.

A dining table of sufficient size and strength to seat all Patrol members and any invited guests for a meal is to be constructed.

The menu, camp program and duty roster are to be displayed in the dining area.

A food preparation and washing up facility is to be provided as part of the dining/kitchen area, which is to be separated from the sleeping tents

## **9.4. Latrine Construction**

### ***In areas that allow construction of latrines***

There must be adequate toilet or latrine facilities to suit the number in camp. If constructing latrines, each Patrol should make a separate latrine if possible. These need to be in place promptly after the camp has been occupied.

Latrines must be kept clean, with a roster to ensure all do their part in this task.

Latrines are to be positioned downwind of the campsite and at an appropriate distance from it. They shall not be placed on or adjacent to watercourses and no nearer than 50 metres from the water's edge.

A latrine pit is to be 300mm wide, 900mm long and 600mm deep. Urinal pits are to be 300mm square and 300m deep. A small trowel or shovel is to be kept in the latrine area at all times with toilet paper provided in a suitable weatherproof container.

Hand washing facilities including soap or disinfectant (e.g. soap in a stocking or squeeze bottle) are to be provided near the entrance/exit.

Screening is provided around the latrine to a sufficient height and density to provide reasonable privacy for all users.

The latrine area should be covered in bad weather.

A suitable signal or signage device (e.g. lantern or flag arrangement) should also be provided to indicate that the latrine is vacant or occupied to provide privacy. This is particularly necessary on mixed (male and female) camps.

Latrine pits are to properly filled and marked with crossed sticks before leaving the site.

Adequate training in the use of latrines is to be given to first time campers.

## 10. EQUIPMENT

*Use the right tool for the right job.*

### 10.1. Taking Equipment to and from Camp

All personal camping equipment (clothing, eating and sleeping gear etc) is to be contained inside the campers pack (rucksack), i.e. nothing hanging on the outside.

Troop and Patrol camping gear may be effectively carried in bags or in Patrol boxes.

### 10.2. Axes and Bush saws

- ☞ The use of axes is to be discouraged in preference to bush saws for most tasks.
- ☞ Axes and bush saws are to be masked when not in use.
- ☞ Axes are not to be worn on belts.
- ☞ Axes are not to be used for driving pegs.

Adequate training in the correct use of axes and bush saws is to be given to first time campers. (Refer to Scoutcraft Badge requirements)

### 10.3. Storage of equipment

Tool storage area or facility is to be provided for axes, saws, shovels, mattocks and peg hammers, etc.

## 11. HYGIENE

*Responsibility to self and others*

### 11.1. Rubbish Disposal

Prior to any disposal of any waste matter a check must be made on local Authority requirements on waste disposal. In most cases the owner of the property would be aware of what is allowable.

If appropriate the following methods may be adopted:

- ☞ Dispose of waste water (strained if necessary) by broadcasting it in an appropriate area away from the campsite.
- ☞ Greasy water and sludge can be drained into the lower end of the fireplace.
- ☞ Vegetable peelings, paper etc can be burnt in the fireplace, but not while meals are being cooked on the fire.
- ☞ “Clean, Crush and Carry” all other solid rubbish from the site including plastics and aluminium foil which should **NOT** be burnt.

Rubbish bags or bins are to be provided in the kitchen and closed against insects and animals.

“Grease pits” are not permitted (Note – although grease pits are featured in our National publications, they are not to be used because they are not generally effective).

### ***11.2. Personal Hygiene***

All campers must wash thoroughly, change clothing each day and clean teeth regularly.

All campers must wash their hands before eating a meal and when preparing food. (See kitchen hygiene below)

All campers must wash their hands thoroughly after using the latrine.

Personal towels are to be kept clean, dried and aired after use. Towels are not to be shared with others.

Personal bedding is to be aired each day, weather permitting in accordance with manufacturers recommendations (e.g. affect of UV rays on some products).

Personal eating equipment is to be stored in separate cloth bags and hung above ground after use. Plate and billy racks on the ground are not to be used. Plate bags are to be washed every 2<sup>nd</sup> day while on an extended camp.

