



Reachra County Shield 2026
24th – 26th April
Polar Subcamp (Competing)
First Mailing



Dear Scout,

Welcome to the Reachra County Shield 2026, in Larch Hill. The weekend promises to challenge you and your patrol/watch and we can also guarantee you a lot of fun along the way.

This Information pack is designed to give you enough information to get you started in your preparations for the challenge. In it you will find details about the event itself and specific information about the weekend relating to programme, campcraft guidelines and more. Use it as a tool in planning your preparations.

All patrols must be registered by Friday 27th of March 2026.

All payments must be made in full on this booking. No refunds will be available after this date.

Key Changes for 2026:

1. The theme for 2026 is 'Time Travelers'. Patrols/Watches are strongly encouraged to incorporate the theme into all parts of their weekend (site, meals, etc).
2. This year we are introducing a hot breakfast on Sunday morning. This will form part of the cooking and eating marks. More details in point 13 below.
3. There are new knife safety guidelines for this year's shield. More details below.
4. This year will see the introduction of a Trade Fair as part of the programme in the Shield. More details can be found in point 16 below and more information will be issued in the second mailing.
5. The email address for contacting the Planning Team has changed. You can now contact them by emailing:
reachracountyshield@gmail.com

Book your patrol/watch place now: <https://www.eventbookings.com/b/event/reachra-county-shield-2026-scout-bookings>

Book your Venture/Rover Scouter Staff place now: <https://www.eventbookings.com/b/event/reachra-county-shield-2026-staff-bookings-venture-rover-scout>

The support pack will provide all guidelines for this activity. It is extremely important that PLs and WLs get access to this mailing.

There will be a second information pack released once teams are registered this will provide you with the finer details of the competition.

Event Details

The Reachra County Shield will take place from Friday the 24th– Sunday 26th of April 2026 in Larch Hill National Campsite. The teams that come first and second in the Reachra County Shield will qualify to represent the County at the National Campcraft Competition, The Phoenix Challenge, in August 2026. If more than ten patrols/watches partake in the Shield, then the team that comes third will also qualify. There will be two subcamps at this year's County Shield, for teams entering the traditional County Shield Competition, Polar Subcamp, and a Discovery Subcamp for those groups who want to attend but not compete. ALL Patrols/Watches must be accompanied by a leader who has completed their BAS training, safeguarding refresher (if applicable) and have their Garda Vetting in date. ALL Discovery Patrols must have 2 leaders, one to assist their patrol/watch and one to staff the event. Please note that the leader assisting the patrol with Discovery, must be available to help their patrol/watch from the start of the event on Friday evening.

Booking

Booking is online and through Eventbookings.com. All payments will be electronic.

Cooking and Eating

Patrols are assigned a budget for the food menu: €100 for the weekend. We ask teams to provide receipts with the menu. Marks will be deducted for overspending. This will show how thrifty scouts should be when shopping and encourage you to be more aware of the cost of meals. Markers will be spot-checking food boxes. Exception: Spices, salt and pepper do not have to come from the food budget. At check-in: teams must provide a menu, a food budget, and receipts. This will be part of the cooking and eating marking scheme, along with the theme of 'Time Travellers' should be evident in your meal. This year, Patrols/Watches are required to cook a Hot Breakfast on Sunday morning, see point 13 below for more information.

Camp craft

The gateway is a compulsory gadget. This year's shield will be based on the theme of Time Travellers. Not only will we look at the quality of the essential skills, like is your tent pitched properly, layout of the campsite but there will also be a focus on how your site should have influences from the theme of Time Travellers.

Axe & saw safety

We will also require one member from each patrol to attend a short axe and saw safety talk on Friday. At this talk each patrol/watch should present their axe for inspection

Knife Safety

Using knives is an essential part of Scouting, however, it is even more important the Scouts know how to use their knives safely, and that they have an appropriate type of knife for the tasks they are completing as Scouts. To this end, we have some guidelines below, which we will be strictly enforcing at this year's County Shield. This is because, in recent years, we have seen a wide variety of different knives being used, some of which are not appropriate for Scouting activities.

The following knives have been deemed to be safe and appropriate for Scouting activities by the County Shield Planning Team:

- Scouting Ireland Swiss Army Knife (or similar)
- Mora Knife
- Opinel Knife

No knife that can open with one finger is acceptable. This includes knives that are designed to flick open, commonly known as 'switchblade knives'.

