



Heart of Virginia Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
P.O. Box 6809  
Richmond, VA 23230  
[www.sr917.org](http://www.sr917.org)



## Wood Badge SR917 Letter of Acknowledgment

Dear ...

I am pleased to welcome you to the upcoming Wood Badge for the 21st Century course and to acknowledge receipt of your registration. Let me give you an overview to help you prepare for the course.

First, please do the following before August 23, 2008:

1. Pay all fees directly to Robin Rush at the Council Service Center, if you haven't already done so.
2. Send your **completed medical form** and **personal resource questionnaire** to Robin Rush at the Council Service Center. (Mark Envelope w/ "Wood Badge SR917"). You will be issued one (1) course Activity Shirt. Be sure to indicate your shirt size. Once the cost of shirt is determined you will be sent an order form in case you wish to order a second shirt.
3. For planning purposes, before the course begins please notify the Assistant Scoutmaster for Support and Facilities, Tom Johnson, [bsacomtom@hotmail.com](mailto:bsacomtom@hotmail.com), of any special dietary requirements or physical limitations.

**Note: We cannot allow you to participate in this course without a current, complete medical form. Please provide a copy of your current form.** This will be kept confidential. The form will be destroyed at the end of the course – do not send your only copy, it will not be returned.

**Course Dates:** Friday, Sept 19, 2008: **7:30 a.m.**, to Sunday, Sept 21, 2008: **5 p.m.** and Saturday, Oct 18: **7 a.m.** to Monday Oct 20, 2008: **4:15 pm.**

There will be one or two patrol meetings between the weekends. The date and time will be established by your patrol.

Our course will begin with **registration** at **7:30 a.m.** on Friday, Sept 19, 2008 at Cub and Webelos Adventure Camp, 1723 Maidens Rd. Maidens, Va. 23102-2501. Mapquest link:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/1723+Maidens+Rd+Maidens+VA+23102-2501/>

I have also attached a **suggested equipment list** to assist you in planning. We will sleep Bunk House Style Weekend 1 and will be camping Weekend 2, so you will need to bring your tent and normal camping equipment. You will receive information regarding the outdoor experience during weekend 1 and will have an opportunity to plan and coordinate your equipment needs. If you do not have a full set of camping gear, please do not go out and buy gear. Experience has shown there will be plenty of gear available through your patrol.

To help you begin considering issues that will be important during the course, please set aside time in the coming weeks to consider and to answer the **20 Questions** of the enclosed precourse assignment. The assignment is for your benefit; no one but you will see your answers. (Instructions are included with the assignment.)

The first three days of the course will be held at Cub and Webelos Adventure Camp, Maidens, VA. Most of that time will be filled with instruction in various leadership development skills. All of your meals will be prepared by staff members. The final three days of the course will take place in the backcountry – Camp T. Brady Saunders, where you will camp and cook as a member of your patrol using the principles of Leave No Trace. The hike to the campsites will be relatively short and easy; however, we will provide alternative transportation for anyone who requires it.

During the Wood Badge course, please wear the uniform of your position in Scouting. If you serve in more than one capacity (as both an assistant Scoutmaster and a Cubmaster, for example), wear the uniform representing the position in which you are most active.

Enclosed with this letter is a BSA **Uniform Inspection Sheet**. Please inspect your uniform before coming to the Wood Badge course and make any corrections. Should you have any questions, refer to the current BSA *Insignia Guide*, No. 33066.

<http://www.scouting.org/Media/InsigniaGuide.aspx>

In addition to your official uniform, you will at times during the course wear an “activity uniform” consisting of uniform pants (short or long) and a Course specific knit shirt, which will be issued. Non-Scouting shirts are not acceptable.

The Wood Badge Experience is unique in that it is a total immersion, experiential learning environment. During the course we ask that you not carry any cellular telephones, beepers, radios, or any other devices that could disrupt the course. The rare moments of free time during the course are intended for team development. Your active interaction with your patrol members during these moments is crucial to the success of yourself, your patrol and the entire troop. If you must remain in contact for emergencies please set your cell phone to silent mode. It is expected that you will use your phone only for emergencies, A Scout Is Trustworthy.

Group photographs of course participants will be made available for a nominal fee. The camp trading post will open several times during the course to allow for the purchase of Wood Badge course mementos.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 804.526-6093 during the evening or email me at [wb.sr917@yahoo.com](mailto:wb.sr917@yahoo.com). I join with the rest of the Wood Badge staff in welcoming you to the upcoming course. I am certain it will be a mountaintop experience for all of us.

Yours in Scouting,

Chuck Smith  
Wood Badge Course Director, SR-917

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34412.pdf> Medical Form (Class 3)  
<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34048.pdf> Uniform Inspection Sheet  
<http://www.scouting.org/Media/InsigniaGuide.aspx> Insignia Guide