

SAIL



HANDBOOK

2013-2014

SAIL



# S A I L



## Welcome to Pathfinders!

**Dear Pathfinder,**

Welcome to a new Pathfinder year, our fifth as a club. This is an exciting year, as we will be participating in the 2014 International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh Wisconsin next August. If you were at the Southwestern Union Camporee this past Pathfinder year, you have gained but a small taste of what is in store in Oshkosh. This year we will hold several fundraising activities for Oshkosh, and within the next couple months, we will be finalizing our travel plans (planes, trains or automobiles?).

We have said good-bye to several club members this past year, some moving away, others heading off to academy. But we are happy to welcome in the new and returning members, and I am excited at the opportunities that lie ahead. This year we will be trying out some of the newest honors available: Rivers and Streams, Odonates (Dragonflies and Damselflies), and possibly even the new Sharks honor. Water is an important part of our landscape, and during the year we will have the opportunity to visit small streams and creeks, a river or two, perhaps some ponds and lakes, and the Gulf of Mexico. We are also finally working on the Archery honor, in the spring (and I hear that there may be some archery at the Camporee in November as well).

We will continue to expand the opportunities for service projects for Club members this year, starting as usual with the Lake Travis Underwater Cleanup (though this year, with the lake so low, we may not be getting out on a boat). We are talking with Keep Austin Beautiful to arrange some community service projects, and will also work with Adventist Community Services. If you have an idea for a service or mission project for your class, unit or the club, be sure to let us know. Remember that the Pathfinder Pledge commits you to be both a servant of God and a friend to your fellow man.

Here's to another great year!

Rodger Baker  
Director  
South Austin Inner Lights (SAIL)  
Pathfinder Club

*"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." -John Muir*

SAIL



# Purpose and Objective of Pathfinding

## The Purpose of the Pathfinder Club

The purpose of the Pathfinder Club is to:

- 1) Lead its members into a growing, redemptive relationship with God
- 2) Build its members into responsible, mature individuals
- 3) Involve its members in active, selfless service

## The Objectives of the Pathfinder Club

1. Help young people to understand that God and His church love them, care for them, and appreciate them
2. Encourage Pathfinders to discover their own God-given potential
3. Inspire young people to give personal expression of their love for God
4. Make the number one priority of the club program the personal salvation of every Pathfinder
5. Build into a Pathfinder's life a healthy appreciation and love for God's creation by enjoying outdoor activity
6. Teach Pathfinders specific skills and hobbies that will make their lives more meaningful
7. Encourage Pathfinders to keep physically fit
8. Give opportunity for the development of leadership
9. Seek to foster the harmonious development of the physical, social, intellectual, and spiritual life



World Pathfinder Patch



North America Division Pathfinder Patch



Texas Conference Pathfinder Patch

# Membership and Conduct

## Membership Requirements and Code of Conduct

1. Membership in the South Austin Inner Lights (SAIL) Pathfinder Club is open to all youths in grades 5-10. Older teens may join in leadership and leadership training positions.
2. Pathfinders must agree to participate in club events, including but not limited to attendance at club meetings, work on progressive class materials, field trips, campouts, fundraising, community service and outreach projects. Unnecessary or excessive absences may lead to restrictions of privileges for participation in extra activities.
3. Pathfinders must be punctual and faithful in attendance. Any planned absence should be communicated to staff prior to the absence. If there are difficulties in ensuring timely attendance, please discuss options with a staff member.
4. Pathfinders' parents or guardians must be willing to cooperate with the regulations and activities of the club, as agreed to in the Pathfinder application forms and/or explained by the Pathfinder Director or Deputy Directors. There will be opportunities for parents to visit special club meetings and join in select activities.
5. All Pathfinders must pay a yearly registration fee and monthly dues in a timely fashion, as laid out in the registration forms. If there are financial difficulties, please contact the Pathfinder Director or Treasurer to discuss options.
6. Pathfinders are required to wear the appropriate uniform to any club activity or function. Full Dress Uniforms must be kept neat and all patches and appropriate insignia must be sewn on the uniform in the correct locations. At all times, whether in uniform or not, Pathfinders will dress neatly and modestly.
7. Pathfinders will listen for instructions and follow them the first time they are asked. Pathfinders agree to follow all club regulations, and respect the club leadership.
8. Pathfinders must learn and live by the principles of the Pathfinder Pledge and Law. This includes keeping a positive attitude, cheerfully participating, and readily cooperating.
9. Pathfinders will respect club members, as well as club and church property and property belonging to others. Respect for individuals includes avoiding improper or degrading language, bullying, mental abuse or excessive physical contact.
10. The SAIL Pathfinder Club maintains a hands-off policy regarding relationships between youth.

