

First Year Troop Guide

2024



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Who's Who?

Reservation Director

Jonathan DiLuglio, the Reservation Director, oversees all three camps and everything that happens on the reservation. He is the person with whom you made your initial campsite reservation and sent you all communications prior to the start of camp. Each of the three Camp Directors has a direct line of communication with the Reservation Director and can reach him when needed.

Camp Directors

Here at Camp Yawgoog, we have three Camp Directors to go along with each of the three camps. Patrick Dalton is our Three Point Camp Director, Matthew Limongelli is our Medicine Bow Camp Director, and Steven Renfree is our Sandy Beach Camp Director. You will have the chance to meet your Camp Director Sunday night at your Camp Director/Scoutmaster meeting. In the event you cannot find your Program Commissioner or have an emergency, the Camp Director would be your best person to go to. They can typically be found in each camp's respective camp office.

Program Commissioner

You may recognize the titles Program Director and Commissioner. Your Program Commissioner (PC) is our version of the Commissioner. However, you will have a much closer relationship with them than at other scout camps. Your scheduling, visitations, information and problem solving will happen with and from your PC. Your PC will check you in to your camp site on Sunday, work with your troop throughout the week, and check you out of your site the following Sunday. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments throughout the week, your PC will be more than willing to accommodate your troop in any way possible. They are members of the camp administration teams and offer a direct line of communication to the Camp Director.

Center Director

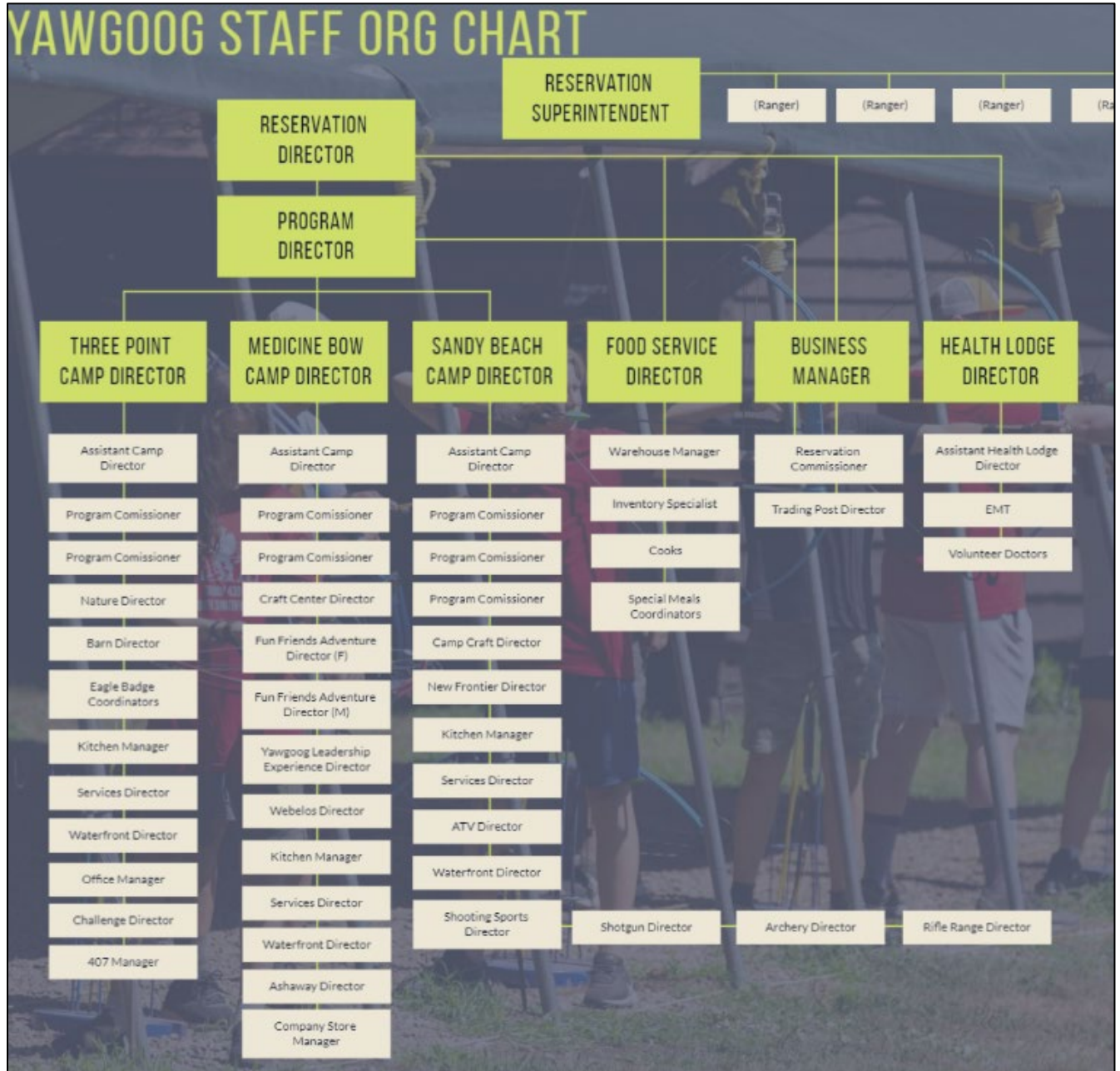
A center director is someone who runs a program center. Whether it be the waterfront, the archery range, or the challenge center, each center has a manager. If you have any issues or questions at a specific program center, they are the person who would be most able to help you.

