

# **PATROL LEADER'S HANDBOOK**



**BARRY KENNEDY**  
**23<sup>RD</sup> LIMERICK**



**WOODBADGE PROJECT**

## Contents

Introduction .....	4
The Scout Method.....	5
The Patrol System.....	6
The Patrol Leader's Job .....	7
Leadership .....	8
Your Patrol .....	10
One of your key tasks will be organizing your patrol.....	10
Getting to know your patrol .....	10
Reviewing your patrol.....	10
Jobs in the patrol .....	10
Patrol Spirit & Identity .....	11
Why create a Patrol Identity.....	11
Methods of creating a Patrol Identity .....	11
Patrol Meetings.....	12
So what goes on at a Patrol meeting?.....	12
Ideas for Patrol Meetings .....	12
Patrol Activities .....	13
Planning your Programme .....	13
Other things you can look at: .....	13
Ideas for Patrol Activities .....	14
The Spices.....	15
Planning it.....	15
Doing it.....	15
Reviewing it.....	16
The Scout Award Scheme in your Patrol .....	16
Patrol Camps.....	17
Representing your Patrol.....	18
What is the PLC? .....	18
What does the PLC do?.....	18
When does it meet?.....	19
How are meetings run? .....	19
What does the Chairperson do?.....	19

What does the Secretary do? .....	19
What does the Scouter do? .....	19
Structure of a Meeting .....	19
The Minutes .....	20
Youth Involvement at Group Level .....	20
Youth Involvement at County Level .....	20
Youth Involvement at Provincial Level .....	20
Youth Involvement at National Level .....	20
Miscellaneous .....	21
Patrol Equipment .....	21
Logbook.....	22
Why keep a logbook?.....	22
What goes in a logbook? .....	22
Hints & Tips .....	22
Patrol Badges .....	23
Sources and Acknowledgements.....	25

## **Introduction**

Dear Patrol Leader,

Congratulations on become a PL. You just have taken up an extremely important and rewarding role in your Scout Group. As a Patrol Leader you will get to be a teacher, a mentor, a team mate, a referee, a representative and a friend. You will have to encourage, inspire and

It's not just about looking after other people. BP once said "An individual step in character training is to put responsibility on the individual." As a PL you'll get the opportunity to develop your skills and learn several new skills- all of which will benefit you later in life.

This handbook is designed to act as a guide for Patrol Leaders in organizing and running your Patrol. It is designed to work alongside the Scout Handbook (ONE Programme) and the Scouting Trail. It's not necessary to read this cover to cover. Instead you should be able to reference it when you need it. I hope you find it useful.

Best of luck during your time as Patrol Leader and the rest of your Scouting Adventures.

Yours in Scouting

Barry Kennedy

## **The Scout Method**

The Scout Method is what we do in Scouting. It's how we help to encourage the Social, Physical, Intellectual, Character, Emotional and Spiritual Development of a young person. It's what makes Scouting different from other youth organizations. The Scout Method has eight parts:

### **Promise & Law**

The Scout Law is personal code of living which young people voluntarily commit to when they make their Scout Promise.

### **Nature and Outdoors**

Outdoor activities, adventures and the exploration of nature refer to the immense possibilities that the natural world offers for the development of the young person.

### **Learning by doing**

Having hands-on and interactive activities allowing young people to take ownership of their activities.

### **Small Group System**

The small group system is the basic organisational structure in Scouting. Young people experience adventure and challenge in a small team, usually 6-8 people.

### **Personal Progression**

An award scheme, which encourages participation in its full range of activities and provides recognition and group achievements.

### **Symbolic Framework**

Provides a setting for Scouting; through the use of symbols, themes, stories, notions the young person's imagination is stimulated and activities are given a purpose.

### **Young People & Adults Working Together**

Scouting is a partnership between the young person and the adult, the adult provides support for the young person in groups which become increasingly self-governing.

### **Service and Commitment**

The fostering of individual good turns and helping each other out, and commitment to scouting's principles, commitment to fellow scouts and to a Scout Group.

In this handbook we'll be looking at two parts in particular- the Small Team System and Young People & Adults Working Together

## The Patrol System

*'It is the Patrol System that makes the Troop, and all Scouting for that matter, a real co-operative matter.'*

Baden Powell

One of the oldest aspects of Scouting is the Small Team Systems. Baden Powell understood the natural tendency of young people to form into “gangs”. At first Scout camp in Brownsea Island in 2007, there were four patrols – Bulls, Ravens, Curlews and Wolves. To this day, the small team system is one of the defining features of scouting. The Beavers have lodges, the Cubs have sixes and the Scouts have Patrols.

The Small Team System enables each individual Scout to develop themselves by pooling and building on each member’s experience and knowledge. Each member is encouraged to take responsibility for the running of the patrol and gets to have input in the planning and decision making.

The Patrol is the main unit of Scouting and most of your Scouting activities should be done with your patrol. The Scout Troop is comprised of a number of patrols. So what is a patrol?

