

How to develop
and
make good

Scout Troops or Patrols

COMPILED BY

Peter Marriott

NOTES

We are always searching for new and exciting programming ideas. If you have some material that might be useful to other leaders, which could be included in further editions of this book, please send a copy to:

Branch Commissioner for Scouts
The Scout Association of Australia Victorian Branch.

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INTRODUCTION

Hi! This is the fifth in this series of support booklets for Scout Leaders. It is a fill-the-gap book on Program Planning. There are many pages for copying and using as your program book for the year or passing on to your Patrol Leaders to guide them through their part.

READ THIS FIRST

Planning is the key to a successful Troop. It is not just a way to make your life easier - it is important part of your role as a Scout Leader to teach young people to be involved in decision making, to set goals and carry them through to conclusion. It is a major part of the training of Patrol Leaders. Good planning is essential to good leadership and in Scouts we do this in a practical hands on way No lectures! Here it's the real thing!

Troop Council is central to this process and the PLs will become very enthusiastic if you are genuine in your planning with them.

How to Use This Book

Flip through and look at the set up. It follows the process for planning effective programs:

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Work through the book at your own pace. You can start in whatever month you want - but start! How much you do this yourself is up to you and your circumstances. The more people you involve, the more people who will be committed to making it work. Your best resources are your PLs and the other Scouts - they will do as much as you can keep up to them providing you supply the support.

You can write directly into this book or photocopy the pages, as you need them.

Acknowledgements

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PATROL PLANNING

This is a sheet for Patrol Leaders

Doing good things needs good planning. You just don't go on a hike - you need to plan the route, work out gear, food, transport and a lot of other things.

Good planning starts with the ideas. Here is a two-step suggestion:

Step one is to talk with the kids in your Patrol about what you all would like to achieve in the coming year. The Patrol Planning Sheet opposite is one way to start.

* Photocopy the page for each Scout in the Patrol.

Give out the sheet first but write the ideas on a large sheet of paper as they come up.

Use brainstorming rules. -

- accept all ideas including way-out or 'silly' ones
- don't put other people down,
- don't stop to discuss the details at this stage
- use the way out suggestions as a way to come up with 'different' ideas that will really work

These are some of the things Patrols could talk about.

- What sort of camps, hikes and other activities does everyone want to do?
- Use a couple of copies of the 'Activity Smorgasbord' on pages 4 & 5 to consider big events (run by District etc.) but don't neglect activities when the Patrol or Troop can do their own thing alone.
- What Target Badges do Scouts want to achieve during the year?
- Patrol Activity Badge ideas

There's no reason you can't ask a leader to do the writing as you go but make sure they agree not to tell you what you can or can't do - at this stage.

Sometimes just one or two members of the Patrol may opt to do something such as a Scout Leadership Course, Challenge Badges, Special camps or Jamborees. Write these on the final sheet with the names of the people interested.

* Write the wish list with your Patrol onto a good copy of the Patrol Planning Sheet.

It's important that the Scouts realise the list is just a wish list and Patrol plans have to be coordinated with the rest of the Troop. Some things will be accepted by the whole Troop, others changed and some dropped altogether. Some you might decide to do just with the Patrol.

Step two is to discuss the plans with the other Patrol Leaders at a special meeting of your Troop Council.

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PATROL PLANNING SHEET

| |
|--|
| This is a wish list for (year) |
| Patrol Name |
| We would like to do these things: |
| Camps/Activities |
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| Target Badges for the year |
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| Patrol Activity Badge Ideas |
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| |
| Special Troop Nights |
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THE ACTIVITY SMORGASBOARD

Every year there are many activities organised for Scouts to do. It's impossible to do them all but if we plan it properly we can add some into our Troop or Patrol program. Some of these things are really great, and they let us do things, which we can't do with just our own resources. The list below is a sample of regular events with more in the Info Book and Scout Magazine. Make a couple of copies for each Patrol and have them identify the activities they would like to do. Booking details and directions are in the Info Book or Kaboom.

STRADBROKE CUP

Held (usually) at Bay Park, Bell Park, Brucknell, Caringal, Gilwell, Eumeralla, Tree Tops and sometimes other places too at Easter time. It is a camp to challenge the Patrol skills at camping against a set standard. With up to two thousand Scouts taking part it is a big event with plenty of fun activities as well.

