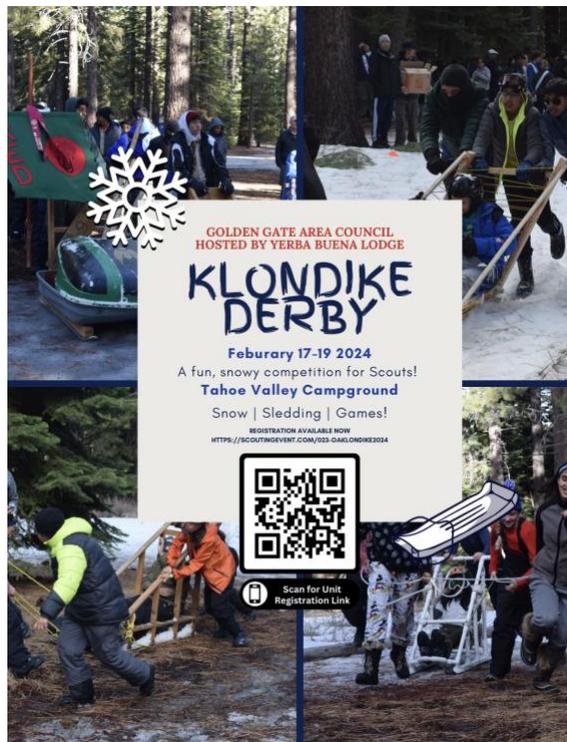


# ]KLONDIKE DERBY

## 2024 Leader's Guide

**Challenge your snow skills, collaborate with your team, and  
have an adventure for the season!**

February 17-19, 2024 Saturday through Monday  
Tahoe Valley Campground, South Lake Tahoe  
(Near the Highway 50 and Highway 89 Split)



**Sponsored by  
Yerba Buena Lodge #719 Order of the Arrow**

# Thank you for joining us at the Order of the Arrow Klondike Derby!

The 2024 Klondike Derby will be held at Tahoe Valley Campground (TVC) in South Lake Tahoe. The Klondike Derby is a winter camping and competition opportunity (essentially a camporee in the snow) put on by the Order of the Arrow for the Golden Gate Area Council. All Scouts should have attended Winter Camp Awareness training, similar to the one held by Yerba Buena on the USS Hornet, to ensure the safety, knowledge, and overall quality of the event. We rely on your awareness of winter survival and information inside this packet to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone in attendance! **In addition to winter training, we recommend a winter camping “shakedown” to guarantee all Scouts are properly prepared and that all materials and equipment you will need will be available to you during the event.** Furthermore, you will need to bring specific things to be successful in your journey through the Klondike (competition events). You can find those materials listed later in this guide.

We hope you have a great experience at the Klondike Derby. If you have any questions or concerns prior to the event, do not hesitate to let us know by email at [klondike@oa-yerbabuena.org](mailto:klondike@oa-yerbabuena.org).

Yours in Scouting,  
Parker Soughers  
Klondike Activity Chair

## **Important Information**

### **What to Bring – The Basics**

Water Containers – Running water will be available at Tahoe Valley Campground but will not be available in the individual campsites. Running water will be accessible. Bring appropriate containers and be prepared for a short walk.

Food – There are no dining or kitchen facilities at TVC and therefore no dining package as part of the event. All troops will do their own meal planning and cooking using appropriate winter stoves and fuels. Wood fire cooking is discouraged as it tends to be slow and inefficient. Please see note below regarding ground fire restrictions. Although there are grocery and dining amenities nearby, this is a camping activity. You should only leave the campground in the event of an emergency.

Sled – Each patrol of five to ten scouts should build a sled, as featured at: [https://scoutingevent.com/Download/61582543/OR/Sled\\_Instructions.pdf](https://scoutingevent.com/Download/61582543/OR/Sled_Instructions.pdf) Each sled should be loaded with materials for the competition. You will use this sled to transport your gear from station to station and from your vehicle to campsite.

