The Phoenix Challenge 2025 Information Pack

SCOUTS

SCOUTING IRELAND

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Welcome!

The Phoenix Challenge is 20 years old in 2025!

The theme for this year is 'CELEBRATION – Celebrating 20 years in 2025', looking back at two decades of the National Scoutcraft Competition, and all that has been achieved by thousands of Scouts like yourselves in that time!

The Phoenix is a competition, but it is also so much more. It is a chance to represent your Scout Group and to put into action all the scoutcraft and skills you have learned during your time in scouting. It also a chance to meet scouts from all over Ireland, like-minded people who are both similar and different to yourself.

The aim of Phoenix Challenge 2025 is to celebrate both the event itself and all the scouts who have had the chance to enjoy the event over the last twenty years.

Take a look at the next page to see all the logos from the past 20 years - do you recognise any? You may have friends or Scouters or family who were on those events, and each have their own story to share.

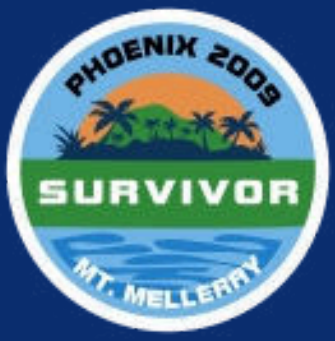
Each of you brings something unique to the competition and to scouting and when this combines into a patrol you will achieve amazing things across the weekend.

We look forward to seeing you in August! There is only one information pack this year, with all the required pre-event details. Begin your preparations by reading this pack carefully, as there are a number of changes compared to previous events.

Yours in Scouting,

Michaela Fitzgerald | Shane Cusack
Phoenix Challenge Event Leads

Our two Event Leads as Scouts on the Phoenix back in the day!



2020 N/A

2021 N/A

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Event Details

Thursday August 14th to
Sunday August 17th 2025

Salesian College, Pallaskenry, Co. Limerick
V94 WP86

Patrol - €600
Staff - €85

Forms Deadline

1st July 2025

- **County Confirmation Form**
- **Patrol Application**
- **Wildcard Application**
- **Staff Application**

Participant & Team Details

A team will comprise of a patrol of 8 scouts.
Each Scout County holds a maximum of 3 qualifying places.

1. **Participants must be registered Scouts, aged 15 or under on 1st April 2025.**
2. **The participating Scout Section must have competed in their Scout County qualifying event.**
3. **The participating Scout Sections must have held an Annual Camp of at least four consecutive nights camping during the 2025 season.**

The county commissioner/programme coordinator (CPC) for the scout section's scout county is responsible for confirming requirements 2 and 3.

Note: Patrols will be disqualified for having over-age members.

Theme - 20 in ‘25

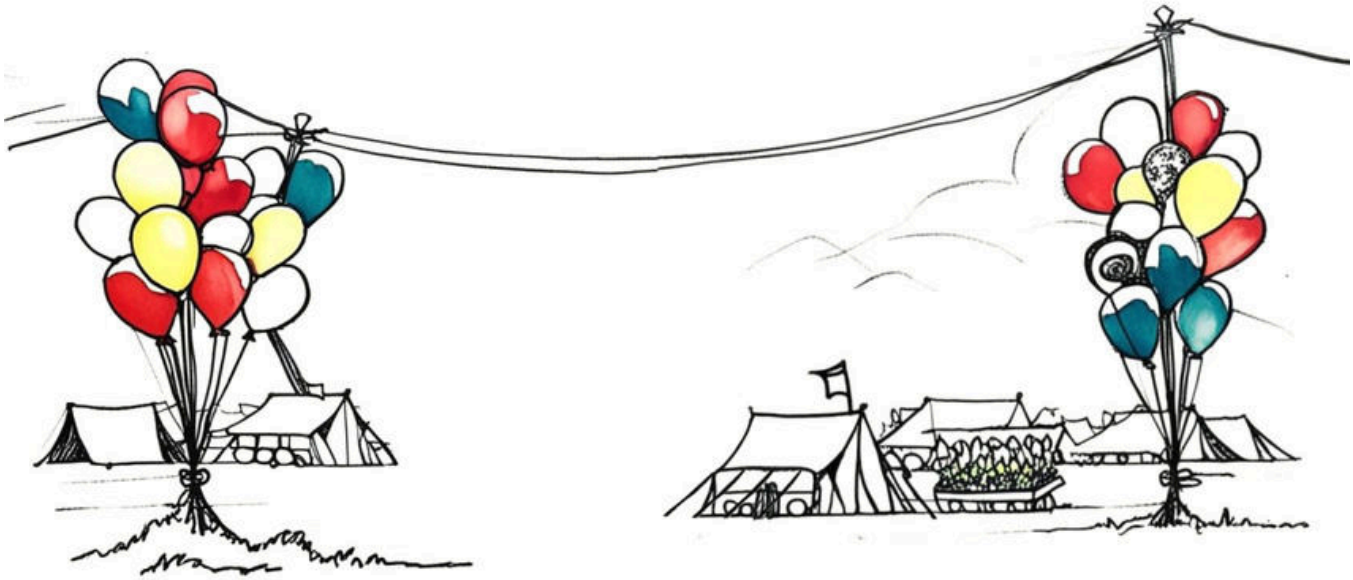
The Phoenix is turning 20 in 2025 and after two decades of the National Scout Craft competition, it’s time to celebrate! Whether it is your Group’s first year attending the Phoenix Challenge, or has attended before over the last 20 years, you can celebrate your Group’s journey on your site.

Everyone has a different experience of the Phoenix, so you should aim to celebrate your Group’s identity with photos of your preparation, snaps of previous Phoenixes, Group histories, flags and Group colours.

Pride in your Group is the goal and should all be displayed on your site. Maybe some of your scouters were on a Phoenix?
Let’s dig out some photos of them back in the day!

Many of the activities across the weekend will be based around celebrating the last 20 years, so make sure to pop on your party hat and get ready to celebrate with scouts from around the country.

While celebrating all twenty previous Phoenix Challenges, you should not forget to embrace your own experience. Rise to the challenge, make new friends, do your best, be prepared and above all enjoy it!

