

Welcome!



Troop 219 Fort Mill, SC St. Philip Neri

Scoutmaster: Will Behrmann, willbehrmann@hotmail.com

Committee Chair: Jeff Perrone, imperrone1@yahoo.com

New Member Coordinator: Melissa Keefer, melissakeefer5@gmail.com

*Visit us on
the web!*



www.troopwebhost.org/Troop219FortMill





TROOP 219

St. Philip Neri Catholic Church

Ian Keefe, ASM
(803) 280-5348 home/cell
safetydad@gmail.com
ian.keefe@atotech.com

Dear Prospective Scout, Parents & Scouters;

You may ask "Why should we join the Boy Scouts of America? Like with most extracurricular activities, the Boy Scouts of America is a program designed to challenge your son's ability. It is a program that helps to build character, teamwork, strength, honor and many of the values desired in a young man. The Scouting program, in my opinion, does this much more effectively than most. Where many extracurricular programs focus on just one aspect such as athletics, or mental ability; the scouting program accomplishes these and more by providing a program that explores the outdoors, challenges the mind, gives back to the community, visits new places and more. The scouting program takes pride in introducing Scouts to a vast array of programs from video game design, to SCUBA diving, to space exploration, to citizenship. These programs may spark an interest, or a new hobby or even a new career path where a scout may not have had the opportunity before. Not to mention having FUN. Scouting is truly a program that has something to offer to everyone. It will introduce and challenge your scout in the outdoors. Whether an expert or novice, through activities such as camping, backpacking and hiking we will show your scout things they may have never seen or done before. In my time as both a Scoutmaster and as an adult scouter (leader), I have seen scouts fly planes, get dirty, build bridges, laugh, launch rockets, sweat, climb mountains, eat, excel in school, smile, hike the Grand Canyon, frown, deep sea fish, run, earn scholarships, play and so much more.

In my opinion as an Eagle Scout and lifelong scout & scouter, you will not find another program that has as much to offer your son as the Boy Scouts of America (nor for the price). BUT the most important thing that I have seen from EACH & EVERY Scout as they go through the BSA program is to watch them grow from a boy into a mature, responsible young man. The program has changes the lives of everyone who joins the program. Some changes you will see now and some you will not see for years.

If you are interested in Troop 219, we meet on Monday nights. The meetings start at 7pm sharp and end at 8:30 pm. Boys are expected to be prepared and to attend all meetings; however we understand that conflicts with sports, academics, and other extracurricular activities will also interfere. In those cases please keep an eye on the website and email for announcements and activities.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need more information. I can be reached at safetydad@gmail.com, ian.keefe@atotech.com or (803) 817-3613 office, (803) 280-5348 home/cell.

Sincerely,

Ian Keefe
Assistant Scoutmaster



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 219 · Fort Mill, SC

Expectations and Information

This information contains the Troop's expectations for all Scouts and Parents/Guardians.