- Each Patrol consists of six to eight scouts
- This includes a Patrol Leader (PL) and Assistant Patrol Leader (APL)
- It is a permanent team which is trained and led by the Patrol Leader
- It does its own activities (as well as taking part in troop activities)
- Each member has a job or task to perform
- Each member has a say in the running of the Patrol.
- It has its own identity and spirit

However the most important aspect of a Patrol is that is a group of friends.

## The Patrol Leader's Job

A Patrol Leader has many responsibilities. Here are some of the main ones:

- Leads the Patrol
- Plan & lead Patrol Meetings and Activities
- Keep the members of your Patrol informed
- Represent the Patrol at the PLC and other meetings
- Get to know the members of the Patrol, learn about their interests, strengths and weaknesses.
- Assist Scouts in their development through Scouting
- Train the Scouts in the Patrol
- Assign jobs to the members of the Patrol
- Develop a sense of Patrol Spirit
- Be involved in Programme Planning (including Outdoor Activities, Patrol Meetings, Patrol Activities)
- Work with the Scouts and other Patrol Leaders to run the Scout Troop
- Prepare the Patrol for troop activities
- Lead by example
- Show Scouting Spirit and live the promise and law
- Attend PL Training



Don't worry if this all seems like a lot of work. Your Scouters and fellow Patrol Leaders will be there to help you along the way. And remember to take time for your own personal progression.

## Leadership

There's no one single style of leadership that fits all. Here are some of the more common qualities that make a good patrol leader.

- A Leader
- Responsible
- Good Communicator
- Interested in being a Patrol Leader
- Adventurous
- Can work in a team
- Good Levels of Scout skills

Try to think of people you know, both in scouting and outside, who have one or more of the above qualities. How did they influence you? What do you think makes them a good leader.

Leadership skills are hard to learn from reading. Here are a few things to consider

### Learning by doing

In scouting we believe that young people learning by doing and not by being told. When teaching a scout how to do something don't just tell them how to do, show them and then let them try it for the selves.

You'll find that some Scouts will pick up Scout Skills faster than others. For the ones that are struggling, be patient- with some extra help and encouragement they'll pick it up. Remember Scouting is about doing your own personal best



### Delegation

A good leader understands that they can't (and shouldn't) do everything on their own. When working on a project, the PL needs to make sure everyone has something to do. Be mindful of other people's strengths and try to assign tasks accordingly. It is often said a good leader leads from behind.

However remember never to ask someone to do something you wouldn't do yourself. Its often too easy to offload all the work on other people while you sit back and relax. Remember your part of the patrol as well.

### Discipline and behavior

One of not so pleasant aspects of Patrol Leader is discipline. All Scouts are asked to live according to the Scout Promise & Law and to your troop's code of conduct and as Patrol Leader you are responsible for encouraging everyone in your patrol to stick to this.

One of the key things you need to keep an eye out for is lot of the time, a scout may think what they are doing is fun



bullying. A but the scout

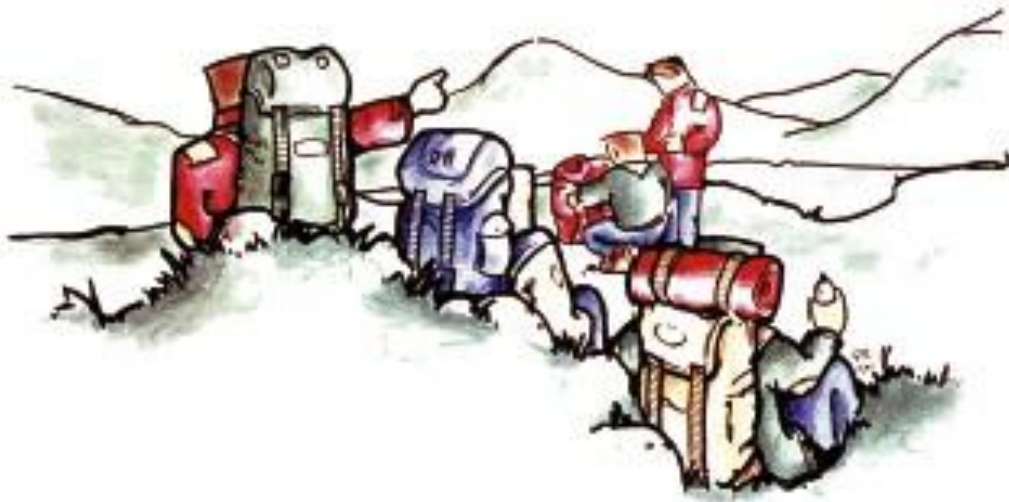


on the receiving end may find the comments or actions hurtful. Examples of bullying include:

- Excessive slagging
- Name calling to give offence
- Exclusion or isolation of a Scout
- Being over physical
- Picking on a Scout
- Threatening behaviour
- Initiation activities

When dealing with discipline issues, remember to be fair and listen to all sides of the story. Treat each incident on its own merits. Consult with your scout leader before taking any action. All major discipline issues should be handled by the Patrol Leader's Council.

