



## 2015 Palo Alto Junior Camporee General Information

### It's Junior Camporee planning time !

#### What is Junior Camporee?

A weekend of traditional Girl Scout troop camping in the woods, outdoor skills events, campfires and songs, flag ceremonies, a Scout's Own, and lots of FUN!

#### Please note all communication is by email !

[camporee@girlscoutsofpaloalto.org](mailto:camporee@girlscoutsofpaloalto.org)

All girls must be registered Girl Scouts

#### Adults:

- 1 attending adult must have Troop Camping Certification; check the Council training catalog
- 1 attending adult must be First Aid certified
- all adults attending must be registered GS
- all adults attending must be Volunteer Approved

**When:** May 15-17, 2015    Friday afternoon 4:00 pm – Sunday morning 11:00 am

**Cost:** \$25 per person (girls and adults); there is no refund of fees

**Who:** 4 and 5 grade girls only (maximum of 175 girls)

Adults: limit 2 per troop

Who to bring?: girls who have never before attended; in mixed age troop – bring younger

Troop size: minimum of 8 girls—smaller size troops should try to combine with another troop or we will do it for you

**Where:** GS Skylark Ranch located approximately 1 to 1 ½ hr drive from the Bay Area;

Directions and maps to be included in registration materials in January/February

Weather: May can be cool and damp: morning fog – midday sun

Parking may be at site – no more than 2 vehicles to stay the weekend; can have “drop off”

Hilly terrain: there will be walking; activities are not held in one central space

EMT or RN on site; nearest emergency medical facility is in Santa Cruz 30 min. away

Flush toilets at each site

Communal shower house

Tent cabins for all [do not bring tents – no space]; all sites accommodate leaders in separate space/tent from girls

Campsites are shared sites: 2 – 4 troops

Fire pit and/or grill at each campsite: 2 – 4 at each site to share among troops

Tables: enough to share among troops in each site; the non-bench folding table is to be used for cooking set up, again troops share the space

Seating: bring sit-upons, camp stools, camp chairs; kids can sit on platform tent steps –

**ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD IN TENTS**

**Weekend Schedule:** this is very general as the specifics will be sent with registration materials (what to bring, volunteers for flag & skits, etc)

Friday (**4 pm on – no earlier please!**): post school day arrival, set up camp, all camp campfire

Saturday morning – skills events

Knot tying relay, fire building, emergency shelter building, first aid skills, outdoor cooking, “in the woods” skills [uses compass navigation, distance estimating, very general nature identification, & trail markings] similar to but not an actual orienteering course

All skills events will be **judged according to the Camporee website descriptions**

Saturday afternoon – activities (subject to change) in 1 hr slots from 2 – 5 pm; pick and choose or plan your own

Examples: hike to the ocean, craft projects (several to be offered), create in-camp lashing projects, special hike to Fern Grove, field games

Saturday evening – make your own dinner (have girls plan ahead and prepare at Camporee) followed by all-camp campfire with entertainment and results of the morning events

Sunday – Scouts Own followed by an all-camp breakfast we provide for you! Then packing and tidying your campsite

**11:00 am sharp departure!**

**Be sure to check the website for outdoor skills instruction and camping ideas – start now!**

<http://www.girlscoutsofpaloalto.org/camporee.html>



# Palo Alto Junior Camporee

## Outdoor Knowledge & Skills Each Scout Should Know

**Knots** – ability to tie all of the following:

- Square knot
- Clove hitch
- Bowline (must hand off rope end to judge)

**Build a fire**

- Using as few matches as possible
- Water bucket: metal (no plastic !)  
size: no smaller than 10 inch diameter x 8 inch high and no bigger than 12 inch diameter x 10 inch high
- Pocket knife safety and use
- Create tinder from provided wood
- Build fire structure from previously gathered (around campsite) wood brought to event site in bucket

**Build an emergency shelter**

- Using a 12' x 15' tarp (provided)
- May use downed wood poles (4 - 5 ft poles provided), but no more than 3 allowed
- May bring small shovel, hammer, pruning saw

**First Aid** – basic: bleeding, burns, breathing emergencies, joint and bone injuries, shock, etc.

**Cooking over a ground fire** on a raised grate (provided) – only the following items allowed at event

- Ground cloth (provided)
- 1 pot, 1 fry pan, 1 spoon, 1 spatula, 1 tongs, pocket knife(s), cutting board(s), potholders, 1 plate, fire water bucket containing leftover gathered wood from Fire Building event
- “Mystery” ingredients and cooking grate provided

**Determine direction, distance, height, and elapsed time**

- Bring own compass, measurement sheet (see “Estimating” in the “Outdoor Skills” section on Camporee website) with known pace, known fingertip spread, known arm length

**Trail signs:** directional, simple, using rocks & sticks & universal trail symbols

**Use the “Outdoor Skills” section of the Camporee website for skills “how to”**