

GH Beacons Pathfinder Club Handbook



Club Motto

“Guided by Christ, Exploring His Creation, Serving Others”

This motto reflects our commitment to helping young people grow spiritually, discover God's creation, develop practical life skills, and serve their communities with Christ-like character.

Purpose of Pathfinders

Pathfinders is a worldwide organization of young people sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church; the GH Beacons Pathfinder Club is sponsored by the Elma and Grays Harbor SDA Churches through the Washington Conference.

Young people of any religious persuasion, or none at all, are welcome and encouraged to join the organization.

The purpose of the Pathfinder Club is to:

Lead its members into a growing, redemptive relationship with God.

Build its members into responsible, mature individuals.

Involve its members in active, selfless service.

Pathfinders is designed to help young people grow spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially while developing a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ.

Pathfinder Objectives

The GH Beacons Pathfinder Club seeks to:

- Help each Pathfinder understand the Gospel, the plan of salvation, and make a personal commitment to Christ.

- Encourage balanced physical, mental, social, and spiritual growth.
 - Help Pathfinders understand that they are valued members of the church family.
 - Discover God's purpose and calling for their lives.
 - Train Pathfinders for Christian and missionary service.
 - Develop an appreciation for nature as God's creation.
 - Teach useful skills and hobbies through honors and classwork.
 - Promote physical fitness and healthy living.
 - Provide opportunities to develop leadership skills and responsibilities.
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Code of Conduct

To maintain a positive, Christ-centered environment, every Pathfinder is expected to:

Respect leaders, counselors, and staff.

- Listen carefully and follow instructions the first time they are given.
 - Avoid all put-downs, teasing, bullying, or unkind speech.
 - Respect fellow club members.
 - Respect property, and the belongings of others.
 - Demonstrate modesty in dress and appearance.
 - Maintain a positive attitude and avoid complaining.
 - Be obedient, cooperative, and helpful.
 - Display a Christian attitude in words and actions.
 - Follow the [Pathfinder Pledge and Law](#) at all times.
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Discipline Procedures

We believe discipline should be redemptive, respectful, and focused on growth.

Step 1 - Verbal Reminder

A counselor or staff member will provide a gentle reminder and redirection.

Step 2 - Brief Separation

The Pathfinder may be separated from the activity for 5 to 10 minutes to regain focus.

Step 3 – Director(s) Review

The issue will be referred to the Director(s).

Step 4 - Parent Conference

The Director(s) will meet with the Pathfinder and parents to determine further action.

Severe misconduct, blatant disobedience, or repeated behavioral issues may result in temporary suspension from Pathfinder activities.

Fees and Dues

The GH Beacons Pathfinder Club strives to keep costs affordable while providing a quality program.

Registration Fee

Annual registration fee: **\$30**, can be waived if parent becomes part of the Pathfinder membership team.

This fee helps cover:

- Initial club expenses
- Honor supplies
- Uniform
- Induction and Investiture supplies
- Club operations

Monthly Dues

Monthly dues: \$10 (September through May)

Dues help cover:

- Honors
- Classwork materials
- Program supplies
- Club activities

Families may:

- Pay monthly
- Pay the yearly amount in advance

Campouts and Special Events

Additional event fees typically apply:

- Campouts: approximately **\$45**
- Special outings and activities: varies by event

Payment deadlines will be announced before each event.

Financial Assistance

Our motto is "No Pathfinder Left Behind."

We never want finances to prevent a young person from participating in Pathfinders.

Scholarships and financial assistance are available confidentially. If financial concerns are affecting your family's ability to participate, please speak with club Director(s).

Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance is essential to a successful Pathfinder experience.

Pathfinders are expected to:

- Attend regular meetings
- Participate in outings and campouts
- Support service projects
- Assist with club fundraisers
- Participate in Pathfinder Sabbath activities

Excused absences may include:

- Illness
- Family emergencies
- Family travel
- School-required activities
- Director(s)-approved circumstances

Parents should notify the Pathfinder's counselor before the missed activity whenever possible.

Merit Point System

The GH Beacons Pathfinder Club uses a merit point system to encourage responsibility, participation, punctuality, and good conduct. Each Pathfinder has the opportunity to earn up to **10 points per meeting or club activity**.

Meeting Point Breakdown

Category	Points
Attendance	1
On Time (Fall-In)	1
Complete Uniform & Neat Appearance	2
Obedience & Orderly Conduct	2
Positive Spirit	2
Participation	2
Total Possible	10

Extra Credit Opportunities

Additional merit points may be earned through approved outreach and service activities.

- Additional bonus points may be awarded at the discretion of the Pathfinder Directors.

Personal Electronics Policy

The GH Beacons Pathfinder Club encourages Pathfinders to focus on spiritual growth, relationships, outdoor activities, and learning opportunities.

Therefore:

- Cell phones
- Smart watches with communication capabilities
- MP3 players

- Portable gaming devices
- Similar electronics

are not permitted during meetings, campouts, or activities unless specifically authorized.

Cell Phone Procedure

Pathfinders may carry phones while traveling to and from events.

Upon arrival:

- Pathfinders may contact parents if needed.
- Phones must then be turned into a counselor or Director(s).
- Devices will be returned at the conclusion of the activity.

Staff will always be available to contact parents in case of emergencies.