All knives on site will be inspected on Friday evening. Inappropriate knives that are found on site will be confiscated for the duration of the weekend for the safety of the youth members, and will be returned to the accompanying Scouter/Leader after the Closing Ceremony on Sunday.

Participant Details / Requirements

Participants must be Scouts and 15 or under on the 1st April 2026 to compete in the Phoenix Challenge. This is different to previous years, where the age was set at being 15 or under on the 14th August 2026. Due to the change, for this year only, we will allow scouts to compete in the Reachra County Shield that are **15 or under on the 14th August 2026**, however, if the patrol/watch qualify for the Phoenix Challenge, and do not meet the new age requirements, they will not be able to participate in the Phoenix. From 2027, the Reachra County Shield will also follow the new age requirements to match the Phoenix Challenge. Patrols will be disqualified for having over/under-age members.

A competing Patrol must have at least six members, and a maximum of eight members.

Points to Note:

1. Safety is a priority over the weekend, you must ensure as a Team that you keep this in mind in everything you do. Please ensure that appropriate clothing is worn and is suitable for activities. For example, kneeling in wet, muddy ground in leggings is

not appropriate, and the marking team/sub-camp team will ask scouts to change- if waterproof leggings are worn, this is acceptable. Leggings are also not appropriate for working at a fire or cooking, as they do not provide any substantial protection.

2. **Check-in is on Friday evening at 7:00pm.** Gear can be dropped off at Larch Hill Campsite on Thursday night at the carpark. Gear can be brought to the designated field from apx 5pm Friday with help from leaders/parents. Once check-in opens, only Scouts from the competing teams will be allowed on site. Larch Hill campsite staff do their best in facilitating trailers being driven onto the field. The campsite staff are volunteers, and this facility will be subject to the availability of a driver on the weekend. At check-in, the PL / WL must have activity consent forms for all participating scouts. The PL/WL must also submit their receipts from their food shopping and their menu at check-in.

Please be advised if you do want to drop a trailer to Larch Hill early this must be arranged directly with Larch Hill.

No equipment may be left on site before this time as the sites will not be set up and designated.

3. Full and correct Scouting Ireland uniform will be worn for the **Closing Ceremony**, with respect to the footwear, boots will be acceptable. **Uniforms must** be kept on-site with the scouts for the weekend. No part of the uniform may be given to the scouts after the competition has started on Friday evening. The uniform is **not** compulsory for check-in, but each group must adhere to their own group's policy on travelling. The uniform, should include, at least the following: scout trousers, belt, shirt/jumper with lanyard, kneckerchief, woggle, scout badges (Scouting Ireland Badge, Reachra County, PL/WL badges and any Adventure Skill Badges the Scout has earned).

4. Your Sub-Camp Staff are there to help you - if you require any information on any of the activities over the course of the weekend, ask the staff - if they don't know the answer, they'll find out. If you need anything or have forgotten anything, see your Sub-Camp Chief.

5. You will not need your mobile phone for any reason over the duration of the weekend - if you are that much in demand, it may be better if you stay at home with your phone. If a patrol/watch member is seen with a mobile phone a 20-point reduction will apply to the team's overall scores.

6. All property, both personal & patrol, is entirely the responsibility of the Team Members; no responsibility will be taken by the Event Organising Team

7. The Reachra County Shield Staff are there to ensure you enjoy your weekend. Be polite to them - you might need them to help you with something. This also applies to members of your patrol/watch. Use of bad language will not be tolerated by team members or staff. The marking team can deduct up to 50 points at one time for the use of bad language or verbal abuse to another patrol or staff member.

8. Please remember that only members of the Patrol are allowed onto the competing Subcamp. Under no circumstances is anybody, Scouter or Venture, allowed to walk around the subcamp or on the sites, unless with the express permission of the Subcamp Chief of the Subcamp in question, in an exceptional circumstance. If you should see anyone wandering around the Sub Camp who is not a member of the Subcamp staff, please report them to your Sub Camp Chief. Anybody found breaking this rule could result in the team in question being disqualified. Any extra food or equipment that has not been cleared by the sub-camp chief being brought onto the site during the competition will result in disqualification, as this is cheating.

