## 



The Trojan Manifesto

It’s okay to be okay.

**─**

David Fisher

1st and 2nd Generation Trojan

Troop 682

2015-2022

“I’m just trying my best to sort through this mess, leave behind some kind of legacy”

-Piers, leader of Spikemuth

# Introduction

Very few remain who remember the days of the DLC, of the First Trojan Patrol. It’s possible that I’m the final youth who witnessed such greatness. I will not let the lessons learned be forgotten as I move on into the realm of Youth+. In this manifesto, you will discover the answers to the ancient questions all Trojans must face, including:

* “How okay should I be?”
* “Why can’t we be better?”
* “Does this patrol use a communist system of government?”

Use this knowledge well. Maintain the Trojans’ mediocrity, as the First Trojans once did. Should this patrol fall like before, keep the knowledge you learned from here as you continue through Scouting.

“And glory, eternal glory, We shall bear its weight together.” -Jango Fett, trainer of the Clone Army

# Chapter 1: A Brief History

I joined the troop in 2015, back when Matt Dickson, Jens Hartvig, and Chris Oh were more than just legends. The First Trojans were a (semi) thriving patrol at the time, with one of their members, Daniel Dickson, currently the Senior Patrol Leader. It was from him and my Trojan Troop Guide, Will Geiser, that I learned of the ways of the Trojans. For a few years, all was okay in our patrol. We embodied the ideals of mediocrity as best as we could, played some Magic: The Gathering, and we were happy. Unfortunately, the patrols were disbanded and reshuffled, resulting in the Fall of the First Trojans. Many of us survived, hidden within the Draconic Dungeoneers, but nearly all of us grew old, passing on into adulthood.

The next years proved difficult for many reasons, yet I, and therefore the ideals of the Trojans, survived. In the year of 2021, the few remaining Trojans executed a most sacrilegious plan. In order to make the Trojans okay again, we would have to go against our code and become the best. The First Trojans had fallen because the Swedish Chefs gained too much power, so we placed the Dungeoneers in a similar position. It was only a matter of time before we had to shuffle again. With the help of Rob Saunders, I founded the Second Trojans in the hope of achieving mediocrity once more, which leads us to the present.

Very few of the current Trojans remember the lackluster shine of the First Trojans, and by extension have not the understanding of their, our, ideals. What few of us remain have very little remaining time before we leave the troop, so I decided to create this manifesto, a guide for future Trojans to follow as they push the patrol towards complete mediocrity.

The Trojans were founded on the belief of mediocrity, which some may assume to mean that we purposely choose not to be “good.” In reality, our patrol values encourage effort and growth. We simply don’t require them from our Scouts. On average between those that wish to achieve much and those who don’t, the result is a patrol that is most mediocre. The results of the Patrol Cup make that clear.

# Chapter 2: Patrol Government

**2.1:** Troop Requirements

The Trojans must have an elected Patrol Leader and a nominated Assistant Patrol Leader. We also need a flag, patch, and yell. That’s about it.

**2.2:** The Other Stuff

The Patrol Leader must be willing to obey the ideals of the Trojan Patrol detailed in this manifesto. In short, they must dedicate their term to mediocrity. They should probably also attend PLCs to represent their patrol.

You’re probably wondering why there aren’t more requirements or regulations here. That’s because the Trojans are intended to be run by all of the patrol members, not just the PL and APL. Essentially, every decision the patrol needs to make will be decided by all Trojans present. The PL and APL may attempt to persuade the others, but they cannot veto decisions made by the patrol.

**2.3:** Exceptions

The patrol members have some limitations on what they can decide to do, though there are some limitations to this power. It can be summarized by this:

* Don’t commit crimes.
* Don’t turn your back against other members of the patrol.
* Don’t wait until later to do KP.
* MOST IMPORTANT: Don’t grub for Spaghetti-O’s on a camping trip.

**2.4:** Now This is Communism!

Though we (are required to) have an elected leader, the Trojans use a form of government that blends the socialist and democratic systems. Most duties and responsibilities will be divided up amongst the patrol members, who also have a direct say in making change and decisions. However, when asked by someone if we use a Communist or socialist form of government, you are free to make Scout-appropriate jokes about Karl Marx, the USSR National Anthem, and/or anything related to socialism in response.

# Chapter 3: Troop Meetings

Troop Meetings are where most of your time in Scouts will be spent at. It’s also where we have the most chances to show everyone the greatness of our mediocrity. Because of this, these regulations are especially important to remember.

**3.1:** Patrol Etiquette

The Trojans should listen to the SPLs and ASPLs. Generally, if they tell you not to do something, then don’t do that thing any more.

**3.2:** Flag Ceremonies

There are few things which the Trojans will make an effort to be the best at. Our flag ceremonies are one of them. If a few Scouts do not know the speaking part, they will be taught it during Patrol Time. If a majority of the patrol does not know the correct lines for the speaking role, the Patrol Leader will begin suggesting Flag Meetings at PLC meetings.