Rangers

Our ranger team at camp oversees the maintenance and facilities of the reservation. They are led by our Reservation Superintendent John Vuono. In the case of any facility concerns, our rangers are happy to help. You can notify either your program commissioner or the Camp Director and they will contact the ranger team.

Staff Hierarchy

This graphic is a visualization of the staff hierarchy at camp, and indicates which departments belong to which camps



Safety Procedures

Dining Hall Evacuation Procedures

In order to be compliant with Rhode Island's Laws, every Dining Hall has a list of "Evacuation Procedures." It is the duty of the staff and the troops to ensure that the scouts know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Daily Campsite Visitations

Campsite visitations take place Monday through Friday. Your site will be visited by your PC to check the cleanliness and well-being of the campsite. Each visitation will earn a resulting rank in accordance with the appearance of the site. These ranks are First class being the best, followed by second class, and finally tenderfoot. It is up to the PC whether or not a campsite will merit a first class, second class, or tenderfoot rank. Campsite visitations affect Troop of the Week, as two second class visitations will make you ineligible for honor troop, and one tenderfoot rating will also make you ineligible for honor troop as well. The things your PC will be looking for are the condition of the campsite and any trash or debris. They will also whether the fireplace area is acceptable with a fire already built in it and that the fire buckets are full and topped off. A major requirement for every visitation is to ensure that your fireguard chart is signed daily, *if this is not done, then the visitation will be given a second-class rating*, at best. Your PC will also check your bathroom and the appearance and cleanliness of it. Lastly it will be required that everyone's personal gear at the campsite be in neat order and that all tent flaps are rolled (unless it has rained recently).

Mobilization

A mobilization will be used in case of an emergency. In the event of a mobilization, the Bucklin and Dining Hall sirens will sound for at least 30 seconds, at which time all scouts will be dismissed from program activities reservation wide and will be asked to return to their campsites. We then ask that Scoutmasters please take attendance and keep all scouts within the site. Once attendance has been taken, please send two fast walkers to the Dining Hall to report whether the troop is all present or missing scouts. In the event your troop is missing a scout, please present the name of the scout upon giving attendance. In the event of a severe storm mobilization the Dining Hall and Bucklin sirens will still sound for 30 seconds, and your PC will come to your campsite and have your entire troop gather and report to your dining hall.

First Day at Camp

Check In Procedure

Bucklin Check In

The first thing you should do upon arriving at Yawgoog for your week at camp is check in at the Bucklin Memorial Building. Only the scoutmaster needs to check in at the Bucklin. There, you will meet with one of the staff in the office to go over any payment / questions. You will receive both your incentive hats as well and your adult leader wristbands. Once the staff give you the all clear and it is your designated arrival time, you may move down to your campsite. Check-in is staggered arrival for troops and begins at 12:00pm on Sunday.

Campsite Check In

Your Program Commissioner will visit sometime after your arrival to go through a simple check-in procedure and review important upcoming events and times. During this visit, your PC will be checking over your campsite for any pre-existing damage so you will not be charged for it during the end-of-week check-out.

Swim Qualifications and Picture Times

Swim qualification and picture times are a part of our first day schedule. You will be notified of these times prior to your arrival. Please try your best to arrive on time for your swim qualification and picture times, as they are structured to allow every troop in camp to go through the process. Swim qualifications are mandatory for scouts looking to use the waterfront at camp. Outside swim tests will be accepted if there is the proper BSA documentation. Photos are taken either at the J. Harold Williams Amphitheater (Three Point), Lower Rooster Field (Medicine Bow), or Sandy Beach Flagpole for each camp respectively. In the case of inclement weather, photos will be taken in the dining hall.

Orientation Meal

Sunday night will be our first camp meal. This first meal will not match the timeframe compared to the rest of the week, 5:55 flag lowering, and 6:00pm start. Waiters will not be required for this meal. Prior to food being served, your respective Camp Director and Services Director will go over the policies and procedures of both the camp and the dining hall.

Waterfront Orientation

Directly following the meal will be your waterfront orientation at your respective dining hall. This is a mandatory event. Here, the staff will go over the safety procedures at the waterfront.

