



Limerick Scout County Shield 2025



Limerick Scout County Shield 2025

Venue: Copeswood College, Pallaskenry

Date: 16-18 May 2025

Time: Check in 5:00pm-6:pm (21st Friday)

Closing Ceremony: 1:30pm (Sunday 23rd)

Cost: €160 per patrol (6-8 scouts)

Theme: The Celts

Closing date for applications: April 30th 2025



Patrol Gear drop off

Gear can be dropped on site the evening before (May 15th) between 7pm and 9pm. Be advised the main gates of the college close automatically at 10pm. Gear is left at owners' risk but there will be a scouter onsite overnight. Gear must be unloaded off the trailer and left on participant's site.

Check in.

Check in is between 5:00pm and 6:00pm on Friday. Scouts must check in as a full patrol with their accompanying Scouter. At check in it is important to make staff aware of any dietary requirements or medical conditions. Consent forms need to be brought but will remain with the patrol's scouter for the weekend.

Theme

The theme of this year's Shield competition is, as chosen by the County Scout youth Reps, is **The Celts**. The theme will be incorporated in the programme of the weekend. Patrols can incorporate the theme on their patrol signage and on their sites. Think ancient Ireland, Irish Folklore, Ogham stones, Celtic symbols, warriors, Crannógs etc..

Visiting Times

A couple of hours are put aside for parents and friends to visit the sites to see the excellent work the Scouts put into the building of their patrol sites. While every effort will be made to adhere to the 8pm to 9.30pm visiting times, there may be a slight time delay while the Scouts finish up after their test meal.

Food provided

All food for the Main Test meal on Saturday (Meat and Veg and starter/ dessert) will be provided by the Shield scouter team and given to patrols before they begin to cook. The breakfast on Sunday will also be provided by the Shield scouter team. Patrols should bring a pantry items such as oil, salt, pepper, condiments and diluted drinks. Patrols will need to provide their own suppers, Saturday breakfast and packed lunches for Saturday.



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TimeTable Shield 2025

Friday 16th May 2025

Check in	17:00
Site Build	18:00
Hot Meal (on gas)	21:00
PL Meeting	22:45
Lights out	23:30

Saturday 17th May 2025

Wake up	07:00
Breakfast	07:30
PL Meeting	09:00
Programme bases	10:30
Test Meal	17:00
Visiting times	20:00
Campfire	21:45
Lights out	23:30

Sunday 18th May 2025

Wake Up	07:30
Breakfast	08:00
(Marked with food provided)	
PL Meeting & Log	
Books handed up.	09:00
Morning programme	09:15
Site down	10:30
Final Inspection.	12:30
Closing Ceremony	13:30

Limerick Scout County Shield 2025

Dear Patrol Leaders,

Welcome to this year's Limerick Scout County Shield!

The Shield is an opportunity to showcase all the campcraft and scouting skills you have learned in your time as scouts. The theme is The Celts. The Celts were the ancient inhabitants of Ireland. The Celts were great warriors, inventors, cooks, artists, engineers and story tellers.

During the weekend you will be evaluated on these aspects of Celtic life and your campcraft progress with a series of site inspections. Think of the weekend as a way to show off all you have learned so far in scouting rather than a scrutiny of the scouting skills you have yet to learn.

The most important thing is to get out camping, make new friends, have fun and hopefully learn new scouting skills.

Please read the below information to prepare you and your patrol for this year's Limerick Scout County Shield.

Yours in Scouting

The Limerick Scout County Shield Team





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General Information

Friday night inspection

On the Friday night you will have until 11pm to work on your site. All members of the patrol must stop working on their site build from 9pm-9.30pm for a hot meal. This can be ready cooked and heated on site by gas. During this time the campcraft team will be onsite to mark the sleeping tents, food storage alterfire and the table. This inspection is mainly to ensure that there is a dry and comfortable place to sleep, and that the food is stored correctly, covered and off the ground. The marking team will also be checking that the correct number of scout uniforms are on site.

Main site inspections on Saturday

See below

Saturday night inspection

This inspection we will be taking a quick look at the sleeping tents, food storage and the overall tidiness of the site.

Sunday Inspections

Sunday Morning Breakfast – Food for this will be provided.