FORMULA BIKE

18 hour, overnight bike ride at Sandown Racecourse. Teams of 10 Scouts are rostered to ride continuously around the 3.1 racing circuit. Ideal for two Patrols to take the challenge

SCOUTSKI

A chance to stay in the Baw Baw Rover Chalet for a week in the June/July school holidays and take part in a lot of skiing and other snow sports.

COHEN SHIELD

Another major state event with challenges to test Scouting skills. Venues are located throughout the State. Depending on the location it may be a day or full weekend. Dates vary though generally held in September and October. Most throw in a stack of fun activities too.

DEEP SPACE 99

Adventure Camp to Canberra setting off rockets, Tidbinbilla space tracking station, Mt Stromlo observatory and lots more. Held at the end of the September/October school holidays. It will also qualify participants for Air Activities.

SCOUTHIKE

Like to try hiking or really push your skills to the limit? Patrols can do both in this great activity held in the bush north-east of Melbourne. Some Patrols go just for the fun. Other Patrols go all out to visit as many checkpoints as possible. As well as the activities on the checkpoints your Patrol can have fun at the sleep points each night. Held in November.

GIPPSLAND CORROBOREE

Check Kaboom! and Scout for details of this great Easter camp held at the beautiful Caringal Campsite north of Moe in Gippsland. Scouts from anywhere can attend.

AND

ACTIVITY CAMPS

Many Scout campsites run special weekends for water activities, orienteering, welding, mapping, air activities, canoeing and so on. Any Troop or Patrol is welcome but book ahead as some are very popular. Check the Info Book and Kaboom for these or ring the site contacts.

SPECIAL THEMES

There might something coming up that can be used as a starter for ideas such as Cycling, Environment activities, Olympic games that will impact on your Troop. Scour the Scout publications and brainstorm ideas.

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SMORGASBORD – LOCAL EVENTS

Scout Leader to list District and Group events here. Put in Dates and any special notes (e.g. PLs and APLs only may be able to attend District Scout Leadership Course).

GROUP & TROOP EVENTS

Date Activity

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DISTRICT & REGION EVENTS

Date Activity

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| | Scout Leadership Course |
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OTHER EVENTS

Date Activity

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TROOP COUNCIL PLANNING

This is a sheet for Patrol Leaders

This is when you get down to the broad detail of your yearly plan. Best idea is to have a special meeting at the end of the previous year, during the summer school holidays or before Scouts starts for the year. If you didn't do that, it's never too late to start planning. Start now! You don't have to have everything written into the plan but it is easier to have the broad outline in place.

*** Make sure all Scouts have had a chance to put forward their suggestions.**

Use the Patrol Planning Sheets on the previous page or some other method. Some Troops discuss things at camps and other activities during the year and these should be written down as you go.

*** Work out other things that are happening**

Avoid days like Mothers' Day or leaders family commitments. If Scouts have heavy school commitments or sporting finals try to avoid these though the rest of the Patrol might just have to understand.

*** Make decisions! You can't do everything by yourself.**

If everyone has a copy of each Patrol's plans they can look for similar ideas. Every Patrol will probably have Citizenship on their planners so that could be made the goal for Term 3. Campcraft could be done in Terms 1 and 4. Easter Camp may have two or three ideas - talk about each and decide where you want to go. Sometimes a Patrol will have to fall in with everyone else for ease of organisation and do something they did not have on the list. At other times one Patrol might go off and do their own thing such as a Patrol camp or special night.

*** Fill in the yearly planner in broad detail**

This is a guide for the Troop. It will change as the year goes along but will give you a start. As an example April could be:

School holidays

Easter Camp at Eumeralla Stradbroke

Start Citizenship Target stuff for whole Troop with a Police visit and bike safety night. Panther Patrol start on their PA Badge.

*** Distribute a copy to every Scout AND their families**

Communication is everything. If families know what is coming up they can better organise themselves- especially if there are several family members all wanting to do something. As well it gives everyone in the Troop something to look forward to and also helps with the fundraising.

Get someone to put it through a word processor so it looks official.

Got a Troop website? Post your program there so everybody knows the cool stuff you're up to.