Remember that the younger Scouts will look up to you so you need to lead by example. That means you have to act as you'd expect them to act.



## **Your Patrol**

One of your key tasks will be organizing your patrol.

### **Getting to know your patrol**

One of the first things you should do is make sure everyone in the patrol knows each other. Having a close bond between the members of the patrol is important. Remember a patrol is “a gang of friends” first and foremost. At your first patrol meeting get everyone to introduce each other and talk about their interests. Make sure everyone has each other’s mobile numbers.

As a Patrol Leader you need to know everyone in your patrol very well. You need to be aware of their strengths and weaknesses.

### **Reviewing your patrol**

The next thing that must be done is to assess the current state of your patrol. You and your APL should sit down and make a list of the patrol’s strength and weaknesses. You may be good at navigation but poor at pioneering. James may be weak at first aid but good at backwoods cooking.

When this is complete you should look at each strength and see how you can capitalise on this. You should then look at the weaknesses and see how you can improve. This will help you when it comes to planning your patrol and/or troop programme later.

You and your APL should regularly review how your patrol is doing.

### **Jobs in the patrol**

After the review you should assign each member of the patrol a job. It’s up to you to decide whether this is on a short term basis (a few weeks) or a long term basis (a year). The PL and APL should be free to assist all members of the patrol. Sometimes it helps to let people to try each role for a while to make sure it suits.

Usual jobs include:

- Quartermaster- Looks after all the patrol’s equipment
- Cook – in charge of cooking on camp, deciding the menu, coordinating cooking/washing rotas etc
- Scribe- Looks after the patrol’s logbook
- First Aider – Looks after the first aid kit and treats minor injuries
- Site Manager- Makes sure the campsite is clean and safe. This person can also be responsible for looking after your patrol corner.
- Fireman- responsible for lighting and putting out fires on camp, looks after the alter fire and

Try to give the job to the most suitable person. For example if Mary is good at writing, make her the scribe. If Paul has reached level 5 of first aid then he might make a good a first aider.

If you have a younger scout, he/she could be made an assistant for one of the other jobs so that they learn the ropes but make sure they don’t get made into a dog’s body. If this happens they may be demoralized and quickly lose interest in Scouting.

## Patrol Spirit & Identity

Who are your patrol? Do you have a Patrol Name? Was it just assigned to you or does it have a meaning or a history?

### Why create a Patrol Identity

There are many reasons to develop a patrol identity

- Sense of being part of a group
- Belonging
- Being needed
- Sense of independence
- Responsibility as a team player

A scout should feel proud to be part of his/her patrol. This sense of pride should encourage them to play an active role in the patrol's activity.

### Methods of creating a Patrol Identity

Over the years, some patrols have developed really strong identities by dressing alike, having a patrol chant or motto. Here are some methods to develop your patrol's identity.

- Colour(s)
- T-shirts/hoodies
- Flag
- Badge
- T-Shirts
- Song/Chant/Yell
- Box
- Notice Board
- Patrol Corner
- Logbook

Why not do some research into your Patrol name and develop a Patrol Identity around that. For example Wolves are highly social animals and known for their teamwork. Lions are known for their courage and bravery. So what does your Patrol name say about your patrol.



## Patrol Meetings

A patrol meeting is a meeting of the patrol. A patrol meeting can take place anywhere- the scout hall, one of your houses, on an activity or even in Supermacs. (For the purpose of this document, we will assume a patrol meeting is a monthly meeting of the patrol in the scout hall- talk to your Scouter about this).

### So what goes on at a Patrol meeting?

Well that's up to the PL and the patrol. A patrol can use this meeting to brush up on scouts skills, prepare for a patrol activity or work on your badge work. You should also allow time for discussion about the patrol and troop programme so your PL and APL know how the patrol feels before going to a PLC meeting.

Every now and again you should have an informal patrol meeting. Order pizza and watch a DVD. This is a great way to develop patrol spirit.



### Ideas for Patrol Meetings

- Make a stretcher and carry a member of your patrol around the hall
- Test the efficiency of different stoves
- Try to pitch a tent blindfold
- Can you demonstrate all the knots necessary for the next stage in the adventure skills
- Try lighting fire by friction
- Send a number of messages by Sempaphore - maybe make semaphore flags
- Try practice your backwoods/survival skills- perhaps make personal survival kits
- Practice creating route cards for next hike
- Rucksack packing
- Run a keep fit programme for your patrol
- Run a Special Interest Badges evening where every Scout introduces their hobbies and interests to the patrol
- Challenge another patrol to a games night or how about a Come Dine With Me night
- Codes & Ciphers
- Developing Patrol identity
- Brush up on basic scout skills
- Go on a visit to a local landmark

## Patrol Activities

One of the key tasks of a Patrol Leader is Programme Planning. That might be helping with planning the troop programme with the Patrol Leader's Council or planning your own Patrol's programme.