For the final Inspection the Patrol Leader will be marked on his/her leadership skills and how the Patrol are working together. When the site is down the Patrol will be required to fall in, in full and correct uniform in front of their Patrol equipment which must be arranged neatly to the front of the Site (off the site)

Patrol boxes will be checked to make sure that equipment is clean. The site will also be checked for cleanliness and for holes left in the ground from pickets

In addition to the above the following will also be marked over the weekend

- Programme Bases
- Test Meal
- Logbook

Overall the inspections the marking teams will be looking at general site safety and hygiene. We will also be putting an emphasis on the alterfire, food storage and the dresser so when practicing for the Shield please pay particular attention to these.

All sites will be 14 meters deep by 14 meters wide (Roughly 45ftx45ft) and will be marked with site number, Group name and Patrol name if there are more than one patrol from the same Group. Patrols can make their site smaller but may not exceed the boundaries of their allotted site.



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No pre-fabricated gadgets are allowed. This refers specifically to the tying of lashings (typically tripod lashings) in advance of the competition. Any such lashings found on check-in will be dismantled.

Patrols **are** allowed to have the different gadgets bundled together, colour coded for identification upon arrival if they so wish.

Fire extinguishers are banned on patrol sites. Experience has shown that, in general, Scouts do not know how to use them, and often the wrong types of extinguishers are brought. Buckets of sand and water should be provided instead, (Note: Sand buckets should be covered to protect from the elements). The fire point should be clearly defined. This does not have to be a gadget but the location of the fire point is very important, it should be relatively central but not impede general access to the site or any other gadget.

There is no requirement this year to build a gate or the woodpile.

All gadgets on site must be free standing.

There must be at least one Icelandic tent pitched on your site

Alterfire position will be determined by the location of your site number. Please adhere to this as it will have to be moved if in the wrong location and wasting your valuable build time.

The following will be assessed over the duration of the weekend

- Sleeping Tents
- Store Tent
- Store Rack
- Dining Shelter
- Table & Seating
- Alterfire
- Food Preparation Area
- Waste Disposal
- Woodpile (No gadget required)
- Dresser
- Chopping Area
- Personal Wash Area
- Flagpole
- Notice Board
- Fire Point/First Aid Kit
- Boundaries



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The campcraft team will carry out inspections throughout the weekend. The main inspections will be

Friday Progress – Inspections on Friday will be evaluating the progress of the site build. Specifically they will be looking at how patrols are working as a team, safety on site, correct storage of food, correct storage of equipment, tent pitching and PL leadership.

Saturday Main – The inspections on Saturday will be when the patrols are offsite at programme bases. These main inspections will evaluate the finished gadgets, pitched tents, site safety and hygiene. The alter fire and table gadgets will be assessed on these inspections to determine their safety for the test meal.

Sunday Final – The final inspection on Sunday will be evaluated in terms of breaking camp. The inspection will look at the leave no trace principals on the site (Peg holes filled, site clear of rubbish, ashes disposed correctly etc.) Patrol equipment in the boxes will be checked also as well as patrol equipment and personal gear to ensure scouts are returning their equipment in good condition.

Site Safety: is of paramount importance. During all visits by the campcraft inspection teams, site safety will be assessed. Patrol Leaders will be notified by a member of the Campcraft staff if any part of their site is deemed to be unsafe, and consequently will be expected to make corrections. The correct storage of all equipment and especially axes, saws and gas appliances are of great importance. Special care must be taken when using knives and axes during your camp.

Hygiene & Cleanliness: Along with site safety, hygiene & cleanliness are probably the most important aspects of campcraft. As with safety, these will be assessed on all visits by the camp craft inspection teams. Food should be stored correctly at all times. This especially refers to perishable foods.

Availability of Water & Fire Wood: There should be an ample supply of both on site at all times. You will need to ensure that you have enough supplies to keep the alter fire as a functional fire for cooking the test meal.

Food. All food for the weekend must be on site from the Friday. Cooked meats and other perishables must be stored in cool boxes until it is needed.