9. **All Sections must have at least one Registered Scouter, who is fully Garda Vetted and has completed their first stages of Woodbadge Journey (BAS), in attendance for the entire weekend. This Scouter must be willing to actively take part in the staffing of the event. Discovery Patrols are required to bring 2 Scouters, one to accompany their patrol for the weekend and one to assist in the delivery of the programme for the weekend. The Scouter with Discovery who is attending to accompany their Patrol/Watch, must be available, and on site in the Discover subcamp, to help their patrol get their site set up.** If a Patrol/Watch does not have a Scouter on site at all times throughout the weekend, a 100-point deduction will be applied to that Patrol/Watch, every time the Scouter has to be contacted and is not on site/available.

10. Scouts sleeping arrangements must adhere to Scouting Ireland's policy of providing adequate privacy as per the Camping Guidelines. Any scouts found in the wrong sleeping tents will result in their team being disqualified.

11. We are currently planning to run the Shield in Kelly's Field this year. As this is a distance from the car park we are providing prior notice so it can be included in your plans for getting to and from the event. It is the responsibility of Scouts/Group to ensure that the equipment is on-site in time for the start of the competition. If groups are travelling as part of a mixed group on buses, please label gear correctly, as once a team checks in and brings their gear to the site.

12. Each year we make slight adjustments to the campcraft section in the aim of improving the standard of campcraft in the County. The Gateway is a compulsory gadget which must be built by all Patrols/Watches.

13. As has been the case in previous years, the test meal on Saturday evening should be cooked on a fire. It is compulsory for patrols/watches to be able to light their fire without the use of firelighters. The Reachra County Shield defines 'firelighters' as a firelighter purchased in a shop. If a patrol/watch chooses to light their fire with firelighters, they will still be awarded marks; however, they will be unable to achieve maximum marks in this section. This year, we will be **adding a Hot Breakfast to the Cooking and Eating Section**, which is to be had on Sunday morning. Patrols/Watches are allowed to use gas cookers or cook on open fire for this meal, unlike the Saturday evening meal, there will be no penalty for using gas. To define the term 'hot breakfast', this means that at least one part of the breakfast meal must be served hot. The hot breakfast is to be included in your €100 food budget for the weekend, and should be included in the menu submitted at check-in. Please ensure that you cook a sufficient quantity, so that there is a small portion for the markers to taste.

14. Along with this Information Pack, there is a Support Pack. This outlines guidelines for the patrol/watch on what the marking teams are looking for in the gadgets/on their site. It also lists the award structure for the event.

15. There will be an opportunity for leaders, parents and other scouts to visit sites on Saturday evening if they wish to do so. Usually around 8.30 pm on Saturday, but this will be confirmed in the Second Mailing. This will be dependent on the progress of the meal and tidy-up.

16. Trade Fair: This year will see the introduction of a Trade Fair. This will take place on Saturday evening, after site visiting times. This part of the programme will not form part of the competition; it is intended to be a fun part of the programme. However, there will be an award for the Trade Fair at the Closing Ceremony. Further details of the Trade Fair will be published in the second mailing.

Please remember that we like to run our closing ceremony on time. This will be scheduled in the next mailing (usually around 3pm on Sunday). It is up to your team to ensure that your priority is to attend this and pack trailers, etc., afterwards.

We look forward to seeing you at The Reachra County Shield 2026. So begin your preparations TODAY by booking your patrol/watch in, and then you can enjoy the next few weeks preparing for the event.

Yours in Scouting,

Reachra County Shield Planning Team



Reachra County Shield 2026 Support Pack



Dear Scout,

Welcome to the Reachra County Shield 2026 Support Pack. The aim of this pack is to provide you with some guidelines as to what is required for each of the gadgets on your site. It also outlines the format of the cooking and eating inspections and the awards structure. We hope that this document will prove to be a great asset to you and your patrol/watch in your preparations. However, if you have any questions or would like anything clarified, please email reachracountyshield@gmail.com and we will be happy to assist you.

Yours in Scouting,

Reachra County Shield Planning Team

Campcraft Guidelines

These guidelines are intended to explain to a participating Patrol/Watch what the examining team will look for the duration of The County Shield

Please read all of this information carefully.

