

# The Bridge from Webelos to Boy Scouting



Home and neighborhood centered



Outdoors  
Personal growth  
Leadership

- It takes plenty of planning, preparation, and fun !



# Scouting Goals

Continually move youth from dependence on adult direction to independence.

The step from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting is the most critical and requires planning and preparation.

The transition of every Webelos Scout to a Boy Scout Troop should be the goal of Webelos Den Leaders, Pack Leaders, and Troop Leaders.



# Why is the Transition Important?

- Over 3/4 of all Boy Scouts were Webelos. Troop membership depends on a successful transition.
- Summer camp is a major reason boys stay in scouting. A timely transition ensures Webelos are informed and sign-up for summer camp early.
- Preparation makes it easy to join this new and unfamiliar program with new leaders and boys.
- Other youth programs (e.g. sports) compete with Scouting. A good transition ensures retention.



# What Makes the Transition Easy?

- The Arrow of Light (AoL) qualifies Webelos for joining and earning the “Scout” badge.
- Activity badges are similar to earning merit badges.
- The outdoor program starts during Webelos.
- The Den Chief is a Boy Scout “role-model”.
- Cooperation of Scoutmasters and Webelos Leaders helps familiarize boys and parents to new unit.
- Same uniform - immediate sense of belonging.



# The Webelos Leader's Transition Role

- Key to planning and preparing boys for Boy Scouts.
- Trains for and implements an outdoor program.
- Leads the den as a Patrol and teaches scout skills.
- Coordinates Troop visits and co-activities for AoL.
- Recruits a Den Chief at Troop / Roundtable mtgs.
- Plans graduation ceremony with Pack and OA Ldrs
- Promotes participation in the Troop's summer camp.
- Verifies transfer of Webelos documents to the Troop.
- Use "tracking" roster to help Troops plan space.



# The Scoutmaster's Transition Role

- Recognize that Webelos must be **actively** recruited.
- Appoint Assistant SM(s) to lead transition team.
- Reserve space for 2nd year Webelos at summer camp. Inform WL of camp dates and costs early !
- Coordinate Webelos Den visits and co-activities.
- Share the Troop schedule and get “tracking” rosters
- Recruit Den Chiefs as a key leadership position.
- Prepare Webelos Parent orientations and recruit new adult leaders.
- Ensure Webelos paperwork is completed.



# The Assistant Scoutmaster's Role

- Help conduct Webelos Den visits and co-activities.
- Make Webelos and parents welcome.
- Assist Den Chiefs to be successful by JLT training.
- Help conduct Webelos Parent orientations and recruit new adult leaders.
- Lead the formation of new patrols.
- Work with Troop guides to plan skills instruction for advancement to First Class in first year.
- Help new scouts in first year program at camp.



# The Den Chief's Transition Role

- A role model for Boy Scouts
- A resource for teaching Scout skills and the transition
- Helps Webelos Den operations
- Assists in the Arrow of Light and Graduation ceremony
- Gains leadership experience for rank advancement



# The Cubmaster's Transition Role

- Main point of contact for Troop-Pack coordination
- Includes Troop visits in the pack program
- Recruits Webelos leaders and promotes Den, Webelos, and BALOO leader training.
- Helps plan and conduct graduation ceremony
- Promotes the Pack Camping program.
- Verifies transfer of Webelos records to the Troop.



# The Unit Commissioner's Transition Role

- Main point of contact for District coordination
- Keeps track of membership in packs and troops
- Promotes Pack and Troop Leader training.
- Helps coordinate graduation ceremony with OA
- Promotes the scouting outdoor program.
- Verifies registration of Webelos in a Troop
- If Webelos don't join, finds out why.
  - Moving, problem with units, finances, etc ?



# Boys Want Ceremony!

- Set the scene.
- Make it meaningful.
- Keep it simple.
- Involve the boy leaders.