It is recommended that Tea towels not be used and that the dipping of plates and other food utensils in sterilization solution be adopted.

### ***11.3. Kitchen Hygiene***

Scouts must wash their hands thoroughly prior to and during meal preparation.

All tables are to be cleaned before and after meals. The left over sterilization mixture used for utensils etc could be used.

All cooking utensils, plates and cutlery are to be cleaned and dried at the completion of the meal. It is recommended that these Items be dipped in sterilization solution prior to re-use.

Scouts must be aware of the danger of cross contamination of foods such as raw meat with cooked meat and vegetables, in particular if mixing bowls and spatulas are to be reused during preparation of meals without being adequately cleaned.

The person in charge must be aware of the presence of any youth or adult member who may have a recognised food allergy or intolerance and take all reasonable steps to minimise exposure.

Adequate food storage is to be provided to protect it from spoilage, insects, animals and weather. Food is not to be stored with personal gear or in sleeping tents on standing camps.

Check that iced food containers are in a shaded and dust free area. Iced water in those containers needs to be drained frequently to avoid food spoiling

## **12. FIRES AND FIREPLACES**

***Fire safety is everyone’s responsibility.***

## ***12.1. General***

Information on local fire-lighting restrictions and access to locally available firewood must be sought and observed. Well prior to camp it is advisable to access the Queensland Rural Fire website so changing fire restrictions are taken into account in camp planning. This site is also the source for fixed fire conditions. It is advisable to check on the wind conditions in the area.

- ☞ Fires are to be kept to the minimum size necessary for cooking purposes.
- ☞ Fires are to be extinguished when they are not being attended.
- ☞ Fire pits are the preferred way for cooking fires. Turf sods and spoil from the pit should be stored appropriately to ensure the pit can be refilled afterwards.
- ☞ Cooking fire places need to be fenced to avoid accidents.
- ☞ Fire fighting equipment (water, dirt and shovel) is to be kept handy to the fire at all times. Patrols using gas or liquid fuel stoves should have a Fire Extinguisher placed in a suitable place in case of a fire.
- ☞ All Patrols should have a Fire Blanket available and placed in a suitable position in case of an accident. Patrols members should be trained in how to use a Fire Blanket properly.
- ☞ Cooking facilities and fireplaces are to be placed at safe distance away from tentage.

## ***12.2. Wood Cooking Fires***

The Fire Service Act requires that you must clear at least two (2) metres of all flammable vegetation from around the site of a fire and that you must not leave a fire unattended until it is completely extinguished.

Firewood shall not be taken from standing trees without the permission of the property owner.

Firewood to be stacked neatly and covered against wet weather. The wood pile should be located conveniently close to the fire but at a safe distance from other activities.

Chopping is to be done in an area clear and safe for all.

Adequate training in the safe use of fireplaces is to be given to first time campers.

## ***12.3. Gas Cooking***

Where gas equipment is used, it must be maintained in good condition and the cylinders must be within regulation, i.e. date stamped. Training in how to check for leaks (using soapy water around connections) on equipment used is to take place before the camp and is to be done whenever connecting or re-connecting gas equipment.

Gas stoves should not be placed on wooden table tops to avoid excessive use causing the tables to burn. They should be at appropriate heights to allow the Scouts to cook safely, and be placed on a stable surface well above gas bottle outlets.

A minimum distance of 1m shall be maintained between the gas equipment and any overhead shelter.

### ***12.4. Other Fuels***

Where other fuels such as hexamine (“hexy”), kerosene, metholated spirits (“metho”) or Shellite are used for cooking, Scouts need to have been shown how to use these products safely.

Metho burns with little visible flame in daylight and care needs to be taken when refilling Metho cookers. They must be completely extinguished and cooled before refilling.

### ***12.5. Wet Cell Batteries***

Care must be taken to ensure that wet cell batteries, sometimes used for lighting, are kept well away from sources of flame to prevent an explosion of the gas given off when batteries are in use.

## **13. MEALS & COOKING**

### ***Good food, good cooking – great camping.***

Patrols prepare and eat meals together as a Patrol.

Grace is said (or sung) before all meals.