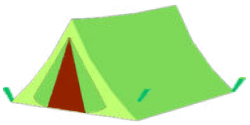


Phoenix Award Structure

Every Team who enters The Phoenix Challenge will have the opportunity to achieve a maximum of 10,000 points. Over the course of the event, tasks, challenges, and standards will be assessed to determine the standard of a particular patrol.

The breakdown of marks is as follows:

Programme/Skills bases
5000 marks (50%)



Scoutcraft
5000 marks (50%)

There are four award standards for the Phoenix Challenge:

Gold Standard awarded to patrols achieving between 80% and 100% inclusive of the overall marks. Each patrol member will be awarded a Gold Standard Phoenix Challenge Badge to wear on their uniform.

Silver Standard awarded to patrols achieving between 65% and 79% inclusive of the overall marks. Each team member will be awarded a Silver Standard Phoenix Challenge Badge.

Bronze Standard awarded to patrols achieving between 30% and 64% inclusive of the overall marks. Each team member will be awarded a Bronze Standard Phoenix Challenge Badge.

Participation Award awarded to Teams achieving up to 29% of the overall marks. Each team member will be awarded a Participation Badge to wear on their uniform

Phoenix 20in25

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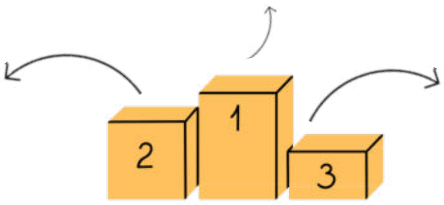
The Phoenix Trophy

Highest Set of Points over all marked areas

Runner Up Trophy

2nd highest set of points over all marked areas



3rd Place Trophy

3rd highest set of points over all marked areas

Other Awards

Campcraft Trophy
Patrol with the highest points in Campcraft

Cooking and Eating Trophy
Patrol with the highest points in Cooking and Eating inspections

Scout Engineering Trophy
Patrol with the highest points related to engineering across the weekend

Leadership Award
PL/WL with overall highest points in the leadership category throughout all marked inspections (scoutcraft & skills bases)

Programme Trophy
Patrol with the highest points in the Skills bases

Logbook Trophy
Patrol with the highest points in the Logbook

Entrepreneurship Award
Patrol with the best Trade Fair stall

Environmental Award
Patrol which demonstrates the best minimal impact camping and sustainability practices

Awards Ceremony

Announcing from site number 1 onwards in numerical order the award achieved, i.e. Participation, Bronze, Silver or Gold Standard

- **Scout Engineering Award**
- **Environmental Award**
- **Entrepreneurship Award**
- **Logbook Trophy**
- **Cooking & Eating Trophy**
- **Campcraft Trophy**
- **Skills Bases Trophy**
- **Leadership Award**
- **3rd place will be announced, and the 3rd Place Trophy presented**
- **2nd place will be announced, and the Runner Up Trophy presented**
- **1st place will be announced, and The Phoenix Challenge Trophy presented**

The points achieved by each patrol will not be announced during the awards ceremony.

Besides those listed, no additional places will be announced.

A print out detailing the Patrol's score will be available after the award ceremony.

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Event Timetable

The timetable below provides an overview of the event. Each team will receive a more detailed timetable in their patrol handbook.

Thursday 14th August	
Time	**Details**
09:00	Site opens
09:30-11:30	Check-in (patrols and staff)
12:00	All patrol gear to be on sites
12:15	Assemble for opening ceremony
12:30	Opening ceremony, event kick-off and site-build starts.
17:00-19:00	Dinner, including wash-up
21:00	Sitebuild finish
22:00	Subcamp campfires
22:30-23:30	Supper
23:30	Lights-out

Friday 15th August	
Time	**Details**
07:30-09:30	Rise, wash, breakfast
10:00-16:00	Programme bases including lunch
17:00-20:00	Friday Dinner Test Meal
20:00	Free-time & prepare for trade fair
21:00	Celebration Trade Fair
22:00-23:00	Supper
23:00	Lights-out

Saturday 16th August	
Time	**Details**
07:30-09:30	Rise, wash, breakfast
10:00-16:00	Programme bases including lunch
17:00-20:00	Saturday Dinner Test Meal
20:00	Free-time
21:00	Phoenix Campfire
21:45	Big Birthday Bash
22:30-23:30	Supper
23:30	Lights-out

Sunday 17th August	
Time	**Details**
07:30-09:30	Rise, wash, breakfast
10:00	Chariot Trek Cart Race
10:45-13:30	Break camp
12:00-13:45	Final inspection (in uniform)
14:00	Subcamp assembly
14:15	Subcamp closing ceremonies
15:00	Closing ceremony

Important
These timings are a guide and are subject to change both pre and during the event

Programme - Daytime

The programme bases will be divided into 4 distinct zones.

Each zone will have different scenarios and tasks to allow your patrol to showcase their scout skills and teamwork. In all the bases patrol involvement, PL/WL leadership, teamwork & enthusiasm will be needed - and of course PLAN - DO - REVIEW!

The bases are designed from the Adventure skills & The Scouting Trail

To prepare patrols should practice:

Teamwork

- **Patrols working together.**
- **Respectful to each other and other patrols.**
- **Use the strengths of all patrol members.**
- **All the patrol members involved and engaged.**
- **Good communication is key to good teamwork.**
- **Each patrol member pulling their weight.**
- **Songs, jokes & humour are great to keep the spirits up.**

Leadership

Good leadership isn't just about barking orders! It is about:

- **Evaluation, decision making & communicating to your patrol.**
- **The PL/WL directing the patrol throughout the task.**
- **Delegating and everyone involved.**
- **The PL/WL keeping an eye on their patrol to ensure they are motivated, hydrated, protected from the elements/risks and happy.**

Time management

Each base will have a certain duration.

- **The PL/WL ensures the time is managed to aim to complete the task.**
- **Patrols should be at their bases at the designated times.**
- **Don't panic and do your best.**

Task Completion

While completing the task is the goal, the majority of marks will be allocated for how each patrol evaluates, approaches and undertakes each challenge and task.
If you encounter something you have not seen before, remember to ask for guidance and attempt the task to the best of your team's ability.

