

To say today was really wet would be an understatement.

Troop 90 participated in the Middlesex Klondike Derby which was held at Quail Hill Scout Reservation. We had two patrols competing today. Despite the weather, it was a well-attended event with 48 cub and scout patrols participating.

The scouts competed in the following stations:

- Flag raising - Our scouts built a 15 foot flagpole with their patrol flag on it out of three logs and lots of rope!
- Devil's Canyon - Our scouts had to race pulling their sled up a steep (and muddy!) incline.
- Compass Stations (2) - Bearings, pacing and distance across a river using a compass.
- First Aid - Our scouts had to discuss injury cases and tie a one-handed bowline.
- Fun Station - A Game of Telephone.
- Knots - Our scouts had to tie 8 knots while wearing gloves.
- Fire Building - Our scouts had to build a fire without matches in a drenching downpour and boil water in an empty tuna can. At least one patrol was successful in doing this.

Our scouts were the most prepared of the scouts I saw in my station as far as proper clothing. We had all of the gear ready to go. Nice job to all of the participants and especially our leadership group of Armaan, Drew, and Rithvik (Guide to the Money Makers.)

Ultimately, this was a test of how our scouts would persevere through challenging conditions. It really poured and our rain gear was once again tested. Our scouts competed and finished the day with smiles on their faces. Their "can-do" attitude was great today and it was appreciated. They deserve a ton of respect for gritting it out.

The event ended early and results will be announced in early February. Special thanks to Mr. Duncan and Mr Z for helping out at stations today as well as to the drivers Mrs. Reddy, Mr. Jawadiwar and Mr. Chebolu.

Dry out and I will see you all on Monday.

Yours in scouting!
Mr. G