

Camp Selhowtka Crest 2007

In 2006, the campsite Committee launched a design contest for a new crest. After months of futile results, the committee decided that if we had some guidelines for a new crest, then perhaps we would get better designs. We approached Susan Dixon to create a crest. We gave her explicit criteria - a multi section crest, including the campsite name and a Trefoil.

With each crest Susan Dixon creates, she likes to incorporate lots of colour along with a theme or meaning and for this crest Susan's theme is:

Guiding in many ways, and especially camping, builds skills upon skills.

The same is true with this crest as we build section on section.

The different levels of Guiding are represented by the outside stitching of each section.

The first section of the crest depicts the Spark level, and is easily identified by its bright pink edging. For most girls, this is the beginning of their Guiding life and the beginning of a girls camping experience. What could be more exciting to a Spark than sitting around the campfire with singing; maybe a picnic with outdoor cooking!



At the Brownie level, with the orange edging, we adding a residential camp in our cabins and the Longhouse. The girls want to try new adventures that they don't necessarily get to do at home. While still having fun at camp, with the security of a roof over their head.



Guides is the start of independence, as they set up their own add tents, build Gadgets, and practice flag ceremonies.

The water fowl are a symbol of our intention to teach respect for the environment, and a reminder for low impact camping



The skills learnt by Guides are carried to the Pathfinders level, as we see them now doing water activities, such as canoe training. We can never forget the infamous Lats, and by Pathfinder age, the girls are experts at cleaning them.

The focus of teaching safety is demonstrated in each level by having water pails beside each tent, building and fire pit as well as the life jackets with the canoes.

For our Senior Branch (Rangers, Junior Leaders and Cadets) their colours are represented on the edge of the main section, with a demonstration of their ability to go further afield so to speak, both in their lives as young women and in their camping experience such as a canoe trip across the lake. The girls in the canoe are a symbol of a buddy system.

Of course the mountain in the background is the geographical tie, intended to evoke an image of Chief Selhowtka and the story we tell the campers about him.

Susan says "It was a surprise to me when after drawing my vision of this crest, I went back to the previous Selhowtka crest and saw the strong similarities between it and this top section."

We'd also like to acknowledge Susan's daughter, Randi Edmundson who did the artistry for Susan's ideas.

