

SCOUTS-L

HIKING SOCKS

From owner-jambo97@freke.hoplite.org Tue Oct 1 13:58:50 1996
Return-Path: owner-jambo97@freke.hoplite.org
Received: from custmail.InterNex.Net (custmail.internex.net [199.2.14.213])
by cap1.CapAccess.org (8.6.12/8.6.10) with ESMTP id NAA11823 for
<mfbowman@capaccess.org>; Tue, 1 Oct 1996 13:58:50 -0400
Received: from freke.hoplite.org (freke.hoplite.org [205.158.197.130]) by
custmail.InterNex.Net (8.7.1/8.7.1) with ESMTP id KAA14519; Tue, 1 Oct
1996 10:54:39 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (daemon@localhost) by freke.hoplite.org
(8.7.5/8.7.5) with SMTP id KAA00375; Tue, 1 Oct 1996 10:54:33 -0700
(PDT)
Received: (from daemon@localhost) by freke.hoplite.org (8.7.5/8.7.5) id
KAA00369 for jambo97-outgoing; Tue, 1 Oct 1996 10:54:31 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Tue, 1 Oct 1996 11:28:27 -0600 (MDT)
From: Amick Robert <amick@spot.Colorado.EDU>
To: jambo97@hoplite.org
Subject: Re: JAMBO97 knee socks vs regular length socks
In-Reply-To: <2.2.16.19960930192826.2b0757e8@mail.teleport.com>
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.95.961001111412.1275B-
100000@spot.Colorado.EDU>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
Errors-To: owner-jambo97@hoplite.org
Precedence: bulk
Reply-To: jambo97@hoplite.org
Status: RO
X-Status:

The shorter socks would definitely be preferable to the long socks for a variety of reasons, mostly having to do with comfort. However they are still mostly COTTON and therefore very risky to wear without wearing a high bulk acrylic or polypropylene liner sock underneath. At the past six jamborees, we have had to treat many cases of serious blisters on Scouts and leaders due to the fact that they wear only the cotton scout socks and consequently when the cotton socks become soaked with perspiration, cause the friction and subsequent blistering of feet.

Thorlo high bulk acrylic hiking socks are sold by BSA supply service as well as local athletic/sporting goods/shoe stores and are considered among the best socks available to prevent blisters because

they wick moisture away and are padded in the critical areas where rubbing occurs. There will be a limited supply of them available at Jamboree, but as I recall, the last time they sold out and a lot of people really needed them.

Best bet is to educate your Scouts and Leaders about the danger of just wearing one pair of cotton Scout socks and be sure they wear the Thorlo or polypropylene liners underneath.

We encouraged our Scouts to get them for World Jamboree, and we had virtually no problem with blisters despite all the walking on tours and hiking around the jamboree for ten days. It's a good idea to have each Scout and Leader buy at least four pairs of high bulk acrylic or polypropylene socks and be sure Scouts wash them out frequently; change socks every day and wash the soiled ones in laundry buckets; it only takes a few minutes and is well worth the effort.

It would be great if BSA supply would consider making Scout socks with high bulk acrylic, or better yet, get Thorlo to make an official Scout sock in that fabric.

Best wishes.

Bob Amick, EMT-B, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder, CO, and Medical Technician, Subcamp 9, 1997 National Jamboree