*"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander." (1 Peter 3:15-16)*

# SAIL Policies

## Dues and Fees

A one-time yearly club registration fee of \$25.00 dollars is due with the application. Monthly dues of \$15.00 (\$13.00 each for families with more than one Pathfinder) are payable at the first regular Pathfinder meeting of the month. A \$5.00 fee will be charged for dues over two months late. Some additional fees may be required for campouts or activities. Financial assistance or waiver may be available based on individual circumstances. Please contact the Pathfinder Director or Treasurer if you need further information or assistance.

## Merit System

Commitment to the Pathfinder Club, the ideals espoused in the Pledge and Law, and to personal spiritual, mental and physical growth and well-being is an important part of Pathfinding. The merit system helps the Pathfinder strive to be their best and encourages personal responsibility, both as an individual and toward the unit and club. It also serves to encourage and reward commitment and attendance, and is a core criteria in the selection of Pathfinder of the Year.

Points are awarded at each club meeting for attendance, attitude and uniform. Participation in field trips and club campouts will require at least 80 percent of the total possible points. Tardiness will result in lost points (three tardies will count the same as one absence). Excused absences will not be counted against the total points (though excessive excused absences may lead to removal of participation privileges).

Additional opportunities for points may be offered based on extra outreach activities, skills, etc, but these will be offered only on a limited basis. Points may be subtracted from a Pathfinder's points or an entire unit for any willful misconduct or failure to follow the club rules and procedures.

## Discipline Procedure

Pathfinders commit to being courteous and obedient each time they recite the Pathfinder Law. Disruptive or disrespectful behavior not only delays Pathfinder programs and activities, but can also undermine order and safety within the club. It is recognized that youth will be youth, and most minor infringements will be dealt with by a simple warning. However, for serious behavioral issues the SAIL club uses the following 4-step response.

Step 1. Warning, with clear indication of the inappropriate behavior and reminder of expectations.

Step 2. Discussion of the issue and expectations with a staff counselor. Possible separation from the group for 5-10 minutes.

Step 3. Discussion of the issue and expectations with the Director or Deputy Director, notification sent to parents, potential loss of privileges for remainder of the activity.

Step 4. Discussion of the issue and expectations with the Pathfinder, Director and parents, and potential temporary suspension from all Pathfinder activities for a specific period of time.

## **Personal Electronics Policy**

Personal electronics, including iPods, MP3 players, radios and personal video games are not allowed at Pathfinder functions, including club meetings. Cell phones will be allowed at club meetings, but must be kept silent, not used during the meeting, and only used after the meeting to call parents if necessary. Cell phones are only allowed on other Pathfinder functions if they are held by a staff member until the end of the event when the Pathfinder may need to contact their parents.

## **SAIL Pathfinder Club Dress Code**

Although Pathfinders is an organization open to all who wish to join, we are sponsored by and enjoy upholding the Christian standards of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Church urges modest, neat dress at all times, and encourages proper nutrition, exercise and grooming as factors of appropriate and healthy appearance.

1. Pathfinder activities will always be conducted in uniform (Class A, Class B or Field, as specified by staff) unless the project is of a nature that it requires work clothes that may be ruined.
2. Pathfinders will always be neat, clean, and well groomed, and dress modestly at all times, whether or not at a Pathfinder function.
3. Staff members will be held to the same standards of grooming as the Pathfinders.

\*Amendments to this dress code may be made during the Pathfinder year, and will be distributed to parents and Pathfinders.

## **Uniform Types**

Uniforms provide a sense of group identity, engender a positive spirit of pride in the group and individual, and remind Pathfinders what, and Who, they represent.

