

# The Stars of Stradbroke Cup

The principal stars of Stradbroke Cup are the Patrol Leaders, that work to prepare and manage their Patrols for a safe, comfortable, and fun adventurous camp. The Victorian Scout Camping Standard provides the framework for Patrol Leaders to guide their Patrol in any camp setting and since Stradbroke Cup uses the Camping Standard to evaluate each Patrol's competency, it is a great reference to check-off throughout your Straddy planning and preparation to be sure you haven't overlooked anything. If you find there are some skills your Patrol needs to develop more, include some training activities in your Unit program and ask your Leaders support to practice and learn these skills.

## Bronze/Silver/Gold

Did you know that "Bronze" level is "A safe and average Standard" and is a competent camp. "Silver" is "A high standard of camp with minor faults" and "Gold" is "A camp which is excellent in every respect". Most Patrol Leaders will want to achieve Gold but you should congratulate yourself even if you achieve Silver or Bronze, since you have achieved a competent camp at any of these levels.

Gold Patrols are recorded as "Co-Holders of the Stradbroke Cup". Co-Holder Patrols can ask to borrow the actual Stradbroke Cup from Scouts Victoria Headquarters to display and celebrate their achievement at a Group or Unit event.

## Camp Advisors / Camp Coaches

Your Camp Advisor or Camp Coach team will visit your Patrol at least three times during the camp their aim is to give your Patrol the highest score possible, and they will provide guidance to the Patrol about items that need more attention, they are there to help you, it's a good idea to listen to their guidance and do ask questions if you are unsure or if anything is unclear. If needed, they will even arrange help to improve your campsite.

## Straddy Scoring

You will notice there are three columns in the Camping Standard (one for each visit) that your Camp Advisors / Coaches will use to score your Patrol, in each item you can only score "1" for "competent" or "0" meaning "not yet competent", you can't get half or partial scores and you can't score more than 1 for each item.

The only score that counts is the Final column, so if you score 0 in the initial check you can still work to achieve competency and score 1 for the final check. There are a few exceptions, the "Personal Hygiene/Safety" checks are repeated each day of camp, all of these scores are counted in the Final tally, so be sure your Patrol stays on top of their personal hygiene. Then there are the "starred items", that are explained in detail below.

Be careful to keep on top of your campsite, items already marked 1 can be dropped to 0 for the final score if you haven't maintained competency.

## Some Other Stars Needed to Achieve Gold – Co-Holder

Stradbroke Cup is a learning opportunity but it is also a competition. Every Patrol can get a top-score by following the guidance of their Camp Advisors / Coaches, but to achieve Gold, as well as a score 153 or more (85% to 100%), a Patrol must achieve Competency in all thirteen key items that must be complete and functional for scoring at the first check and for the camp duration.

These items are important safety or organisational matters and are marked in the Camping Standard with a "\*", we sometimes call these "starred items".

- All "\*" items must be complete and functional for scoring at the first check.
- Any "not yet competent" should be rectified during camp.
- "\*" Items should continue to be reviewed at each check but their initial score cannot be revised up to "competent".
- Patrols scoring 153 points or more but missing any of the thirteen starred items will be awarded Silver

## The Thirteen Stars

1. \*The Patrol prepared a Camp Plan before camp and brought it to camp (updates and final inclusions can be added during camp)

Check out [Stradbroke Cup Hints and Tips #1. Camp Plan](#)

2. \*The PL, and other Patrol members as appropriate, are to be aware of any special needs to be managed by the Patrol in camp. E.g., members with EpiPen's / severe food intolerances, disabilities, etc.

Fundamental to the operation of a Scout Patrol is consideration of each other's support needs. Patrol Leaders are not expected to be responsible where adult support is appropriate.

Make sure Patrol members know of any triggers to look out for and what to do or who to call in case of emergency.

The Patrol's Unit Leaders and Parents should ensure any required adult support is known to the camp organisers including clear directions for the management of any special needs or administration of any medication. A nominated "adult carer" should be assigned to any special needs Scout where warranted.

