BYLAWS
TROOP 832

GENERAL

Summary
These by-laws are guidelines for all youth and adult members of Troop 832. Troop 832 is charted by the Rotary Club of Walnut Creek and operates in accordance with the policies of the Briones District, Mount Diablo Silverado Council and Scouts, BSA.

Purpose
Troop 832 and Scouts, BSA exist to provide youth a fun and effective program designed to enact the mission and vision statements of Scouts, BSA

Eligibility
Membership in Troop 832 is available to all youth who willingly accept the tenets of the Scout Oath and Law; who have completed the fifth grade, or are at least 11 years old, or have earned their Arrow of Light. All youth remain eligible until their 18th birthday.

Principles
All registered scouts must abide by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Inclusion
All youth that meet the Eligibility and Principles above are welcome in Troop 832. There is no basis for exclusion by race, gender, sexual orientation, religion or lack thereof. Troop 832 has adopted a nondiscrimination policy and is a registered member of Scouts for Equality.

Application
Youth apply to Troop 832 by completing an official application with their parents, and submitting the application to the Scoutmaster. A youth becomes a member of Troop 832 when they have paid the required fees and their application is approved by the Scoutmaster

Prospective Members
Any youth interested in joining Troop 832 are encouraged to attend Troop meetings or Troop recruitment activities. The youth's parent or den leader must accompany the youth and must sign any required permission slips or waivers.

FINANCE

Fees
Troop 832 charges fees as described below. All checks should be made payable to "Troop 832".

- Registration Fee: This annual fee is used to cover the costs of registering the troop charter with Mount Diablo Silverado Council. This fee is passed by Troop 832 directly to Mount Diablo Silverado Council as is used to fund council and national BSA programs. This fee is due every October.
- Troop Fee: This annual fee is used to cover the costs of various Troop 832 expenses as well as providing new scouts with a membership packet, Neckerchief, and Scout Handbook. This fee is due every October.
- Special Fees: Youth will be charged for some of the Troop's special events such as camping and activities. These fees pay for activity reservations, event patches and food for meals. These costs are announced prior to their respective event.

Financial Assistance
Troop 832 is committed to providing scouting to any youth who wants to join, regardless of family financial situations. Any scout or parent may request financial assistance regarding the above fees by contacting the Scoutmaster. Requests will be handled discreetly by the Scoutmaster.

Scout Fund
Scouts may earn money through Troop 832 approved fundraising events like Popcorn Sales, Christmas Wreath Sales, Pancake Breakfasts, Car Washes, etc. This money will be credited to the youth's Scout Fund by the Troop Treasurer. The funds may be used for dues, registration fees, campout or summer camp fees, equipment, uniforms or other scout related expenses. If a scout transfers to another troop or leaves scouting, the treasurer will return the funds to them if a written request is received within 30 days of the next Troop recharter. If no request is made within this period the scout forfeits the balance of their scout fund to the Troop.

PROGRAM

Annual Planning
Troop 832 conducts 2 annual planning sessions each year. These sessions review the planned activities for the current year, plan the activities for the following year, and review the current bylaws. A calendar with meetings and planned activities will be presented to the committee for approval along with any changes to the bylaws. Upon approval the calendar and bylaws will be published to the Troop.

Meetings
During the Mount Diablo School District school year, Troop 832 meets Tuesdays from 7pm to 8:32pm in the Library or Staff Lounge of Northgate Highschool. During the summer, Troop 832 meets Tuesdays from 6:30pm to 8pm at the Woodlands Cabana Club. Exceptions to this will be announced in advance of the meeting

Courts of Honor
Approximately 3 times a year, Troop 832 will hold a Court of Honor. At this special meeting, advancement, merit badges, and recognitions are awarded. Families and special guests are strongly encouraged to attend all Courts of Honor.

Camping Trips
Camping is a vital ingredient of scouting and Troop 832 will camp frequently with a minimum 9 campouts planned each year.