Membership	<p>Troop 219, as a unit of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), is open to all boys age 11 to 17 years regardless of religious affiliation, race, or creed. Boys who earned Arrow of Light can join at 10 years old, and those who completed the fifth grade can join at 10 ½ years old.</p> <p>Each new Scout or adult leader is required by BSA to complete an official BSA Youth or Adult Application.</p>												
Fees	<p>Troop 219 will not limit a Scout's participation due to financial need. If financial assistance is needed, parents/guardians should contact the Troop Committee Chair to discuss options.</p> <p>Below is the fee schedule for Troop 219:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="349 789 1539 1236"> <thead> <tr> <th>Timing</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Purpose</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>When Join Troop</td> <td>\$75</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This new-Scout fee goes to the troop to provide the new Scout with a current BSA Handbook, name tag, troop neckerchief, troop numerals patch, patrol emblem, troop carry bag, and troop t-shirt. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>When Join Troop</td> <td>\$102 Scout \$45 adult</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSA annual registration fee (does not go to troop) – for registration, insurance and Scout's Life subscription. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Beginning of Every Year After Joining Troop</td> <td>\$270 (2023 rate)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This annual fundraising fee covers the costs to run the troop and for most activities. \$102 of this fee is the BSA annual registration fee, which is waived if Scout is already registered with the BSA in the same year. The amount of this fee varies based on the yearly budget and operating expenses. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The troop annual budget / financial report is available upon request from the Troop Committee Chair.</p>	Timing	Amount	Purpose	When Join Troop	\$75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This new-Scout fee goes to the troop to provide the new Scout with a current BSA Handbook, name tag, troop neckerchief, troop numerals patch, patrol emblem, troop carry bag, and troop t-shirt. 	When Join Troop	\$102 Scout \$45 adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSA annual registration fee (does not go to troop) – for registration, insurance and Scout's Life subscription. 	Beginning of Every Year After Joining Troop	\$270 (2023 rate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This annual fundraising fee covers the costs to run the troop and for most activities. \$102 of this fee is the BSA annual registration fee, which is waived if Scout is already registered with the BSA in the same year. The amount of this fee varies based on the yearly budget and operating expenses.
Timing	Amount	Purpose											
When Join Troop	\$75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This new-Scout fee goes to the troop to provide the new Scout with a current BSA Handbook, name tag, troop neckerchief, troop numerals patch, patrol emblem, troop carry bag, and troop t-shirt. 											
When Join Troop	\$102 Scout \$45 adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSA annual registration fee (does not go to troop) – for registration, insurance and Scout's Life subscription. 											
Beginning of Every Year After Joining Troop	\$270 (2023 rate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This annual fundraising fee covers the costs to run the troop and for most activities. \$102 of this fee is the BSA annual registration fee, which is waived if Scout is already registered with the BSA in the same year. The amount of this fee varies based on the yearly budget and operating expenses. 											
Chartered Organization	<p>Troop 219 is chartered through St. Philip Neri Catholic Church located at 292 Munn Road in Fort Mill, South Carolina.</p> <p>A Scout does not need to be Catholic, a member of the Saint Philip Neri Parish, or other Catholic Church to join Troop 219.</p> <p>All eligible boys are welcome.</p>												
Parental Involvement	<p>Your parental involvement is critical to the benefit your son receives from the Scouting program. Without parents, the Scouts will be limited in the activities and advancement available.</p> <p>Scout meetings are always open to all family members as long as they are not disruptive to the meeting. Parents are strongly encouraged to be VERY active in their son's Scouting path.</p> <p>It is highly recommended that at least one parent volunteer to help the troop in some form, whether it be as an Assistant Scoutmaster, Committee Member, Merit Badge Counselor, or in one of many roles needed to provide a quality program for the Scouts. For any parents joining in a volunteer capacity, training and guidance will be provided to ensure that volunteers have a strong foundation and support system in whatever capacity they wish to serve.</p> <p>Parents may be needed to transport Scouts to activities and chaperone at campouts and other activities. This is to maintain the BSA two-deep adult leadership requirements.</p> <p>There are many ways to participate, just ask!</p>												



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Troop 219 · Fort Mill, SC

Funding and Fundraising	<p>The troop does not receive any funding from the United Way or any other source. The money given to organizations such as the United Way for distribution to the BSA is used at the council and district levels. This requires the troop to collect a fundraising fee to operate the troop, replenish equipment, and provide supplies.</p> <p>The Troop Fundraising Committee, under the direction of the Troop Committee Chair, offers several fundraisers during the calendar year to provide a source to pay the FRF. The individual proceeds from these events are directed to the Scout's Individual Scout Account (ISA). All money deposited to the Scout's ISA through fundraising activities are available to use for Scouting purposes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual FRF• Summer camp fee• Outdoor and camping gear (boots, packs, tents, etc.)• Uniform and Scouting-related clothing• Weekend camping food costs <p>Annual fundraising programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BSA Annual Popcorn sales• Camp Card sales• Other activities as determined by the Fundraising Committee <p>**All monetary donations to the troop may be tax deductible and the troop can provide a printed receipt on troop letterhead for such. Please consult your tax advisor for complete rules on whether your donations are actually tax deductible.</p>
Troop Webpage and Email	<p>The troop operates a website for communicating troop information. The website should be checked at least weekly. New information is added to the site regularly. Every Friday, an e-blast is sent via email to share important troop information. This will include new content added to the website and announcements of any upcoming events. It is very important to have everyone's correct email address to ensure delivery of this eblast. The website location is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• www.troopwebhost.org/Troop219FortMill• User name and password will be provided upon payment of fees. <p>The troop also has a few email lists that will be used to distribute information to specific troop groups. If you don't receive e-blasts or emails from the troop, please check your spam settings or junk mail in your email program. Emails from the troop website will end in the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• XXXXXXXX@troopwebhost.org <p>Troop email and website are to be used solely for the purposes of communicating and coordinating BSA- related activities and messages. Scouts and families are not to use this for personal gain or business purposes.</p>



