THE MARKSMAN EXPERIENCE
PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT
MARKSMAN SPECIFIC INFORMATION CONTACT
Equipment, route details, skills questions etc.
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MARKSMAN EXPERIENCE PREPARATION WEBINARS
Half hour webinars to prepare leaders for their crew’s high adventure experience will be held leading up to the high adventure season. Call in and login instructions will be sent out each month.

The webinars will involve a 15-minute program and a 15-minute question and answer session. The invites will go out each month to the Contingent Advisors and the Crew Advisors we have in our system for each crew. If you have others that you would like to add to that invite list, please e-mail The Summit at: Summit.Program@Scouting.org.

Dates:
April 16th, 2024 at 7:00PM EST  May 15th, 2024 at 7:00PM EST

MARKSMAN EXPERIENCE AT A GLANCE
The program is comprised of 4 jam packed days of shooting. You and your group will shoot: 5-Stand Shotgun, Sporting Clays, USPSA Steel Challenge and Practical Shooting stages, and a full Precision Rifle Course on our 1000-yard rifle range. Archery programs will be in the mix as well with Static (10m), Olympic (90m), 3D target shooting, Sporting Arrows (Laporte), and Crossbow to name just a few. You will be instructed by Industry Certified Shooting Professionals in a crawl, walk, run mentality. This program is designed for new and seasoned shooters alike and we can guarantee that you’ll leave a more confident, educated, and talented shooter. Camping will take place on the ranges and all meals will be provided for you at the range. Your food will be the same thing the folks at the bottom of the mountain are having except for our cookout day when instructors will prepare a special feast on your last night on the ridge. The program wraps up with a trip down our ¾ mile Alexander Eagle Flight (AEF) and some awesome White-Water Rafting in the New River Gorge.
Plan to meet your Marksman guides at 6:00pm Sunday evening immediately following dinner. You will meet them at the Joe Crafton Hunters Hall for meet & greet, equipment shakedown, and NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting held in a classroom environment. On Monday morning you will meet your Instructors at 7:30. Leave your overnight gear in Alpha (A) Camp in the designated area for Marksman Outpost Gear. Your Gear will be driven up and you will hike to the Barrels with your day pack, rain gear, lunch, and filled water bottles.

Sunday
- Welcome, Shakedown and kick-off!
- NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting at Laser Shot

Monday
- Hike to Barrels and Marksman Pavilion
- Pistol Shooting Basics/Intro to USPSA Steel Challenge

Tuesday
- Shotgun Shooting Basics
- Intro to 5-Stand/Sporting Clays Course

Wednesday
- Intro to Rifle
- High-power Rifle
- Intro to Precision Rifle

Thursday
- Intro to Archery
- 90m Olympic/Sporting Arrows/3D Target shooting

Friday
- 1/2 Day White-Water Rafting Trip
- Alexander Eagle Flight Zip-Line

Saturday
- Breakfast and departure.
OTHER NOTES

- Nights 1 and 6 are spent in Alpha (A) Base Camp, all others will be camping at the Marksman Pavilion located at The Barrels (where the ranges are).
- Sunday dinner, Monday breakfast, Friday dinner and Saturday breakfast are in the Thomas Pigott Dining Hall. All others are delivered to or prepared at The Barrels.
- Unless your reservation is all 36 spots, you may and (probably will be) on an experience with other crews. Come prepared to make friends.

OTHER PROGRAM INFORMATION

ALEXANDER EAGLE’S FLIGHT (BIG ZIP)

This 3200-foot zip line begins at HIGH GEAR above ADVENTURE VALLEY and speeds riders at speeds nearing 50 mph over the valley and TRIDAVE LAKE.

AERIAL SPORTS ACTIVITY WEIGHT GUIDELINE

After Breakfast on Friday of your Experience, you may have the opportunity to ride on the Alexander Eagle’s Flight (AEF). We’ll escort you to where to check in at the landing for a safety briefing but leave any items you do not need or want to potentially lose. If you choose to take items with you, they must fit inside a normal school size backpack or can clip to your person. AEF may be closed in the event of a thunderstorm. You will need closed toed shoes to hike in and Zip. Your water shoes are not recommended. Afterwards, you may also have an opportunity to attend a ½ day whitewater rafting experience. The engineering and safety systems used by The Summit’s Aerial Sports activities require participants to meet certain weight guidelines to participate in our climbing, rappelling, bouldering, canopy tour, challenge course and zip line activities. Participants riding Alexander Eagle’s Flight must weigh between 80* lbs. and 250 lbs. (including clothes) regardless of their height.

*50lb minimum on all other Aerial Sports Activities
WHITE WATER
After Lunch, you may also get the opportunity to experience a half-day of White-Water Rafting adventure! You’ll meet at the White-Water Tent next to the Scott Visitor Center where you’ll be picked up by an experienced outfitter. All equipment for the trip will be provided by the outfitter. Participants should wear quick drying clothing or bathing suits and avoid wearing cotton. Long sleeves are preferred for sun protection. You can also wear a hat under your helmet. Footwear options include water shoes, sandals, or even an old pair of sneakers. Shoes like Crocs or flip flops are not recommended, as they won’t stay on your feet in the rapids and are likely to be lost. There is no need to bring a towel or change of clothes. Electronics, high dollar items, wallets, and important personal items such as phones and car keys should be left in your overnight bag.

