



Want to go camping?

Step 1: Read the following policy.

Step 2: You cannot be the Leader in Charge until you have assisted and been involved in planning a camp before, so have a Cub or Scout Leader assist you as the Leader in Charge for the first time, or combine with Scouts for the first camp!

Step 3: PLAN - like a sleepover program and go for it!

Scouts Victoria Policy:

Unit holidays, camping under canvas, sleepovers, exchange and inter-state visits

To be read with AP and R, P2.1 and P2.2 - Duty of Care, authorised person in charge, R12.8 Provisions for male and female Members. In keeping with general rules relating to overnight camps and hikes in the Scout Association, Joey Scouts may participate in camps under canvas and/or Unit Holidays using dormitory accommodation.

1) Authority

The Group Leader (or the nominated Leader in Charge of the Group) has the authority to approve overnight activities for the Joey Scout Section subject to the following requirements: –

- Be satisfied that the Joey Scout Leader In Charge of the specified above activity has the required Scouting qualifications – refer 3) below.
- The Joey Scout Leader in Charge of the activity will submit all documentation e.g. program, catering arrangements, staffing, and Scout Safe risk assessment to the Group Leader at least four weeks in advance of the activity and updated when changes occur.
- For interstate travel the Group Leader will ensure that the appropriate Interstate Travel Approval form is completed and passed to Membership Services at Victorian Scout Centre for local approval and forwarding to the host state.
- In the event that a Group Leader is unsure about Unit Holidays, Camps or other activity then assistance may be gained from the District Leader - Joey Scouts or Joey Scout Commissioner for the Region.
- District Joey Scout Leaders have the responsibility of ensuring that Joey Scout Leaders are provided with the support and adequate resources required for the running of Unit Holidays and Camps effectively.

2) Youth members attending –

- Must be registered members of the Scout Association.
- New Joey Scouts attending a Unit Holiday to be invested as a Joey Scout must be registered prior to attending the Unit Holiday.

3) The Leader in Charge of the Unit Holiday, Camp, Sleepover, Exchange or Interstate visit shall hold the following qualifications: –

- Be the holder of a current Certificate of Adult Proficiency in the Joey Scout Section.
- Have assisted on and been involved in the planning of at least one other Joey Scout Unit Holiday, Camp or Sleepover as appropriate for the planned activity.
- When a Joey Scout Leader has not had the opportunity to assist on a Unit Holiday or camping under canvas, the Leader in Charge must be a Cub Scout Leader or Scout Leader (Woodbadged/Advanced Leadership Certificate).

4) The team shall consist of the following: –

- At least two Leaders who have held a Certificate of Adult Proficiency in the Joey Scout Section and who must be present at all times (one of these may be the Leader in Charge).
- There must be at least one adult for every five Joey Scouts present.
- A designated First Aider with current Level 2 First Aid Certificate. The First Aider shall have no duties that would prevent them from being with the Joey Scouts at every activity.



- Any adult other than registered Leaders who is staying overnight must be registered with the Association as an Adult Helper or Rostered Parent and hold a current Working With Children Check Card before attending the Unit Holiday.

5) The Unit Holiday or Camp or Sleepover will be equipped as follows: –

- Sufficient sleeping bags or blankets shall be provided to enable each Joey Scout to make a separate bed.
- Separate accommodation, tents, or suitably partitioned dormitories are required for boys, girls, male and female adult Leaders.
- Adequate toilets and showers shall be available adjacent or close to sleeping accommodation. The only exception is where the camp is situated in a National Park where the authority responsible for ongoing management of the park manages disposal of human and washing wastes. It is expected that 'Minimal Impact' and good camping principles will be observed.

6) Restrictions and prohibitions relating to lighting of fires, especially out of doors, to be strictly observed.

7) A **Sleepover** is to be of one night's duration sleeping inside your own hall and should not exceed 24 hours of total activity time. If the sleepover is to be in another location, then Unit Holiday rules will apply.

8) **Exchange Visits**

- A copy of the all arrangements including transport and staffing for an exchange visit is to be sent to the District
- Commissioner and Group Leader of each District/Group involved.

9) **Interstate/Overseas Travel**

Units proposing to travel outside Victoria shall make prior application for approval (you can find 'Interstate Travel' Approval form on the Scouts Victoria website). The State Commissioner - Joey Scouts approves the application and all arrangements including travel and staffing are to be included. Overseas travel needs to be discussed with State Commissioner – International as well as State Commissioner – Joey Scouts.

District and Region activities and Group camps

Joey Scouts may participate in District and Region Unit Holidays and Camps under Canvas in accordance with the same rules as for Joey Scout Units. The District or Region Commissioner shall give approval for these activities. In the case of a Group Camp, the Group Leader must ensure that the Unit Holiday Rules are enforced for any Joey Scouts attending. This is to ensure measures protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of the Joey Scouts are observed.