Equipment – Each unit and participant should bring appropriate equipment (winter tents, sleeping bags, and clothing) appropriate for winter camping described in Winter Camp Awareness Training. See also the Suggested Packing List for Klondike Derby 2024\_later in this guide.

### **Communication**

Each unit must designate one person as the contact for that unit and we must have that person's cell phone on file. We will send important updates via GroupMe to each unit's contact person. This includes whether or not we have to cancel the event due to severe weather.

### **Campfires**

No fire will be allowed directly on the ground. There are fire rings in Area F. There will be a group campfire on Sunday night following the competition.

## Map, Direction, Location & Road Conditions

Tahoe Valley Campground is located at **1175 Melba Dr., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150**, just off Highway 50 as you enter South Lake Tahoe (near the Highway 50/89 split). If you arrive before check-in time and wish to get lunch in South Lake Tahoe, there are many nearby options. Once you are checked in, you must stay on-site. We cannot accommodate early check-in prior to 1:00 PM on Saturday.



Since we are in the mountains, be prepared for driving in snowy conditions. All vehicles must carry chains or other traction devices – this may be required by CHP based on highway conditions or access roads within TVC. Four-wheel drive is desirable but not required. Note that having four-wheel or AWD is not a panacea for driving the in the snow. Be extremely careful at all times.

Please check road conditions before starting out at [Current Highway Conditions](#)

### Cancellation Policy

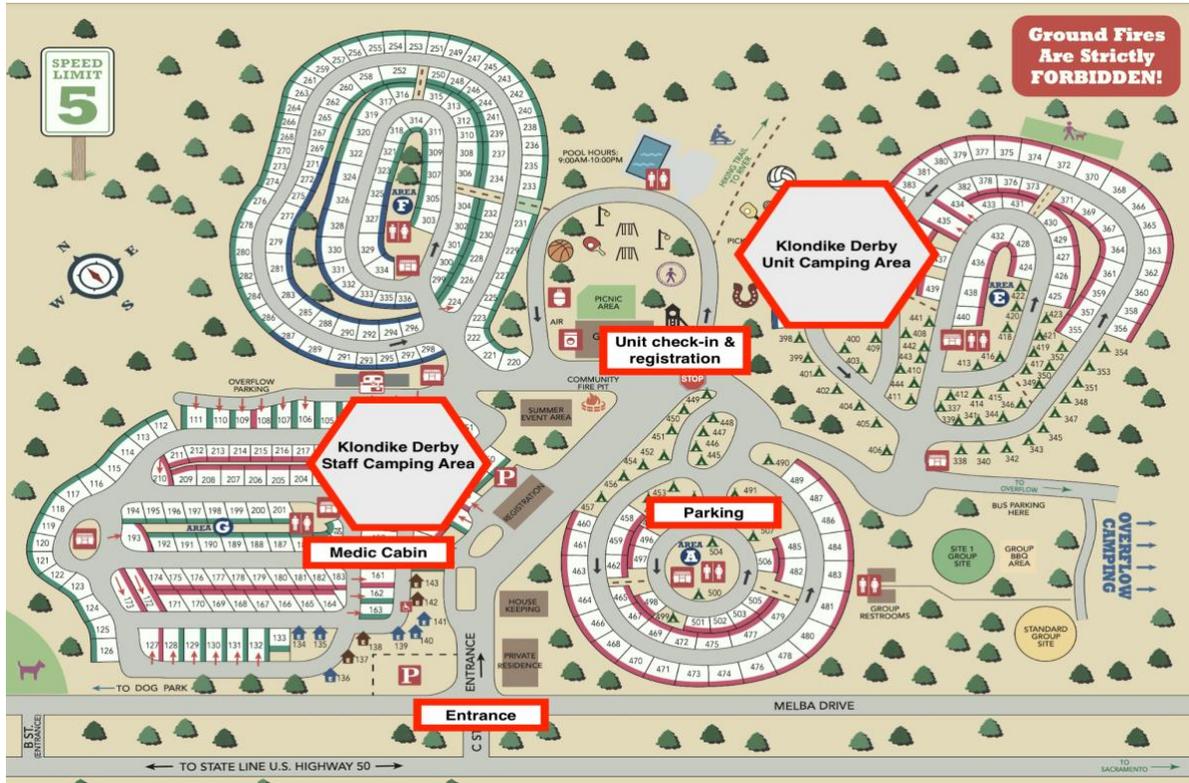
Our Klondike location was chosen based on its accessibility during a variety of winter conditions. Unless it is deemed by OA leadership to be unsafe, the event will go forward rain, snow, or shine. In the unlikely event of such a cancellation by the OA, registered units/participants will receive a full refund.