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YEARLY PLANNING

This is a sheet for ADULT Leaders

***Focus on process of Troop Council involvement.**

- Make sure the PLs consult their Patrols. The previous pages provide a framework - talk about the process beforehand and make sure they are prepared for the job. Offer to help as a scribe but don't run the meeting for them. Your presence may help with crowd control but discipline ceases to be a problem when everyone is focussed on a common goal. Make sure the PLs and their Patrol members see the plan is actually going to happen.

- Plan carefully when to actually do it. Make sure that time is set aside for the meeting - some Troops have a special planning camp when the talk can be broken by physical activity. Others set aside an afternoon or special night.

- Use an experienced PI, to lead it if you have one, otherwise chair it yourself

- Have plenty of large sheets of paper available. Copy the sheets on pages 8 and 9 for each PL but don't fill in a final copy until the end. Copy the Patrol Planning sheet for each PL.

*** This is broad planning for Troop Council.**

An adult leader's job is to see that things get carried through with the maximum possible involvement of the youth members. However, that can only happen with support and organisation from the adult leaders so make sure that your own leaders have the time available.

*** Next plan for a Term**

Again involve your Troop Council as much as you can. Have a Troop Council meeting to look at the dates for a Term. Fill these in on the monthly planning sheets.

Straight away things become obvious. If the Troop is planning to take part in Cohen Shield set aside four or five nights to do some training. Or if there is a Patrol camp coming up the Patrol needs time to get gear together and plan menus and so on. Big events cost so maybe plan in fundraising.

Sometimes you can choose themes. You may have a cycling theme, Bushcraft, survival, first aid, climbing, service, water safety or whatever. These can arise from the Patrols' preferences or the Award Scheme and can give you something to hang the Troop's activities on. If you do Water activities you can work in a trip to the local pool, CPR, water fun, a video on surfing - be imaginative.

Make sure the requirements for Award Scheme are worked in to have a continuous flow of achievement.

If you need to invite special people or experts along then write that in and either contact them yourself well beforehand or get a PI, to do it.

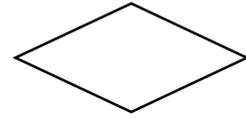
Patrols might choose to do something different from the rest of the Troop. Think about how they can be supervised with another leader or parent. Don't look on it as a difficulty but rather an opportunity to spend more time with a smaller group. Some Troops schedule one night a month for Patrols to all go their own way - others have individual Patrols go off as the need arises.

Consider costs, transport, planning for gear and equipment and adult availability.

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YEARLY PLANNER

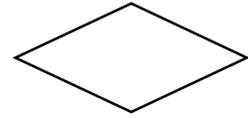
YEAR



| | |
|----------|-------|
| JANUARY | APRIL |
| FEBRUARY | MAY |
| MARCH | JUNE |
| NOTES | |

YEARLY PLANNER

YEAR



| | |
|-----------|----------|
| JULY | OCTOBER |
| AUGUST | NOVEMBER |
| SEPTEMBER | DECEMBER |
| NOTES | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR JANUARY

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR FEBRUARY

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR MARCH

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR APRIL

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR MAY

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR JUNE

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR JULY

Troop Night

Weekend

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR AUGUST

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR SEPTEMBER

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR OCTOBER

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR NOVEMBER

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR DECEMBER

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR NEXT JANUARY

Troop Night

Weekend

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

MONTHLY PLANNER FOR THE REST OF NEXT YEAR

| Troop Night | Weekend |
|--|---------|
| <input data-bbox="263 324 359 392" type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input data-bbox="263 649 359 716" type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input data-bbox="263 974 359 1041" type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input data-bbox="263 1299 359 1366" type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input data-bbox="263 1624 359 1691" type="checkbox"/> | |

PROGRAMMING FOR A NIGHT

This is a sheet for ADULT Leaders

Programming for each night falls into place if a Troop has done yearly and Term programs. You'll find a lot of ideas in the various leader handbooks but there are a few simple rules that bring success. Keeping these in mind makes management easier and avoids trouble - Scouts enjoy it more, look forward to meetings and get into less trouble.