General Information

- The size of the site will be approx. **182m²** for **all** patrols/watches. Sites will be marked out in advance, and patrols should not alter their allocated site. **Note:** every best effort will be made to ensure that all patrols are given a square / rectangular site; however, some sites may vary slightly from this to take account of the space available in the camping field.
- The layout of each site is up to each participating team.
- As per the rules of the Phoenix Challenge, **ALL** Gadgets must be free-standing. Nothing should be driven into the ground, with the exception of Boundary Poles and tent pegs. 'Guy lines' supporting gadgets are also **not** allowed. Note: All holes must be filled in for final inspection.
- **Pre-fabricated gadgets are not allowed.** This refers specifically to the tying of lashings (typically tripod / figure of eight / sheer lashings) in advance of the competition. Any such lashings found on check-in will be dismantled. This does **not** refer to table-tops, fire trays, patrol boxes, etc.
- Patrols/Watches **are** allowed to have the different gadgets bundled together, colour coded for identification, etc. upon arrival if they so wish.

- Tents may be of any type. However, an Icelandic-style Ridge tent is recommended. Each competing team **must** have at least one Ridge Style tent on their site (excluding the dining shelter). Tents must be fit for purpose e.g. 2 man tent sleeps a maximum of 2 scouts, tents should be suitable for the weather expected that weekend.
- Fire extinguishers **are banned** on patrol sites. Past experience has shown that, in general, Scouts do not know how to use them, and often the wrong types of extinguishers are brought. Buckets of sand and water should be provided instead (Note: Sand buckets should be covered to protect from the elements) and fire blankets may also be provided. No gadget is required for the fire point. However, a clearly defined fire point should be present on all sites. The Location of the fire point is important; it should be relatively central but not impeding general access to the site or any other gadget.
- Water treatment facilities do **not** need to be constructed on patrol sites. Experience has shown that these gadgets have been rarely used correctly in the past.
- The cutting of sods is not allowed. Fire trays must be used. Fire trays should be off the ground
- Please note that no equipment or timber poles/spars will be supplied to competing patrols/watches.

Campcraft Assessment Guidelines

The following will be assessed over the duration of The Reachra County Shield.

(A) The Site.

This will include assessment of the following:

- o Sleeping Tent(s)
- o Store Tent & storage gadget
- o Dining Shelter
- o Campsite Gadgets, to include:
 1. Dresser (optional gadget)
 2. Alter Fire
 3. Food Preparation Area
 4. Waste Disposal (bins)
 5. Washing Area
 6. Wood Pile & Chopping Area
 7. Gate Way
 8. Table and seating (optional gadget)
 9. Storage gadget (how items in the store tent are raised off the ground)
- o Boundaries
- o Fire Point
- o First Aid Kit
- o Layout and use of space

Note: The gate way is a mandatory part of the site.

Note: It is of primary importance that all patrols/watches build a site that is safe for their use over the duration of The Reachra County Shield. With this in mind, patrols/watches should only construct **safe** gadgets that they can competently build. ie. bringing a fold-out table and chairs is better than a poorly constructed table & seat. While patrols/watches will not attain full marks for a fold-out table and chairs, they could still be awarded greater marks than they may have received for an unsafe table & seat.

(B) Safety.

Site safety is of paramount importance. During all visits by the campcraft inspection teams, site safety will be assessed. Patrol/Watch Leaders will be notified by sub-camp staff if any parts of their site are deemed to be unsafe, and consequently will be expected to make corrections.

The correct storage of all equipment, but especially axes, saws and gas appliances, is of great importance.

(C) Hygiene & Cleanliness.

Along with site safety, hygiene & cleanliness are probably the most important aspects of campcraft. As with safety, these will be assessed on all visits by the campcraft inspection teams.

Food should be stored correctly at all times. This especially refers to perishable foods. Cooking and eating utensils, as well as all work surfaces and cookers, should be properly cleaned after each use.

(D) Availability of Water & Fire Wood.

There should be an ample supply of both on your site at all times. You will need to ensure that you have enough supplies to keep the alter fire as a functional fire for cooking food, boiling water etc.

Bottled water is not suitable, and a water container should be used at all times. Water Containers should always be at least half full at all times.