The menu and food list should be organised by the Patrol and should contain meals of a nutritional value and variety of cooking methods, i.e. salads, vegetables meat and preferably not instant type foods such as 2 or 5 minute noodles. The menu should be on display along with the duty roster.

Allergy and food intolerance awareness is to be part of catering planning.

## **14. FIRST AID**

### ***For the risks you can't manage.***

All injuries and sickness, no matter how small are to be reported to the Leader in charge of the camp. All these incidences are to be documented.

All Scouts should be carrying a personal first aid kit. They should also carry their own medication as necessary. In some cases liaison with parents may necessitate other arrangements.

In the event of first aid incident a leader is to complete the *Incident Report Form F18* and submit to Branch within 7 days (this form is available from Branch or may ne downloaded form the Branch website) Each Patrol is to have a separate First Aid Kit that is sufficient for the management of minor emergencies. The Troop is to have a First Aid Kit that is sufficient for the management of appropriate emergencies.

## **15. DUTY TO MY GOD**

### ***Time out for God***

A short time is to be set aside during the camp program for a Scouts Own.

A Grace to give thanks will be said or sung at each meal.

Prayers will be said on parades.

## 16. PARADES

A parade of all campers will be held at the start, finish and each morning of camp. The parade shall include a flag break or lowering and a prayer.

Flag down should occur at sundown each day with duty Scouts shouting the command “Stand by” – at this command all campers should stand at the alert and face the flag pole while the flag is lowered – once the flag is lowered the command “Carry on” is shouted out and normal camp activity resumes.

## 17. WHEN ITS OVER

*All that Scouts leave behind is their thanks.*

### 17.1. Leaving Camp

- ☞ Campsites should be left cleaner and tidier than found.
- ☞ Surplus timber is to be left stacked against trees. (minor amounts only)
- ☞ All fire pits, latrines and drains (where used) are to be adequately backfilled, the turf replaced and area raked over.
- ☞ Gates must be left as found – open or closed.
- ☞ Fences, crops and livestock must not be interfered with.
- ☞ After the camp, property owners must be thanked.

### 17.2. Back at the Den

Scouts should all return to the Den after camp to assist in unpacking. Wet tentage needs to be unpacked and hung to dry. Patrol boxes need to be checked for content cleanliness and damaged goods retrieved for replacement. Food needs to be unpacked and distributed as appropriate, with iced food containers emptied and upended to drain and dry before being put away.

## 18. CAMP JUDGING

The use of competition and camp judging is encouraged as a method of raising and maintaining the standard of camping. It must be stated and understood that the objective is to raise standards through support– not to win.

Clear explanation on scoring and items to be judged should be given to all participating Patrols and their Leaders. Judging should also include participation in camp program as well as campsite erection. Impartial unbiased judges should be used and always involve Patrol Leaders in judging their campsite.

Similarly, so called “Standards Camps” are to be avoided as they discourage Scouts and Leaders from attending because of perceived high expectations and an aversion to competition camping – **all camps should be to the Scout Camping Standard**. Scouts go to camp to participate in activities and have fun. You could run these camps as a Region Activity Camp with some judging on the standard of camping and cooking skills. The majority of the time spent on camps should be on Activities

Consideration should always be given to Patrols who have “tried their best” to meet the standards.

## 19. APPLICATION OF THIS STANDARD

This Standard should be used as a guideline for all Scout Camps. On some activities, where it may not be practical to follow all aspects of this Standard, exceptions should be discussed with the Leader approving the activity.’

## 20. JAMBOREES

During Jamborees the Patrol System shall be maintained, it is not the responsibility of the Duty Patrols to tend to the duties of the other Patrols. The following must be adhered to during a Jamboree.

- ☞ Troop Council held regularly, discussions on the Patrols, activities and duties shall be discussed.
- ☞ Each Patrol to be responsible for the cleanliness of their tent and the general tidiness at and around their Patrol Dining Area.
- ☞ A Duty Patrol is to be appointed each day.
- ☞ As a Jamboree is held over ten days health and hygiene is to be monitored as a high priority, one sick Scout could affect the whole Troop. Ensure each Scout is aware of personal hygiene as well as cleanliness around the Campsite.
- ☞ Leaders **are not to** perform the duties of the Patrols when the Patrols are on activities.
- ☞ When dust is prevalent daily watering of the ground, tables and seats will occur.
- ☞ At least one Leader will remain on Troop site at all times.
- ☞ The Scout Section Camping Standards will apply.