Refund requests from units/participants for reasons other than cancellation by the OA will be handled according to the GGAC Camp Refund Policy. Additional details can be found on the GGAC website.

## Parking & Vehicles

Parking is limited at Tahoe Valley Campground so carpools of 4 or more are strongly encouraged. Each troop is allotted one parking spot per four people, rounded up (e.g. nine participants will receive 3 parking passes).

The map of the resort shown below is subject to change based on the amount of snow and how well the resort has been plowed.



# **Safety**

## **Weather Conditions**

Be Prepared for sub-freezing weather at night to ensure a safe and enjoyable outing. Remember, weather can be unpredictable, so come prepared regardless of the forecast.

## **Important Note Regarding Youth Protection**

Please note that any female scouts attending with your unit require at least one female registered adult over age 21. All regular YPT guidelines (no 1:1 contact, 2-deep, etc.) apply and all adults must be registered with BSA and have current YPT, AB506 and LiveScans.

## **Snow Play**

Snow conditions make for lots of opportunities for fun. There will be free time for your Scouts to play and enjoy any snow that we have. There are some activities that may be appropriate for a family snow trip that are not OK at a scouting event. Specifically, downhill sledding during the Klondike Derby (sled, saucers, tubes, etc.) is to be confined to designated areas with adequate adult leader supervision and appropriate safety equipment (e.g. Helmets). Please monitor your Scouts to ensure snow play is safe. Additionally, the Guide to Safe Scouting prohibits Scouts throwing objects at other Scouts and this includes snowballs, which can be icy and cause injury.

## **This is a Troop Event.**

While the Order of the Arrow is providing facilities and programming, the Klondike Derby is ultimately a troop outing. Adult leaders in your troop are responsible for the wellbeing of your Scouts. We will have a medic on site for First Aid. Each attendee must have current BSA medical forms A, B1, and B2 or they will not be allowed to participate. As with summer camp, units should plan for the event that a Scout has to be taken to see a doctor and have adequate adult supervision should that occur. Parents should be available should their Scout need to be taken home.

## **When You Arrive**

### **Parking Passes and Directions**

Upon arrival at Tahoe Valley Campground, you will be greeted in your vehicle by a Traffic Director. He or she will give you a parking pass and record the number of youth and adults in your vehicle. It is very important for you to keep this in your vehicle so that we know which vehicles on-site are ours and so we can identify and find an owner quickly if needed. Next, the Traffic Director will guide you to either an unloading area or a parking area depending on conditions and traffic.

### **Unloading Process**

If you are directed to a parking area, you may unload at your own pace. If you are directed to a temporary unloading area, you will be asked to fully unload your vehicle and then re-park before moving your equipment to the campsite. You should be bringing tarps as part of your equipment list – we recommend keeping one or two easily accessible to unload your gear onto (and cover if needed).

### **Parking**

We expect between 70 and 90 vehicles depending on how well all the groups (you) carpool. Parking conditions will be variable as different areas of TVC may be accessible depending on snow conditions. We will likely have more than one parking area and it is possible that vehicles in your group may be directed differently. Please be patient and follow the directions of the Traffic Directors – this is one of the most challenging parts of the weekend logistically.

### **Check-in Between Saturday Feb. 17 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

To avoid bottlenecks, it is not necessary to check-in before moving things to the camp area. Troops must camp together but may select their own area. There are no defined or designated sites within the overall camping area. Be considerate and share space with others. Once your unit has chosen an area and begun to move things and set up, the adult-in-charge or Scoutmaster and the SPL should come to the Admin Building to check in. This must be done before 4:00 PM on Saturday Feb 17, 2024. There is also an SPL/Scoutmaster meeting at 8:00 PM. Please refer to the Klondike Derby Schedule.

