

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) Weekend (2026)

*Outdoor skills are critical to the success of the Scouting America program.
For Scouts BSA leaders, these outdoor skills will help you guide the youth
as they move through Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks.*

Pennsylvania Dutch Council
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Contact: Sue Shorter, Council Training Chair
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Course Date: **May 2-3, 2026 or Fall TBD**

Location: **Camp Mack**

Registration: **8:00 AM Saturday**

Course: **8:00 AM Saturday to approximately 12:00 PM Sunday**

Cost: **Free for PA Dutch Council members, Out-of-Council \$30**

You will need to know full name, address, phone, and email as well as registered position, district, and unit type and number for each participant. Including a correct email, phone number, and unit type and number is essential. Noting dietary restrictions is also important.

Registration Cut-Off: 5:00PM, Friday, one week before the course date. Please register early.

Register Online at <https://padutch.tentaroo.com/admin2/login>

The course director will share additional information with you shortly before the course by email. **If you have not heard from that person by the Wednesday before the course, please contact them.**

Equipment list will be provided after registration. The course will be outside. Be Prepared.

Participants must bring a COPY of Parts A&B of a BSA Medical Form with them. Find it at:
<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/ahmr/>

In addition to these courses, Youth Protection Training and Hazardous Weather Training must be current.

Course Description

IOLS will run like a troop in that participants will be formed into and participate as patrols including selecting a Patrol Leader. A staff member will serve as the Senior Patrol Leader. A Scoutmaster and several Troop Guides will provide instruction throughout the weekend. Field (Class "A") uniform is recommended.

Normally the patrols are responsible for planning shared meals. However, with the blending of adults from different areas, we have decided that requiring you to create food together during the pandemic is somewhat risky.

Participants will be responsible for two meals over the course of the weekend: Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast. Staff will provide Saturday lunch and cracker barrel. Patrol members may work together to plan those meals if they wish. Participants must bring equipment to prepare those meals. There is a 2-hour dinner break.

Participants are responsible for their own personal gear including tent, sleeping bag, personal hygiene items, mess kit, and a compass.

A week or two before the course, participants will receive an email with contact information for their assigned patrol as well as more course information. Patrols should have a conversation about a patrol name, cheer, and flag as well as any extra equipment that the Patrol would want before arriving Saturday morning.

You will have fun, learn about resources, gain confidence, and become a better leader.