Programme - Evening

Thursday - Subcamp Campfires

On Thursday evening, after a long day of site building, each subcamp will have their own campfire. This will be a chance to relax, sing songs, learn your subcamp chants and meet other patrols from all over the country to share your Phoenix experience.

Friday - Celebration Fair

There will be a trade fair with the theme 'Celebrating 20 years of the Phoenix'. Bring your best wares and games to trade for Phoenix currency while getting into the celebration spirit.

Dress like you're ready to party and celebrate at Mardi Gras and display your group's identity at your stall. The more colourful the costumes and props the better!

For your stall you can sell or barter goods and items, foods, drinks & treats or provide a game or activity to challenge other patrols and scouters. You'll have a 3m x 2m area to set up your stall with room for a fold up table that is not part of your site. Marks will be awarded for attending and participating in the Trade Fair, for embracing the theme and for providing a good or service.

Saturday Evening - Campfire

On Saturday Evening there will be a big campfire for everyone - a long-standing tradition at the Phoenix Challenge. All patrols are encouraged to attend & contribute to the campfire.
It's an opportunity to teach songs, learn songs and meet people from other subcamps. It is a time to reflect on the challenges and achievements you have encountered over the weekend. Every group does campfires slightly differently, but they give us an opportunity to come together and sing and dance and celebrate!

Take a look at our campfire songbook which will be released pre event and get practicing to make this the loudest Phoenix campfire in 20 years! Is there a song you learned for the first time at last year's Phoenix? Does your group have a signature song? Let us know on our socials!

Big Birthday Bash

On Saturday night there will be a '20 in 25' birthday party. There will be cake, candles, balloons, party poppers, music & festivities. What better way to let the hair down and celebrate than a birthday bash. Patrols are encouraged to come ready to celebrate, party and dance!

Sunday - Trek Cart Race

On Sunday morning there will be the annual Trek Cart Race.

Each patrol will compete in Subcamp heats for the chance to compete in the grand final!

- **Race as a team, propelling their trek cart, around a challenging track.**
- **Trek carts will be checked for road worthiness & safety before the race.**
- **All patrol members must help to propel the trek cart as they race.**
- **Patrols do not need to carry a member of their patrol in the trek cart.**
- **Trek carts should have patrol & group identification clearly displayed.**
- **Marks will be awarded for building a trek cart, competing in the race, for entire patrol participation and for patrol & group identification.**

Note: Marks will not be awarded for placement in the trek cart race.

Some patrols may have old, damaged or defective trek carts. Now is the time to check and make sure they are fit for purpose.

While trek carts are fun to race, the main use over the event is to convey food from depots, bring your equipment to bases and to transport waste to the disposal facilities. Trek carts will not be used to carry all the patrol equipment to site.

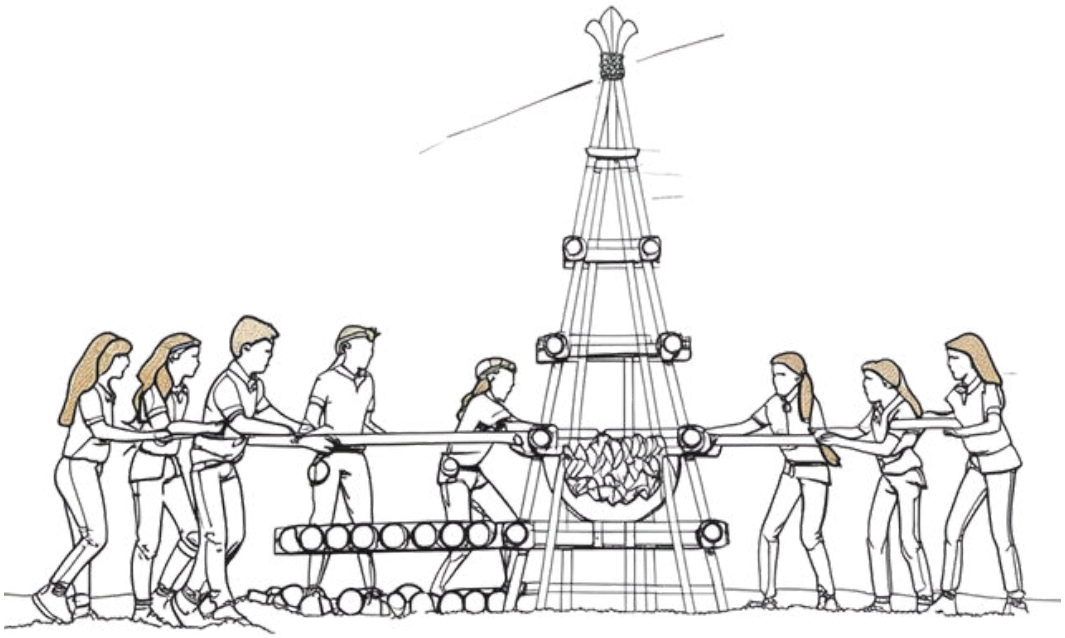
Patrols should have some basic tools, spare parts and some knowledge to service their trek carts if needed.

A trek kart resource will be provided in the one drive in advance of the event.