Secrets of Troop Program Planning

- Formal opening and closing parades puts the Scouts into a Scouting frame of mind.
- Leading off with a fast moving, physical game releases energy early on.
- Including Award Scheme components in most meetings leads to achievement (badges).
- Use action learning as much as possible. Building a structure to get every Patrol member safely off the ground is a better way of learning (and passing) lashings than just watching.
- Break the pace every twenty minutes or so with a change of activity if you can. Appropriate change of pace and focus avoids boredom.
- Always have something happening - don't stand around before launching into the next activity - kids will always find something to do and if they're bored you probably won't like it.
- Involve the PLs as much as possible - they can run games, give instruction, lead ceremonies.
- Try and include at least one unexpected event every night.
- Be prepared to abort an activity that bombs out.
- Have one or two games up your sleeve to fill in if necessary.
- Be prepared before the meeting. You may need to organise equipment, people or displays.
- Every four or five weeks run something completely different - have a wide game night, go swimming, check out an indoor climbing wall, sleep over in an unusual place, run a Patrol challenge night.
- Start and finish on time even if there are only Scouts there on time.

Sample program (See Page 25 opposite)

The major elements will come from your monthly planner pages. Let's imagine it's 11th March and your Troop has decided to go into the competition camp at Easter leaving on Thursday night.

Your monthly planner notes for the 11th indicates:

Easter menu

Camp gadgets

Investiture of Michael X

Look at the way this is made into a program opposite and have a few goes yourself - there is no right or wrong way. This program could be run for up to five Patrols with two adult leaders. Notice the games approach to learning. Make sure the tests are marked off. Plan with other leaders – you get more ideas that way. Use books to discover new and different ways to present things. You needn't put in detailed description of each activity if you're confident of what to do.

On the following pages is a sample two-page layout for a weekly program book. No Troop should try to run without a program. Having a regular layout saves time. Photocopy 40 of these pages or make up your own - you might prefer a sideways layout or other details. If you're not sure, use this layout for starters and design your own later

EI Perfecto TROOP PROGRAM

| DUTY PATROL <i>Tassie Devils</i> | DATE | <i>March 11th</i> | |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Time Activity | Run by | Special Gear | |
| 7.30 Opening Parade (Flag break, Prayer, outline program) | | Duty PL | |
| 7.40 Game: Corner Ball (SI- prepares new Scout for investiture, speaks to parents, gets badges ready, reminds PL) | Jim (ASL) or PL | Basket Ball | |
| 8.00 Investiture | SUPL | Badges/scarf | |
| 8.10 Food scramble. (Cards with parts of a meal mixed up on floor in centre of room. One at a time Scouts from each Patrol run in to take a card to complete a four course camp meal. First Patrol complete wins.) | Jim or PL | Food Cards | |
| 8.20 Patrols prepare Easter menu on prepared sheets (this passes Pioneer and Adventurer tests) PL takes menu to do quantities or delegates for next week | PLS | Menu sheets | |
| 8.40 Garden cane and rubber band camp gadgets (Patrols challenged to create three designs for suitable Easter camp gadgets.) | SL/PLs | Garden Canes Rubber Bands | |
| 9.05 Patrols display and explain their gadgets (discuss the sorts of knots etc. needed for the real thing) | SL | | |
| 9.15 Final Game First Scout Patrol to run round hall, jump the oval fence, slide down the slide and return ready for final parade wins. | Joe (PL) | | |
| 9.25 Final Parade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder notices for camp • Next week gear preparation (Pioneer test) no uniform • Campcraft Badge to James • Flag break • Prayer | Duty PL | | |
| 9.30 Home | | | |

TROOP PROGRAM

DUTY PATROL

DATE

Time Activity

Run by

Special Gear

7.30 Opening Parade (Flag break, Prayer)

9.25 Final Parade
* Flag break.
* Prayer

9.30 Home

PROGRAMMING FOR A CAMP OR ACTIVITY

This is a sheet for ADULT Leaders

Whether you're organising a Jamboree or a trip to the swimming pool, you basically go through the same list of things. Opposite is a fill the gap list that you can copy and fill out for your various activities. After a while this all becomes second nature and usually takes only minutes in your head and only the more complex or vital bits need writing down.

Know why you are doing the activity

This seems obvious but in Scouting we do things for reasons other than just the activity - we camp to develop team spirit, survival skills and leadership, we sail to develop independence and teamwork, we hike to develop self confidence and most important of all we use the Patrol system as our organisational tool to develop leadership and community skills in young people. Knowing why you do something prevents getting lost in the activity alone and simply entertaining rather than developing young people. Try and ensure Award Scheme components are included on every activity.

