



# INFO CARD – Have a knowledge of the Patrol Leaders' Council

## What is a Patrol Leader Council?

Deciding what your Troop does and how it does it are the responsibility of the PL's, and you should do this through the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC). The PLC is made up of the Troop PL's as well as one of the senior Scouters.

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### Structure of a Patrol Leader Council?

The PLC should meet on a regular basis. The most usual approach is to have one formal meeting a month, and these meetings need a structure which allows them to deal with most of the areas of responsibility mentioned above. The following is a suggestion for how such a meeting might work:

#### 1. 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.

## 2. 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.

## 3. Programme planning.

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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.

#### 4. Badges.

A review of badgework should be carried out and if badges need to be awarded this should be done. Informal meetings can take place between these meetings. For example, at the end of an activity the programme for that activity can be reviewed. Sometimes you will also need to have meetings that deal with one thing only. For example a whole meeting in August might be dedicated to planning the outline of the programme for the year ahead. Because you will make important decisions at a PLC meeting you should record the decisions you make. One of the PL's should take on the job of PLC Secretary. A simple factual record of each meeting should be kept (called minutes). Don't be tempted to write an essay!