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 219 · Fort Mill, SC

Meetings	<p>The troop meets every Monday night throughout the year, with the only exception typically being the Monday during summer camp. In the event of a meeting change, it will be communicated to all Scouts and Scouters via the website and email.</p> <p>Patrols may elect to hold additional meetings or activities outside of the troop schedule. These will be subject to the same guidelines as troop activities/meetings in accordance with the <i>Guide to Safe Scouting</i>. Note that two-deep leadership is not required for a patrol event.</p> <p>Each Scout is expected to be prepared for each meeting. This includes having their Boy Scout Handbook, applicable merit badge books, paper for notes, pen or pencil, and any other materials needed for that evening's meeting.</p> <p>Each Scout should arrive at the troop meeting properly dressed (shirt tucked in – even when wearing troop t-shirt during summer) and ready to begin sharply at 7pm.</p> <p>Appropriate attire for troop meetings is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field uniform shirt (Scouting t-shirt is acceptable from Memorial Day to Labor Day)• Scout pants/shorts if available (jeans or appropriate shorts are okay)• Shoes suitable for outdoor activity (no flip flops, crocs, sandals, etc.)
Outdoor Activities	<p>Scouting requires both indoor and outdoor activities, and the troop typically participates in at least one weekend outdoor activity per month.</p> <p>As with any outdoor activity, weather is a factor. The troop will generally conduct campouts and other outdoor activities regardless of basic weather concerns (i.e., wind, rain, snow, etc.). More severe weather may cause the postponement or cancellation of an event for the sake of safety. However, severe weather also may develop while the troop is on an activity. Leaders are trained in weather hazards and will take necessary steps to protect the Scouts at all times.</p> <p>Successful outings require advance registrations. Registration cut-off dates are listed on the website activity calendar entry and may be several weeks to months ahead of the activity. This is required for making appropriate reservations and trip planning by the leadership.</p> <p>Fees for activities, including the cost of food reimbursement, are due prior to departure. Certain activities/trips/camps may require payments in advance or at registration. Fees from these activities will be the responsibility of the Scout and his family. Fees will vary depending on the activity. Typical costs for a weekend campout are about \$10 to \$20.</p>
Uniform	<p>Each Scout is expected to have at a minimum the BSA-approved field uniform shirt (This is the khaki, button up shirt with the BSA wording over the right pocket. This is commonly called the 'Class A' shirt). The troop will provide a troop neckerchief, name tag, patrol emblem and troop numerals for the field shirt. BSA uniform pants/shorts, hat, socks and belt are recommended, but not necessary for participation. Some youth leadership positions may require the full uniform. The troop will supply each scout with a troop t-shirt also. A uniform swap closet is available as scouts to donate items that they outgrow or swap for a larger size when needed.</p> <p>Only BSA/Troop 219 approved recognition, awards, patches, pins or other adornments are to be worn on the BSA uniform (including the troop t-shirt).</p>
Boy Scout Books	<p>The Boy Scout Handbook is the required book for every Scout. This book will be the main device in tracking the Scout's progress throughout the Scouting program. Troop 219 will provide a Scout with his first BSA Handbook as part of the new Scout registration fees. Subsequent copies will be the Scout's responsibility to purchase.</p> <p>Merit badge books are used to assist the Scouts in completing merit badge requirements and are highly recommended. They are published by BSA and available at the nearest Scout Shop or online at www.scoutstuff.org.</p>



