Scouts BSA Troop 97
Chartered by Saint Paul's United Church of Christ
Sidney, OH
2020 Philmont Participant Agreement and Code of Conduct
October 10, 2019

Scouts BSA Troop 97 has secured a slot in the 2020 season for a 12-day adventure in the Sangre de Cristo (Blood of Christ) range of the Rocky Mountains in northern New Mexico. Treks vary in activity and difficulty. We will hike over 50 miles in rugged terrain, take part in a conservation project, and depending on the trek we are able to pick, enjoy events such as horseback riding, rock climbing, gold mining and panning, shotgun shooting, and more!

Our trek will begin with check-in at base camp on June 26, 2020. We will leave Toledo, Ohio early in the morning of June 24, 2019 and will return to Toledo, Ohio late in the evening of July 11, 2019. Travel logistics will be discussed as we prepare over the next several months.

Maturity and Preparation

Doing a trek at Philmont Scout Ranch is a privilege that may only happen once in your life as a Scout and will probably be the highlight of your Scouting experience! It will also be the most challenging and difficult. Because of the level of difficulty, Philmont has established some age and rank, as well as some physical fitness requirements.

- The High Adventure health physical form is more detailed than the standard annual BSA physical. It must be completed within one year of the trek. Our Troop Website has a copy of the extended health form that is required for Philmont. The form lists acceptable height/weight BMI limits. (http://www.bsatroop97sidney.org/high-adventure/) The height/weight BMI limits will be strictly enforced by the Philmont medical staff.
- Each Scout must have achieved the First-Class Rank. Scouts who have earned this rank should have a solid grasp of Scouting and its values.
- Each Scout must be at least 14 years old (or 13 and completed Eighth Grade) before June 26, 2019.

Obviously, the rank and age requirements assume a degree of physical and emotional maturity for each Crew Member. Of course, there are some 13-year-olds who might be mature enough and some 15-year-olds who might not be. Age does not necessarily guarantee that a Scout is mature enough to enjoy the Philmont experience. And if a Scout is not mature enough to enjoy the Philmont Experience, the enjoyment, safety and welfare of the entire Crew could be impacted negatively.

Our Crews will each consist of three Troop-chartered adult advisors and up to nine Scouts. In order to maintain the enjoyment, safety, and welfare of the entire Crew, it is imperative that each Crew Member examine his attitudes and actions before and during the Trek, as they will affect the entire Crew.

Through shakedown hikes and working together on merit badges, our Crews will do all that we can to be prepared to function as a well-oiled machine. Of course, we all have a "bad day" occasionally. However, when fatigue, hunger, and dehydration set in, frustration can escalate rapidly. A "bad day" for one Crew Member could quickly deteriorate into a bad day for eleven other Crew Members. Once multiple Crew Members begin to get on each other's nerves, results could be disastrous, and the safety of the Crew could be seriously compromised.

We want everyone to enjoy the Philmont Experience and would hate to have the entire Crew suffer because one Crew Member isn't physically or emotionally prepared. All youth and adult participants are expected to abide by the Troop By-Laws.

For the enjoyment, safety, and welfare of the entire Crew, parents and Scouts should seriously consider if

a Scout is physically and emotionally matured enough to enjoy the Philmont Experience at this time. If not, it may be best for the Scout to wait until our next Trek.

Crew Preparation Commitment

Crew preparation is not limited to merely paying the fees, buying the equipment, and showing up on the day of departure. For the Crew to function most efficiently, all Crew Members must be committed to the Crew. The more time the Crew can spend together, the more the Crew will be able to function as a unified body to promote the enjoyment, safety, and welfare for the Crew Members.

Meetings

Periodic meetings will be necessary to communicate information. Some of these meetings will require a parent to attend with the Scout. Advanced notice will be given.

All Crew Members are expected to attend each meeting and to notify the Crew Leader in advance if they are not able to attend. Coordinating twelve schedules can be a difficult task. Each of us has our own lives and our own commitments. However, we will do our best to accommodate everyone's needs.

Shakedown Hikes

The purpose of shakedown hikes is to ensure that Crew Members are familiar with what equipment they will need, how to pack it, and how it will feel as they carry a full load. Backpacks will weigh approximately 45-55lbs when fully loaded and Crew Members must be prepared to carry their own load.
The Crew will take day hikes and overnight backpacking trips as necessary to prepare Crew Members to pack and carry their gear. Crew Members will pack and carry all of their own gear. Shared gear (e.g., tent, footprint, poles, and stakes) will be divided between sharing Crew Members (usually bunk mates).