Other Activities
Troop 832 will conduct or participate in many special activities during the year. Examples of these are events for fun (Zoo outing), community service (Scouting for Food), fundraising (Spaghetti Dinners), or for education (Exploratorium). Generally a scout and an adult will organize the event and publish information to include date, time, overall plan, equipment, cost, and participation guidelines.

Uniforms
Scouts and Scouters in Troop 832 wear two uniforms as described below. The Scoutmaster or Senior Patrol Leader will announce the uniform prior to each event or activity.

- Scout Uniform (Class A): Consists of the official Scout shirt with all badges and insignia; neckerchief with slide and scout pants or shorts. Optional items include cap, socks or merit badge sash Every month, the meetings on the 2nd and 4th week should be attended in Scout Uniform.
- Activity Uniform (Class B): Consists of either the Troop T-Shirt or Scout related T-Shirt. Optional items include a cap, official scout pants or shorts and official socks.

Advancement
To be eligible for any rank, the Scout must meet the requirements specified in the current official Boy Scout Handbook. Any scout that has earned the rank of First Class and received approval from the Scoutmaster can sign off any requirements for the ranks below their current designation. Any trained scouter that has received approval from the Scoutmaster can also sign off on rank advancements.

Scoutmaster Conference
A scout may request a scoutmaster conference at any time to discuss their current scouting situation. A scoutmaster conference for rank advancement must be requested after satisfying all requirements for a particular rank as listed in the Scout Handbook. Scout uniforms are encouraged for Scoutmaster Conferences.

Board of Review
A scout may request a board of review at any time to discuss the current scouting program. A board of review for advancement may only take place after completing a scoutmaster conference for their current rank advancement. Board of reviews will be conducted by at least 3 registered adult scouters that are not part of the Scoutmaster leadership. Board of reviews take approximately 30 minutes and will normally be held during normal troop meetings, except those for Eagle rank. Scout uniforms are encouraged for Board of Reviews.

Leadership
Troop elections occur twice a year. The troop elects a Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) and may also elect the Quartermaster, Scribe, Librarian, Historian, Chaplain Aide and Webmaster. The Senior Patrol Leader appoints the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader(s) and any remaining positions with the Scoutmaster's approval. Each Patrol elects their own Patrol Leader who may then appoint the Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Scribe, Patrol Quartermaster and Patrol Grubmaster. Any scout who is deemed to be neglecting their leadership duty may be replaced by the Senior Patrol Leader, except for Patrol Leaders. Patrols without proper leadership may hold a new election with the Senior Patrol Leader's approval.

- Scouts eligible to run for Senior Patrol Leader must be at least First Class ranked or at least 13 years old

Permission Slips
Prior to participating in any activities other than troop or patrol meetings, scouts will have a complete and signed permission slip submitted to the adult leadership. Any individual that wishes to attend an event as is not registered with Scouts, BSA must also submit a completed and signed waiver of liability.

Medical Records
Prior to participating in any physical activities, scouts and scouters will submit a Scouts, BSA official Annual Health and Medical Record to the adult leadership. Any activity lasting over 72 hours requires a doctor's signature on section "C" of the Annual Health and Medical Record.

Safety

- No scout may carry a knife or axe of any kind until they have received the "Totin' Chip".
- No scout may start, maintain or be firewarden for a campfire until they have received the "Fire'n Chit"
- Prior to participating in any water activity, each Scout must demonstrate their ability to swim. No Scout may operate a boat or canoe alone and each Scout will wear a life jacket when they are in a boat, canoe, or any watercraft.
- Scouts will wear helmets when riding bicycles
- Scouts must use the buddy system at all troop activities.
- All rules in the Safe Guide to Scouting will be adhered too.

Equipment Restrictions

- No Weapons, other than knives. Knives will not be brought to meetings at any schools.
- No Fireworks or explosives.
- No non-scouting related electronics, such as video game systems, audio players, video players, etc. without specific permission from the Scoutmaster
- Cell phones may be used for scouting purposes only.

Behavior
All Scouts will behave in accordance with the principles of the Scout Law. The Scoutmaster may expel from a meeting or activity any Scout for misbehavior or endangering the safety of others. In serious or repeated cases, the Scoutmaster may request the committee to suspend or terminate the membership of a Scout.

