

Lessons Learned from Camp Willett Camporee 2018

Event Management

1. Need to separate the axe throw positions. They were too near to each other.
2. Raise the Log competition took a long time. Consider prefabbing the tripod to reduce the time involved. Need to consider adding helmets for participants.
3. Consider combining Raise the Log competition with Knot Tying competition.
4. Need to ensure there is sufficient supervision for kindling preparation area so axes and knives are handled safely.
5. Need to identify BB gun range staff earlier in the process and ensure the requirements for staffing are well understood and agreed to.
6. "Fast Pass" approach (allowing patrols at a bottlenecked event to move to a different event with head of line privileges for return to bottlenecked event) worked well. Buffalo Ball and Axe Throw events were bottlenecks.
7. Need to ensure campsites don't overlay event areas (compass course).
8. Overall, McGrath was a good location, especially due to favorable weather.
9. Campfire program needs to be better planned and structured. Consider scheduling later in the evening since darkness at the beach falls later than at Camp Willett. Consider adding flag retirement ceremony to program. Consider making skits a scored event to encourage more participation. Put link in Camporee Manual for reference to campfire program planning.
10. Consider emphasizing chair requirements/recommendations/limitations at cracker barrel and assemblies.
11. Determine if/how Camp Willett totem pole of previous honor troops is included for different camporee locations.
12. Some units have asked that a troop host or escort be allowed to stand-by during campsite inspections.

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Registration

13. Tent-a -Roo registration was less than satisfactory. Registration counts for some units were not accurate. Interface was not user friendly. Menu of all items and scroll bar were not clear.
14. Need more patrol score sheets.
15. Need to generate a registration report on early registration cut-off date. This will allow us to determine who is entitled to patches, shirts, pins, etc. if there are not sufficient numbers for all.
16. Need to be prepared for units that show up just for Saturday participation. Do they get special rate or pay full late registration rate?

Logistics

17. Tent provided by Sheriff's Dept. was indispensable and that or similar tent needs to be obtained.
18. Need to provide medic prominent location with lots of signage.
19. Need to order enough "special" patches to provide to those that are running events.
20. Lots of extension cords and power strips were put to good use.
21. Need to make decisions on patches, pins, shirts, etc. earlier in the process. They all depend on the patch design. Need to select patch design in sufficient time to finalize artwork and submit orders by early March.
22. Need to emphasize camporee theme more throughout camporee.