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Troop 219 · Fort Mill, SC

Activity Equipment	<p>The troop is fully supplied with tents, dining flies, stoves, lanterns, saws, axes and other equipment needed for troop activities.</p> <p>The Scout is to supply their own personal gear, such as a sleeping bag, backpack, mess kit, folding stool/chair, toiletries, rain gear, sturdy shoes, flashlight, and extra batteries. All personal gear should be marked with the Scout's full name in permanent marker, engraved or other permanent method.</p> <p>The troop does have a limited supply of some personal gear items (especially sleeping bags and backpacks) that Scouts may borrow for activities. The Scout is responsible for returning the borrowed equipment in good condition following the activity.</p>
Consent and Medical Forms	<p>Because many Scouting activities are inherently dangerous, and while we do everything we can to have safe activities, accidents may happen. With this in mind, parents/guardians are required to sign a consent form prior to your Scout's participation in any troop activity/meeting. This form will provide medical information about your son, consent for treatment and contact information in the event of an emergency.</p>
Medications	<p>All medications that a Scout needs during an activity must be left in the charge of an adult leader participating in that activity.</p> <p>Medication must be in a sealable bag and must contain the Scout's name and dosing directions. Using the original medication container is strongly preferred to avoid confusion and mix-up of medications.</p> <p>Adult leaders are not responsible for ensuring that a Scout takes any medication that they are required to take.</p> <p>Adult leaders will not dispense any medication (OTC, prescription, etc.) to a Scout unless parental permission is given at the time of need or permission is given on their Class ABC Medical Form.</p>
Youth Protection	<p>All adult leaders are required to successfully complete the BSA Youth Protection Training, which educates leaders on protecting the Scouts from sexual predators and abuse. This is available online through the national BSA website.</p> <p>In addition to the BSA program training, our Chartered Organization, Saint Philip Neri Catholic Church requires that all adults who work directly with children must complete the Catholic <i>Safe Haven</i> training for youth protection and must complete a background check.</p> <p>The troop observes the two-deep leadership model for all Scouting activities, including meetings. Per this principle, no troop event will have less than two adult leaders in attendance.</p>
Conduct Expectations	<p>Scouts and adults are expected to behave appropriately during all Scouting activities. Each scout must respect others and act in accordance with the Scout Law and Scout Oath.</p> <p>Each Scout is required to sign a conduct agreement when joining the troop. This agreement is to remind the Scout that they are to behave in a manner appropriate to being a Boy Scout.</p> <p>Scouting does not condone or permit any form of hazing or initiation rites at a youth or adult level. Such conduct is viewed as a form of bullying and will be dealt with appropriately.</p> <p>Any Scout demonstrating unsafe or inappropriate behavior will be provided counselling appropriate to the behavior by the youth and/or adult leadership groups. If the Scoutmaster feels that the behavior is of significant magnitude or is not being sufficiently corrected by the Scout, he may request a Disciplinary Board of Review to be convened by the Troop Committee. The Troop Committee will have final say on the consequences of the Scout's conduct, including potential suspension or dismissal of the Scout from the troop.</p> <p>Scouts that demonstrate inappropriate behavior may be removed from the activity at the discretion of the adult leaders supervising the activity. Any Scout who is sent home due to inappropriate behavior will be picked up his parent(s)/guardians immediately when requested to do so. Scouts who are dismissed from an activity due to inappropriate behavior may incur other disciplinary measures up to and including expulsion from the troop.</p>



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 219 · Fort Mill, SC

Travel Rules	<p>All Scouts must travel to and from Scouting activities (campouts, district activities, council events, etc.) in their field uniform ('Class A'). This includes the Scout button up shirt, BSA or appropriate pants/shorts and appropriate footwear.</p> <p>The troop meets at a common location for departure to activities (usually the Church parking lot) and departs together with no unplanned stops. Return from activities is addressed in the same manner. Scouts are not permitted (unless preauthorized by Scoutmaster or due to family or medical emergency) to arrive at or depart from an activity separate from the Troop. Scouts are required to report per the designated departure schedule or a Scout may be left behind. Parents are required to pick up their Scout(s) in a timely manner upon the troop's return from activities.</p> <p>Scouts failing to attend an activity after signing up will be held responsible for all activity/outing fees and costs unless cancellation is made prior to the activity payment being made.</p>
Electronic Devices	<p>Electronic devices are not permitted at any Scouting function including meetings, campouts or trips. If a Scout is observed with any device, it will be confiscated and returned to the parent at the end of the event/activity. Repeat offenders will be required to be picked up from the event, regardless of location.</p> <p>Electronic device includes – but not limited to – any AM/FM/satellite radio, music recording/playback device, mobile phone, video players and game system.</p> <p>Cameras are allowed and encouraged to capture their experience.</p> <p>The exception to this rule is during travel to and from the event. Electronic devices may be allowed at the driver's discretion. All electronic devices are to remain in the vehicle during the event.</p> <p>Adult leaders will be available via cell phone in the event of emergency. These numbers will be made available to the parents of Scouts attending the trip as well as being available on the troop roster located on the website.</p> <p>Adult leaders are not liable for the theft, damage or any other mishap involving any Scout's electronic device.</p>
Knife Rules	<p>Scouts are not allowed to carry any knife or other wood working tools until they have passed and obtained the required BSA Totin' Chip.</p> <p>Knife carrying is considered a privilege, not a right at Scouting events.</p> <p>The Totin' Chip is required for scout to carry a folding pocket knife (maximum 3" blade) to any Scouting event, including meetings.</p> <p>Knives with blades that exceed 3" long (folding or not), or have fixed blades (such as hunting, boot, throwing), or any other knife are not permitted on Scouting events.</p> <p>The troop provides all meal preparation knives, saws and axes needed for safe camping. Therefore, a Scout will not need to bring such equipment.</p> <p>Special exceptions may be granted by the Scoutmaster depending on the activity (i.e., fish file knives, hatchets, etc.). Permission granted may be to the entire group or just to a select individual.</p> <p>Adult leaders reserve the right to confiscate any knife that is improper for Scouting or being used in an unsafe manner. All confiscated knives will be returned to a parent following the event. The Totin' Chip may also be revoked and privileges removed if the Scout fails to follow knife safety rules.</p>