In Scouting we used a system called the Programme Cycle. It has three stages:

- PLAN- deciding what your going to do and how your going to do it
- DO- running the activity
- REVIEW- discussing how it went and what you learned from it



In this chapter we'll discuss each stage of the Programme Cycle. We'll also discuss how to organise Patrol Activities and Camps.

## Planning your Programme

The biggest challenge in planning the programme is ensuring everyone is catered for. To get a balanced programme you should talk to your patrol about their Personal journey. Things you should consider:

- The Crean Awards- what do the Scouts in your Patrol need to do to complete the current stage
- The Adventure Skills - what needs to be done to help the scouts in your Patrol to reach the next stage.
- Special Interest Badges - why not encourage one of the Scouts to organsie a patrol activity around their own interests or hobbies
- Nautical Training Programme- take to the water and try the Helmsman Badges
- The Chief Scout Award - How about a Patrol Expedition or a joint activity with another patrol.

Other things you can look at:

- Local Activities- is there a forest to explore, a campsite to visit, a mountain to climb or park to clean up. You don't have to go far to find thousands of activities for your next patrol activity.
- Group, County and National Events- is there anything on these calendars that your patrol want to take part in? Is there any preparation you need to do before you take part? Is there a Locally Organized National Event (LONE) initiative that you could do yourself so as a hike day or environmental project?
- The Mountain Pursuit Challenge (MPC) team have all the routes for their previous events on [www.mpcteam.ie](http://www.mpcteam.ie)

Before your next patrol meeting, ask each scout to come up with a list of things they'd like to do (the Chadburn you get with the Scout Handbook can help with this). At the meeting each Scout should explain their idea to the rest of the Patrol. All the ideas are put on a chart and then the patrol votes for the idea(s) they like the best.



## Ideas for Patrol Activities

Here are some ideas for Patrol Activities you could try. Remember to always consult with your Scouters before you do an activity.

- Patrol Camp
- Patrol Hike
- Beach Activities
- Backwoods Skill/Bivvy
- Pioneering- what can you build?
- Water Activities- Rowing, Paddling or Sailing or why not build a raft or coracle
- Semaphore
- First Aid Course
- Photo Scavenger Hunt
- Cooking
- Cycling Trip
- Community Project
- Orienteering
- Wide Games
- Fishing
- Go Karting
- Bowling



## Ideas for Patrol Visits







Why not go somewhere for a visit?

- Courthouse
- Town Hall
- Castle
- Museum
- Zoo
- Airport
- Fire Station
- Garda Station
- Factory
- TV/Radio Studio



## The Spices

When putting your Programme together you should aim to have a balance between all the SPICES:

	Social	Developing my interaction with others and the community
	Physical	Being respectful of my body
	Intellectual	Receiving and applying knowledge to my activities
	Character	Becoming a well rounded person
	Emotional	Being able to express my own emotions and respectful of the emotions of others
	Spiritual	Developing my own beliefs and living by my values in everyday life

Each activity should contain at least one, if not all of the SPICES.

## Planning it

Once you've decided what activity you're going to do, you need to get planning

- Where it's going to take place (if it's a hike what route will you take)
- When's it going to take place? What time will you leave? When will you get home?
- How will you get there? (Walk, public transports, lifts)
- What gear do you need? Where can you get it from? Who's going to look after it?
- Do you need to do any preparation or training for the activity?
- What are you going to eat? How will you cook it?

When you have everything planned remember to tell your leader.

## Doing it

This part generally depends on what activity you are doing but here's some general advice:

Make sure that everything is done safely

Make sure everyone behaves -

If something goes wrong- stay calm, assess the situation and if necessary, get help

Leave No Trace!

## **Reviewing it**

When you are done, it's important that you do a review so that you can learn from the event. Common questions that should be asked

- What aspects of the activity did you like? Why? Can they be improved?
- What aspects of the activity didn't you like? Why not? Can they be fixed?
- What did you learn?
- Did each scout develop themselves socially, physically, intellectually, emotionally or spiritually?
- Did you achieve your goals as an individual and as a group?
- Would you do the same activity again? If so would you change anything.

There are several methods for conducting reviews. Some of them are included in the Scout Handbook.

Remember to write a report for the patrol logbook (and maybe a local newspaper) and to thank anyone who helped you (guest speaker, landowner, bus driver etc)

## **The Scout Award Scheme in your Patrol**

In your patrol you will find that there are a number of Scouts in your Patrol at varying stages of the award scheme. As a patrol leader you should try to ensure the Patrol's activities suit all members of the patrol's personal development. You should try to plan an activity so that everyone achieves something. For example, let's consider a patrol hike:

- A Discovery Scout- participate in one Patrol Activity
- A Terra Nova Scout -Help prepare for/participate in a Patrol Activity and learn a new skill from a member of your patrol
- A Endurance Scout- help, organise and run three patrol activities
- A Polar Scout- Share one of your skills with another Scout and plan/run/review an activity for your Patrol.