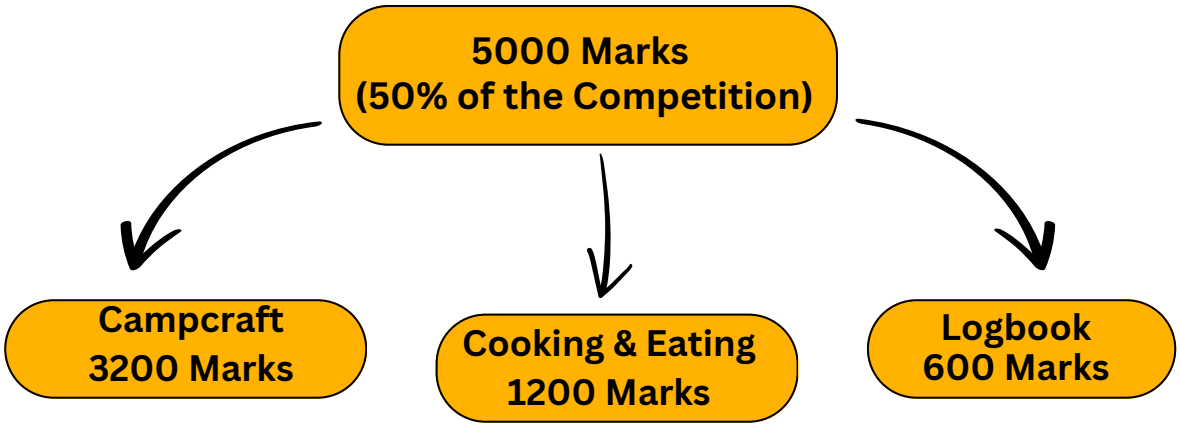
Programme - Equipment List

- [ ] Scouting Trail
- [ ] Half ball of Sisal
- [ ] First Aid Kit
- [ ] Trangia
- [ ] 250ml Methylated Spirits
- [ ] Spare Group Neckerchief
- [ ] Sun Cream - enough for a patrol over 2 days
- [ ] Rain Gear
- [ ] Compass
- [ ] Stationery - 10 sheets A4 per patrol & 4 pencils, sharpener, eraser
- [ ] Flint & Steel
- [ ] x2 empty pea/bean cans
- [ ] 5m Rope at least 8mm thick (poly or climbing)
- [ ] Trek cart
- [ ] Fold out table (for the trade fair)

Important
Please note that all equipment, uniforms, trade fair, trek cart and fold out table must be stored on your site for the duration of the event



Scoutcraft - Breakdown



Campcraft

Important points:

- The site size is 196 square metres for all patrols (approx. 14m x 14m). Sites will be marked out in advance, and patrols should not alter their allocated site.
- The position of the altar fire will be dictated, at either the front left or right corner of your site. Patrols need to be prepared to flip their site layout.
- Sleeping tents may be of any type. However, there is a requirement to have at least one Icelandic-style tent on site. This can be a sleeping tent or a store tent.
- Each patrol must supply all their own equipment for the event. No equipment or timber poles/spars will be supplied to participating patrols.
- All site contents need to be within the boundary of the site. The gateway is the only exception (see below).
- Patrol uniforms must be stored on site at all times. Uniforms are to be stored in a clear plastic box in an appropriate area on the site.
- All gadgets must be free-standing. No gadgets are to be constructed with poles driven into the ground, as required by the landowners. Penalties will be applied to any patrol that does not comply with this. Boundary poles are exempt.
- All lashings will be assessed for appropriate type, neatness and tightness.

Campcraft

Important points:

- It is possible to combine several gadget functions into one gadget with separate sections, instead of having all required gadgets as standalone.
    - Where a patrol builds a combined structure such as dresser + food prep + washstand, and they are identifiable as individual gadgets, each gadget will be marked out of 100% of the marks available for that gadget.
    - Where a patrol builds a single gadget (i.e. 2 tripods and tabletop) for use as multiple gadgets, for example as the dresser + food prep + washstand, whichever gadget has the highest value in the marking scheme will be marked out of 100% of the marks available for that gadget. The gadget will then be marked a 2nd / 3rd time for the other categories, but only out of 50% of the marks available for that gadget on the marking scheme.
    - Alternatively, there is no requirement to combine gadgets and if a patrol wishes to have them all separate, that is also acceptable.
    - Gadgets built but not actually in use, for example a dresser without pots on display, etc., will not be able to gain maximum points.
- Tripods & Quadpods: Should be braced as low to the ground as possible. Use spars on all sides for support, or a T-bar bracing in tripods, and a diagonal X brace in quadpods. Braces should not stick out more than 15cm.
- If a patrol chooses not to pitch a Store Tent or Shelter, provision to store food and other items should be provided for in the Dining shelter. Food should not be stored in the open and not in the sleeping tent(s).
- Hygiene & Tidiness: Will be assessed in all areas (tents, boxes, tabletops, etc.) and at every inspection.
- Safety: Will be assessed in all areas (patrol site build, tool storage, food storage, gadgets construction) and at every inspection. First aid kit should be easily accessible if the team is onsite. All teams should have a designated first aider.
- Good teamwork, leadership and planning is important for site build and a functioning patrol site, and will be assessed.

Campcraft Do's

- Prior to the Opening Ceremony, patrols must have all their equipment laid just outside the front of the site. There should be no marking of gadget/tent locations on the site itself.
- The layout of each site is up to each participating patrol. There must be no marking of gadget/tent locations on the site before the event starts.
- Patrols are allowed to have the different gadgets bundled together, colour coded for identification, etc., upon arrival.
- No gadget is required for the fire point. However, a clearly defined fire point should be present on all sites. The location of the fire point is important; it should be relatively central but not impeding general access to the site or any other gadget.
- A wastewater treatment facility needs to be provided on patrol sites.
- All holes (from boundaries / pegs) must be filled in for final inspection.
- Protection of the fire gadget should be done with mud or suitable alternative

Campcraft Don'ts

- Guy lines' supporting gadgets are not allowed, however, they can be used for the gate if required. If used, they must not cause a trip hazard.
- No prefabricated gadgets, or tying of lashings in advance of the competition.
- Fire extinguishers are banned on patrol sites. A fire blanket and buckets of sand and water should be provided instead.
- The cutting of sods is not allowed. Fire trays must be used on Altar Fires. Refer to altar fire details.
- Between the hours of 11:00pm and 7:30am there is to be no site work, i.e. no retying of gadgets/lashings.
- The use of clingfilm or tinfoil to cover cooking equipment such as pots and pans is prohibited, and marks will be deducted for use of same. This also applies to protection of the alter fire.
- No gadgets are to be constructed with poles driven into the ground, as required by the landowners. Penalties including disqualification will apply for teams which breach these rules.

Campcraft Requirements

This year sees some changes to the campcraft requirements. All the required information is found in this information pack. All items are to be constructed and maintained in line with good camping practice. Refer to the Scouting Trail and Camping Adventure Skills team resources for the fundamentals and gadget design ideas! Teams will have from the opening ceremony at 12:30 to 21:00 on Thursday for site build.

