



# Safety is important to Scouts

We have many resources, tips and procedures that will help everyone in Scouts remain safe.

## Safety first

Getting hurt is not a part of Scouting. We plan, conduct, and review our programs so all members have adventures where nobody gets hurt.

## Two-Scouter Rule

*Why it's important:* The Two-Scouter Rule is the requirement for two registered Scouters to be with youth at all times. Be a champion of the Two-Scouter Rule.

## Reporting Policies and Procedures

- a. Youth Protection Reporting Policy and Procedure
- b. Duty to Report
- c. Incident Management: Reporting Procedure, & Standards

*Why they are important:* Under Canadian law, everyone (not just as members of Scouts Canada) has a duty to report known or perceived child abuse. In Youth Protection matters, Scouters are encouraged to report directly to legal and child protection authorities in addition to informing Safe Scouting of the report made. For physical safety incident reports, the general rule is that if you need to inform the parents of the reason for a bruise or bandaid, an incident report should be submitted, and vice versa.

## How to report/ScoutSafe App

*Why it's important:* Report physical safety incident reports using ScoutSafe, Scouts Canada's free app for Androids and iOS. Incident reports submitted using ScoutSafe are received by Safe Scouting in real time. If there is an emergency concerning the welfare of a youth, a member of Safe Scouting is available to take your call 24/7 (1-800-339-6643). You can also contact Safe Scouting by email at [Safety@scouts.ca](mailto:Safety@scouts.ca).





## Safety Equipment Standards

*Why they are important:* Scouters must know what equipment is required, and must ensure that participants use the required equipment during the activity.

## Transportation Standard

*Why it's important:* Parents are responsible for arranging transport of their children to and from Group and Section Scouting activities. When transportation is provided by Scouters, the Two-Scouter Rule applies.

## Free time ≠ Unsupervised time (Supervision Guide for Scouting Activities)

*Why it's important:* Scouts Canada programming is robust and youth-led, and depends on the guidance and supervision of Scouters to ensure a quality and safety of all participants. Maintaining the required ratios of Scouters to youth appropriate for your Section is paramount to everyone's safety.

## No Bystanders Bullying and Harassment Policy

*Why it's important:* Everyone has the right to participate in Scouting, free from bullying and harassment. Unaddressed behaviours become accepted behaviours, and Scouters should prevent and respond to bullying and harassment.

## Promoting Positive Behaviour and Managing Challenging Situations

*Why it's important:* The Guide creates a consistent and respectful approach to addressing disruptive or negative behaviour within a section. It equips Section Scouter with best practices to prevent, manage and escalate poor or disruptive behaviour within a section and to promote positive behaviour. It also contains information in developing a section Code of Conduct.

## Section Code of Conduct

*Why it's important:* A Section Code of Conduct creates a set of rules, expectations and rights, agreed upon by the youth together which makes them more likely to be followed. A Code of Conduct will ensure that there will also be a predetermined consequence to negative behaviours that is known and agreed upon by the youth.







# Safety Resources

## Safety Tips

An online archive, Safety Tips, is specific to activities and the safe use of tools from [Tobogganing](#), [Knives](#), [Burn Prevention](#), [Bunk Bed Safety](#) to [Meeting Spaces](#) and beyond.

These tips are created as a result of actual reports submitted to Safe Scouting as a means of sharing lessons learned. By sharing these tips with Scouters, Scouts Canada hopes to help Scouters and youth participants prevent similar future incidents. It is helpful to review pertinent tips as part of planning for a meeting or activity.

## Section Supervision Guide for Scouting Activities

The Section Supervision Guide for Scouting activities goes into details about how different sections may require different levels of supervision or mentorship. As new Scouters, you should familiarize yourself with the different Youth: Scouter ratios and Scouter Team compositions.

When asking yourself "how many Scouters will I need for x activity?" always remember to accommodate for the two-Scouter, the level of the youth and emergency preparedness. While you may be compliant with the ratio needs, are you providing adequate supervision for the activity? Planning a week long camp requires more Scouter support than a regular meeting night.

## Head Safe

Head Safe Program provides communities with training and educational materials aimed at preventing head injury.

## Adventure Standards

Divided into one of three categories, Adventure plans are based on the type, location, and duration of the activity. The Adventure Standards help to ensure that all adventures are developed and implemented with full alignment to Scouts Canada's expectations of safety, planning, and preparation.



## Concussion Guidelines

Know the symptoms, signs, and what action to take when there is concern for concussion.

## Scouts Canada Code of Conduct

Applied to all members of Scouts Canada, the Scouts Canada Code of Conduct is a set of rules and expectations. The Code outlines what conduct is and is not acceptable. There is a separate Code of Conduct for youth Scouters to agree to.

A signed Code of Conduct sets the safe and inclusive tone for volunteers and participants, and can be a helpful starting point when addressing safety and/or behavioural concerns.

## KidsHelpPhone

24/7 free confidential professional online and telephone counselling support for youth who may be struggling, but don't know who to reach out to for help.

## Stay Safe Series for Youth

Safety is everyone's responsibility. Involve youth in thinking proactively about safety with these kid-friendly tips for Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts.

## Emergency-Ready Program

Tips, checklists and skills to prepare for safe response to potential hazards and conditions at home or in the community.