## **\* \* KLONDIKE DERBY \* \***

### **Program Overview**

The Klondike Derby is a three-day Winter Camporee that has been put on by BSA units since 1949. In 1975, the OA hosted its first winter event to provide Scouts and Scouters from around the Council to come and test their skills! In addition to these scouting roots, the Klondike Derby is based on the heritage of the Klondike Gold Rush of 1896 to 1899 and is composed of an array of competitions named after some of the Klondike Gold Rush towns. Each town has a competition centered around a feature of that town. Scouts will need to work together to overcome the challenges each town imposes and have fun!

### **Tahoe Valley Campground (TVC)**

The campground offers easy road accessibility and accessible running water. The camp sits at about 6,200 feet in elevation. While there is no guarantee of snow, conditions look very good this year.

There are a few rules set up by TVC that we ask you to comply with. Please keep the times from **10:00 PM to 8:00 AM Quiet Hours** to respect the other visitors and other units. In addition, on **Monday, February 17** please be out of your campsite by **10:00 AM**, and make sure it is clean! Note that ground fires are not allowed, all fires must be in portable fire pits a minimum of 6 inches off the ground. With that, please be respectful and follow the Scout Oath and Law, we are representing Scouting!

### **Check-In and Camp Assignments**

#### **Rules for Winter Camping at Tahoe Valley Campground**

1. Be prepared for anything! Winter camping can be lots of fun when nature is properly respected, which means it can be dangerous if you are unprepared.
2. Only camp in the designated camp area. Please keep your unit together.
3. There are no cleaning services, so please put all trash into garbage bags and pack it out. Leave the campsite cleaner than it was!
4. Wood fires must be in a **portable fire pit** that is a minimum of **6 inches off the ground**. Fire pits may not rest on the snow. Ashes must be packed out, not scattered.
5. Please maintain a quiet time from 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM.
6. Use the portable toilets provided. Do not go elsewhere!

## **Severe Weather**

The policy for modifying or canceling the Klondike Derby due to extreme weather conditions is as follows:

1. If Highway 50 closes on our arrival day.
2. Anything outside the parameters of the Guide to Safe Scouting.
3. Any condition the Lodge Leadership deems as unsafe. This includes, but is not limited to wind chill, visibility, weather service warnings, etc.

## **Health and Safety**

Winter clothing is of the utmost importance, Scouts must be in proper winter clothing to participate in the events. Please layer warmly and dress comfortably. Do not wear cotton as it holds moisture and will make you cold! Winter clothing includes proper shoes, non-insulated and non-waterproof shoes are not appropriate, protect yourself with the proper gear. Please note, in the past, Scouts and groups have had to leave the event early for safety reasons due to lack of preparation and inappropriate winter gear. Expect clothing to get wet and therefore ensure each attendee has plenty of extra clothes to get through the weekend. **We will have very limited facilities to dry out clothes.** Furthermore, units should plan for the event that one or more Scouts will need to be taken home due to health or wet clothing issues.

Be on the lookout for common winter camping ailments. This includes but is not limited to: hypothermia, dehydration, frostbite, and sunburn due to snow glare. Please review the symptoms and first aid for these conditions. For what to do in case of a serious case or emergency, please see the following section, "Injury and Illness."

Troops are responsible for the safety of their Scouts, but everyone should look out for the safety of all participants. If an adult or Klondike Staff member gives a direction or restricts an area, please support them and ensure the Scouts follow their directions for everyone's safety.

Troops are also responsible for ensuring that their Scouts are prepared for the conditions. We strongly recommend that you hold a "shake down" or a "pack check" before you come to camp to ensure everyone has the proper equipment. You can find details on safe winter camping practices at [Yerba Buena Resources](#) under the Winter Camp Awareness presentation. In addition, if you have any questions you can refer to the suggested packing list or email [klondike@oa-yerbabuena.org](mailto:klondike@oa-yerbabuena.org).