**3.2.1:** Flag Meetings

The Trojans who have memorized the ceremony’s speaking role will teach it to those who do not. When they’re ready, these Scouts will recite it by memory. The phrase “Staaaaaaart Oh-ver” may be exclaimed when necessary.

**3.3:** Patrol Time

If the patrol finds itself with free time, the Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader will begin signing off requirements for Scouts that have any remaining. If nobody has any requirements prepared for signing, the leaders will either find one they can teach to the patrol, begin planning a Patrol Meeting, or do another Scouting-based activity.

**3.4:** Meeting Activities

We will do the planned activity with the troop. Patrol Cup points are often given out for these activities. Though we wish not to be last or first, we will still give our all in these activities.

**3.5:** Patrol Cup

The Patrol Cup is one of the most accurate measurements of our mediocrity. Generally, we wish to rank anywhere between first and last. Though we don’t wish to win, we will not deliberately lower our score in any way.

# Chapter 4: Camping

**4.1:** Grubbing

The Trojans will decide as a general majority what each meal at a camping trip will be, with a few exceptions. Sunday’s breakfast must have the cereal Rice Chex served. Other items may also be eaten for breakfast, but Rice Chex must remain a part of the meal (except when backpacking).

All Trojans planning on attending the camping trip in question will bring the requested grubbing money to the meeting. If unable to, they must give it to the Grubber as soon as they can.

**4.1.1:** Dietary Restrictions

If a patrol member has any sort of dietary restriction, the patrol should be made aware of it, and they should attempt to grub accordingly. Substitutes to the planned meals will likely need to be made, ideally for the whole patrol. A substitute for that singular person is acceptable for a dessert, but should only be done for other meals if there’s not much of another choice. It’s better to cook one meal for everyone than make an entirely different one for one person.

**4.2:** Tenting

The Trojans will follow the troop’s regulations for tenting. Decisions for who will tent with who should be made after grubbing.

**4.3:** Cooking

While grubbing, patrol members may volunteer to cook any of the meals planned for the camping trip. If no volunteers are produced for any meal, the duty will be split up as equally as possible.

**4.4:** Kitchen Patrol (KP)

The entire patrol will assist in cleaning up after each meal. Having cooked the meal does not make a Scout exempt from this.

KP includes not just the dishes used when making the meal, but the table and patrol box as well. Both should be cleaned following every meal (including ones without any cooking).

**4.4.1:** Exceptions

While every member should help in some way, it’s not always possible due to factors such as too many Scouts at the campout. If something as such occurs, the KP duty will be split up as equally as possible.

**4.5:** Setup and Takedown

When first arriving at a campsite, Troop gear will be the first to be set up. Personal gear (including tents) will only be set up after all Troop gear is taken care of.

Sunday breakfast should only be eaten after everyone’s tents are taken down. If you are finished packing, and some Scouts have not yet, you should help them pack (if they would like help).Chapter 5: Patrol Meetings

The Trojans may choose to hold their own meetings, either over Zoom or in person, between weekly Troop meetings. Some activities that are often done include signing off requirements and playing Magic: The Gathering. Feel free to try other things as well, like a patrol hike. We don’t normally do many of these, but it might be a good idea to if a majority of the patrol is able and willing to.

# Chapter 6: Sacred Rituals

**6.1:** Patrol Yell

The current patrol yell is a chant that goes back and forth between the Patrol Leader (PL) and the rest of the Trojans. Though it is not required, the Patrol Leader is encouraged to imitate Colonel Vangarre’s movements during the yell.

**PL:** Who are we?

**Patrol:** Trojans!

**PL:** Are we the worst?

**Patrol:** No!

**PL:** Are we the best?

**Patrol:** No!

**PL:** Are we okay?

**Patrol:** Yes!

**PL:** Who are we?

**Patrol:** Trojans!

**PL:** What are we the best at?

**Patrol:** Being okay!

**PL:** What do we eat for breakfast?

**Patrol:** Rice Chex!

**PL:** Who Are we?

**Patrol:** Trojans!

**All:** Never last, never first, we’re okay!

**6.2:** Patrol Songs

The Trojans also have a list of officially endorsed songs we sing every so often. It is highly encouraged that every member knows at least one of them.

**6.2.1:** “That’s What Bilbo Baggins Hates” (KP Song)

Blunt the knives, bend the forks!

Smash the bottles and burn the corks!

Chip the glasses and crack the plates!

That's what Bilbo Baggins hates!

Cut the cloth and trail the fat!

Leave the bones on the bedroom mat!

Pour the milk on the pantry floor!

Splash the wine on every door!

Dump the crocks in a boiling bowl;

Pound them up with a thumping pole;

And when you've finished, if they are whole,

Send them down the hall to roll!

That's what Bilbo Baggins hates!