Reservation Director/Scoutmaster Meeting

At 7:15, the Reservation Director will hold a mandatory meeting for all scoutmasters at the Medicine Bow Amphitheater (or inside the Medicine Bow dining hall in case of inclement weather). This will be the final meeting of the day, but it is certainly the most important, as the Reservation Director will go over the overall camp policies and procedures.

Welcome Campfire

To cap off the first day, each individual camp will hold their own Welcome Campfire. Attendance at this campfire is mandatory for both troop of the week and honor troop consideration. The staff from the various departments within each camp will put on skits and songs that correlate with the weekly theme, which can be found here: www.yawgoog.org/troops

Program at Camp

Troop of the Week

While Yawgoog offers a variety of merit badges, the extracurricular program revolves around a troop of the week competition in each of the three camps. Troops are evaluated in a variety of different capacities, including performance in troop activities, service, campsite cleanliness, and spirit. The administration team for each camp will keep score throughout the week and announce the winner on Saturday morning, at the last meal of the week.

Start of Program and Schedule

A phrase that you may consistently hear while at camp is that “Yawgoog comes alive.” This refers to the start of Program. Yawgoog comes alive at 9:00 AM on Monday. From that point forward, scouts will attend their selected merit badges and programs.

Merit Badges

Our merit badge program is designed to provide Scouts with an in-depth understanding of the topic of choice. With 49 to choose from, the scouts will have no shortage of options. You can find the whole schedule at <https://www.yawgoog.org/meritbadges> If a scout wants to, they are able to change merit badges at any time (with the understanding that they will receive a partial in any class they did not fully attend or partake in make-up classes).

Open Program Time

Here at Yawgoog, we value open program just as much as the merit badge program. This includes free shoot, free swim, and free climb! Each department has their own time for when these activities are available, as indicated here:

Free Shoot: 10:30am-12:00pm, 3:30pm-5:00pm, 7:00pm-8:00pm

Free Swim: 10:30am-12:00pm, 3:30pm-5:00pm

Free Climb: 7:00pm-8:00pm

On top of these three favorites, other program centers also offer open program. Scouts can complete any project at the craft center they would like, so long as they have an orientation. Boating is also available at any time with an orientation. The nature center also has a variety of displays for scouts to check out in their free time. It is the official recommendation of Yawgoog Scout Reservation that scouts leave at least one open slot in their schedule, as it will allow them to enjoy all that camp has to offer.

Record Tracking

Merit badge and advancement records will be kept for easy access on Black Pug.

Program Highlight Sheet

In addition to merit badges and open program, our staff put on a variety of events to complement our instructional program. These activities are scattered throughout the week and have a large impact on determining our troop of the week for each camp. www.yawgoog.org/troops

Troop Activities

Troop activities are optional, but highly encouraged, events that individual units can sign up for during the week. These range from time on our inflatable obstacle course, Adventure Island, to our high ropes course at the Challenge Center. You can find the whole list of options in the leader's guide, or www.yawgoog.org/troops. To schedule your troop activity, you can submit your preferences prior to camp through Black Pug. From there, your Program Commissioner will confirm your schedule upon arrival. If there are more activities that you would like to add, you have the ability to add them throughout the course of the week! Just let your Program Commissioner know what you would like to add, and they will do their best to schedule you for the activity.

Camp Songs

During meals, you will find that many of the scouts and staff like to sing. Depending on the camp you stay at, you will have a different song and cheer to help show your camp pride:

Camp Three Point Song & Cheer

We're all glad that we are here,

So for Three Point- let's give a cheer!!!!

We're all here to have some fun

So in Scouting and Three Point we are one -

HEY – HEY - HEY

BOOM-CHICKA-BOOM BOOM-CHICKA-BOOM

BOOM-CHICKA BOOM-CHICKA...BOOM-BOOM

WAH-O-WAH, WAH-O-WAH

THREE POINT- THREE POINT RAH-RAH-RAH: YEAHH!!

POINT!! POINT!!! LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE POINT! WOOOOOO!!

POINT-POINT PO POINT BANANA-NANA FO FOINT

FEE-FIE-FO-FOINT POINT- WOOOOOO!!!

SHHH, SHHH, SHHH-WOOOOOO!! WOOOOOO!!! YEAH!!

Camp Medicine Bow Song & Cheer

Oh, I'm a hayseed. My hair is seaweed.

And my ears and made of leather, and they flop in rainy weather.

Gosh oh Hemlock, I'm tough as a pine knot.

For I come from Medicine Bow, can't you see.

HEY HEY, BOW FOR THE BOW.

RAH RAH, BOW FOR THE BOW.

RAH RAH, HOORAH, HOORAH,

MEDICINE BOW, RAH RAH RAH

YEA!!

Sandy Beach Song & Cheer

Pack up your duffle, Hustle up to Sandy,

Smile, Smile, Smile!