Expected Participation
Troop 832 encourages participation in sports, music and other extracurricular activities as long as a best effort is made to attend troop activities. However, the scout is expected to attend the following events:

- Courts of Honor
- Elections
- Troop Challenge or Camporee as chosen by SPL

Recruitment
Every year the troop will run at least three recruiting outings. Scouts are expected to participate in multiple recruitment activities as this helps our Troop grow not only in size but in the activities we choose to do throughout the year.

Ceremonies
Troop 832 has several traditional ceremonies;

- Cub Scout Pack Bridging
- Court of Honor
- Meeting Closing
- Leadership Installation

These ceremonies may be changed or updated with a vote from the Patrol Leaders Council and approval of the Scoutmaster.

Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)
The Patrol Leaders Council consists of the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leaders, Scribe, and Troop Guide. The PLC meets monthly and on occasion briefly after a troop meeting. Any scouts in leadership positions are encouraged to attend the PLC. All scouts are welcome at the PLC

Patrols
When possible, patrols will consist of 6 - 10 active scouts.
First year scouts will join a new scout patrol and be lead by the Troop Guide. After 1 year or achieving First Class rank, the scout will transition to a standard patrol.
Patrols can be dissolved or created with Senior Patrol Leader approval at a PLC.
An individual scout can requests a patrol transfer from the Senior Patrol Leader.
Patrols may meet for their own activities outside the regular troop meetings and activities with Scoutmaster approval.
The Senior Patrol Leader has authority to make exemptions to these rules at a PLC.

ADULTS

Adult Eligibility
Adult leadership is available to anyone who volunteers and meets the requirements for adult leaders by Scouts, BSA. The Troop reserves the right to set additional requirements as necessary with the approval of the chartered organization. All adult volunteers must be approved by the Troop Committee Chair and the Chartered Organization Representative.

Committee
At a minimum, the Troop will select adults to fill the positions of Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Quartermaster and Advancements Coordinator. The Rotary Club of Walnut Creek will appoint a Chartered Organization Representative. Other leadership positions will be announced and filled as necessary. Assistant Leaders have the full authority of the primary leader in that person's absence.
The committee will pre-approve all Troop activities and all expenditure of funds. Troop adult leaders will not obligate funds or committee troop involvement without the authority of the Troop Committee
The committee meets once a month on the second Tuesday during the Troop meeting.

Committee Membership
All registered leaders and all Scout parents/guardians are "committee members" and are encouraged to attend all committee meetings.

Quorum
The Committee will conduct business and vote only when at least five registered committee members are present, including at least two of the following leaders: Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, or Treasurer

Voting
All committee members have 1 and only 1 vote, regardless of the number of positions held by the committee member. Any vote with a majority vote is considered "approved"

Fiscal Year
The Troop's fiscal year is defined as January through December

Budget
The Troop Treasurer will maintain a budget that identifies projected income and expenses for the fiscal year. The committee will approve the budget at the beginning of the fiscal year. The budget provides general guidance only; it does not authorize anyone to spend money

Receipts
Receipts are needed for all Troop expenses; all receipts will be turned over to the Troop Treasurer.

Awards Purchase
The advancement coordinator has blanket authority to purchase advancement awards approved by the Scoutmaster without need for committee approval.

Special Meetings
The Troop committee may convene special meetings to conduct business. Such meetings include annual Troop planning conference, planning sessions for special events, or financial review meetings
The Troop Leadership may convene special meetings to review and plan scout events and training. Such meetings include Scoutmaster planning, Senior Patrol Leader Training, Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops.

Youth Protection Training
All participating adults will complete Youth Protection Training at a minimum of every two years.

Leadership Training
Adult Leadership will have the necessary training to ensure safe and fun activities. This includes but is not limited to, Hazardous Weather Training for all outdoor activities, Climb on Safety for rock climbing activities, Safe Swim Defense for water activities and Safety Afloat for water craft activities.

Record of Approval

These bylaws were approved by the committee on August 13, 2019