

2002 EOCS CAMPOREE NEW COMPETITION

Careless Camp Observation

Set up a tent and simple fireplace and scatter mistakes on site: a carelessly dropped ax; a glass jar next to the fireplace; poorly set tent pegs and badly tied guylines; etc. Include, as well, some personal items like sleeping bags, patrol scarfs, shirts with identification on them, name tags, etc.

Give patrols five minutes to study the site. They are not to talk, but they can touch what they see as long as they leave an item exactly as they found it. Patrols then huddle to prepare a list of all the things they found wrong in the camp. Scoring based on list. As patrols hand in their lists, add to the contest by giving each a card of questions asking, for example, How many boys were camping? What troops or patrols do they belong to? etc.

Blind Compass Walk

Two patrols can participate at the same time.

For each patrol, set an appropriate number of small marked stakes in the ground about 6 feet apart in a north/south line. Give each Scout an orienteering compass and a paper bag, and stand him beside one of his patrol's stakes. Scouts from one patrol set their compasses between 45 degrees and 135 degrees, while those from the opposing patrol set theirs between 225 degrees and 315 degrees. The boys then put the bags over their heads so that all they can see is the ground and their compasses.

On signal, Scouts spin around three times then follow the bearings on their compasses for 100 steps. They turn and follow a back bearing (arrow pointing towards instead of away from them) for 95 steps. Only Scouts who finish within 10 steps of their marker score.

Tripod Lashing

Give each patrol three saplings of about the same size, one rope 10 feet long and another 8 feet long. On signal, Scouts lash the saplings into a tripod. When done, they set up the tripod, tie a bowline in one end of the rope and place the loop over the top of the tripod so that the free end hangs down the centre of the tripod. Then they tie a bowline in the free end - high enough that the loop is off the ground. Finally, one Scout stands in the free bowline loop and balances by hanging onto the line. The winning patrol is the first with a Scout standing in the bowline loop while the tripod supports his weight.

Knotty Trail

Tie together several pieces of rope of various thicknesses using several different knots. Use a clove hitch to tie one end of the rope to a tree and another knot to tie the other end to a second tree. Give patrols about 2 minutes to walk along the rope from tree to tree and back again. Silently they observe the different knots and try to remember what they are, before huddling to list the knots in the correct order, including the knots used around the trees. Give extra points to the patrol which can tell you how many ropes were used.