HAVE A BANANA!

Laughs are the style, and the skies are blue,

That's the place for U! HEY!

What's the use of wondering?

There's none can reach the BEACH

So, Hustle up your duffle up, your fun will double up.

At Sandy Beach. HEY!

Ta-Da Ta-Da Ta-Da Ta-Da

Ti-Boom Ti-Boom Ti-Boom, HEY!

Sandy Beach, RAH RAH

Sandy Beach, RAH RAH

HOO-RAH HOO-RAH

Sandy Beach, RAH RAH RAH, YEAH!

FAQs

Q: How do we plan around the theme of the week?

A: Troops can incorporate the weekly theme around almost any aspect of camp. We encourage you to be creative. From decorating your campsite with a giant spaceship, to dressing up as a dinosaur for the costume contest. The weekly theme and highlights sheet feature the main events and activities for the week for troops to feature and participate in them based on the weekly theme. The bake off is a great time, which allows scouts to create something that looks, tastes, and smells like the weekly theme.

Q: Are scouts expected to fill all of their time slots with merit badges?

A: Definitely not! We want scouts to get to experience all that Yawgoog has to offer, that includes both open programming and merit badges. Our recommendation is to leave either the 10:30 to 12 or 3:30 to 5 slot open for scouts to explore camp and try different activities. This will allow for your unit to sign up for troop activities that everyone can attend.

Q: How can we give feedback?

A: There are multiple ways to provide feedback to camp. If there is something you would like to or need to share prior to the end of your week at camp, you can either email campyawgoog@scouting.org or speak directly to your Camp Director. We encourage units to bring up any issues they may have, as our staff will work to address any concerns. At the end of the week, each troop also is asked to fill out a comment sheet to help us better improve the camping experience for both the rest of the summer and next year.

Q: If I add scouts after the final payment is there a late fee?

A: No. Our goal is to get kids to camp. We understand that sometimes parents and scouts are undecided. Let us know as soon as you know so we can plan accordingly and update your newest numbers in the Update Troop Roster section.

Q: Is it too late to add scouts to camp?

A: It is never too late to add scouts. You can add them right up to the Sunday you arrive. Please let us know as soon as you can and we will make sure your site is ready.

Q: Can I pay the final Troop payments online?

A: Yes, with Black Pug you will be able to pay online!

Q: When should we arrive at camp on Sunday?

A: We will be staggering arrival time. This will be scheduled after the final payment packet has been processed after it's due date of 30 days prior to camp. Arrival times start at 3:30pm on Sunday.

Q: Can a parent stay at the Webelos Outdoor Adventure?

A: As long as the parent is registered with the Pack and has a current Youth Protection Training Cert. They will register online as well.

Q: When will I hear back about my scout's campership?

A: Camperships will be processed through Black Pug on each individual registration.

Q: When can parents visit?

A: Visiting hours at camp start at 9:00am and we ask that all visitors are out of camp by Taps (9:30 PM). We ask that you check in at the Bucklin Memorial building before you venture out to camp. All visitors are required to wear a wristband to be given at check-in.

Q: Do you have special accommodations for scouts that need assistance?

A: We believe that every scout should have the opportunity to come to camp and want to work to make that possible! We have facilities designed to accommodate handicap scouts. Please communicate any special accommodation-based needs to campyawgoog@scouting.org.

Q: What does Yawgoog do about food allergies?

A: It's important that Scouts have the opportunity to come to camp, and dietary restrictions shouldn't prohibit that from happening. Our staff are properly trained to handle your dietary needs. We even have menus for Vegetarian and Gluten Free Diets. Diet Requests will be input

Q: Can any Scout attend camp on their own?

A: Yes, as long as they are a registered Scout they can sign up to be part of a provisional unit at camp.

Q: Is there a discount for BSA National high Adventure camps?

A: Yes, we offer a \$100 discount for any Scout attending Sea Base, Philmont, Northern Tier or the Summit. You can enter the number of scouts attending one of these on the final payment worksheet. Proper documentation is required with your final payment.

Q: What is the Sibling discount?

A: EACH sibling will receive a \$50 discount for attending Yawgoog. This discount does not apply to the Yawgoog Leadership Experience or an additional week at camp. It does apply to siblings attending Webelos and/or Troop Camping.

Q: What can I do other than Merit Badges?

Chances are there's always something else to do! We have two sets of ATVs that you can sign up to become certified to ride! Explore some of the hiking trails you've never tried. There's a self-guided nature trail, and more available at the Nature Center. Free shoot sessions are available at all 3 ranges! Climb away at challenge. Don't forget to check out the inflatable obstacle course on the water known as Adventure Island!

Q: Who can I reach out to if I have any questions?

A: Please email campyawgoog@scouting.org or call 401-539-2311