All food for the Main Test meal on Saturday (Meat and Veg and starter/ dessert) will be provided by the Shield scouter team and given to patrols before they begin to cook. The breakfast on Sunday will also be provided by the Shield scouter team. Patrols should bring a pantry items such as oil, salt, pepper, condiments and diluted drinks. Patrols will need to provide their own suppers, Saturday breakfast and packed lunches for Saturday.



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Friday Night	Saturday (A)	Saturday (B)	Saturday (C)	Saturday 5pm	Sunday
Sleeping Tents	Sleeping Tents	Store Tent	Alterfire	Test Meal	Final Inspection
Food Storage	Store Rack	Chopping Area	Dining Shelter		Uniform Inspection
Alterfire	Dresser/Food Prep	Personal Wash	Woodpile		
Table & Seating	Waste Disposal	Flagpole	Fire point		
Patrol	Storage	Notice Board	Boundaries		
Site Safety / Layout	Site Safety / Layout	Site Safety / Layout	Site Safety / Layout		
Hot Meal		Entrance Way			

All gadgets must be completed by 11pm on the Friday night but there will be a bit of time on the Saturday morning to do a bit of finishing up

Limerick Scout County Shield 2025 TEST MEAL

The test meal must be cooked on your alter fire.

Preparation Tips for Test Meal

- Practise cooking on an alter fire.
- Get used to feeding and keeping an alterfire burning with pots on the tray.
- Clean the prep area as you go.
- Keep hands clean or better use gloves when prepping.
- Have at least two chopping boards. One for meat and one for veg.
- Smearing slightly diluted washing up liquid on the bottom of your pots will make them easier to clean.
- Make sure you have the right utensils (chopping boards, knives, spatulas, colanders etc)
- Put some effort into presenting your meals.

What will be marked?

- ✓ Cleanliness while preparing
- ✓ Alterfire Safety and use.
- ✓ Food safety and food storage while preparing and Table gadget.
- ✓ Food cooked thoroughly.
- ✓ Taste of meals and portions enough to feed the whole patrol
- ✓ Presentation of meals.
- ✓ Cleanliness of cooking utensils after cooking
- ✓ 2 courses - Starter/ Dessert + Main
- ✓ Clean up of personal eating gear. Waste food and rubbish disposed of correctly.



PROGRAMME BASES

On the Saturday morning, patrols will leave their campsites to complete programme bases. At each base patrols have typically about half an hour in which to demonstrate a scout skill. Each base is designed around an Adventure skill and the theme of the event. Everything asked of the patrols will be found in the *Scouting Trail*.

Preparation tips for Programme bases

- Scouts and the PL should introduce themselves to the base scouters.
- If there is a task that a patrol member is particularly good at the PL can designate a base leader.
- The PL should be delegating not dictating and open to new ideas.
- All members of the patrol should be engaged and involved.
- Avoid foul language.
- Attempt the task given.
- Bring a scouting trail.
- If you don't know how to complete the task be sure to ask the scouters for some hints.
- Have fun!

What will be marked?

- ✓ Patrol Leader / Leadership / delegation
- ✓ Teamwork / Inclusion
- ✓ Task attempt / completion



LOGBOOK

Patrols will complete a logbook for the event. The logbook is record of activities and events that happened while on camp. The logbook is also an information source to be reviewed in future. While some aspects of the logbook are functional; menus, equipment lists, weather reports the real skill of the log book is to portray memorable events in a humorous and interesting manner.

Preparation tips for logbook

- The scribe is in charge of the logbook but they do not have complete all of it, share the writing/drawing!
- Keep on top of the logbook, do not leave it until the last minute.
- Mind the logbook. Avoid getting the logbook muddy or wet.
- Have the correct stationary to help you fill logbook markers, pens, colouring pencils, pritt-stick, ruler
- Have an informative cover page
- Introduce the patrol
- Describe what happens on camp
- Add pictures and drawings; *a picture is worth 1000 words*
- Write legibly
- Use short sentences bullet points are sometimes better than paragraphs of writing.
- Keep it interesting!

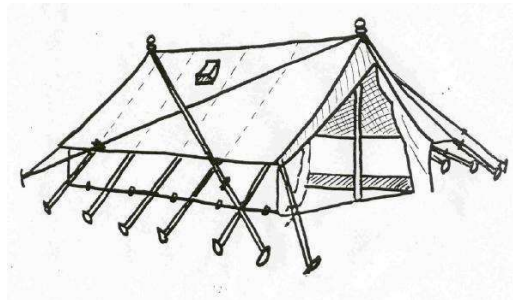
What will be marked?