So the older scouts are helping to plan and run the Patrol activity (the hike) and passing on their skills (such as navigation) to the younger scouts. The big challenge is finding a balance between keeping the programme challenging enough for older scouts and not making it too difficult for younger scouts.

As well as the Crean Awards, Scouts can also work on their Adventure Skills. As a patrol leader you may be asked to assess someone's progress through the Adventure Skills. Youth Members can assess scouts who are two levels below them up to level 6 in Camping, Backwoods and Pioneering and up to level 5 in the other six skills. This means if you have a stage 5 badge you can assess a scout trying to get stage 3. If you can't assess the scout yourself, try to ask a fellow Patrol Leader, a Venture scout, a Rover Scout or a Scouter.



## Patrol Camps

A Patrol camping on its own should be the norm for scout troops. However this can only happen if you have earned the trust of your Scouters. You should build up your experience by taking part in troop and county activities and by running day activities with your patrol. When you and your patrol are ready to run your first patrol camp, there are a few rules you need to follow:

- The Patrol Leader is an experienced camper with a minimum standard of Level 5 in the Camping Adventure Skills Badge
- The overnight location is one where, in an emergency, adult help can be obtained.
- An adult Scouter should visit the Patrol at some stage during the event to offer support and encouragement.
- All details should be left with your Scouter and Group Leader.
  - Permission from Landowner/Warden
  - Consent forms
  - Programme
  - Gear List
  - Menu
  - Job Rota
  - Budget

Without these details your Scouter can refuse permission to camp

- Consent from all parents must be got (they must know that the PL is in charge)
- Permission from the landowner or warden. Scouting Ireland's National Campsites are recommended as the campsites are close at hand if need's be. Details of these sites can be found at [Scouts.ie](http://Scouts.ie)

A patrol camp is an excellent way to bond the patrol members together and to try out some activities. It's also a good chance for to complete part of the Crean Award requirements or work on the camping Adventure Skills award.



## **Representing your Patrol**

Earlier we talked about how Scouting is about young people and adults working together. As the young person gets older, their responsibility increases while the adults take a more backseat role. In the Scout Troop decisions are made by Patrol Leaders and the Scouters in a special meeting called the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC).

One of your key tasks as a Patrol Leader is to represent the views of your patrol at the PLC as well as other meetings. In this chapter we'll discuss what the PLC is, what it does, who sits on it and how meetings are run. We also discuss how you can be heard at Group, County, Provincial and even National Level.

### **What is the PLC?**

The PLC is a group of PLs (and sometimes APLs) meeting whenever necessary, normally once a month to discuss issues in the section, organizing programme, planning events, reviewing past events/activities, making changes to rules and procedures and when necessary addressing discipline matters within the section, giving the offending scout a chance to have their say and if necessary take action to prevent. The PLC is the management body of the Scout Troop and all important



### **What does the PLC do?**

The PLC is responsible for the following areas:

#### **Planning and evaluating the troop's programme**

The PLC's main task is putting together the Troop's programme. This includes both weekly meetings and other activities (such as hikes and camps). The ideas should come from the patrols and then the PLC puts the ideas together to form the programme. The PLC should also review past activities and consider what changes are needed to be made.

#### **Running the Award Scheme**

Each Scout should keep track of their own personal progression. As a Patrol Leader, you should keep an eye on the progress of each scout in your patrol and give them encouragement if needed. When a scout completes an Award or an Adventure Skill stage, you must inform the PLC who must approve the award and decide how and when the Scout will be presented with the award.

#### **Developing and enforcing the troop's code of conduct**

The PLC should write a Code of Conduct for the troop. Any serious breaches of this code must be discussed by the PLC who will make a decision as to what action can be taken to prevent

#### **Representing the views of the Scouts to the Scouters**

The PLC is the link between the Scouts and the Scouters. It's the job of the Patrol Leader to know how the Scouts are getting on.

**Send reps to Group Council and County Youth Fora and Provincial Youth Fora.**

The PLC is also responsible for representing the Scouts outside of the troop. We'll talk more of this later.

**When does it meet?**

The PLC should aim to meet once every 4 to 6 weeks. Meetings should be held outside of scout time (often before or after meetings).

**How are meetings run?**

Meetings should be informal and fun so that nobody loses interest. At the same time the meeting should be kept on track so that all the work gets done before time runs out. An agenda should be done up before the meeting so that everyone knows what going to be discussed.

**What does the Chairperson do?**

The Chairman keeps order at the meeting, helps set the agenda, and ensures everyone gets an equal say.

**What does the Secretary do?**

The Secretary records everything that is said and decided at the meeting. This will help with carrying out the wishes and decisions of the PLC, he/she can remind people of jobs they were given and follow up on issues. The Secretary also takes care of any correspondence the PLC sends or receives.