Essential Tentage and Gadgets

Sleeping Tent(s)/Icelandic
Dining Shelter
Store Tent/Store Shelter
Altar Fire
Dresser
Food Prep Table
Storage Gadget
Patrol Wash Stand
Table and Seating
Gateway
Bins

Further information is found below per item, or in 'Important Points' on pages 14-15

Camping Best Practice

Boundary
Equipment Storage
Notice Board
Waste Water System
Woodpile and Chopping Area
Site Layout
Wood and Water Availability
Uniform
Sustainability Practices
Incorporation of Theme ***(see page 6)***
Safety and Hygiene ***(see campcraft important points page 15)***
Patrol Leadership and Teamwork ***(see campcraft important points page 15)***

Essential Tentage and Gadgets

- Sleeping Tent/Icelandic
  - Poles, pegs, and guy lines are correct for tent type and used correctly.
  - Tent is pitched correctly, and prevents water ingress.
  - Interior clean and tidy, personal gear packed away.
  - Groundsheet rolled back during the day if possible.

- Dining Shelter
  - Poles, peg, guy lines are correct for tent type. Shelter pitched correctly.
  - Adequate cover for the entire patrol, protected from the elements, and with ease of access.

- Store Tent/Store Shelter
  - The store can be any type of tent or a separate shelter from the dining area. If combined with the dining shelter, it will only count as a dining shelter, not a store.
  - Poles, pegs, and guy lines are correct for tent type and used correctly.
  - Tent was pitched correctly, and prevents water ingress.
  - *For store tent:* tables, boxes, and gadgets etc, should not be leaning or rubbing against the walls of the tent.
  - *For store shelter:* tables, boxes, and gadgets etc, should be stored towards the centre as opposed to along the sides, to ensure protection from the elements.

- Altar Fire
  - Safe height of the fire tray (45cm to 75cm) and fire tray secure.
  - Spars supporting fire tray should be protected (NOT tinfoil).
  - Fire barrels should be cleaned out for the final inspection only at a designated area. Teams are not required to dispose of ashes daily / after every use.

- Dresser
  - Gadget design and use of traditional scout materials in the build (e.g. plate racks from timber etc.)
  - Being used for the intended purpose (leave the pots and plates on it)!
  - All items off the ground and no cling film or tinfoil protecting equipment.

- Food Prep Table
  - Appropriate height of the work surfaces (75 to 95cm).

Essential Tentage and Gadgets

- **Storage Gadget**
  - **Must be a pioneering structure (must have lashings), and be functional.**
  - **Items need to be stored clear off the ground.**
  - **If built in a tent, it should be positioned to ensure it does rub off and damage the walls of the tent.**
  - **If built in a shelter, it should be positioned to ensure protection from the elements.**

- **Patrol Wash Stand**
  - **This can be a separate gadget to the dresser for utensil washing.**
  - **Appropriate height of the basin (between 75 and 95cm), and enough basins for wash-up.**
  - **Water containers are stored on the gadget**

- **Table and Seating**
  - **All Scouts can comfortably at the table, under shelter.**
  - **The table should be at the correct height and in accordance with the seating. (table at 70-85cmand seating at 40-55cm).**
  - **Tabletop should be a flat piece of wood and should be secured to the gadget, so it doesn't move.**

- **Gateway**
  - **The gate is assessed as part of campcraft and as part of the engineering award.**
  - **It is an opportunity for patrols to be creative and display their Campcraft skills.**
  - **The gate is NOT a pioneering project; the structure and size should be in keeping with the remainder of the site. Small-scale innovative designs will achieve more marks.**
  - **Can exceed the site boundary by a maximum of 50 centimeters.**
  - **3 different lashing types must be used in the construction of the gate. Lashings must be selected from the following list: 1) Shear lashing, 2) Figure-of-8 (tripod/quadpod) lashing, 3) Traditional square lashing, 4) Japanese square lashing, 5) Norwegian square lashing, 6) Diagonal lashing.**
  - **Should display team identity (patrol flag / sign etc.)**

- **Bins**
  - **A gadget is required for waste management, which must include 3 bins for General Waste, Compost and Recycling.**

Camping Best Practice

- Boundary
  - Correct knots: round turn and two half hitches are used to start and finish, and the clove hitch or the marlin spike are used on the intermediate boundary poles.
  - Boundaries taut, poles in line and rope at approximately scout waist height

- Equipment Storage
  - Food and non-food items must be stored separately.
  - Camping and Eating Equipment must be stored separately, with tools stored in a patrol boxsafely).
  - All storage boxes and cooler boxes must be raised off the ground.

- Notice Board
  - Should be positioned at the entrance of the site, and serves an opportunity to be creative.
  - Should include:
    - Patrol/Troop identity, biographies, patrol roles etc
    - Site Layout
    - Menu
    - Incorporation of the theme

- Waste Water System
  - A water filtration system is required to clean water before it is disposed of. This can be stand-alone or part of the Food Prep or Wash or Bins gadgets.
  - It should comprise of a 2-layer filter. The first layer can be a muslin cloth or straw/hay, to remove solids. The second layer should be sand to remove grease. The filtered water should then be emptied after every meal. The top filter should be cleaned / replaced daily.

- Woodpile and Chopping Area
  - The wood pile does NOT need to be a gadget, but fire wood should be stored off the ground and covered so that it is protected from the elements.
  - Fire wood should be graded by size, and may be stored in the store tent when not required.
  - Patrols must have a Chopping Area. This must include a boundary, ground sheet and Chopping block, with sufficient size to work in (suggested size 2m x 2m).
  - The Chopping areas should be cleared of chippings after use.

Camping Best Practice

- **Site Layout**
  - **Gadgets position, usability, and walkway space will be assessed.**
  - **All tentage should be the furthest point from the fire; this includes an awareness of other patrols' tents.**

- **Wood and Water Availability**
  - **There should always be ample water and firewood on site.**
  - **You will need enough fire wood to light, maintain and cook 2 evening dinners, including hot water for wash-up.**

- **Uniform**
  - **Full Scouting Ireland uniform is required: trousers, shirt/sea scout jumper, belt, group neckerchief and woggle (uniform for whole patrol). Uniform should be neat and tidy.**
  - **Scouts should have badges on display:**
    - **Spirit of Adventure / Crean Award**
    - **Adventure Skills**
  - **Black shoes or hiking boots with navy or black socks.**

- **Sustainability Practices**
  - **Patrols should try where possible to construct and live on a sustainable campsite.**

Inspections

There will be 9 inspections from the campcraft team over the weekend.