*As with any other Scouting activity, please use the Buddy System at all times.*

## **Injury and Illness**

In the event of injury, follow BSA First Aid procedures. Depending on the nature of the injury, the injured person should report to the Medic. To comply with YPT guidelines, a youth should always be accompanied by another youth and an adult or two adults. If an injury dictates not moving the injured person, notify a Klondike Staff member. Keep them warm and comfortable, note the following:

- Exact Location.
- What happened? Are they conscious and breathing? Obtain description of injury.
- How many injured?
- Patient's name, age, sex and Unit if known.
- What first aid has been given?
- Who is with the patient?
- Who is caring for the patient?
- Time of accident.

## **Respect the Staff and Each Other**

All of the staff who are working at the Klondike Derby are volunteers. They are devoted to ensuring that you have the best experience possible. There's a lot that goes into moving 260 people, 90 cars, and 22 patrols doing 155 competitive events. It is likely to not go perfectly. Please also remember, unlike summer camp, this is a youth led event. Thank you for your support and remember to be patient with each other, too.

## **Checkout**

Departure time is by 10:30 AM on Monday, February 17th. Campsites must have been inspected and cleared by a staff member by 10:00 AM. Once cleared, you may check out. Please leave the campsites cleaner than you found them! Patches will be mailed to each unit at a later date.

**\*\* KLONDIKE DERBY \*\***  
**\*SCHEDULE\***

**SATURDAY**

**1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Check-In & Camp Set-up:** Units must check in at the Klondike Derby Administration Tent to confirm pre-registration information and receive additional information. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE CHECK-IN TIME.

**4:00 PM to evening - Troops Schedule:** You are free to schedule your own dinner, clean-up, and evening time. There are no program activities on Saturday.

**8:00 PM to 8:30 PM - SPL & Scoutmaster Meeting:** Meet at the admin tent for your initial **Klondike Debrief**. We will go over the weekend and important things you will need to know.

**10:00 PM Quiet Time:** The campsite asks that we impose quiet hours after 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM. Please be courteous and kind to other visitors and follow these guidelines.

**SUNDAY**

**7:00 AM Wake-up**

**7:00 AM to 9:00 AM - Breakfast:** This is your time to get a good breakfast (this will help you keep warm), clean up, and prepare for the day. Don't be late for flags!

**9:00 AM to 9:30 AM - Opening flag ceremony:** Please wear your field uniform to flags. We recommend wearing warm clothes and activity wear underneath as we will go almost immediately into the events.

**10:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Session 1 of Competitions:** This is the main event of the Klondike Gold Rush Derby! Once you have successfully been inspected, you will be given a scoring booklet which the "towns" will use to score your performance in their events.

**Note:** All Scouts and Scouters must be properly dressed for cold weather. See the Health and Safety Section.

**12:00 PM to 1:30 PM - Lunch:** A short intermission in the events to allow everyone to get lunch, please prepare something quick so you have enough time.

**1:30 PM to 3:30 PM - Session 2 of Competitions:** More competitions!

**3:30 PM to 5:00 PM - Sled Races:** The final event and main competition of the Klondike Derby. Due to the number of participants, the races will be done in heats and will be determined on time.

**5:00 PM to 7:30 PM - Dinner preparation and clean up.**

**5:30 PM to 6:00 PM - SPL & Scoutmaster Meeting:** This will be your closing **Klondike Debrief**. If you plan on participating in the campfire, please bring your skit/song to this meeting to be guaranteed a spot. We will go over important checkout procedures.

**7:30 PM to 9:30 PM - Outlaw Campfire (optional):** We hope you'll participate in this **interactive campfire** during this time. The best skit and song will receive a prize. In addition, the first portion of the campfire will be the **award ceremony** for the events earlier in the day. If you choose not to stay for the rest of the campfire, please attend the award ceremony!

**9:30 PM to 10:00 PM - Prepare for bed and Quiet Time (10 PM)**

## Monday

*7:00 AM Wake-up*

*7:00 AM to 8:30 AM - Breakfast:* We recommend something fast, filling, and easy to clean up.