**What does the Scouter do?**

The Scouter should take a back seat role in meetings. He/She doesn't have a vote and should only get involved when the PLs need help. The Scouters job is to help, encourage and advise the PLC so that they can achieve as much as they would like to.

**Structure of a Meeting**

An agenda is like a schedule for a meeting. It sets out the order of the discussion. Here's a sample agenda. It's up to the chairperson to make sure you stick to the agenda. Some common features of a PLC meeting include:

**Patrol Reports**

Each PL should explain to the others how his or her Patrol is working as a group, and how each Scout in the Patrol is getting on. If there are discipline problems then the PLC should discuss what should be done in each case.

**Scouters report.**

The Scouter should pass on information to the PL's that he or she may have from Group or County meetings. The Scouter can also talk about things that may have been discussed at Scouter meetings.

**Programme planning.**

A review should be carried out on the programme since the last PLC meeting. This should be followed by a planning session for the programme that is going to happen until the next PLC meeting.

**Badges.**

A review of badgework should be carried out and if badges need to be awarded this should be done.

## **The Minutes**

The Minutes are the official record of the meeting, as recorded by the secretary. Keep them brief and to the point- there's no need to record every single comment, just the key points and decisions. Attendance should be noted; including everyone who sent apologies (told someone they couldn't make it).

## **Youth Involvement at Group Level**

The Group Council is the Management Team for your Scout Group. It's made up of your Group Leader, Deputy Group Leader, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Scouters from the various sections (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Ventures) and youth reps from Scouts, Ventures and Rovers. The Patrol Leaders are invited to send at least one representative to Group Council Meetings and should do so at least twice a year. In addition the Group Leader should visit the PLC twice a year to meet the PLs and to find out what the Scout Troop is up to.

It's important for the PLC to have a say in things that affect the Scout Troop directly, like the buying of new camping equipment or deciding when the Cubs will start the Link with the Scout Troop. The more involvement you have with the Scout Group the better.

## **Youth Involvement at County Level**

Every year your County will organize a County Youth Forum for Scouts. It is a meeting for all Patrol Leaders in your County and is a great way to get to know other Scouts. You get the chance to talk about things such as the County Scout Programme and decide what you would like to see involved.

In addition to this, 4 representatives will be elected who will get to attend at least one meeting of the Scout County Board, where they will be involved in decisions that affect all the Scout Groups in the County.

## **Youth Involvement at Provincial Level**

The 4 Scouts elected at the County Youth Fora will also get to attend the Provincial Youth Fora which takes place once a year. At this meeting you will get to talk with Scouts from your Province and discuss things such as what kind of help you would like to get for your Scout Troop. For example, you might want PL training or mountain navigation training and this is the place where you will be able to arrange such things. At the meeting 6 representatives will be elected who will go on to represent the Province at the National Youth Fora.

## **Youth Involvement at National Level**

The National Youth Fora is a meeting of the Provincial Representatives that takes place once a year. At this meeting issues of a national nature will be discussed, such as National Scout Events, uniform changes, etc.

Representatives from the National Youth Fora will attend meetings of the National Management Committee during the year to represent the views of Scouts. Three representatives will also be selected to work on the National Youth Programme Committee for the year.

An Chéim is a National Youth Conference where you get to meet Scouts from all around the country and one Scout from each Scout Troop can attend. The Conference will involve workshops about various issues in Scouting and in the wider community. You will have the chance to say how you feel about these issues and what action you would like to be taken.

## Miscellaneous

### Patrol Equipment

A good patrol should have its own equipment. This should be kept in your patrol box and looked after by your Patrol Quartermaster. Some of the things that your patrol might have include:

- Patrol Logbook
- Patrol Flag
- A Copy of the Scouting Trail
- First Aid Kit
- Axe & Saw
- Lightweight Tent
- Pots & Pans
- Trangia Stove
- Maps for local areas
- Map Case

Don't worry if you don't have all this equipment. Talk to your Scout Leader or your Group Quartermaster and find out what equipment your Scout Group has. Remember to look after your equipment so that it lasts longer and make sure every scout knows how to use it safely.

### Uniform

Scouting Ireland is a uniformed organization. All your patrol should have the full and correct uniform and wear it when instructed to (the PLC should decide how often your troop wears the uniform). The official parts of the uniform are:

- Your Group Neckerchief
- Woggle
- SI Shirt
- SI Trousers
- Belt
- Dark Shoes and Socks

The optional parts are:

- SI Jacket
- Sea Scout Jumper
- Lanyard

In Scout competitions, the general rule for optional part during uniform inspections is "all the patrol wear it or none of them wear it". Perhaps you could organize a uniform inspection for your patrol.