The Jamboree Council may publish and distribute further specific standards that will apply during the course of the event.

## 21. SOURCE

This document has been developed and authorised by the Queensland Scout Section Council. Suggestions for changes should be directed to the Branch Commissioner for Scouts.

## How To Erect A Queensland Ridge Tent

*(aka Queenslander or Patrol Tent)*

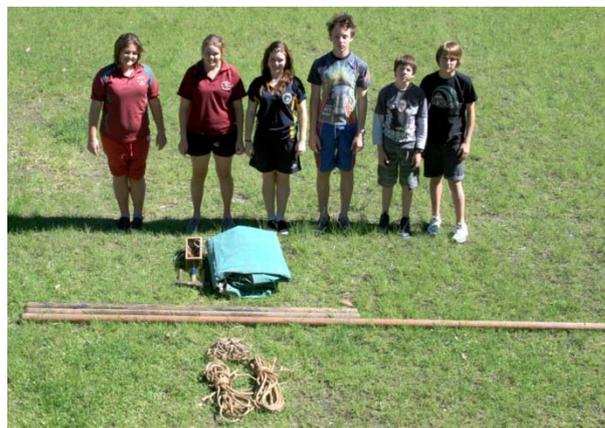
The procedure for erecting a Ridge Tent is laid out below in a sequential manner. Under the guidance of a Patrol Leader that is familiar with the process it is possible to do many of the tasks simultaneously making these tents very quick and easy to erect.

What you need to erect a Ridge Tent:

- 1 Tent
- 1 Ridge pole
- 2 Upright poles
- 2 Lashing ropes
- 2 guy ropes

*(not Guide ropes as they usually get upset when you take their ropes)*

- 14 pegs
- 1 Mallet (2 if available)
- 1 Patrol



### Step 1

Choose the location for your tent.

Lay the tent out flat on the ground with the outside facing up. Ensure that the white canvas flaps are also spread out and that all ropes attached to the tent are laid out.



### Step 2

Place the ridge pole under the tent. Some tents have the door flaps sewn together at the top to form an eye; if so then the ridge pole must pass through the eye.



**Step 3**

Position the upright poles at right angles to the ridge pole.

The uprights should be 15cm away from the edge of the tent when the ridge line of the tent is taut. Fold back the door flap so that the centre edge (*long one with eyelets*) lies along the front edge of the tent. In this position the bottom edge of door flap indicates where ground level will be when the tent is erected. Position the bottom of the upright 2-3cm below the bottom edge of the door

**Step 4**

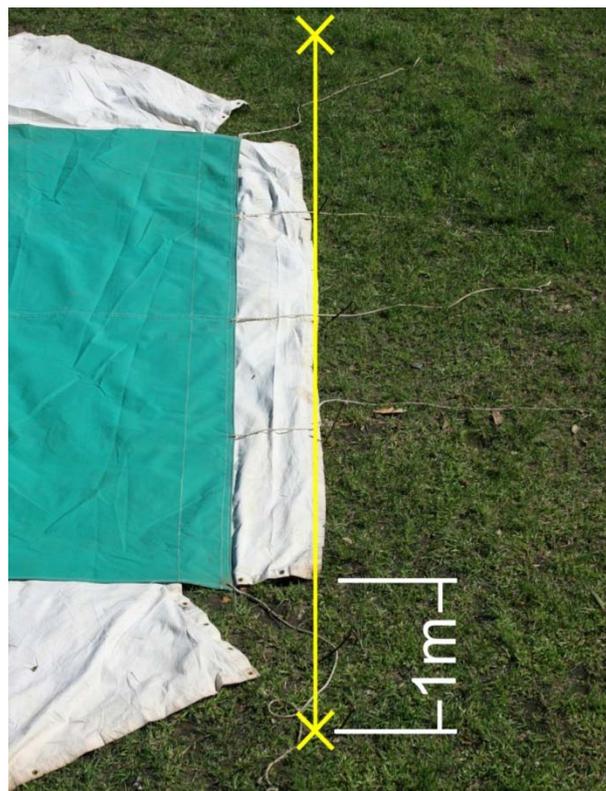
Lash the uprights to the ridge pole. Ensure that the clove hitch starts the lashing on the bottom side of the ridge pole. This is to the left of the ridge pole shown in the picture to the right. Propping the end of the ridge pole up on a spare pole, stick, rock or other object will help you to quickly lash the poles.