NOTE: There may be very little supply of wood available on or near the event site, so it is suggested that each patrol/watch make provision for this in advance. Each site should have graded wood piles. Although there is permission to bring pre-chopped wood, scouts must be able to demonstrate how to chop wood with an axe and saw.

Inspection Guidelines

Expected/Suggested order of site pitching:

Sleeping Tent(s)
Stores/Store Tent(s)
Dinning shelter
Boundaries
Rest of site

Guidelines for Tentage (Sleeping/Store)

- Tent poles must be straight and in line with the type of tent being used.
- Pegs for the guy lines must be at the correct angle 45°
- Walls must be as taut as possible to prevent water getting in.
- Doors must close correctly with no stretching or gaps between the two sides of the doors.
- Guy lines must be used correctly in accordance with the type of tent being used.
- Everything should be neat and tidy, with sleeping bags rolled up and everything packed into rucksacks.

Guidelines for the Chopping Area

- The ground within the chopping area must be protected with some form of sheeting and large enough to allow safe use of the axe and saw, an axe and an arm length all round is a good guide for a safe chopping area.
- There must be some form of boundary around the chopping area.
- With regards to the axe and saw, if they are not visible in the chopping area, it doesn't necessarily mean that they don't have them. They may be stored in the store tent. Wherever they are stored, the storage should be safe.
- **At least one member of the patrol should know how to use an axe correctly. Tool demos will be required by the marking team.**

Guidelines for the Site Layout

- The site layout will be marked on the positioning of the gadgets. This will be done on the basis of usability. For example, placing the food preparation gadget, the fire and the chopping area in three different corners of your site might not be a good use of space, as they will often be used together.
- As a safety precaution, where possible, all tentage should be the furthest point from the fire
- Use of space

Guidelines for the Altar Fire

Every year, the altar fire is a big safety issue. For the fire to be used, the following criteria must be adhered to:

- Secure structure
- Lashings tight. If not using tripod style altar fire, the gadget must be secure and safe to use
- Fire tray should not be free to move
- Height of the fire tray to be approximately **45cm to 75cm.** This should be measured to the smallest Scout in the Patrol/Watch,
- Timber around fire tray must be protected from the heat with mud or tinfoil

If any altar fire is deemed unsafe to use, the Patrol/Watch will have an opportunity to improve the gadget before it is allowed to be used. In the event the fire is still deemed to be unsafe by either the campcraft

markers, the cooking and eating inspectors or the Sub Camp Staff, the patrol/watch will have to cook using gas. This will only be advised when every other effort to fix the altar fire gadget has failed.

NB: Each patrol/watch must have the means of cooking on gas for the weekend.

Guidelines for the woodpile

- The woodpile will be marked for its structure, lashings and functionality
- Timber must be graded into at least **three sizes**, kindling as a starter and a heavier grade to keep it going. It must also be protected from the elements
- There must be ample timber to complete your test meal; all other meals can be cooked on gas, including the Hot Breakfast on Sunday morning.
- The wood pile should be in the chopping area and should be covered. It should not be in the tent. It can be in a box.

Guidelines for the boundaries

- Correct knots used on boundaries, the round turn and two half hitches are used to start and finish, and the clove hitch is used on the intermediate boundary poles
- Boundaries taut

Guidelines for the table and seating

- All Scouts should be able to fit comfortably at the table
- The table should be at the correct height and in accordance with the seating
- The table top should be a flat piece of wood and should be secured to the gadget so it doesn't move

Guidelines for the fire point

- This does not have to be a gadget, but needs to be clearly identified and centrally located

Guidelines for the waste disposal area

- 2 provisions for rubbish in line with Larch Hill's waste disposal policy, as follows:
 - General Waste – Food, non-burnable & non-recyclable
 - Recyclable – Cardboard, Plastic, Metal (should be clean!)
- Bins should not be over full.
- Bins must be covered, and bin bags must be off the ground.
- Structure and Lashings
- When emptying bin bags, Scouts should replace them with a new bag, ready to use.

Guidelines for the storage

- It's very important that food and non-food are stored separately to prevent cross-contamination
- Equipment stored separately
- Cleaning equipment separately
- Cool box for perishable items
- All storage boxes must be raised off the ground in the form of a storage gadget.
- Food should be stored in an appropriate storage box (ideally a clear plastic box with a lid)
- All ice packs must be clearly labelled
- Uniforms can be stored in a clear plastic box, ideally in the store tent.