## Logbook

### Why keep a logbook?

A logbook should be a record of what you're patrol did in the year as you and your Patrol saw it. It allows other people to see what you did, where you went hiking, what games you played and what badges you earned. Your logbook also acts as a souvenir from your time in scouting so that years from now you can go back and remember all your old adventures with your patrol

### What goes in a logbook?

- The name of the patrol should go on the cover (along with a patrol logo if you have one)
- A brief Patrol Leader's Report giving the highs and lows of the year (leave a page blank at the start of the logbook – the Patrol Leader should make this the final entry. It should be written as an overview/summary this will make it interesting for anyone reading)
- A list of Patrol Members. Perhaps include their photos or sketches and some information about them
- Report from patrol and troop meetings (One page per meeting). This should include:
  - Date and time of the meeting
  - Attendance of your patrol
  - A brief overview of the programme for the meeting
  - An account of what you did
- Report from activities. This should be more detailed (the length of the report depends of the activity). Include other details like equipment lists for scouts and the patrol, weather report, menus etc. As always photographs and sketches go a long way



Other items you can include in your logbook

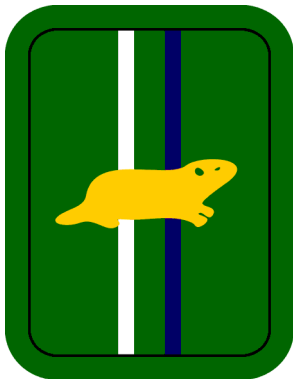
- A quote list
- A standard equipment list for all activities
- A list of patrol equipment
- A record of what badges have been earned
- Diagrams of pioneering projects

### Hints & Tips

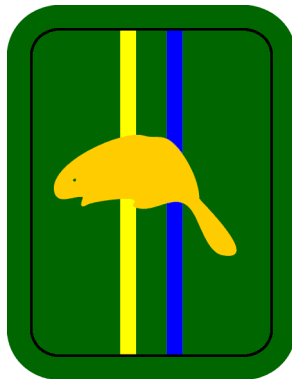
- This isn't school so don't write an essay. It's better to be short and interesting than long and boring. And remember to write it in your own words
- Remember that a picture or drawing tells a thousand words
- Keep it organised... Make sure everything is in the right order and try to stick to the same format
- Be careful when it comes to handwriting and spelling.

## Patrol Badges

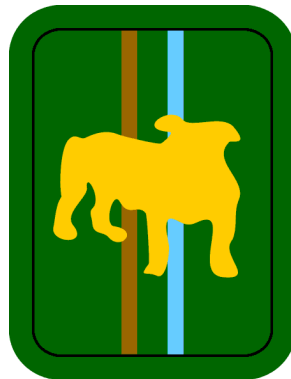
Do you have a patrol badge? These are some of the badges you can get in the scout shop. The animal images and colours come from BP himself.