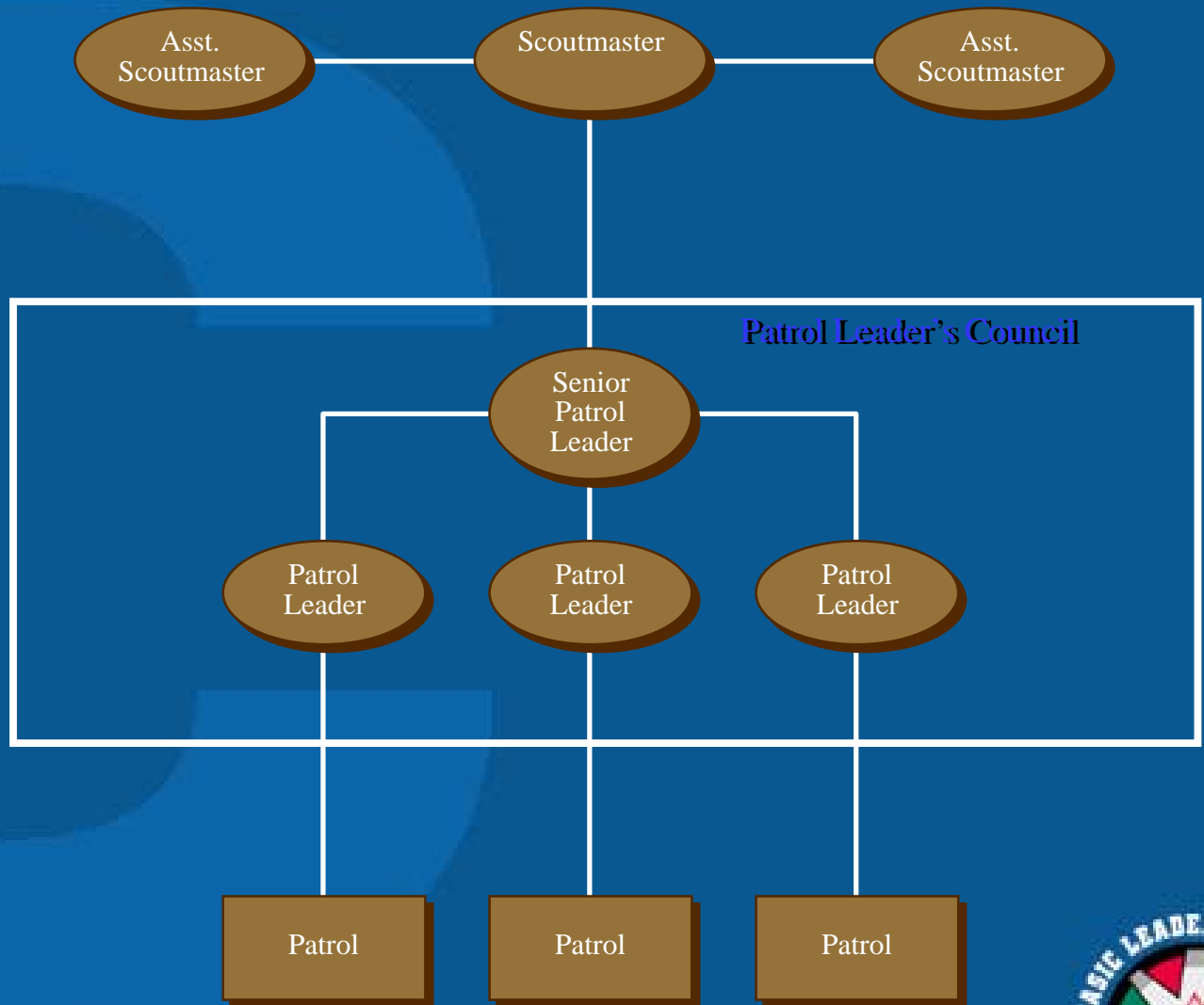


# Webelos Scout Camping

- Outdoor training available for Webelos leaders
- Webelos Day camp
- Resident camp (Webelos Week in the Woods)
- Pack camping (family)
- Webelos Dens may camp with Boy Scout troops (parent-son camping) when coordinated with Troop leaders.
- Plan several overnights per year



# Basic Troop Organization



# Secrets to Growing A Troop

- Retain current members.
- Bring Webelos Scouts into the troop.
- Build strong pack relationships.
- Recruit boys not currently in Scouting.
- Emphasize the importance of Scouting to parents.
- Accept the responsibility to bring in new members.
- Encourage boys to recruit other boys.



# The Arrow of Light

- Highest award in Cub Scouting
- Only Cub Scouting award worn on Boy Scout uniform
- Symbolizes transition from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting
- Eases the Webelos-to-Scout transition



# Training

- Scoutmasters and assistants need to attend *Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills* to be considered “trained”. 2nd year Webelos Leaders are encouraged to take this training in preparation for their “graduation”.
- Cub Scout Leaders and 1st year Webelos leaders should take *Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation* (BALOO) training, in addition to New Leader Essentials.



# Webelos Advancement

- Compass Points



Webelos badge



Activity badges