Class A – Full Dress uniform. - Khaki short-sleeve uniform shirt with properly placed insignia, black dress pants, black belt with Pathfinder buckle, yellow scarf and slide, black honor sash, black socks, black low-heeled shoes.

Class B – Dress Uniform Shirt, black slacks, black belt with Pathfinder buckle, black socks, black low-heeled shoes.

Class C – Field Uniform - Club T-shirt, blue or black long denim Jeans, sneakers or hiking shoes.

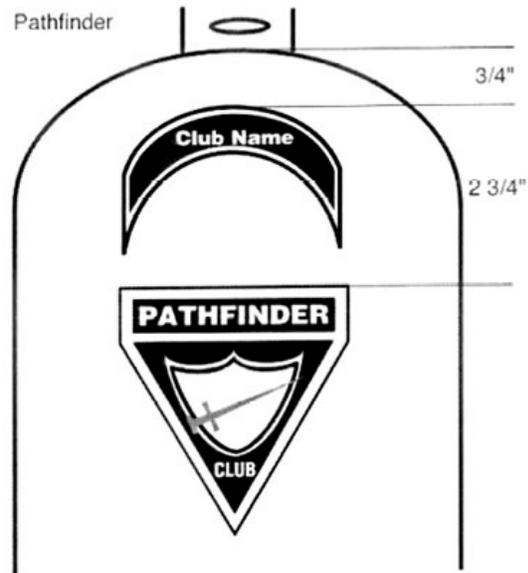
Community Service – For some community service projects it may not be practical for club members to be in uniform. Clothing of a disposable nature or that the club member will not mind damaging may be more appropriate for activities such as painting, home repair, and other potentially messy projects. Even when not in uniform, all Pathfinders will be expected to present themselves in a conservative manner that is an appropriate representation of the Pathfinder program.

# Uniform Insignia Placement

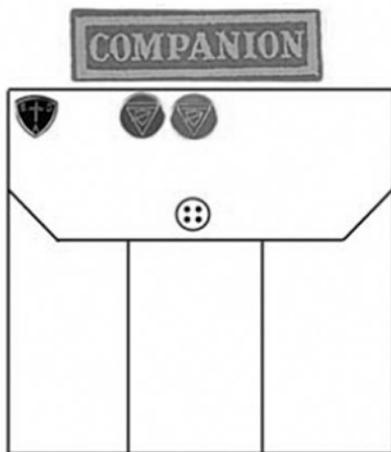
## Left Sleeve



## Right Sleeve



## Left Pocket



Placement of uniform insignia is part of proper dress code. The left sleeve will have the Texas Conference patch, the World Pathfinder Club patch, and any chevrons earned from the achievement classes. The right sleeve has the Club Crest and the Pathfinder Shield patch. The left pocket has the current achievement Class level centered above the pocket. Pinned on the pocket tab are the Class level pins (beginning with the lowest level to the right), as well as, if applicable, the Baptismal pin (placed closest to the heart). The Bible Bowl achievement pin from the current or previous year only may also be placed on the left pocket tab, beneath the Baptismal pin, and centered on the pocket itself would be a Captain or Scribe pin as appropriate. Collected or traded pins, club pins or other decorations are not allowed on the uniform shirt (but are allowed on the sash).

# The Pathfinder Pledge and Law

## The Pathfinder Pledge

<p><b>By the grace of God, I will be pure,  and kind,  and true. I will keep the Pathfinder Law.  I will be a servant of God  and a friend to man.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only as we rely on God to help us can we do his will.</li><li>• I will fill my mind with everything that is right and true and spend my time in activities that will build a strong, clean character.</li><li>• I will be considerate and kind, not only to my fellow man, but also to all of God's creation.</li><li>• I will be honest and upright in study, work and play and can always be counted upon to do my very best.</li><li>• I will seek to understand the meaning of the Law and will strive to live up to it's spirit, realizing that obedience to law is essential in any organization</li><li>• I will pledge myself to serve God first, last, and best in everything I am called upon to be or do.</li><li>• I will live to bless others and do unto them as I would have them do unto me.</li></ul>
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## The Pathfinder Law

