



# SOUTH FLORIDA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA BAREFOOT MAILMAN HISTORICAL HIKE RULES & REGULATIONS



1. **HIKE OBJECTIVE.** To hike a Historical Trail with a large organized group of Scouts, resulting in the strengthening of unit integrity through preparation, and building individual Scout self-confidence; providing visibility and a positive impression of Scouting to the public, while having a fun time and furthering the ideals of the Scout Oath and Law.

2. **REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION:** Participants must be a Scouts BSA male or female youth, Venturer, other Girl units or registered adult Scouters. **RANK:** (Scouts BSA) Second Class and above. **MINIMUM AGE:** (all hikers) 12 years by December 31st, prior to the hike. The younger Scouts can look forward to participation in later years. **PRE-HIKES:** *ALL* hikers must complete a minimum of 4 pre-hikes, with each hike being of progressively greater length (see PREPARATION Section below).

3. **HIKE INFORMATION:** The event will take place 'Rain or Shine'. **START:** Hikers will start from the parking lot adjacent to [E Atlantic Blvd & N Pompano Beach Blvd, Pompano Beach, FL 33062](#). Start times will depend on how many hikers are participating, however, the first Section will step-off Saturday morning, February 3, 2024 at 5:30 AM. **FINISH:** Sunday, February 4, at approximately 2:00 PM, at Collins Park, 21st St & Collins Ave, Miami Beach. (Verification of ending location will be provided to the Unit Hikemaster). Parents are to pick up their son/daughter at that time. **ORGANIZATION:** We will be hiking in Sections, with a max. of 60 individuals per Section. Each Section will have a designated Section Leader. Sectional assignments are at the discretion of the hike committee with strong consideration given to timely registration and Unit preference as requested on the registration form. **ALL HIKERS MUST REMAIN WITH THEIR ASSIGNED SECTION FOR THE DURATION OF THE HIKE.** If they are unable to, they will be asked to leave the hike.

4. **REGISTRATION.** Early Registration. Fee for Early Registration is \$25.00 per person. **Deadline for Early Registration is Sunday, January 19, 2024.** For applications received after the Early Registration deadline, the fee is \$30.00 per hiker **until 5 p.m. January 26** when registration closes. After registration closes, hikers may register on Saturday and will be in the last Sections departing). No fees will be refunded for 'no-shows'. All checks are to be made payable to South Florida Council BSA. **Support personnel and their vehicles must register their vehicle (No Fee).** **REGISTER ONLINE at: [sfcbsoa.org/event-list](https://sfcbsoa.org/event-list).**

5. **PREPARATION.** A minimum of 4 pre-hikes is required of *ALL* hikers. The Unit Lead is to *certify that all individual hikers have successfully completed the pre-hikes.* Although the distance of each hike will be dependent on the trail used and the discretion of the Unit Hikemaster, at least one hike must be greater than 18 miles (distances of 5, 10, 15 and 20 miles are strongly encouraged). Scout Handbook contains guidance for hiking under Hiking Merit Badge. It is strongly recommended that all pre-hikes be conducted with full pack and at a 3 – 3.5 mile per hour pace. As per BSA guidelines, pack weight should not exceed 20% of the Scout's body weight.

6. **UNIFORM.** A COMPLETE Class "A" Field Uniform worn with pride, **is required** for Scouts BSA, Explorers, Venturers, and their leaders. Other Girl Units must be in uniform within Unit, and the Uniform must be presented to Hikemaster for approval (if other than Official Uniform). Running shorts, cut-offs, T-shirts, jeans, para-military gear, or modifications of the uniform do not qualify as acceptable attire for this hike. Hikers who desire to wear non-uniform clothing do so AT HOME, **NOT ON THE HIKE!!!**

7. **SELF-SUFFICIENCY.** During the hike, **EACH HIKER MUST BE TOTALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT.** With the exception of water, **NO FOOD, SUPPLIES, CLOTHING OR SHELTER IS TO BE BROUGHT IN OR OUT BY ANYONE OTHER THAN THE HIKERS THEMSELVES. NOTHING IS ALLOWED TO BE PURCHASED** by or for hikers until the hike has been completed on Sunday afternoon. *Any units bringing items into camp for the hikers will be disqualified from the hike and sent home.* Hikers who have attained 60 years of age, may, at their discretion, have their gear carried by support personnel or others.