- ✓ Cover page
- ✓ Introduction of patrol
- ✓ Campsite layout
- ✓ Group Equipment list
- ✓ Description of menu
- ✓ Description of events
- ✓ Use of colour
- ✓ Use of pictures/sketches
- ✓ Use of humour



Tentage Guidelines

Icelandic type tent



Preparation Tips

- Start with the storm guylines with dollies to get the tent upright.
- Once the tent is upright, close the doors and peg the 4 corners.
- Remember there corners often have 2 guys on one eyelet. The longer guy is the corner one to which is brought out at a 45° angle.
- Once the corners are in you can use a piece of spare sisal to square off around the corners and keep the rest of the guylines in a straight line.
- Follow any seams down to keep guylines straight.
- The longer pegs are for guylines shorter pegs are for the walls

This is what the Campcraft marker will be looking for when it comes to marking the different types of tent

- ❖ Upright poles must be straight and in line.
- ❖ Pegs for the guy lines must be at the correct angle 45°
- ❖ Side walls must be as taut as possible to prevent water getting in.
- ❖ Doors must close correctly with no stretching or gaps between the two sides of the doors.
- ❖ Where storm guys cross, they must not touch the tent.
- ❖ Everything must be neat and tidy with sleeping bags rolled up and everything packed into your rucksack.

Dome type tents



Preparation Tips

- Practice putting up tents before using them is essential.
- Make sure there are enough pegs for the tent.
- Use all the guy lines on dome tents.
- Follow the seams to keep tent taught.
- Make sure doors are closed when pegging in guy lines

What the campcraft team will be looking for?.

- ❖ The flysheet must be pulled taut with no creases
- ❖ The flysheet must cover all the inner tent
- ❖ All the attachment points must be secured to the poles
- ❖ All the poles must run along with the seams
- ❖ All the guy lines must be used
- ❖ All peg points must be used
- ❖ The ground sheet must be pulled taut

Table, Seating and Shelter Guidelines



Preparation Tips

- The table is one of the most used gadgets on your site.
- If using a tripod, make sure it is braced on all upright poles.
- A tablecloth can make all tables look neat and tidy.
- Make sure the pioneering wood used is strong enough to carry the entire patrol.
- Secure the table top to the gadget.
- Make seats comfortable. One pole is not comfortable to sit on!
- Use a dining shelter to cover your table and ensure all the table and patrol are covered by it.

What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ Is the gadget free standing
- ❖ Gadget Secure
- ❖ Lashings tight
- ❖ All Scouts should be able to fit comfortably at the table
- ❖ The table should be at the correct height and in accordance with the seating
- ❖ Tabletop should be free from movement
- ❖ Ample shelter to cover the entire patrol
- ❖ All guy lines used
- ❖ Ease of access in and out from the shelter
- ❖ Covering Taut
- ❖ Pegs in line
- ❖ Poles upright or correct for the type of shelter used

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Fire Point/First Aid Kit Guidelines



Preparation Tips

- The Fire Point is a precautionary part of campcraft in case a fire gets out of control onsite.
- The Fire point does not need to be a freestanding gadget
- Any bucket will do, but metal buckets travel best.
- Clearly identify the buckets.
- Dry sand is best for dousing a fire hence the reason it should be covered.
- Make sure all scouts in the patrol know where the fire point is.
- Practice extinguishing a fire with the sand and water in preparation for ever using them.

What the campcraft team will be looking for?:

- ❖ No gadget required
- ❖ The fire point needs to be clearly identified and centrally located.
- ❖ Sand + water bucket.
- ❖ Sand covered.
- ❖ First aid kit

Alter Fire Guidelines



Preparation Tips

- Your test meal will need to be cooked on your Altar fire.
- Build your gadget based on what best secures the barrel you have.
- Make sure the fire tray is strong enough to withstand the strain of a heavy pot and the heat from fire.
- Practice using your altar fire and keeping the fire going. Feeding an alter fire with a secure fire tray is a skill in itself.
- Remember to take into account the height of the camp chef when deciding tray height.