<p><b>Keep the morning watch Do my honest part  Care for my body, Keep a level eye  Be courteous and obedient Walk softly in the sanctuary, Keep a song in my heart,  Go on God's errand.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I will have prayer and personal bible study each day.</li><li>• By the power of God I will help others, and do my duty and my honest share, wherever I may be.</li><li>• I will be temperate in all things and strive to reach a higher standard of physical fitness.</li><li>• I will not lie, cheat or deceive, and will despise dirty talk or evil thinking.</li><li>• I will be kind and thoughtful of others, reflecting the love of Jesus in all my association with others.</li><li>• In any devotional exercise I will be quiet, careful and reverent.</li><li>• I will be cheerful and happy and let the influence of my life be as sunshine to others.</li><li>• I will always be ready to share my faith and go about doing good as Jesus did.</li></ul>
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## The Pathfinder Aim

**The Advent message to all the world in this generation**

## The Pathfinder Motto

**The love of Christ constrains us**

The Pathfinder Song

**Oh, We Are the Pathfinders Strong**  
*Soy Conquistador Fuerte y Fiel*  
*Nous Sommes les Explorateurs*

H. T. B.

Henry T. Bergh

capo on 1st fret      G      F#m/G      G      G      B7      C E7/B Am

Oh, we are the Path - find - ers strong, The ser - vants of God are we;  
*Soy Con - quis - ta - dor fuer - te y fiel, Un sier - vo de Dios yo soy;*  
*Nous som - mes les Ex - plo - ra - teurs, Les ser - vi - teurs du Sei - gneur;*

C      A7      D7      G

Faith - ful as we march a - long,      In kind - ness, truth and pur - i - ty.  
*Fiel - es mar - cha - re - mos ya      Por la sen - da del de - ber.*  
*Bons, loy - aux et purs, mar - chant      Fi - dé - les à la vé - ri - té.*

G      F#m/G      G      G      B7      C

A mes - sage to tell to the world,      A truth that will set us free,  
*Men - sa - je ten - e - mos que dar,      Ver - dad que li - ber - tá - ra,*  
*Nous vou - lons an - non - cer à tous      Un mes - sage li - bé - ra - teur*

C/E      Cm/Eb      G      C      G/D      D7      G

King Je - sus the Sav - iour's com - ing back for you and me.  
*Je - sús muy pron - to re - gre - sa - rá por tí, por mí.*  
*Bien - tôt des cieux re - vient le Sau - veur, Pour moi, pour vous.*

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# Outdoor Activities

Pathfinding offers many opportunities for outdoor activities and camping. Fresh air, exercise and a connection with God through nature helps develop a healthy mind, body and spirit. Nature and the outdoors - "God's other book" - are an important part of the Pathfinder experience, whether it be through the study of trees or stars, hiking and climbing in a State Park, learning to row or sail, or just appreciating the sounds of owls, crickets and the crackle of a campfire on a cool autumn evening.

## **Pathfinder Camping Code:**

I will camp only where camping is allowed.

I will keep my campsite clean at all times, and I will leave it cleaner than when I found it.

I will never leave my campfire unattended, and when I leave I will be sure that it is entirely out.

I will never use my knife or ax to cut, mar or scar live trees.

I will never pick wild flowers without permission.

I will never cut trails while hiking.

I will never pollute a lake or stream.

I will always respect the privacy of other campers.

I will always be polite and courteous.

I will respect all signs, authority, rules and private property.

I will always conduct myself as a Pathfinder and a Christian.

I will always leave a campsite knowing that I am welcome to return.

## **Camping Supplies**

The SAIL Pathfinder Club schedules several camping trips a year. Some equipment is supplied by the club, other equipment should be supplied by the Pathfinder. Pathfinders working on Ranger, Voyager and Guide class will also take part in backpack camping, and additional information on proper gear will be distributed early in the Pathfinder year. If you need assistance in finding, selecting or borrowing gear, please contact a staff member.