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Troop 219 · Fort Mill, SC

Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use	<p>The BSA is an alcohol and drug free program. Troop 219 fully supports this national policy and prohibits the use of alcohol or illicit drugs during any troop activity by any registered BSA member (adult or youth) and/or any other person in attendance. An activity includes, but is not be limited to, any Scouting-related meeting, Court of Honor, campout, day trip, service project or other BSA-sanctioned function/activity.</p> <p>Tobacco use is strictly prohibited by any scout. Adult usage is strongly discouraged at Scouting events. However, if an adult must use tobacco products (including e-cigarettes), they are required to remove themselves from the activity and not to use these products in sight of the Scouts. Use of tobacco products shall only be done when there are adequate adults to maintain the two-deep leadership protocol at all times.</p>
Fire Starting Tools	<p>Scouts are not allowed to carry any fire starting tools until they have earned and obtained the required BSA Firem'n Chit.</p> <p>The carrying and use of fire starting tools/equipment is a privilege, not a right at Scouting events.</p> <p>In our troop, a Scout may only carry matches, hot sparks or other non-fluid/gas filled fire starters.</p> <p>A Scout may not carry any liquid/gas filled lighters or flares.</p> <p>Adult leaders reserve the right to confiscate any fire starting tools that are improper to Scouting or observed to be used unsafely. All confiscated materials will be returned to a parent following the event.</p> <p>The Firem'n Chit may also be revoked and privileges removed if scout fails to follow fire safety rules.</p>
Fireworks, explosives, weapons and firearms	<p><i>ALL SUCH ITEMS ARE <u>PROHIBITED</u> FROM SCOUTING EVENTS AND MAY LEAD TO EXPULSION FROM THE SCOUTING EVENT, TROOP, ETC.</i></p> <p>Weapons may include, but are not limited to: guns, brass knuckles, martial arts weapons, bows and arrows, maces, spears or other device classified as a weapon. This also includes anything that represents a weapon and could be used to injure, intimidate and/or harass another individual.</p> <p>Troop disciplinary measures may be required to ensure reoccurrence does not happen.</p> <p>If a weapon (gun, bow and arrows) is to be used as part of an approved BSA activity, all requirements under the BSA's <i>Safe Guide to Scouting</i> SHALL be followed without exception. These weapons will only be handled by authorized adult leaders and must be kept unloaded and secured when not in use. Scouts may not handle these items except during approved activity time under approved range conditions and supervision.</p>

Troop leadership reserves the right to change and or alter the information above at any time with or without notice to parents or Scouts. Changes will be posted on the troop website at a minimum.

For any questions, please contact the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chair for clarification.

Our goal is to provide a safe and high-quality program for your Scout. We are always open to suggestions for improvement.

Failure to follow any of these rules, or to act in a manner that may result in harm to any scout, scouter or other person, may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from Troop 219.

All activities are conducted in accordance with the BSA's *Guide to Safe Scouting* or other BSA official guidelines. Troop 219 leadership reserves the right to place more stringent requirements on activities, equipment use and/or other facets of the Troop 219 Boy Scout program.