Gear/Food

Depending on where you're going and what you are doing your experienced Scouts can usually do most of this - making lists, getting the gear together, drawing up a menu, buying the food and so on. If they forget something it is usually no major problem, missing out on the marshmallows or dining fly can be a good lesson.

Transport

Inevitably you will need help. Avoid general calls in the Group newsletter for volunteers ~ this leads to complaints from leaders that the parents don't support. It's best to get into the habit of directly asking specific parents. "You couldn't make it last time but we need someone to take the kids to ... next month. Would you mind helping out?" It's a good idea to expect all parents to share this around and if the leader keeps a list of who has done what, the same people won't always get asked. Find out who has a tow bar. Patrols can organise their own transport very effectively. Who can avoid their children for that long? But do organise well in advance and express appreciation.

Activities

Most camps and activities have a purpose - hike to the Prom, abseiling, exploring new country, canoeing, bludging, kite flying, learning to camp together. When you know what you want to achieve then the program sets itself out easily enough. If you set dates and purposes early then it's easier to chase up special people to help or hire gear. Of course if you've done the planning earlier in this book then you'll have this in place already.

Duty of Care

The health, safety and well being of the Scouts and adults is of highest priority. Make sure your training is up to date, the First Aid Kit is right, the information on particular people's allergies and medical conditions is documented and permission forms obtained for Scouts and adults. Parents have a right to know what will be happening to their children and it is a leader's responsibility to inform them.

All activities carry some risk. Think ahead. Identify potential risks. Devise plans to keep safe, avoid danger and have a plan in place in case of emergencies.

Be prepared to deal with emotional and social factors too. Homesickness, social interaction, tiredness, isolation all can be avoided if you are ready.

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SAMPLE ACTIVITY CHECKKLIST

| | | | |
|--|--------|----------------|-------|
| What is the Activity? | | | |
| Is the Troop Council fully aware of what is happening9 | | | |
| How long? (How many nights?) | | | Dates |
| How many going? | Scouts | Leaders/adults | Total |
| What transport is needed? | Cars | Trailers | Other |
| Who is providing the transport? | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| What will the cost be per Scout/participant? | | | |
| Have parents been fully informed? | | | |
| Has a gear list been prepared? | | | |
| Who is responsible for gear being organised and when? | | | |
| Has a menu been prepared? | | | |
| Who is purchasing food? | | | When? |
| Who is responsible for drawing up the program? | | | |
| What special gear or people need to be organised? | | | |
| First Aid. Kit up to date Forms sent out Forms back | | | |
| Risk management Issues (List) | | | |
| Has money been collected? | | | |
| Scouts training: - | | | |

A CAMP PROGRAM

This is a sheet for ADULT Leaders

On the previous pages there are some notes on preparing for a camp or activity and this sheet gives some more specific information. It is easy to just pile into a car and go somewhere but preparation means that you achieve more and are less hassled in camp as well as having safer, happier and better behaved Scouts.

Patrol Rosters

Usually the greatest source of irritation for a PL is the kids in the Patrol who hinder rather than help. Preparation of rosters reduces this burden. If this is done by the PL and Patrol before they go away the Scouts are usually ready to do the work before they do activities. In general encourage the PLs not to roster themselves for special jobs. They are always on duty anyway and need to constantly supervise.

Camp Setting up. Jobs include tent erection, eating shelter, fibreglass setting up, wood chopping area (if open fire is allowed), food preparation areas, waste disposal, gadgets (billy rack, wash stand, tool rack, drying line, mug tree, eating utensil holder, etc.)

Mealtime jobs: Fire preparation, cooking, hot water, washing up, cleaning tables and food scraps **Camp pull down:** Tentage, clean cooking gear and tools, pack utensils and canvas into trailer or boot.

Health and Safety Issues in Camp

Many established sites have facilities for toilets, showers, hand washing and evacuation procedures. Before going to a place check these out and make your own provision if necessary. Ensure everyone knows requirements and expectations.

Toilets in the bush are not difficult provided you have provision for privacy (hessian or plastic screening), fly proofing (thunder box is best but soil covering is fine), near enough but far enough. Think through boy/girl provision or organisation. Night-lights can be handy. Ensure there is provision for hand washing whatever the toilet provision and stress that the greatest source of illness and disease in camp is unhygienic habits and lack of sleep.