3. \*The Patrol has assembled a First Aid Kit appropriate for the venue/activity

Check your Patrol's first aid kit:

Is there anything out of date? Get it replaced

Is there anything missing?

Think about the campsite/venue you are visiting, can you think of any hazards that might need first aid items you don't have in your kit? The organisers of the camp you are attending might have given you some information to be aware of, e.g. the risk of finding snakes or spiders on site, does your first aid kit include anything needed to manage special site risks?

Does everyone in the Patrol know the box/bag that is the first aid kit? Go through the kit with your Patrol in Patrol time, everyone should have basic first aid knowledge. The kit should have a place in camp where everyone can find it quickly and easily if needed, not out of reach of the smallest member!

4. \*The Patrol has sufficient cold storage - esky or low voltage fridge on the Patrol site

Check your ration list for refrigerated items, make sure your cold storage is big enough for everything and still room for ice. Could be a couple of smaller eskies rather than one too heavy for the Patrol to manage.

5. \*The entire kitchen, including eating shelter and cooking area, is tidy, and free of rubbish and scraps at all times

You won't have your mum to pick up after you, talk to your Patrol about the importance of keeping things clean and tidy and the consequence of missing out on Gold if you don't.

6. \*The Patrol has a dry waste disposal system (eg, rubbish bin & lid)

This is an easy one, you just need enough rubbish bins and liners, make sure they have lids to keep out bugs, insects and wildlife.

Don't forget about recycling, maybe your venue has provided some information about how best to manage waste in their park, if not think about how you do this at home.

7. \*The Patrol has provision for safe disposal of wastewater that filters the input

It is not appropriate to toss out the dishwashing water into the surrounding bushes, make sure you have a proper wastewater system. Ask your leaders for a training session on how to prepare and maintain a wastewater system in camp.

8. \*The fire/stove/BBQ are adequate and functional to cook for the whole Patrol at once

Have a practice cooking in the Scout hall using your camp gear, try out some of your camp menu, is there anything you need to change or repair before camp? Don't forget the gas and other safety checks.

9. \*Each Patrol member can lift and operate the fire prevention equipment

While you are practicing cooking, set up your fire prevention equipment, give everyone in the Patrol a practice at using the gear.

Make sure any fire equipment is not out of date and the fire extinguisher's pressure gauge is in the green range.

10. \*All fire, gas, and fuel cooking appliances, and fuel storage complies with local campsite rules for fires in the open.

Find out the rules and regulations for outdoor fires or cooking appliances, has your venue provided any "local site rules".

Are your Gas bottles in date? Are they in good order (no rust, etc), what about the condition of gas hoses and any other fuel receptacles?

11. \*The Patrol has a safe system for handling hot water such as using metal bucket or billy (Plastic buckets or washing bowls are not safe for carrying hot water)

Seems a simple one but at camp you can't just turn on the hot tap, add this to the list to discuss and practice at your cooking night,

12. \*For the duration of the camp; near the entrance to the cooking area there are two water fire buckets plus a dry fire extinguisher plus a fire blanket (Buckets must be fire-durable, such as metal)

If you don't have these safety precautions in place, you won't be allowed to light your stove or fire. They need to be easy to get to without having to think where they are and you don't want to risk passing through danger to get them.

13. \*Scout Leaders or other adults do not interfere in the conduct of the camp unless for justifiable safety reasons

Straddy is an assessment of the Patrol's competency in camping, not that of your leaders. Your Camp Advisors / Coaches will give you lots of guidance and even help out if you need it.

If the Patrol is struggling, the PL may even be asked to decide if your leaders or others can give extra support and further develop your camping skills. This will exclude the Patrol from achieving Gold but chances are you wouldn't have got there without the extra help.

Your Leaders can still drop in to the Patrol for a chat and cup of tea, this won't impact your chance at Gold unless the Camp Advisors / Coaches consider they have been interfering in the PL's leading and decision making. If this arises, your Advisors / Coaches will discuss this with the offending leader and the PL.