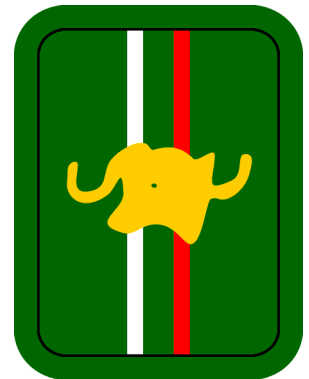
BADGER



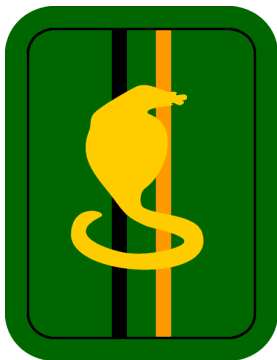
BEAVER



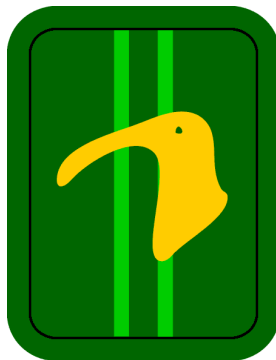
BULLDOG



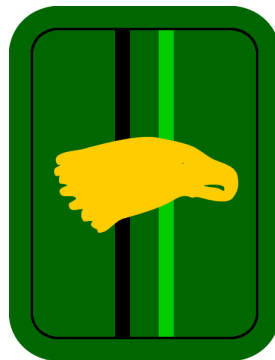
BUFFALO



Cobra



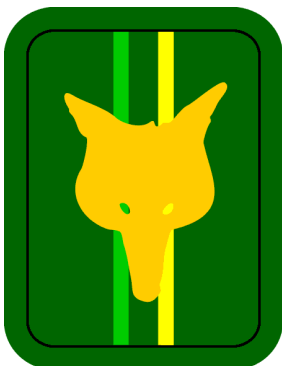
Curlew



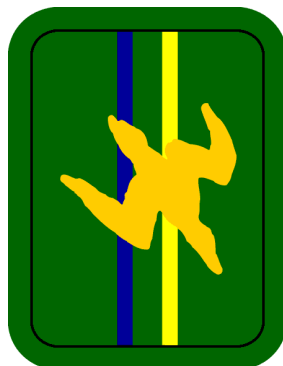
Eagle



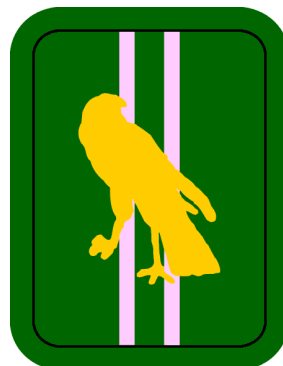
Falcon



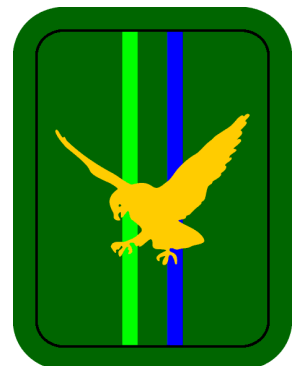
FOX



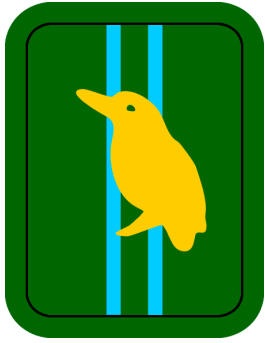
Gannet



Hawk



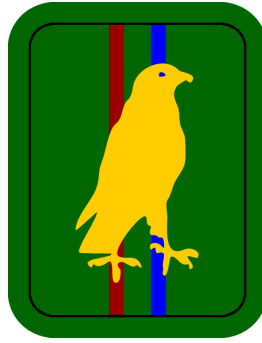
Kestrel



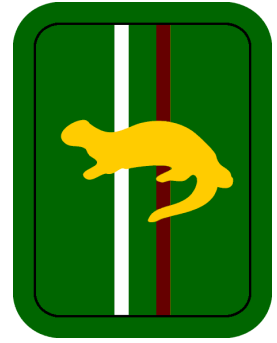
Kingfisher



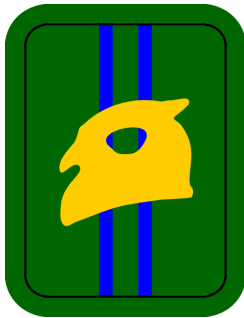
Lion



Merlin



Otter



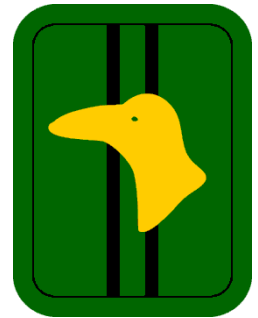
Owl



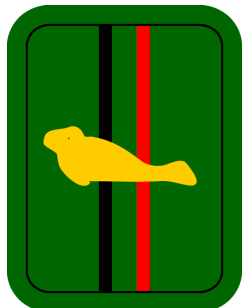
Panther



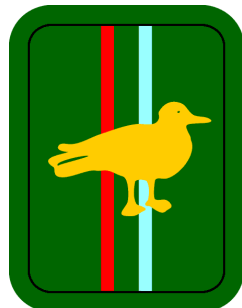
Peewit



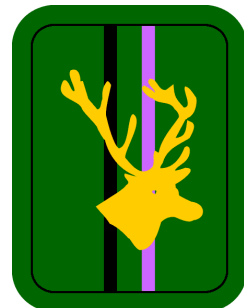
Raven



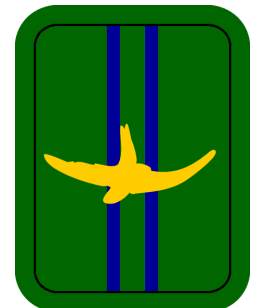
Seagull



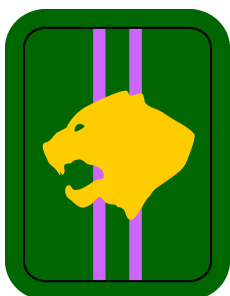
Seal



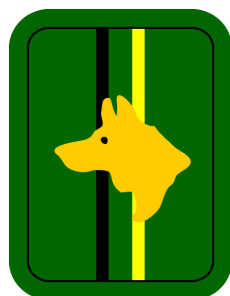
Stag



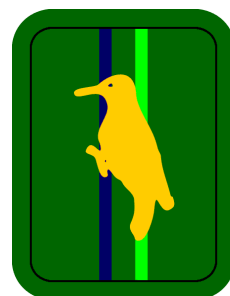
Swift



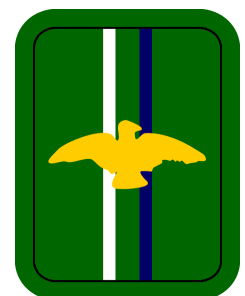
Tiger



Wolf



Woodpecker



Wood pigeon



## Sources and Acknowledgements

Some of the material for this handbook has been adapted from the following:

- The Scouting Trail
- ONE Programme Handbooks and Resources
- SI Camping & Outdoors Policy
- National Event Team Resources
- Scout Essentials Training Materials
- Southern Province Leadership Training for Scouts Training Materials
- So now you're a watch leader (SAI 2002)

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