*8:30 AM to 9:30 AM - Pack Up and Inspection:* To ensure the cleanliness of the camp, each area must be inspected by a staff member before departure and receiving your patches. Please be checked out by 10:00 AM and on the road by 10:30 AM

**Materials must be carried to each event via the patrol's sled.  
The materials patrols need to provide are:**

- \* Cloth Bandages (10 suggested)
- \* First Aid Brace or things to make a brace
- \* Tarps (minimum 2, more recommended)
- \* First Aid Kit
- \* Pot (To boil water in a timed competition)
- \* Patrol Flag
- \* A Sled
- \* Wood to chop for kindling
- \* Axe/Hatchet
- \* Any natural materials for survival shelter (tarps allowed)
- \* Extra Rope, Natural Fiber Preferred
- \* Water Bottle or cup
- \* Bicycle Helmet for Sled Rider

## Suggested Packing List for Klondike Derby 2024

### Mandatory

- **Essentials**
  - 2 Liters Water (available on-site)
  - Sunglasses
  - Sunscreen/Lip Balm
  - Windbreaker
  - Pocket Knife
  - 50 feet of nylon rope
  - Matches/Lighter/Flint Steel
  - Rain Gear
  - Compass
  - Flashlight with extra batteries
  - First Aid Kit
  - Cell Phone battery
- 4 Season Tent
- 0 Degree Bag (or with liner)
- **Clothes**
  - Wool/Synthetic Thermals
  - At least 3 layers (wool/synthetic Shirt)
  - Insulating Layer
  - At least 4 pairs of wool socks
  - At least 4 pair of synthetic/wool underwear
  - Snow boots
  - Spare tennis-shoes
  - Beanie/Hat
  - At least 2 pair synthetic scout pants
  - At least 2 pairs of other synthetic shorts/pants
  - Bottom Thermals
  - Snow Gloves
  - 3+ Power Bars (Night)
  - Trail Mix/ Snack of Some sort
- Sleeping pad (Closed Cell, Light)
- Toiletries
  - Toothbrush/Paste
  - Floss
  - Hand Sanitizer

### ● Optional

- Camera
- Hand Warmers
- Notebook + Pencil
- Snow Shovel
- Small Amount of Cash
- Quick-Dry Towel
- Portable Seat/Camp Chair
- Bear Can
- Whistle
- Mirror
- Portable fire pit at least 6 inch off ground
- Wood for fire
- Bucket for fire (required if you choose to have a fire)
- Shovel for fire (required if you choose to have a fire)
- Walkie Talkie

### ● Notes

- **NO COTTON**
- **ALWAYS STAY HYDRATED**
- **Think back to WCA**
- **BRING ENERGY SNACKS**

## FAQ

*What is the minimum age for Scouts to attend?*

We don't enforce a minimum age but recommend 14.

*Do I absolutely need to bring a sled?*

No, but you will have to find some other way of hauling your gear from event to event and you won't be able to participate in the sled races.

## References

[BSA Winter Camp Safety](#)

[Winter Camping – First Aid](#)

[Winter Camping – Sleeping Warm](#)

[Winter Camping – Stoves & Fuels](#)

[Winter Camping – Tents and Terrain](#)

[Winter Camping – Clothing](#)

[Winter Camping - Foods](#)

[Tahoe Valley Campground](#)

[Youth Protection and Adult Leadership](#)

[BSA Annual Health and Medical  
Record](#)

[Current Highway Conditions](#)

[GroupMe](#)

Barton Memorial Hospital  
2170 South Ave.  
South Lake Tahoe, Ca. 96150  
(530) 541-3420

Raley's  
1040 Emerald Bay Rd.  
South Lake Tahoe CA, 96150

Ace Hardware  
1931 Lake Tahoe Blvd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150  
(530) 541-3601

Big 5 Sporting Goods  
2062 Lake Tahoe Blvd, South Lake  
Tahoe, CA 96150  
(530) 542-6221