Guidelines for the dresser

- The gadget will be marked for its design and must be used for its intended purpose. ie pots, utensils etc
- Tight lashings
- Gadget tidy
- Items clearly off the ground

Guidelines for the wash area

- This is a separate gadget from the dresser and will be marked for its design and function
- Lashings
- The height of the basin
- Safe structure
- Provisions should be made for the storage of water containers.
- Separate basins should be provided for utensil and personal washing.

Guidelines for the gateway

- The gateway will be marked on its design and functionality
- Lashings
- **Patrol identification (sign, flag, notice board, use of theme)**
- Safety (Gate must be high enough to allow ease of access)
- Note: This is a compulsory gadget.

Guidelines for the dining shelter

- Ample shelter to cover the entire patrol
- All guy lines used
- Ease of access in and out of the shelter
- Adequate cover from the elements

Guidelines for the food preparation area

- Adequate space for the preparation of food
- Height of the work surfaces
- Is the structure safe to use
- Clean surfaces to prevent cross-contamination

Guidelines for Patrol/Watch ID

- Patrol/Watch name and Group should be clearly identifiable
- Patrol/Watch members and jobs should be clearly identifiable
- Menu should be displayed.
- There should be clear evidence of the theme throughout your site.

NOTES:

- Safety will be assessed during all inspections.
- On all gadget items, the suitability of the design, the soundness of construction and the standard of lashings are assessed at all times.
- **All gadgets should be used for their purpose at all times.** Gadgets built but not actually in use, for example, a dresser without pots on display, etc, will not be able to gain maximum points.
- Depending on the design, some of the gadgets mentioned may be combined into one gadget. Alternatively, some of their functions may be separated into different gadgets. Regardless of the design used, it is important that all the functions of the items listed below are catered for on the site.
- Scout are allowed to carry appropriate scouting knives on site. Hunting knives or unsafe knives will be taken off scouts. Or a scout misusing a knife will have their knife removed.
 - **Mora, opinel or swiss army knives are the recommended knives to be used.**
- For the ridge-style tent to be awarded marks, it must be pitched as a tent and not as a dining shelter.

A note about Tri-pods & Quad-pods

Where free-standing campcraft is used, the majority of gadgets are built using Tri-pods or Quad-pods. It is important that these items are **braced correctly**. Failure to do so can result in a structure collapsing if knocked against. This would be especially dangerous in the case of tables and altar fires.

In the case of Tri-pods, braces should be lashed on around the three sides of the structure, preferably with the braces low to the ground (especially on heavier gadgets). An alternative is a T-bar structure, although this can allow the back leg to swing if it is not done correctly.

In the case of Quad-pods, diagonal braces or braces on all four sides should be used, again preferably low to the ground.

Where one of these structures is braced by other parts of the gadget, then there may not be a need to use braces as described above. The important point is that on any tri-pod or quad-pod, none of the legs should be free to move. If in doubt use one of the above systems.

Cooking and Eating

Scouts must light their fire without fire lighters

Scouts that choose to use fire lighters will still receive marks, but will not be able to achieve maximum marks in this section.

Scouts should eat healthily for the duration of the weekend. This means that adequate menus (outlining a balanced and healthy diet) are planned and followed for the whole weekend.

There will be a dedicated Cooking and Eating Inspection Team for the duration of the weekend, and your site will be visited numerous times over the weekend.

The team does not expect restaurant-standard food at any visit; the emphasis is on simple, healthy food, cooked well and enjoyed by all. This particularly refers to patrols/watches that have scouts with specific dietary requirements. Another thing you should consider when relating your meals is the theme of the weekend.

There is a total of 20% of the overall marks allocated to the Cooking and Eating aspect of the competition, and the patrol/watch that scores the highest will be awarded the perpetual cooking award.

The main test meal must be hot and have a carbohydrate, protein and vegetable elements to it.

Cooking and Eating inspections:

On Friday, at Check In, the patrol/watch will submit a copy of their menu for the weekend; this can be handwritten or typed in advance. This is worth a portion of the cooking and eating marks. This must include a budget of no more than €100. This excludes salt/pepper/spices.

