



**INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS TRAINING**  
**(Test out Option)**

The purpose of Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training (**IOLS**) or (**Northstar**) is to provide adult leaders with knowledge and practical experience in performing outdoor skills. These skills are necessary for them to help Scouts complete the rank of Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. It is similarly intended to aid Venturing Leaders in Crews that focus on outdoor programs. This training is required, to be considered fully trained and wear the “Trained” patch, for all 11-Year Olds Leaders, Scoutmasters, Varsity Coaches and their assistant leaders.

IOLS presents opportunities for Scouters to experience learning from the Scouts perspective and to see first-hand how to teach each skill. IOLS provides opportunities for Scouters to share ideas. It is not expected that every participant will become an expert in every aspect of outdoor skills and most leaders may need to review specific material from time to time before they teach them. However, course participants should gain the confidence to teach these skills to the youth they serve.

**Tenured Scouters, who can demonstrate the basic outdoor skills for the Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class Ranks may not need to take the full course. There are 5 requirements in order to qualify to test out of IOLS (Northstar):**

1. Be 18 years of age or older, and are registered with the Boy Scouts of America.
2. Have completed Youth Protection Training within the last 2 years.
3. Have experience in performing the skills covered in the introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.
4. Complete the SELF EVALUATION below, and submit it to your Unit Committee Chairman for their approval.
5. Submit request to your District Training Chair or District Executive for approval.

To apply for testing out of IOLS, please complete pages 1-4.

**PERSONAL RECORD – INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS**

Applicant’s Information (Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit #: (Troop) (Team) (Crew) \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an Eagle Scout? (Yes) or (No) If yes, what year did you earn the award? \_\_\_\_\_

Wood Badge Trained? (Yes) or (No) If yes, what year(s) did you train? \_\_\_\_\_

Have attended or staffed NYLT (Timberline)? (Yes) or (No)? If yes, what year(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Have you served on a summer camp staff? (Yes) or (No)? If yes, what year(s): \_\_\_\_\_

How many nights of camping have you experienced in that last 4 years? \_\_\_\_\_

How many years have you been registered in Scouting; as a youth? \_\_\_\_\_ as an Adult? \_\_\_\_\_



## SELF EVALUATION – INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS

Carefully rate your abilities on the skills listed below. Ask yourself: would I feel comfortable teaching this skill, do I have general knowledge about the skill, or do I need help performing that skill? Mark the appropriate line with an “X”.

SKILL	RANK REQUIREMENT	<u>CAN TEACH</u>	<u>HAVE KNOWLEDGE</u>	<u>NEED HELP</u>
<b><u>Boy Scout Values</u></b>				
Oath	T7	_____		
Law	T7	_____		
Motto	T7	_____		
Slogan	T7	_____		
Patrol Method	T8	_____	_____	_____
Edge Method	T4c	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Citizenship</u></b>				
Flag Etiquette	T6	_____	_____	_____
Rights and Obligations of a Citizen	F5	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Camping</u></b>				
Pitch a tent	T2	_____	_____	_____
Principles of Leave No Trace	S2, F3	_____	_____	_____
Choosing a Campsite	S3b	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Fire Building &amp; Safety</u></b>				
Charcoal	S3e, F4e	_____	_____	_____
Wood Fire	S3e, F4e	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Cooking</u></b>				
Meal Planning	T3, F4a, F4b, F4c	_____	_____	_____
Food Prep	S3g, F4d, F4e	_____	_____	_____
Storage	S3g, F4d, F4e	_____	_____	_____
Camp Stove	S3f	_____	_____	_____
Clean-Up	F4d	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Knots &amp; Lashings</u></b>				
Whip and Fuse a Rope	T4a	_____	_____	_____
2 Half Hitches	T4b	_____	_____	_____
Taut-line Hitch	T4b	_____	_____	_____
Square Knot	T4c	_____	_____	_____
Timber Hitch	F7a	_____	_____	_____
Clove Hitch	F7a	_____	_____	_____
Bowline	F7a, F7b	_____	_____	_____
Lashings	F7a, F7b	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Wood Tools</u></b>				
Care of tools	S3c	_____	_____	_____
Sharpening tools	S3c	_____	_____	_____
Use of tools	S3d	_____	_____	_____



SKILL	RANK REQUIREMENT	<u>CAN TEACH</u>	<u>HAVE KNOWLEDGE</u>	<u>NEED HELP</u>
<b><u>Hiking Safety</u></b>				
Highway	T5	_____	_____	_____
Cross Country	T5	_____	_____	_____
Day	T5	_____	_____	_____
Night	T5	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Health and Safety</u></b>				
Buddy System	T9	_____	_____	_____
Basic First Aid	T12b	_____	_____	_____
Choking	T12a	_____	_____	_____
Bites – Snake, Rabid Animal, Other	T12b, S7c	_____	_____	_____
Ticks	T12b	_____	_____	_____
Frostbite, Hypothermia	T12b, S7c	_____	_____	_____
Burns	T12b, S7c	_____	_____	_____
Sunburn	T12b	_____	_____	_____
Hurry Cases (Breathing, Bleeding, Poisoning)	S7a	_____	_____	_____
First Aid Kits	S7b	_____	_____	_____
Puncture Wounds	S7c	_____	_____	_____
Heat Exhaustion, Heat Stroke, Dehydration	S7c	_____	_____	_____
Shock	S7c	_____	_____	_____
Hyperventilation	S7c	_____	_____	_____
Drug & Alcohol Abuse	S9a	_____	_____	_____
3 R's of Personal Safety	S9b	_____	_____	_____
Bandages – Ankle, Head, Arm, Collarbone	F8b	_____	_____	_____
Transport Injured or Unconscious Person	F8c	_____	_____	_____
CPR	F8d	_____	_____	_____
Safe Swim & Water Rescue	S8a, S8c, F9c	_____	_____	_____
Boating Safety	F9a	_____	_____	_____
Bullies, Cyber Bully, & Internet Safety	T9, F11	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Orienteering</u></b>				
Use of a Compass	S1a	_____	_____	_____
Orient a Map	S1a	_____	_____	_____
Find Directions Without a Compass	F1	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Nature</u></b>				
Identify Poisonous Plants	T11	_____	_____	_____
Identify Poisonous Animals	S6	_____	_____	_____
Identify Local Plants	F6	_____	_____	_____

**Rank Abbreviations:**

T = Tenderfoot

S = Second Class

F = First Class



After completing the Personal Record and Self Evaluation above, sign and send this document to your Committee Chairman for his/her recommendation.

I am requesting to complete the test-out option for the Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills course based on my experience. I believe I am comfortable and confident in perform and/or teaching outdoor skills as described in the current version of the official Boy Scout Handbook. I have attached my Self Evaluation for your review.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant's Signature** **Date**

### REFERENCE

The application above is a leader in your unit who wishes to “test-out” of taking the required course: Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. Since you, as Unit Committee Chairman, are responsible for the quality of your unit’s Scouting program, you can decide whether it is in the best interest of your unit for this leader to “test-out” or to attend the IOLS (Northstar) course itself.

By signing below, you are stating that, in your opinion, the applicant would gain at best negligible benefit by attending the course. If there is another leader in your unit who has better perspective on the applicant’s capabilities (e.g. your Scout Master), you can ask him/her to sign.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Reference's Signature** **Date** **Unit**

Printed Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

After completing the reference section above, please send this document to your District Training Chairman for his/her approval.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**District Training Chair Signature** **Date**

Training recorded with BSA on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