2 inspections will take place during the Thursday site build:

<u>Thursday Progress:</u> after a few hours of site-build. Patrols should have sleeping tent(s) and dining shelter complete. Altar fire construction should have started.

<u>Thursday Evening:</u> after dinner, nearing end of site-build. Completed altar fire, table & seating, storage gadget and all tentage. Provision for waste disposal, fire wood and water. Equipment storage.

All other required items will be assessed throughout the weekend.

<u>Final Inspection:</u> Site returned to pre-event state. All equipment clean, tidy and packed away safely. Scouts must be in uniform as per above.

Cooking & Eating

For this year's Celebrations, Patrols will bring food for some meals and some meals will be provided. So, patrols will design part of their own menu and each of these meals should be balanced.

Over the weekend you will prepare different types of meals including a one course meal on Thursday, a 2 course meal on their Offsite day and create their own 3 course menu for dinner on their Onsite day.

Patrols must have their chosen menu for the weekend displayed on their site. Some meals will be unknown to the patrol and can be left out of your menu.

It's important to incorporate all patrol members preferences & dietary requirements into your menu so that everyone can enjoy their meals.

Patrols will need to be familiar with:

- **Different types of cooking methods including using a gas cooker safely and maintaining an altar fire while ensuring sufficient wood is on site.**
- **All patrol food, equipment, and cleaning supplies and how to use them.**
- **Good hygiene practices for self, equipment and surfaces. Think '*clean as you go*'.**
- **All elements of your chosen menu, ingredients, quantities and safe food storage.**
- **Safe practices for using an axe and saw.**
- **Good Time management i.e. how long different ingredients take to cook and ensuring wash up is completed within the time allowed.**

The Cooking and eating team will visit sites every day and will be looking at the above elements as well as teamwork and the overall meal.

Your patrol does not need to provide a full portion of any meal for the markers, just a small amount to taste.

Every meal produced by the patrol should be substantial enough to ensure each scout has enough food to sustain them until the next meal is served.

Cooking & Eating

Inspections

There will be 7 inspections from the cooking & eating team over the weekend.

The first inspection will take place shortly after the start of the competition on Thursday and will focus on the equipment and ingredients brought by the patrol, ensuring that these are all present and correct according to the Patrols menu. This inspection will also ensure that Patrols can correctly use their equipment.

No	Inspection	Details
1	Thursday Check-in	Shortly after the event starts - general inspection
2	Thursday Dinner	During dinner - 1 course meal (fully provided by Pheonix)
3	Offsite Day Breakfast	During breakfast and lunch preparation in morning
4	Offsite Day Dinner	During dinner - 2 course meal (fully provided by Phoenix)
5	Onsite Day Breakfast	During breakfast and lunch preparation in morning
6	Onsite Day Dinner	During dinner - 3 course meal (Patrol's choice - protein only provided) *Cream provided on request.*
7	Sunday Breakfast	During breakfast preparation in morning

Onsite Day Dinner

This meal will be cooked on fire, and consist of a Starter, Main Course and Dessert. At least one course must be cooked.

Your patrol can choose from Chicken, Beef, Tofu or Eggs for the protein element of your main course. You may also request cream if desired for the dessert. These choices will be collected at registration stage only.

Patrols which make a substantial effort to incorporate the celebration '20 in 25' theme in all elements of their chosen menu will be rewarded, so get creative!

All elements of the meal should be prepared on site. For example, if having curry, you should make your own sauce and not just open a jar.

Cooking & Eating

Meal	Details	Phoenix Supply...	Patrol Supply...	Cooked on...
Thursday				
Dinner	1 course. Unknown to patrol.	Everything	**Nothing**	Gas
Supper	Patrol choice	**Nothing**	**Everything**	Gas
Offsite Programme Day				
Breakfast	Patrol choice	Milk only	**Everything else**	N/A
Lunch	Partially provided. Unknown to patrol.	Main component	**Accompanients (fruit, snack etc.)**	Gas OR non-cooked
Dinner	2 courses. Unknown to patrol.	Everything	**Nothing**	Open Fire
Supper	Patrol choice	Milk only	**Everything else**	Gas
Onsite Programme Day				
Breakfast	Patrol choice	Milk only	**Everything else**	N/A
Lunch	Partially provided. Unknown to patrol.	Main component	**Accompanients (fruit, snack etc.)**	Gas OR non-cooked
Dinner	3 course dinner. Patrol designed. Main course protein is provided by Phoenix. ***Cream available on request for dessert.***	Choice of protein: 1) mince beef 2) chicken fillets 3) tofu 4) eggs	**Everything else**	Open Fire. At least 1 course must be cooked on the fire.
Supper	Patrol choice	Milk only	**Everything else**	Gas
Sunday				
Breakfast	Cooked breakfast. Fully provided.	Everything	**Nothing**	Gas
Lunch	Packed lunch	Bread and sandwhich fillings	**Everything else**	N/A

Notes:

1. Patrol will be offsite or onsite, either Saturday or Sunday. This depends on subcamp allocation.
2. Patrols are NOT to bring a pre-prepared Thrsday dinner. This is fully supplied this year.

Dietary Requirements

The patrol is best placed to cater for a scout's specific dietary requirement. Should a scout need plant-based milk, wheat free bread etc, the patrol must ensure that they bring enough for the weekend. This is not the responsibility of the event team.

It is important that every scout eats a substantial amount of nutritious food each day. Marks will not be lost for a patrol specifically catering for the dietary needs of its members and diverting from the prescribed menu.