Sample Menu/Budget

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Supper	Totals
Friday				Hot dogs on rolls	
				Rolls x 2 €0.85 Frankfurters x 2 €0.75 Ketchup €2	€5.20
Saturday	Cereal, fruit, yogurt with orange juice	Wrap with salad and ham crisps and a bar with water	Spag ball	Cuppa soup & bread rolls	
	Cornflakes €3.99 Milk €2 Frube €1.32 Orange juice €1.49 Fruit €1.49	Wraps x 2 €2.15 Ham €0.79 King crisps €4.65 Mayo €3.50 Club milk €4.75	Mince €5 Pasta €0.45 Passata x 2 €0.85 Peppers x 3 €0.69 Onion €0.89 Seasoning	Soup x2 €1.65 Rolls x 2 €0.85	€43.39
Sunday	Sausages & beans	turkey sandwiches with crisps bar and fruit			
	Sausages x 2 €1.79 Beans €3.49	Turkey €1.89 Butter €1.59 Bread €1.89 Crisps & bar above			10.65
	This is an example only there are several important aspects missing This menu will not necessarily receive full marks Receipts that match the menu must be submitted at check in.				€59.24

Programme:

Saturday Bases

The Programme bases will be located within Larch Hill and its Environs.

Campfire takes place on Friday Night

Trade Fair takes place on Saturday Night

More info

Above is a taster of what will happen over the event. The next mailing will have more detailed information in it, detailing what you need to bring etc.

Sunday Final Inspection

On Sunday, our final inspection will take place from 11am onwards. Before this inspection kit should not be taken down or dismantled, and should be a fully functioning site up to this point.

It is essential that patrols/watches do not pack the trailer before they have finished their final inspection. Marks will be lost if equipment is not available for marking.

The Reachra County Shield Award Structure 2026

Every Team who enters The County Shield will, over the course of the event, be assessed on a number of tasks, challenges and standards in order to determine if points are to be awarded.

Breakdown of Marks

Please note that the following percentages are estimates and may vary slightly.

Any alterations will be confirmed in the next mailing.

Campcraft: 60% of overall marks

Skills Bases: 20% of overall marks

Cooking and Eating Inspections: 20% of overall marks

At the closing ceremony, each Patrol/Watch will be awarded a certificate stating the level of award they achieved over the weekend.

GOLD STANDARD AWARD

This shall be awarded to Teams who obtain between 80% and 100% inclusive of the overall marks.

SILVER STANDARD AWARD

This shall be awarded to Teams who obtain between 65% and 79% of the overall marks.

BRONZE STANDARD AWARD

This shall be awarded to Teams who obtain between 30% and 64% of the overall marks.

PARTICIPATION AWARD

This shall be awarded to Teams who obtain up to 29% of the overall marks.

All Novice patrols will be presented with this award.

Other Awards

Campcraft Award Highest points in the Campcraft

Bases Award	Highest points in the Skills Bases
Cooking Award	Highest points in the Cooking and Eating Inspections

Please note that teams that come first and second in the County Shield qualify to represent the County at the National Campcraft Competition, The Phoenix Challenge, in August. If there are more than 10 teams that take part in the Shield, then the team that comes in third place will also qualify for the Phoenix Challenge.

In the past, these teams were not be eligible to win any of the above four awards. This is ***not*** the case from 2017 onwards. The team who achieve the highest points in each section will receive the awards regardless of ranking.

3rd Place	3rd highest set of points taking into account all marked areas
Runner Up	2nd highest set of points taking into account all marked areas
The Reachra County Shield Trophy	Highest set of points taking into account all marked areas

The Award Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony will take place on the Sunday of The Reachra County Shield.

The ceremony will be conducted in the following manner

1. Announcing Discovery sites first and then competing sites from Site number 1 onwards in numerical order, the award achieved – Participation, Bronze, Silver and Gold.
2. Spirit of Scouting Award
3. Trade Fair Award
4. Cooking and Eating Award.
5. The Bases Award
6. The Campcraft Award
7. 3rd place will be announced and the 3rd Place Prizes will be presented.
8. 2nd place will be announced and the Runner-Up Prizes will be presented.
9. 1st place will be announced and The Reachra County Shield Trophy will be presented.

A folder with medical consent forms, main campcraft, cooking and eating and bases will be available for each team to take home.