What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ Is the gadget free standing
- ❖ Gadget secure
- ❖ Lashings tight
- ❖ Fire tray cannot move
- ❖ Height of the fire tray to be 45 to 75cms
- ❖ Timber around fire tray must be protected from the heat with mud or a fire blanket. Please don't use tinfoil as a heat shield on the alterfire spars as it won't carry any marks.
- ❖ There must be ample room to feed the fire safely
- ❖ Was it correctly positioned by the site number

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Dresser / Food Preparation Area Guidelines



Preparation Tips

- The Dresser is the Swiss army knife gadget of the campsite.
- The dresser is your work area for cooking, pot storage and wash up.
- Enough counter space for at least two scouts is advisable.
- Remember to store your pots and basins upside down when the patrol leaves site so they don't fill with rainwater.
- Make sure the pioneering wood used is strong enough and the countertop is secure in order to withstand vegetable chopping and carrying pots & pans.
- The counter top should be the same height as a kitchen top at home.

What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ Is the gadget free standing
- ❖ The gadget will be marked for its design and function (is it being used for its intended purpose)
- ❖ Lashings tight
- ❖ Gadget tidy
- ❖ Items clearly off the ground
- ❖ All cooking equipment must be stored on the dresser. (pots, personal eating and utensils)
- ❖ The food prep area is marked for its functionality and cleanliness of the work surfaces
- ❖ Water available on the gadget

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Personal Wash Area Guidelines



Preparation Tips

- The personal wash area is a gadget to facilitate personal hygiene on camp.
- The gadget should be freestanding.
- This is a small gadget and does not need to be over complicated.
- A water container with a tap makes the gadget function best.
- A mirror, soap and toothbrush holder are nice touches.
- A towel holder or towel secured to gadget is a very useful addition.
- Make sure to empty the basin regularly.

What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ Is the gadget free standing
- ❖ This gadget is a separate gadget to the dresser and will be marked for its design, function and cleanliness.
- ❖ The height of the basin
- ❖ Sufficient water at wash area
- ❖ The personal wash must have its own water supply
- ❖ Basins clean

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Store Rack/ Food and Equipment Storage Guidelines



Preparation Tips

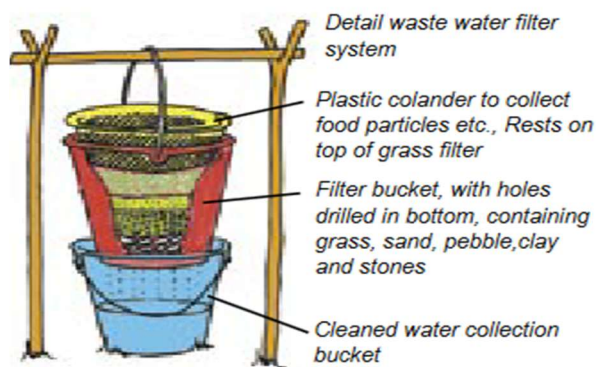
- The store gadget is where for you to store your patrol equipment for camp.
- Patrol storage should be divided into separate boxes. Food, Patrol gear, cleaning equipment, cool box etc.
- Boxes must be off the ground on some sort of gadget.
- The patrol quartermaster should be in charge of keeping the store area organised and tidy.
- Remember you need to have a gas cooker available in your store area in case you cannot use your alter fire.
- The store area and gadget must be covered by canvas to protect it from the elements.

What the camcraft team will be looking for

- ❖ Is the gadget free standing?
- ❖ Design, functionality and lashings of the gadget
- ❖ Gadget secure
- ❖ All Patrol boxes off the ground
- ❖ Items stored correctly to prevent cross contamination
- ❖ Food stored separately
- ❖ Non-food stored separately
- ❖ Cleaning equipment separately
- ❖ The cool box should be clean, and a cool temperature maintained for perishables
- ❖ Contents of store boxes/cool box tidy and accessible.

