



Crew 17
West Morris District
Patriots Path Council, BSA
Sponsored by:
Denville Community Church
Diamond Spring Road
Denville, NJ 07834

I. Preamble - Venturing Code

Values: Our values are based on National BSA Venturer Scout Oath and Code

Venture Scout Oath

As a Venturer, I promise to do my duty to God and help strengthen America, to help others, and to seek truth, fairness, and adventure in our world.

The Venturing Code

As a Venturer, I believe that America's strength lies in our trust in God and in the courage, strength, and traditions of our people.

I will, therefore, be faithful in my religious duties and will maintain a personal sense of honor in my own life.

I will treasure my American heritage and will do all I can to preserve and enrich it.

I will recognize the dignity and worth of all humanity and will use fair play and goodwill in my daily life.

I will acquire the Venturing attitude that seeks truth in all things and adventure on the frontiers of our changing world.

Scouting's Mission Statement

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Crew 17's Mission Statement

Our Venturing mission is to provide young people challenging environments and programs that introduces the need to make ethical and moral choices. Our program is focused in High Adventure Backpack or Canoeing trips or other Outdoor adventure areas. A trip or meeting always is planned around this mission. Crew 17 will continue to establish a strong foundation as a functioning unit focusing on high adventure and teambuilding that is required to be successful in this area. Our unit represents the vision and values of Venturing. The impact of our unit on the individual, the community, and families will remain in their lifetimes as having instilled in them the values of the Scout Oath and Code.

Vision Statement

The Crew 17 Vision stems from the National Vision for Venture Scouts:

- Offer young people responsible fun and adventure in a supportive environment;
- Provide experiences that develop the skills and programs for the youth that they serve as a role model and resource for cub scouts and boy scouts and other groups in our community.

- Instill in young people lifetime values and develop in them ethical character as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law;
- Train young people in citizenship, service, and leadership; all youth will be encouraged to grow in a positive leadership role via managing their own program and events
- Serve America's communities and families with its quality, values-based program

II. Crew Bylaws

A. Objectives

The objectives of Crew 17 is an outdoor oriented crew. Our objectives are to apply our values while working toward the vision stated in the Preamble.

B. Membership

Membership shall be open to all young adults of 14-20 years of age who mainly live in the surrounding area of Morris County drawing Venturers from Denville, Booton, Rockaway, Mountain Lakes and Parsippany. They must have completed the eighth grade and be at least 14 years of age. No prospective member shall be disqualified because of race, color, creed, or gender. All members must be registered as Venturers and agree to the crew code and bylaws. Members shall show maturity and Scout spirit, and show the ability to actively work for the good of the program. All prospective members shall be interviewed by the Venturing Officers Association.

C. Officers

The elected officers shall be president, three vice presidents – Administrative VP and Program VP, Recruitment VP, secretary, and treasurer. The president, with the approval of the Advisor, shall appoint activity chairs and make other assignments as needed. The duties of the officers shall be as prescribed in the *Venturing Leader Manual*. All officers are expected to attend formal council training for Venture Officers.

A summary of Crew duties are listed here:

Crew President: Is the key youth leader and works closely with the Advisor and leadership team to plan crew and crew officers' meetings. The president presides at monthly crew meeting. A detailed, written agenda should be developed for each meeting. Discuss important business first. Reserve the remaining time for a planned activity. These activities could be learning new skills (i.e. CPR/first aid, rappelling or

preparing for a high-adventure trip or activity. Assures all meetings start on time, have an opening Pledge of Allegiance, the Venturing Code, Oath, or a prayer. Guests are recognized and welcomed at all meetings.

Crew Administrative Vice President: Is responsible for membership and recognition. Tracking achievements, records of crew member's medical forms and advancement of fellow Venturers. Makes reminder phone calls to program presenters or consultants prior to the meeting. Fills the role of president in his absence. Maintains records for annual Quality Unit submissions and awards.

Program Vice President: Surveys members about their interests to help plan program activities. This vice president also schedules activities. Maintains medical histories of crew members for trips and arranges for proper and necessary permission forms. The program VP maintains the crew calendar.

Recruitment Vice President: Helps to orient new venturers to the crew and our activities. Maintains applications for new crew members and actively speaks for the crew at community events.

Secretary: Keeps records of attendance, meeting minutes, V-News newsletter, charter, and handles correspondence. Secretary also updates information to the Venture Crew Web site.

Treasurer: Maintains the crew's funds. Manages crew bank account. Plans budgets for each activity with each activity appointed Youth Activity Chair. Arranges for fund raising. Responsible for annual registration activities.

Youth Activity Chair: Appointed by the crew president to chair a crew activity or a project. Each chair serves through completion of his or her appointed task and is then reappointed to chair or assigned to work on upcoming crew activities.

1. The normal term of office shall be six months starting on February 1 and August 1 of each calendar year. Elections are held in January and June of each calendar year.
2. No member shall serve more than two successive terms in the same office.
3. The president shall appoint a nominating committee, which shall consist of three members. The committee shall interview and present a complete slate of candidates who have agreed, if elected, to serve to the best of their abilities.
4. On the night of the election, nominations may be presented from the floor by a member. If the nomination is seconded and the candidate agrees to serve, he or she must be included on the ballot.
5. All contested ballots shall be secret.

D. Crew business

Crew business will be conducted under the principles outlined in *Robert's Rules of Order*. Voting on all issues will be by simple majority, with the exception of changes or amendments to the bylaws, which will require a two-thirds vote of the total membership. A quorum shall consist of one more than the majority of members for votes on routine business.

E. General meetings

General meetings will be held on the first and third weeks of each month. The day will be decided by the membership at the beginning of each school year.

F. Officers' meetings

Officers' meetings will be held at least once a month, prior to and at a time and place different from the first crew meeting of that month.

G. Newsletter

The crew president will publish a newsletter every other month, which shall include all meeting dates and other information of interest to the membership. The newsletter will serve as the historical record of the crew.

H. Dues and Registration Fees

There is an annual registration fee. There are no dues, but instead everything will be pay as you go. Fees for activities shall be paid in advance to the treasurer or the activity leader.

Advancement awards will be presented only after payment for the awards. There are no refunds for trips where there have been fees paid in advance. Members must re-register annually.

I. Money-earning projects

All money-earning projects must be approved by a majority vote of crew members. Members who do not participate in a project are not entitled to any benefits of the funds earned. All money-earning projects must be approved by the Advisor and meet BSA requirements.

J. Additional bylaws

1. The uniform consists of the official BSA Venturing uniform, including trousers and shorts. Khaki trousers and shorts may substitute for trousers. If the uniform is not worn, clothing worn shall be appropriate for the activity.
2. All Venturers shall have Class III Medical forms to participate in the program.
3. All Venturers shall arrange for their transportation to and from an event. SA Safe Ride requirements are to be followed and Venturers are not permitted to drive another Venturer to or from an event unless they are 18 or older.
4. All Venturers shall respect Co-ed youth protection requirements.
5. All Venturers shall refrain from using electronic devices (cell phones, games, etc) at events.
6. All Venturers shall conduct themselves in a respectful behavior and refrain from the use of profanity or smoking while participating in activities.