Cooking & Eating

Patrol's Pantry

Minimum Required:

- [ ] X1 500ml Bottle Cooking Oil
- [ ] 455g Butter
- [ ] X1 100g Salt
- [ ] X1 100g Black Pepper
- [ ] Mixed Herbs
- [ ] 1L Orange Cordial & 1L Blackcurrant Cordial

Cooking Equipment

- [ ] Gas Cooker with sufficient Gas for the weekend
- [ ] Matches & Fuel for cooking fire
- [ ] Trangias x 2 with sufficient gas
- [ ] Lunch box with Lid x 8
- [ ] Potato Peeler & Tin Opener
- [ ] Cooking Utensils (Stirring Spoon, Spatula, Tongs, Scissors etc.)
- [ ] Eating Utensils x 8 sets
- [ ] Chopping & Bread Knives which should be sharp
- [ ] 3 Different Sized Mixing Bowls
- [ ] Measuring Spoons & Measuring Jug
- [ ] Large Pot with Lid x 2, Medium Pot with Lid x 1
- [ ] Frying Pan x 2
- [ ] Colander
- [ ] Chopping Boards
- [ ] Ladle

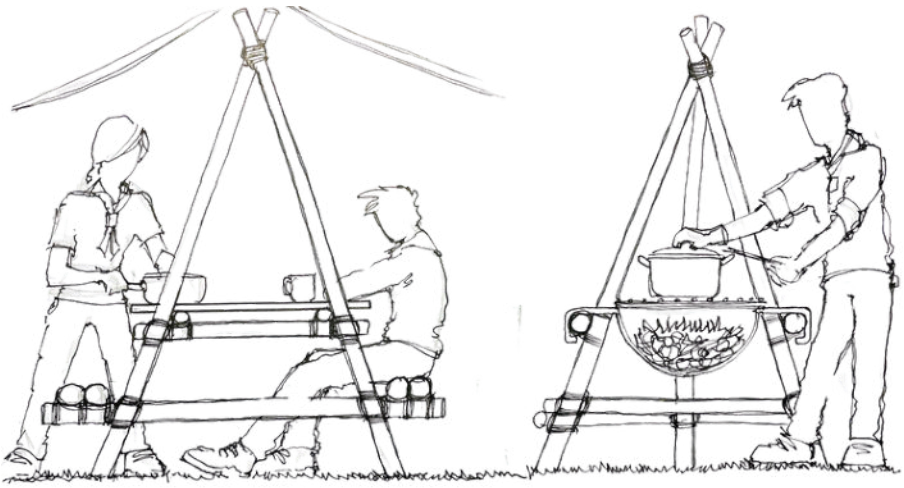
Cooking & Eating

Food Storage

- [ ] Water Container
- [ ] Iceblocks for Thursday evening *(replaced daily from event freezers)*
- [ ] Cooler Box
- [ ] Containers to keep/separate/organise food
- [ ] Tin Foil & Cling Film *(or sustainable food storage alternatives)*

Hygiene and Cleaning Supplies

- [ ] Basins for wash up & hand washing
- [ ] X1 Bottle Washing Up Liquid
- [ ] Hand Soap
- [ ] Cleaning Spray (e.g. Dettol)
- [ ] Brillo Pads
- [ ] Scrubbing Brush
- [ ] Scrubbers/Sponges
- [ ] Cloths/Wipes (cleaning spills etc)
- [ ] Tea Towels
- [ ] Bio-degradable liners (compost) & transparent liners (waste).



Waste Management

Waste must be divided into:

1. **Recycling: Put straight into a waste bin without a bin bag.**
2. **Compost: Dispose into a container lined with a bio-degradable bag.**
3. **General Waste: Put in a waste bin lined with a transparent plastic bag.**

Recycling

Clean Glass, Plastic Bottles, Cartons, Paper, Card and Polypropelene Rope

Compost

Food Scraps, peelings, leaves, grass, tea bags, sisal and contaminated paper.

General Waste

Everything else you cannot put in your recycling, compost or glass bin.

- **Leave No Trace! This year there is an emphasis on little to no waste. Remove & recycle excess packaging at home if possible.**
- **Use up left over non-perishables etc from camps prior to the Phoenix, while ensuring you have what you need for the weekend.**
- **Consider the environmental impact of your menu during your planning.**
- **Patrols are responsible for managing the waste they generate, and all waste must be stored on your site.**
- **Pay particular attention to managing food scraps & waste so that it doesn't spill. Don't over-fill biodegradable bags. Ensure waste is carefully scraped into biodegradable bags, not onto the outside of the bag or on the ground.**
- **At set times you will bring your separated waste to the Waste Management Area to be inspected. You will then be directed to dispose in the relevant large bin.**
- **Patrols that do not separate & manage their waste correctly will be penalised.**

Logbook

For 20 years, scouts in their patrols have challenged themselves, learned, and grown through this competition.

A key part of this journey is the patrol logbook – a personal and unique record of the experience. While many scouts share similar adventures, each patrol's logbook reflects their own journey, capturing the highlights and the challenges along the way.

More than just a record, the logbook allows patrols to:

- **Capture their adventure and daily activities**
- **Communicate teamwork and progress**
- **Showcase achievements**
- **Create a resource for future events and projects**

To mark this milestone year, the logbook will take on a special new format, revealed during the event.

Creativity, teamwork and storytelling will be key!

600 marks are at stake – Make it Count!

Each patrol will receive their logbook materials on Thursday.
Pre-prepared pages stuck in will receive zero marks. Expect the unexpected!

What to include:

- **Celebrating 20 Years theme**
- **Location, date, patrol name, illustrations**
- **Introduction and programme overview**
- **Daily menu and weather record**

As we celebrate 20 years of the Phoenix, your logbook will not only document your adventure but become part of a lasting scouting legacy!

Travel & Equipment

Participants & Staff

- All patrols should be registered and have their gear on site for 12:00 noon.
- Patrols should not arrive on site before 09:00 on Thursday morning.
- A traffic management system will be in place, please respect and follow the directions of the volunteer stewarding staff.
- You must park in designated areas only as directed - there will be plenty of parking space provided.

Equipment Transportation

- As with participants, patrol equipment should not arrive before 09:00 on Thursday morning.
- Patrol equipment should be transported on a trailer to the designated drop-off point. The logistics team will then transport the trailer to your designated site. *You must check in and get a tag from admin before dropping your trailer.*
- Trailers are expected to be roadworthy with a jockey wheel, a ball hitch, properly inflated tyres, a safety wire and not over laden for their intended capacity.
- All trailers should have a laminated A4 sheet displaying your team's site number. Site numbers will be issued in advance.
- Vans are prohibited from driving on site at any stage during the event.
- Patrol equipment arriving in vans will be transferred to a logistics trailer at the designated drop-off point. Teams should allow additional time for this due to the limited availability of logistic trailers.