RECOMMENDED ITEMS ON WHITE WATER
- Sunscreen
- Emergency medications (Epi Pens, inhalers, diabetic supplies, etc.)
- Water source (Preferably on a locking carabiner)
- Sunglasses with retaining strap

EXPECTATIONS OF CREWS FOR THE MARKSMAN EXPERIENCE STAFF.
MARKSMAN PROGRAM STAFF
All Marksman Staff will join the group on Day 2 on the morning of departure. They will be with your group from departure from the Scott Visitor Center until Thursday night. The Marksman Staff will lead, assist, guide, and support you through each block of instruction and range activity. Marksman Staff are made up of four subject matter experts (SME’s) in the fields of Archery, Precision Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Clay Shooting, and Pistol Shooting. Our Marksman Staff...

- Will help participants build or improve their knowledge and skills in all things shooting.
- Will work through the youth leadership of each crew for accountability.
- Will be trained in basic first aid, CPR, and AED.
- Will be familiar with the camping locations on The Ridge.
- Will be focused on making the entire week challenging, memorable, and positive.
- Pictures may be available upon request.

Remember- This is a youth led experience and the Marksman Experience Staff are here to be a resource for information, specific skill instruction and to encourage leadership development in the youth. Adult Leaders- This should be somewhat of a vacation for you. Let your young leaders do what you’ve prepared them to do- LEAD.

PERSONAL GEAR STORAGE
Any additional gear that does not end up going with the crew on the Experience can be stored in your vehicles, your tents, or in a rented locker at the Scott Visitor Center (50 cents).
EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR OVERNIGHT PROGRAM AT THE BARRELS:

• Flashlight or head lamp
• Sleeping bag or blankets
• Pillow
• Rain gear
• Toiletries (Toilet Paper is provided, however bringing baby wipes is highly encouraged)
• Pocketknife (optional)
• Water bottle
• Camp chair
• Camera
• Light jacket or fleece for mornings
• Day pack (Big enough to hold your water source, snacks, wet weather gear, medication, etc.)
• Ear and eye protection will be provided but participants can bring their own if they wish. Eye and Ear protection provided by SBR is NOT electronic.

OPTIONAL GEAR FOR COLD WEATHER

The list of basic gear is fine for almost everyone. If you are concerned it is not enough, you can choose to pack more gear for the “just in case”. There is room in your bag for this. Below are some suggestions on how to choose optional gear.

Base Layer- Polypropylene, Capilene, and Thermax are some of different types of synthetic long underwear out there on the market. These fabrics are designed to wick moisture away from your body. They are hydrophobic, meaning they do not absorb water; rather they transfer it to your outer layers where it can evaporate keeping your core more comfortable.

Mid Layer- Fleece or pile. These are thicker and fluffier than your base layer and supply insulation and warmth. Made from synthetic fibers, they will not absorb nearly as much water as natural fibers. Wool provides some insulation when it gets wet but not as much and therefore is not recommended.

Consider having a large enough day pack to accommodate these items after sunup when you’ll likely want to take it off.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE SBR

• Tents
• Cots
• Cooking equipment
• Plates, Bowls and Utensils
• All program equipment

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY PARTICIPANT

• Good attitude
• Clothes for 4 days
• Flashlight or head lamp
• Sleeping bag or blankets
• Pillow
• Rain gear
• Toiletries
• Pocketknife (optional)
• Water bottle

CLOTHING AT CAMP

BASIC CAMP GEAR

• T shirt* (long or short your choice)
• Shorts or pants*
• Underwear*
• Socks *
• Closed-toe Shoes (sneakers work great)
  *Cotton is fine and desirable at camp

• Light Jacket
• Head lamp or flashlight
• Bug spray
• Warmer Jacket or Fleece for night
• Rain Jacket (hopefully stays in your tent)
OTHER EQUIPMENT WORTH MENTIONING

Closed-toed shoes- All Summit activities require closed toed shoes for participation. Onsite Aquatics – no shoes required while on water. Water shoes are required for white water rafting. Crocs, flip flops and other shoes that may easily slip off are not allowed.

PHYSICAL PREPARATION

The programs at the Paul R. Christen High Adventure are designed as HIGH ADVENTURE which means there will be a challenging physical aspect to the program.

During your Experience, you will hike several miles a day. You SHOULD prepare for this by hiking with your troop or crew in the months leading up to your Experience. During these trainings, it is vital to test your gear and find out what works for you.

Along the way, it is also vital to break in your footwear! No new shoes should be tested during your Experience. If you do not have access to trail systems, simple walking anywhere will suffice. Again, Hiking is a great way to get in shape.

Remember the goal, when planning your physical preparation exercises try to do them as a group. This will accelerate the bonding experience and truly pay dividends when you are on your Experience.

Participants who want to attend The Summit but do not currently meet the BMI requirements listed in the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record should consult with their physician regarding a safe and healthy plan for weight loss.

A “Preparation Hike” is still a hike, and the safety precautions you take on any hike should be taken on your preparation hikes. The following are some guidelines you should follow when hiking as a group or with a buddy:

- Make sure parents and other leaders not on the hike know your hiking route, estimated departure and return times and let them know when you have returned.
- Check the weather forecast and make sure you are prepared for any possible rain, snow, wind, heat and cold.
- For organized group hikes, two deep leadership must be maintained just like any other Scouting event.
- Make sure to utilize the buddy system. As discussed above, sometimes participants may have to do some hikes other than organized group hikes.
- If you have a cell phone carry it for emergency communication.

MARKSMAN OUTPOST CAMP INFORMATION

In order to minimize hiking time and maximize program time, Marksman participants will camp Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights at The Barrels Outpost Camp which will also allow for additional evening program time. Participants will return to the Alpha (A) Base Camp on Thursday evening following their fourth day of The Marksman Program. Tents and food will be provided at the Barrels outpost camp.

Participants at The Barrels Outpost Camp will be provided with a two-person tent and a cot for sleeping. All meals will be eaten at the Barrels Range. Cooking gear and eating utensils are provided.