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Waste Disposal and Water Filtration Guidelines



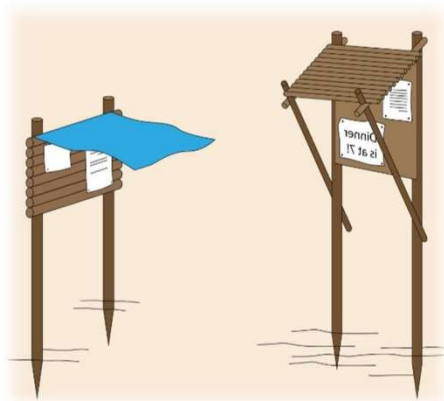
Preparation Tips

- Patrols need to segregate their waste like at home.
- Try to bring as little packaging as possible onsite in the first place to minimize waste.
- There will be drop of points for rubbish over the weekend. Empty bins regularly.

What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ No gadget required
- ❖ 3 bins onsite for segregation – General Waste, Compostables and recycling
- ❖ Water Filtration system
- ❖ Bins not over full
- ❖ Correct waste in correct bin

Notice Board Guidelines



Preparation Tips

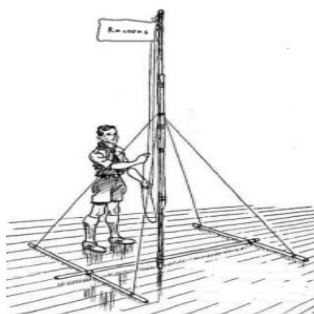
- The Patrol Notice board does not need to be free standing but needs to be a gadget with some lashings.
- The whole patrol needs to be represented. A “meet the patrol” feature works well.
- The theme should be incorporated into the notice board.
- Make sure the signs on the notice board are protected from the elements.

What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ Some form of gadget with lashings to hold the notice board
- ❖ Profile of each Scout in the patrol
- ❖ Site layout
- ❖ Menus weekend and test meal
- ❖ Patrol Rota

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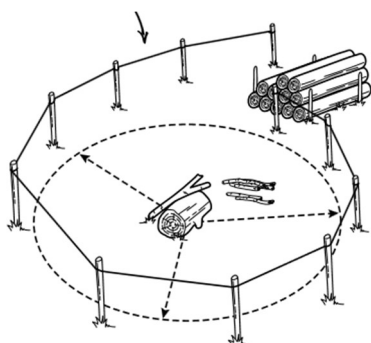
Flag Pole Guidelines



What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- Is the flagpole free standing?
- By free standing the flagpole must be able to be moved around the site
- Group or Patrol flag on flagpole
- Won't be marked as a flagpole if no flag is flying on it

Chopping Area Woodpile Guidelines



What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ The ground within the chopping area must be protected with some form of sheeting and the boundaries surrounding the chopping area must be the same height as the main site boundaries. While on site the axe and saw must be stored correctly in the chopping area.

Site Boundaries Guidelines

What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ Correct knots used on boundaries
- ❖ Round turn and 2 half hitches to start and finish.
- ❖ Clove hitch or Marlin spike for intermediate boundary poles
- ❖ Boundaries taut
- ❖ Boundaries safe height