Two Scouts can be working on either end of the ridge pole at the same time



**Step 5**

Position the four corner pegs. They are located on a line that is coincident with the bottom of the side flap, 1m out from the front edge of the tent.



Position the remaining pegs in a line between the corner pegs on each side.

Three side pegs are positioned with each peg adjacent to the eyelet with a guy rope attached to it along each side of the tent.

Pegs for the storm guys are placed 30cm in from the corner pegs.

If you have spare pegs or a small stick place them in the ground at the intersection of the upright and the ridge pole. This will guide you when standing the tent up. (See picture at step 7)



**Step 6**

Tie off all of the tents guy ropes. Do this by passing the end of the rope through the eye of the peg and tie back onto itself with a rolling hitch.

Tie the rolling hitch close to the end of the rope and slide it towards the peg so that the loop around the peg is small. This will help you later when standing the tent up.

The corner guy rope is tied around the outermost peg not the second one in.

**Step 7**

Find the centre of the storm guy rope and tie a clove hitch around the top of the upright. Leave about 15cm from the top of the square lashing to the clove hitch. Throw each end of the guy diagonally across each side of the tent towards its peg.

Do this at the other end of the tent for the second guy rope

*(Note the spare peg that has been used for positioning)*

**Step 8**

Tie off the storm guys to the peg second from the end using a rolling hitch. Just as with the side guys, tie it at the end of the rope and leave the loop small.



**Step 9**

At each end of the ridge line of the tent there is a rope attached to an eyelet. Take this rope and pass it around the upright on top side of the ridge and then down. Pull the ridge of the tent taut and tie it off with a clove hitch on the upright, just below the square lashing

**Step 10**

The tent is now ready to be raised. With a Scout at each end of the ridge pole lift the ridge pole straight up. This is a good job for the taller Scouts in a Patrol. The uprights will drop down into a vertical position. Position the bases of the uprights adjacent to the two spare pegs. This ensures that the uprights are in line and the tent hasn't 'walked' out of position as it has been lifted.

**Step 11**

With the Scouts still holding the ridge pole, tighten the storm guys by sliding the rolling hitch towards the tent. Next tighten the corner guys followed by the side guys.

Check all ropes again to make sure they are taut and that the roof of the tent is flat and even.

**Step 12**

Move in!

During the day the flaps should be brailed by rolling up toward the inside and tying off. By rolling from the inside you avoid the flaps trapping water should you get caught out unexpectedly. Never roll the flaps if they are wet, leave them hanging to dry.

If in camp for a number of days you should move your gear to one half of the tent during the day and cover with your ground sheet. This helps the grass by allowing access to light and carbon dioxide as well as letting any moisture dry off. On the following day move your gear to the other side of the tent.



## Erecting a Dome Tent

Dome tents come in many shapes and sizes. Individual (one person) tents and other small dome tents are designed to be put up by one person usually, although any addition to the erecting crew speeds up the operation. Tents are sold with detailed instructions, but these are often lost before the tent is no longer usable.

Larger dome tents also come with instructions, but these also can become lost or damaged with use. These tents are best erected with a group of people, with four being the appropriate minimum.