Financial Commitments

T R E K C O S T S	
Philmont Fee	$1,025
Transportation (estimate)	$300
Meals and Lodging (estimate)	$240
Training (estimate)	$60
Promotion (estimate)	$25
Equipment (self-provided)	$0
Souvenirs (self-provided)	$0
Side Trips and tours (estimate)	$100
SUBTOTAL	**$1,750**
Contingency (5%)	$88
TOTAL COST	**$1,838**

P A Y M E N T S C H E D U L E		
Transmittal	**12-Day Trek**	**Due Date to Troop 97**
Reservation	$100	October 1, 2019
Payment 1	$220	October 15, 2019
Payment 2	$220	November 15, 2019
Payment 3	$220	December 15, 2019
Payment 4	$220	January 15, 2019
Payment 5	$220	February 15, 2019
Payment 6	$220	March 15, 2019
Payment 7	$220	April 15, 2019
Payment 8	$220	May 15, 2019
TOTAL	**$1,860**	

E S T M A T E D G E A R A N D C L O T H I N G	
Boots	$150
Backpack (70-80 liter) and Rain Cover	$300
Sleeping Bag (15 degree or lower)	$75
Sleeping Pad	$40
Tent	Using Philmont Tents (included in Philmont fee)
Stove, Fuel, Lighter (one per two scouts)	$50
Utensils (Mess kit, spork)	$50
Water Bottles	$50
Raingear	$40
Miscellaneous Clothing (wool or synthetic shirt, pants, base layer, socks)	$300

Scouts may choose to borrow items from a friend or relative. However, in accordance with Scouting principles, Scouts should be prepared to replace items that may be damaged by use. Also, if you consider borrowing equipment, please be sensitive to the fact that deodorant is not allowed in the backcountry so things like sleeping bags and clothing will need to be thoroughly cleaned when we get home.

Philmont Participant Code of Conduct and
Scouts BSA Troop 97 Statement of Understanding

All youth and adult participants are selected to represent Scouts BSA Troop 97 and the Boy Scouts of America based on their qualifications in character, camping skills, physical and personal fitness and leadership qualities. Therefore, all youth participants and their guardians are asked to sign the code of conduct and statement of understanding as a condition of participation, with the further understanding that serious misconduct or infraction of established rules may result in expulsion, at the participants' expense. Ultimately, we want each participant to be responsible for his or her own behavior, and only when deemed necessary will the procedure be invoked to send a participant home.

All youth and adult Philmont Crew Members are expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct as follows:

1. The unit's adult leadership (scoutmaster and assistants) is responsible for the supervision of its membership in respect to maintaining discipline, security, and code of conduct.
2. The Scout Oath and Law and Outdoor Code will be my guide.
3. I will set a good example by keeping myself neatly dressed and presentable. The scout uniform is the only acceptable dress at specific times.
4. I will attend all scheduled crew activities, as required, and participate in cooperation with other crew members and adult advisors.
5. In consideration of other crew participants, I agree to follow bedtime and other schedules of the unit, or as otherwise directed by leadership.
6. I will be responsible for keeping my tent and personal gear labeled, clean and neat. I will adhere to all recycling policies and regulations. I will do my part to support the principles of Leave No Trace.
7. I understand that the purchase, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco or illegal drugs of any kind by any youth and adult members is prohibited. This standard shall apply to all crew members, both youth and adult leaders.
8. Serious and/or repetitive behavior violations by youth and adults may result in expulsion or serious disciplinary action or loss of privileges.
9. I understand that gambling in any form is prohibited.
10. I understand that possession or detonation of fireworks is prohibited.
11. I will demonstrate respect for crew and camp property and be personally responsible for any loss, breakage, or vandalism of any property as a result of my actions.
12. Neither the unit leader nor the trip director will be responsible for loss, breakage, or theft of my personal items. I will label all my personal items and check items of value at the direction of the leaders. Theft is grounds for expulsion.
13. While participating in all activities, I will obey the safety rules and instructions of all staff leaders and supervisors
14. All firearms remain in the possession of the adults designed as instructors and will be handled in accordance with federal and state laws.
15. All registered leaders will be guided by the Scout Oath and Scout Law and will obey all local, state and federal laws.
16. All registered leaders must receive Youth Protection Training and follow the guidelines therein.
17. Hazing has no place in Scouting, nor does running the gauntlet, belt line or similar physical punishment. Leaders and older youth will prevent all youth from being initiated into the troop by hazing activity.
18. Adult leaders and youth leaders must instruct youth to avoid confrontation with groups, demonstrators, or hecklers and must assume a passive reaction to name calling from individuals or groups. Units will be removed from the area of potential conflict immediately.
19. Serious violation of code and policy may result in expulsion from the Trek at the participant's own expense. All decisions will be final.
20. I will show respect and courtesy to my crew, crew leadership, adult advisors, other unit leaders, and the Philmont staff always.
21. I will follow the Outdoor Code and will do my share to prevent littering of our crew campsite and all of Philmont. I will adhere to all Philmont recycling policies and regulations.
22. I will fully participate in doing my share of my

assigned crew duties and crew service hours and will help other crew members as needed.
23. I will demonstrate respect for both crew and Philmont property, and will be personally responsible for any loss, breakage, or vandalism of property as a result of my actions.
24. I will participate in a physical conditioning program to prepare myself for the trek.
25. I will demonstrate leadership by putting my Crew's needs ahead of my own preferences.
26. I will participate in necessary training, as deemed by my adult leaders, and use those skills and techniques to support my Crew.

I certify, by my signature, that I have read the Philmont Participant Agreement and the Troop By-Laws. Furthermore, I agree to abide by the conditions in the Code of Conduct as a participant in the Philmont Crew activities, which apply, herein, and I agree to and understand all statements made in the Troop 97 By-Laws and Philmont Participant Agreement.

Signatures of:

_____
Participant Date

_____
Parent/Guardian Date

_____
Scoutmaster Date