Fire safety varies with the time of year and the terrain. Check with locals about what you should do. Make sure the Scouts know about evacuation procedures and safe behaviour. It is alarmingly easy to set a fire going in dry conditions. Revise fire safety prior to going to camp.

Know the availability of nearby doctors, hospitals and have a plan to contact them if you need. Again a check with the local ranger or neighbours easily sorts this out.

Camp Timetable

On the opposite page is a sample timetable for a weekend camp. This will vary for every camp and yours will never be quite like this. However, the basic underlying ideas are essential and are the same for every camp. You will vary it with daylight saving, the nature of the activity, the time taken travelling and the kids you have.

Remember that Scouts usually focus on the activity. A good leader also considers the lead up, the issues noted on this and previous pages and the clean up.

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CAMP PROGRAM**Long Term Plan**

Set date, general location and nature of activity. Notify Scouts and Parents of date.

Three Weeks before (on Troop night)

Gear list, Menu, any training of Scouts.

Reminder note sent home detailing cost, activities, location, and times

Two weeks before

Finalise transport; discuss personal gear with Scouts if necessary, Prepare new Scouts (if any) for the camp.

One Week before

Get gear out. Ensure PL has food purchasing organised. Collect Money

Friday Night (or Saturday morning)

Pack trailer, leave for site. Set up basic gear for comfortable night (kitchen etc. can wait until next day)

Saturday

7.00 rise (if in camp)

7.30 Meal preparation

8.00 Breakfast - at home or in camp

8.20 Clean up

9.00 Parade

Morning activity: Set up site. Don't go overboard on all the gadgets, save these for longer camps. Just make sure the basic hygiene; sleeping and eating arrangements are in place. If you moved in on the Friday night there may be time for exploring the site and a game.

12.00 Lunch preparation

12.30 Lunch

12.50 Clean up

1.15 Parade then afternoon activity

4.00 Finish activity, possibly game

5.00 Meal preparation and camp tidy

6.00 Eat Meal

6.45 Clean up

7.30 Game and / or campfire

10.30 bed

11.00 lights out

Sunday

7.00 rise

7.30 Meal preparation

8.00 Breakfast

8.20 Clean up, pack personal gear.

9.00 Parade then straight into morning activity

12.00 Lunch preparation

12.30 Lunch

12.50 Clean up, pack Patrol gear.

3.00 Depart for home.

After Camp

Hang wet canvas, clean gear, store securely. Debrief the camp with Patrol Leaders who debrief with their Patrols. Make notes about future training of Scouts. Make sure Award Scheme achievements are noted on individuals' records.

RESOURCES PAGE

Scouting has, over the years, built up a huge range of resources. This list is not complete so talk to others and add to the list.

People are the most important resources available. Most adults in Scouting are very ready to help. In fact the major role of all the Scouters at the various levels of the organisation is to provide support to the section leaders who are doing the real job of Scouting. Write their names and phone (and fax) numbers here if you don't already have them.

| |
|---|
| District Scout Leader(s) |
| Group Leaders |
| Other Scouters (Mindari) |
| Scout Section Commissioners |
| Special Interest Group organisers (see Info Book) |
| Region and Branch HQ |
| Major Event organisers |
| |
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Use the Info Book for places to camp, details of major events, Branch calendar of events, addresses and contact numbers. It is issued annually to every leader and is comprehensive and accurate. Of course some names are quickly out of date but changes are listed in the Chief's Newsletter which comes out each month with Australian Scout Magazine.

Scout Magazine

Packed with news, ideas and information about Scouting. It is posted to all registered leaders.

Kaboom!

The Scouts' newsletter (formerly SNAP), which comes out four times a year. Make sure you pass on to the PLs but read it yourself, as there is lots of information about upcoming activities.

Publications can be obtained through Snowgum where you can also get gear, maps and other useful information. You should have available in your Troop:

Field Book

Scout Leaders Handbook

The Patrol System (PLs Handbook)

Patrol Camp and Hike Books (cheap booklets for Scouts to use planning for hikes and camps) Resource Materials from this series of books from Branch.

Other Places and organisations

Government agencies for maps and pamphlets and Local Councils for youth services

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