Important to Note!

1. Patrol Registration

Registration of patrols that have qualified through their county qualification event, or through allocation of a wildcard place, will open in May. This must be completed via my.scouts. The registration deadline is the 1st July 2025. One accompanying scouter to register as part of the event booking.

2. Staff Registration & Camping

Registration for additional adult and venture staff places will open in May. This must be completed via my.scouts.ie

The deadline is the 1st July, no exceptions. All staff registering must be available for the duration of the event (13:00 Thursday - 16:00 Sunday). All staff will be allocated to a specific role and will be required for the whole event, from Thursday morning to Sunday afternoon.

All staff/accompanying scouters will be camping on site. All staff will be required to complete an induction on Thursday afternoon. In-date vetting (adults + ventures) and safeguarding training (adults only) is mandatory and will be checked by Scouting Ireland. All staff will be added to a WhatsApp group prior to the event. This will be used for communication and broadcast purposes only.

3. Patrol Site Allocation

Site Allocation will be emailed to all accompanying scouters of registered patrols pre-event. You will require this for printing your trailer tag and for check-in.

4. Food/Menu Preferences

These preferences as per the Cooking and Eating element of the event will be collected at the time of patrol registration.

5. Site Access

Access to the site will be controlled by the stewarding staff. Site is open from 09:00 on Thursday morning only. No participants should arrive before 09:00.

6. Check-in

Check-in is open from 09:30 to 11:30 on Thursday morning. The PL/WL and accompanying scouter should check-in together. Participating scouts should match the names registered via my.scouts.ie portal.

Important to Note - continued

7. Activities Consent & Managing Medications Forms

A copy of fully complete activities consent forms is required for each scout participant and venture staff. These will be collected via email in advance of the event. Accompanying scouters should keep a copy for themselves also. Managing medications is the responsibility of the accompanying scouters, please talk to admin staff at check-in.

8. Wednesday Night Camping

Patrols cannot arrive on site before Thursday. If it is your preference to arrive in Limerick on Wednesday night, Castleconnell and Curraghchase campsites are nearby to the site

9. Uniform Requirements

Full and correct Scouting Ireland uniform must be worn at the Closing Ceremony only. Scouts are NOT required to arrive in uniform. Uniforms should always be onsite over the course of the weekend where they will be inspected.

10. Event Completion Time

The closing ceremony is scheduled for 14:30 on Sunday.

11. Subcamp Staff

Your Subcamp staff team are there to help you - if you require any information on any of the activities over the course of the weekend, ask the staff - if they don't know the answer they'll find out. If you need anything, or have forgotten anything, see your Subcamp Chief.

12. Patrol Property

All property, both personal and patrol, is entirely the responsibility of the team members. No responsibility will be taken by the event team.

13. First Aid & Hospital Trips

The first aid team is composed of trained and experienced scouters. In the event a participant requires medical treatment, is it the responsibility of their scout group to cover any costs incurred. This can be claimed back through Scouting Ireland insurance via the normal channels. The accompanying scouter for each patrol MUST be available to accompany a participant to the hospital in such an event.

If, for any reason, the accompanying scouter expects that they will not be available for a period over the event, they should not register to attend this event.

Important to Note - continued

14. Scout Knives

Standard scout pen knives are preferred. Fixed blade knives (e.g. Mora) are permitted with the following rules:

• NO carrying of fixed blade knives on your person.

• Fixed blade knives must be stored in a patrol box or bag and taken out only when in use.

15. Site Layout Signs

Each site will be marked with a wooden board displaying the site number (e.g. R3) and group name. These signs are NOT to be removed under any circumstances.

16. Gas Cookers

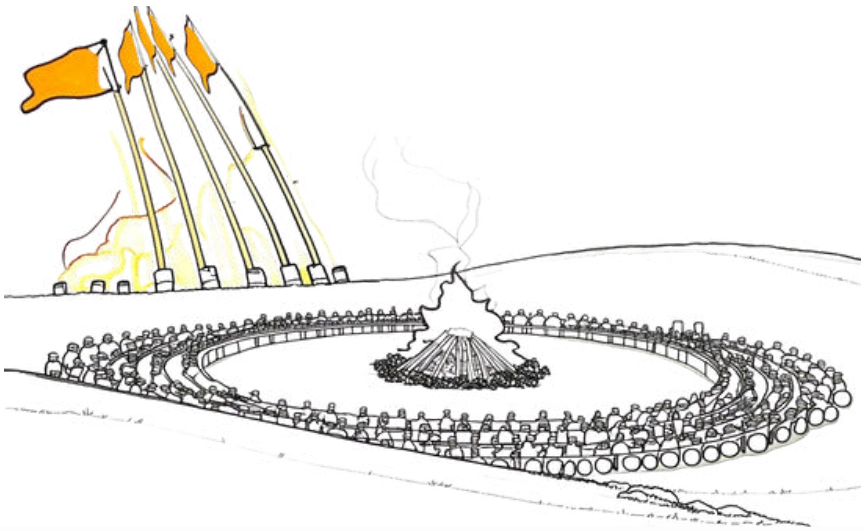
Scouters are reminded to make sure the gas cooker used by the patrol in is good working order and that the hose linking the cooker to the gas bottle is within regulations - not more than 5 years old and has no visible cracks or damage to it. Knobs should be checked to ensure that they work. Otherwise, cookers will be deemed unsuitable for use on inspection by the Cooking & Eating team.

17. Alter Fire Location

The position of the Altar fire will be dictated. Altar fires must be at the front of the site in either the left or right corner, to coincide with a neighbouring patrol. If unsure, please ask your sub camp staff. Patrols need to be prepared to flip their site layout.

18. Live animals

Please note that live animals are not permitted on the Phoenix Challenge.

19. Further Information & Resources

All patrols should read the information pack and any additional resources released between now and the event. See our social media channels for the One Drive link.