8. **CAMPING.** Overnight camping will be at Haulover Park. We have use of the area west of A1A and north of the golfing area. **NO Swimming** is allowed. All tunnels and A1A underpasses and any area east of the parking area are restricted. **This is not a family camping event. Visitors are welcome, but only hikers, the registered support crews and staff shall be allowed to camp overnight.**

9. **USE OF ELECTRONICS ON THE TRAIL.** For the safety of the hikers and participants on the hike, **NO HEADPHONES or EAR BUDS ARE TO BE WORN WHILE HIKING!** Participants are free to use their headphones while on breaks and in Camp.

10. **UNIT LEADER/HIKEMASTER RESPONSIBILITY.** The Unit Leader/Hikemaster is responsible for:
- 1) The safety and behavior of each hiker in his unit;
  - 2) Insuring that everyone hiking participates within the code of the Scout Oath and Scout Law
  - 3) Insuring that everyone hiking has a full and complete CLASS-A UNIFORM (Shirt/Pants).
  - 4) Having the unit **formed and ready to step-off Saturday morning at their designated time** (late Units will be placed in later sections on a 'space-available' basis. That may be one to three Sections later
  - 5) Be aware of the position of all Unit's hikers within the Section, and their hiking abilities;
  - 6) Maintaining pace of their hikers so the Unit stays with their assigned section;
  - 7) Assist the Section Leader in keeping unit hikers on the sidewalk, or to the side of the road (when a sidewalk is not present), and not on road/highway;
  - 8) Generally assisting the Section Leader, Hikemaster, and Committee in maintaining an orderly and safe hike;
  - 9) Having their Unit police their camping area Sunday morning, and assisting the Hikemaster in final inspections of Haulover Camping and Lummus Park gathering area.
  - 10) Insure the Unit is formed and ready at the step-off point by the designated time on Sunday morning and
  - 11) Insuring Unit and Unit's American Flag are available for the Parade of Flags on Sunday
  - 12) Returning any mailbags and section flags on Sunday to the Hike Staff, at the end of the hike.
11. PLEASE REMEMBER TO *BRING YOUR UNIT AND AMERICAN FLAGS FOR THE "PARADE OF FLAGS" ALONG THE FINAL MILE OF THE HIKE* (Flags can be transported near to the site by support vehicles. Note: Ocean Drive is closed to vehicles; please follow directions from staff at Saturday night leader meeting.)

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS WILL RESULT IN DISMISSAL FROM THE HIKE – NO PATCH, NO CERTIFICATE, NO REFUND**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.** The registration fee will cover:

- (1) Commemorative Barefoot Mailman Hike envelope with a stamp and letter explaining the Barefoot Mailman Hike;
- (2) Transportation around Port Everglades
- (3) Haulover Park rental
- (4) Off-duty police officer
- (5) Certificate of hike completion for each participant;
- (6) Barefoot Mailman Patch; and
- (7) End-of-hike festivities and refreshments.

The Barefoot Mailman Medals will be available for purchase at the end of the hike, along with select Barefoot Mailman paraphernalia.

For any questions or further details concerning the Barefoot Mailman Hike, please contact Fred Kimball, Barefoot Mailman Hikemaster ([fkimball@smcc.us](mailto:fkimball@smcc.us), phone: 786-385-3832) or Staff Adviser Daniel Stopnick at [daniel.stopnick@scouting.org](mailto:daniel.stopnick@scouting.org) or 954-591-3902.