



Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Boy Scout

\_\_\_\_ Varsity Scout

\_\_\_\_ Venturer

\_\_\_\_ Adult Scouter



Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_ °F

Lowest Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_ °F

Snow covering the ground: \_\_\_\_\_ " Snowfall received: \_\_\_\_\_ "

Menu:

Type of Shelter used: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Unit Leader Certification

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Requirements for the Polar Bear Award

A real woodsman knows how to care for himself outdoors in the winter as well as the summer. Scouts, given the opportunity, find winter camping an enjoyable and challenging venture. Any winter camping event requires proper planning. Therefore, a Polar Bear outing should be planned as such. It should not be awarded just because it happened to be cold while the Unit was camping. In order to stimulate this kind of activity in the Southwest Michigan Council, certain requirements for earning the Polar Bear Award have been formulated by the Camping Committee:

1. Before the Campout, the unit leader must be sure of the Scout's knowledge of the following things:
  - a. Types of clothing, bedding, and equipment needed for winter camping.
  - b. Cleanliness and safety in care of the campsite and equipment.
  - c. Cleanliness and safety in care of food, fires, and health.
2. Candidate must describe the emergency procedures to be followed for common problems or emergencies that may occur in winter weather.
3. The award is available to Scouts, Venturers, and Adult Scouters that have had enough training and preparation to successfully complete the requirements for this award.
4. The Candidate must spend at least 24 hours outdoors during November, December, January, February or March in which the temperature drops to 20°F or below.
5. During the outing, the candidate must:
  - a. Eat 3 meals and sleep out-of-doors in a tent or survival-type shelter.
  - b. Prepare a menu to suit the outdoors and cold weather calorie needs.
  - c. Prepare and cook his/her food according to the menu.
6. Only open fires may be used for cooking and heating. No gas or propane stoves are permitted.
7. Leave the campsite better than it was found.

The Polar Bear Award is in the form of an embroidered temporary emblem to be worn on the right pocket of the uniform. It may be purchased at the Scout Shop.