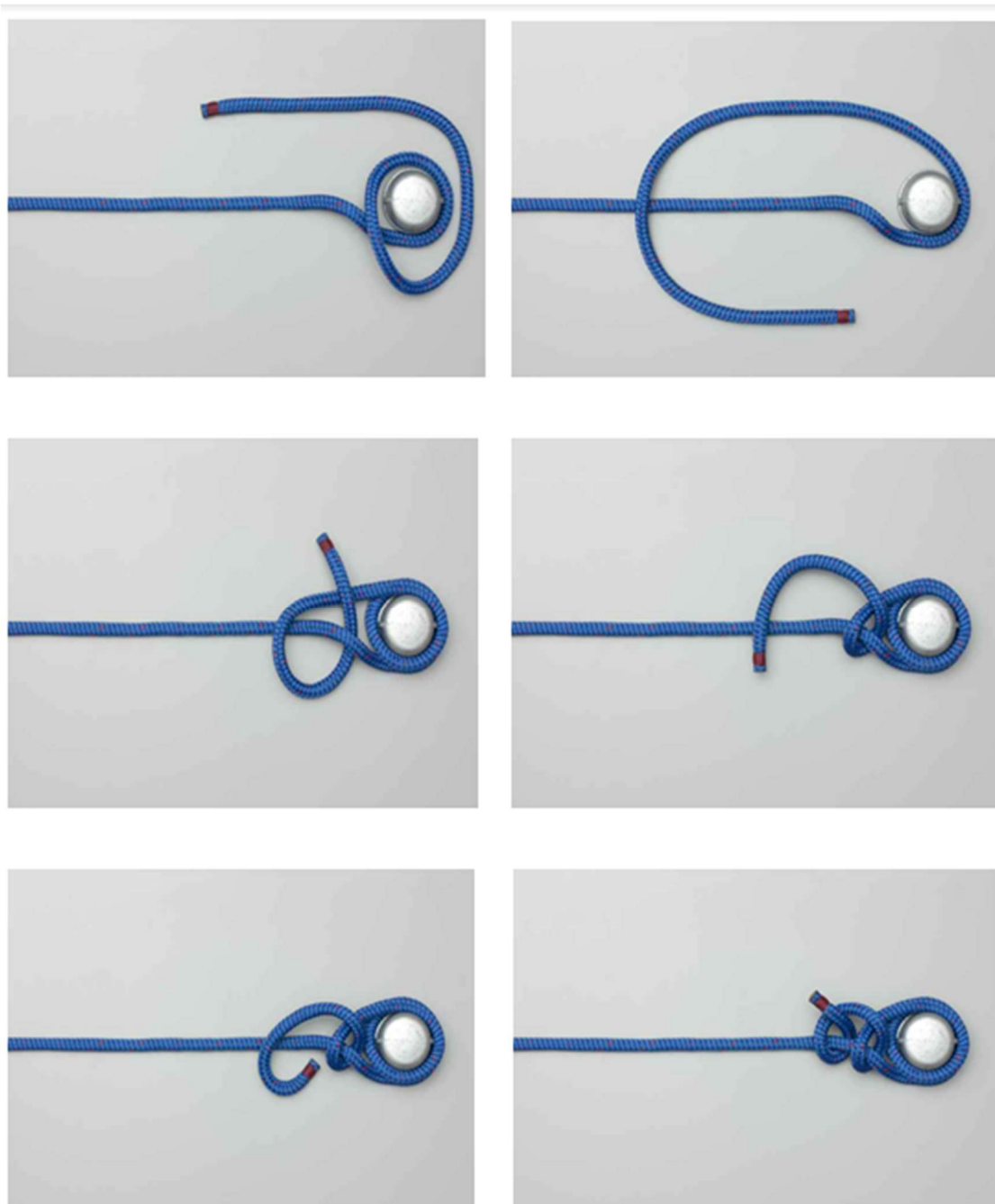
Correct Knots to use on the boundaries



Clove Hitch

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Correct Knots to use on the boundaries



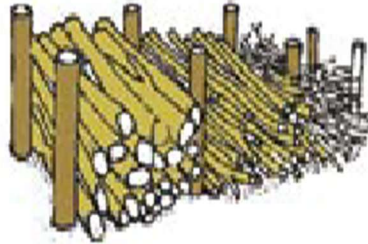
Round Turn and two half hitches

Correct Knots to use on the boundaries



Marlin Spike

Woodpile Guidelines



What the campcraft team will be looking for?

- ❖ No gadget required
- ❖ Timber must be graded and must be protected from the elements
- ❖ There must be ample timber to cook the test meal.

Important to remember

It's not all about competition and marks, its about getting out camping, making new friends and hopefully learning new Scout skills.

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For the final inspection scouts should be in full uniform. Scouts should wear their uniforms with pride.

Each member of the patrol will be evaluated on having the following :

- Scouting Ireland Shirt
- Scouting Ireland Trousers
- Scouting Ireland Belt
- Group Neckerchief
- Woggle
- Position of adventure skills badges
- Position of special interest badges
- Group Badge
- Patrol Badge
- Limerick County Badge
- Dark socks
- Dark shoes/ hiking boots (No Runners please)

In addition, to having the actual parts of the uniform, scouts will be evaluated on the presentation of the uniform.

Neckerchiefs should be neat and tidy.

Shirts should be unwrinkled and tucked in.

Scouts should clean and tidy (fingernails!)

Badges placed correctly

Uniform appearance (same woggles, all with lanyards, sleeves up or down)