**6.2.2: “**Misty Mountains Cold” (Campfire Song)

Far over the Misty Mountains cold

To dungeons deep and caverns old

We must away, ere break of day

To find our long forgotten gold

The pines were roaring on the height

The winds were moaning in the night

The fire was red, it flaming spread

The trees like torches blazed with light

The bells were ringing in the dale

And men looked up with faces pale

The dragon's ire, more fierce than fire

Laid low their towers and houses frail

The mountain smoked beneath the moon

The dwarves, they heard the tramp of doom

They fled the hall to dying fall

Beneath his feet, beneath the moon

Far over the Misty Mountains grim

To dungeons deep and caverns dim

We must away, ere break of day

To win our harps and gold from him

**6.2.3:** “Be Prepared”

I never thought hyenas essential

They're crude and unspeakably plain

But maybe they've a glimmer of potential

If allied to my vision and brain

I know that your powers of retention

Are as wet as a warthog's backside

But thick as you are, pay attention

My words are a matter of pride

It's clear from your vacant expressions

The lights are not all on upstairs

But we're talking kings and successions

Even you can't be caught unawares

So prepare for a chance of a lifetime

Be prepared for sensational news

A shining new era

Is tiptoeing nearer

And where do we feature?

Just listen to teacher

I know it sounds sordid

But you'll be rewarded

When at last I am given my dues!

And injustice deliciously squared

Be prepared!

It's great that we'll soon be connected

With a king who'll be all-time adored

Of course, quid pro quo, you're expected

To take certain duties on board

The future is littered with prizes

And though I'm the main addressee

The point that I must emphasize is

You won't get a sniff without me!

So prepare for the coup of the century

Be prepared for the murkiest scam Oooooo, la-la-la!

Meticulous planning We'll have food!

Tenacity spanning Lots of food

Decades of denial We repeat

Is simply why I'll Endless meat

Be king undisputed

Respected, saluted

And seen for the wonder I am

Yes, my teeth and ambitions are bared

Be prepared!

Yes, our teeth and ambitions are bared -

Be prepared!

**6.2.4:** “Let it Go”

The snow glows white on the mountain tonight

Not a footprint to be seen

A kingdom of isolation

And it looks like I'm the queen

The wind is howling like this swirling storm inside

Couldn't keep it in, heaven knows I tried!

Don't let them in, don't let them see

Be the good girl you always have to be

Conceal, don't feel, don't let them know

Well, now they know!

Let it go, let it go

Can't hold it back anymore

Let it go, let it go

Turn away and slam the door!

I don't care

What they're going to say

Let the storm rage on

The cold never bothered me anyway!

It's funny how some distance

Makes everything seem small

And the fears that once controlled me

Can't get to me at all!

It's time to see what I can do

To test the limits and break through

No right, no wrong, no rules for me I'm free!

Let it go, let it go

I am one with the wind and sky

Let it go, let it go

You'll never see me cry!

Here I stand

And here I'll stay

Let the storm rage on!

My power flurries through the air into the ground

My soul is spiraling in frozen fractals all around

And one thought crystallizes like an icy blast

I'm never going back

The past is in the past!

Let it go, let it go

And I'll rise like the break of dawn

Let it go, let it go

That perfect girl is gone!

Here I stand

In the light of day

Let the storm rage on

The cold never bothered me anyway!

# Chapter 7: The Ninth Amendment

**7.1:** The Actual Amendment

The enumeration in the Manifesto, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

**7.2:** What That Means

This manifesto most likely has some flaws in it that I will not be able to correct. The rules and guidelines laid out in these pages can be changed or removed if the patrol as a whole sees them to not be fitting to our core ideals:

* Mediocrity
* Solidarity
* A little bit of Socialism
* Never making Spaghetti-O’s while camping

New additions may also be added to this manifesto, and are welcome, especially in adding more officially endorsed songs, such as “We Don’t Talk About Bruno.”

This also means that any rule that should be in here that adheres to our ideals should be followed, even if it isn’t written down.

**7.3:** How to Edit the Manifesto

If changes to the manifesto are desired and agreed upon by a majority of the patrol, they can be made by editing the document found at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oL8aVagoPvHNn5C-QcwsGLisAPHYR2VKeiMvypsCKKE/edit?usp=sharing>.

Alternatively, both the link and the document are also available on GitHub via this link: <https://github.com/LordBananza/Trojan-Manifesto>.

“I, uh, have things to do… I’ve put this off for far too long. I regret to announce this is the end. I’m going now. I bid you all a very fond farewell. Goodbye.”

-Bilbo Baggins, shortly before pranking everyone at his birthday party

# Conclusion

I’ve been in Scouts since first grade, and now my time is nearly up, or at least, my time in this Troop. I guess it’s just the natural order of things. Nearly all the friends I made from Scouts are now 18 and older, and it’s about time I join them. For a while, I’ve almost felt ready to leave the Troop, but there was something still tying me to it: the legacy, and the people, of the Trojans. As your Patrol Leader, I couldn’t just leave you all behind without any parting words of advice. I hope you all use this document as a guide for the patrol once I’m gone. Carry onward our legacy of mediocrity, continue to be okay in life, and spread our message to the next generations of Scouts as well. Do this, and the Trojans will forever prosper as a patrol that exists.