This guide provides a generic procedure for erecting dome tents

1. Open the bag and place all major parts so you can identify what is available. Usually, there will be an inner (the tent itself) with a built in floor and zippered entry points. Determine if the tent is symmetrical, that is there is no difference from one end to the other. Identify the best access point (some are at either end while others have side access) and site the tent accordingly.
2. Layout the inner and temporarily peg the corners to prevent wind lifting the tent while you work on it. Factors for siting a tent are covered elsewhere in these Standards, but time spent in this important phase can save time and damage later.
3. Assemble the poles and determine the relative length so that poles are used correctly. Often there will be diagonals, geodesics and cross poles, and each need to be identified and used correctly. Take care if erecting in the dark that long poles don't injure team members, nor are walked on in poor light.
4. Poles usually have hollow ends to fit into pins attached to the corners and other points on the inner tent floor. Other systems have poles that have metal ferrules on the ends to fit into metal grommets (holes) in tapes attached at appropriate intervals along the sides of the tent floor.
5. Along the alignment of each pole there will be plastic hooks sewn into the fabric to attach the poles to the inner, thereby lifting it into shape. At points where poles cross each other, there may be short material tie tapes. These are meant to tie over both poles, leaving a gap of approximately 75-100 mm so that ventilation is permitted.
6. Although most dome tents are best left zipped up while doing all the work so far, it may be necessary to unzip doorways to get access to the higher plastic hook or tie points.
7. Once the inner is fully shaped, and the users are happy with the exact site for the tent, the floor area can be pegged down fully.
8. The fly is now positioned above the inner. Again doorway positions need to be confirmed before going to this stage. Flies attach with hooks to the base or floor of the inner. They also often have *Velcro* tabs at various points to attach the fly to the poles between inner and fly. This may involve almost acrobatic manoeuvres to ensure all are properly fastened but it is extremely important that they are all fastened as the tents strength in windy conditions depends on this being done.

9. Around the outside of the fly there will be a number of cords attached as guys to hold the tent fly to the ground. These project out at different angles according to the design of that tent. Unless space is very tight, it is highly desirable that these guy ropes are put at the correct angle to the tent as a whole. Look at the angle of the poles under these attachment points to understand where the peg needs to be placed to best hold the tent down in windy conditions.
10. Some tents will have an awning type of arrangement at one or more entry points and there will be (usually metal) poles that join together to prop up the awning when required. These become 'water' catchers if left in place during periods of rain so they need to be lowered whenever that may be a problem.

When dropping the tent, the reverse procedure is almost always advisable. Points to note include:

1. Undo all guy ropes and coil them to avoid tangles later.
2. Allow the tent to dry before folding.
3. When folding elasticised poles, fold at the middle first and then at the middle of the resultant shortened group and so on to place the least load on the elastic running through the pole set.
4. Sweep out the tent before you drop it to remove potentially smelly, bulky and damaging material.
5. Do up the zips if appropriate, but some tents fold well if these are unzipped.
6. Using the length of the folded poles as a guide fold the inner to fit into the bag.
7. Fold the fly to match the inner's width and place on top of the inner when folding the whole tent to fit into its bag.
8. Try to keep the floor dry even if folding on wet grass to reduce weight and avoid mildew damaging the fabric.
9. Ensure all pegs are collected and straightened before placing into the tent bag in their own small bag.
10. Mark and report any damage so that the tent can be repaired before it is required for the next camp.



## Camp Score Sheet

Troop: .....

Campsite:.....

Date: .....



<i>Inspection area</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Patrol</i>	<i>Patrol</i>	<i>Patrol</i>	<i>Patrol</i>	<i>Patrol</i>
<i>Camp layout</i>	15	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Tent pitch</i>	15	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Tent tidiness</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Kitchen layout</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Kitchen tidiness</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Fire place</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Firewood store</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Food store</i>	15	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Table</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Gear/equip store</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>First aid kit</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Hygiene</i>	20	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Gadgetry</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Special effort</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Patrol identity</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Latrine</i>	10	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Rubbish disposal</i>	15	/	/	/	/	/
<b><i>Total points</i></b>	<b>200</b>	/	/	/	/	/

*Scoring should be conducted twice to allow patrols the opportunity to improve after some guidance.*

# Camp Evaluation



Troop: .....

Campsite:.....

Date: .....

At this camp I learnt: .....

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Things I liked:.....

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Things I didn't like: .....

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What my Patrol needs to do before next camp:.....

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Other comments: .....

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Signed by PL: .....