All Pathfinders should have:

Sleeping Bag

Mess Kit (Plate, bowl, cup, fork and spoon, preferably metal or strong plastic)

Mesh Bag (to hold mess kit for drying)

Flashlight with extra batteries

Travel-size personal hygiene kit (Should include at least toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, washcloth, towel)

Bible, Notebook and Pencil

Sleeping Mat (optional but recommended)

Compass (optional)

# Commitments

## **Pathfinder Commitment**

In order to get the most out the Pathfinder program and to help ensure the most positive experience possible for all concerned, I agree to:

- Be on time to all activities.
- Consistently attend all activities.
- Participate willingly in all activities.
- Do my share of the work. (Remember that different tasks will be required for different activities.)
- Speak with respect to my fellow club members and to all Pathfinder staff.
- Keep a positive attitude.
- Wear the appropriate uniform in the appropriate manner.
- Bring my dues every month. (This will help with the costs of supplies for the many activities throughout the year.)
- Obey all regulations and instructions given by all Pathfinder staff.
- When I have a concern or complaint, discuss it with my counselor or other Pathfinder staff instead of complaining to other Pathfinders.
- Share with my counselor or Pathfinder staff any ideas or suggestions that I may have.

I also understand that not all suggestions or ideas will be put to use, however, each one will be sincerely considered and acted on when it is possible and in the best interest of all concerned.

## **Parent and Guardian Commitment**

I have read and understood the Pathfinder Club Membership Application and have signed that application on behalf of the minor named on the application. I understand that while participating or attending Pathfinder functions the child is subject to the rules, guidelines, policies, instructions, directions, and orders of the SAIL Pathfinder club and its staff. I agree that I will not interfere with the Pathfinder staff in the conduct of its duties while participating in or attending such events with my child; I agree to this because I understand that to do so will undermine the purpose of the Pathfinder organization.

It is my right and duty to inform the senior staff or director of the Pathfinder club immediately should I observe action taken by any Pathfinder or staff member that I believe to be inherently dangerous or potentially harmful or inappropriate.

I understand that the participation of my child in the Pathfinder club is "at will" and the club or I may remove my child from the rolls of the Pathfinder club at any time. I understand that this will not disqualify my child from future participation in Pathfinders although there may be a specified period of time for temporary disqualification should it be deemed appropriate. I understand that if I remove my child from the Pathfinder club or my child is expelled by the club I am not entitled to any reimbursement of funds paid for joining the Pathfinder club.

I agree to assist the club according to those items delineated in the Pathfinder Club membership application and handbook. I further agree that my signature on the application is my contract to pay fees associated with the Pathfinder club and those fees must be paid as agreed unless waived by the Director or Treasurer as a result of my specific request for financial waiver or assistance.

I understand that if I seek financial waiver or assistance the information I supply to the director will remain the property of the Pathfinder club. The Pathfinder club will use this information only for the purpose of considering my request for financial assistance and will not without my foreknowledge share this information with any other department of the church or outside entity public or private. I understand that in some cases as a result of financial accountability to the church the church Pastor(s), Treasurer, and/or board may be made aware of this information and that they will not use the information for any purpose other than auditing and will not share the information within the church or make the provided information public.

I understand that the medical information provided to the club during this process will remain confidential. The information will be carried on and to all outings and campouts and will be made available to any Pathfinder or conference medical officer or any medical or emergency professional in the case of an accident or emergency. The information will be shared with doctors and medical facilities as required for the treatment of injury or illness.

# Pathfinder And Parent Agreement

## Agreement of Pathfinder:

I have read the SAIL Pathfinder Club handbook and I understand the contents and agree to be guided by the Pathfinder Pledge and Law and the rules of the club. I will make every effort to attend all club activities including meetings, trips, fundraising activities, outreach and service opportunities.

Pathfinder Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Pathfinder Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Agreement by Parents or Guardians:

I/We have read the SAIL Pathfinder Club handbook, and understand and agree to support the above named Pathfinder to uphold the standards of the Pathfinder organization and abide by the rules and guidelines of the SAIL Pathfinder Club.

I/We will cooperate with the SAIL Pathfinder Club:

1. By learning how we can assist our child and the Pathfinder leaders
2. By providing timely transportation to and from all Pathfinder activities
3. By encouraging our child to take an active part in all activities
4. By attending events to which parents are invited
5. By ensuring dues/fees are remitted promptly, or making alternative arrangements with the Director or Treasurer.

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

[Please return this page by the first SAIL Pathfinder Club meeting]