

**Northern Star Council, Lake Minnetonka District BSA**

Cub Roundtable Talking Notes

September 1, 2016

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Responsible party?

- I. Parts of a Scout Meeting
  - A. Months ahead Unit Leadership
    - 1. Annual program, monthly themes
    - 2. Secure recurring location, determine conflicts
  - B. Weeks ahead Leadership
    - 1. Secure talent or tour destination
  - C. Days ahead Leadership
    - 1. Finalize advancement, go shopping
    - 2. Gather materials
    - 3. Updates for newsletter or handouts
  - D. Before the Meeting Service Den/Patrol/Family
    - 1. Room setup, station setup
  - E. Gathering Service
    - 1. Greeters
    - 2. Den Exhibits
    - 3. Pre-opening activity
  - F. Opening Leader  
Service
    - 1. Opening Ceremony
    - 2. Icebreaker (song, etc)
    - 3. Welcome and introductions
  - G. Program Leader
    - 1. Activity stations? Skills workshops?
    - 2. Den/patrol demonstrations?
    - 3. Outside talent?
    - 4. Game?
  - H. Recognition Leader
    - 1. Three levels: Scout / Leader / Unit
    - 2. Unofficial / at-a-boy recognitions
  - I. Closing Leader
    - 1. Announcements
    - 2. Scoutmaster minute (reading, story, inspirational article, from-the-heart)
    - 3. Closing ceremony Service
  - J. After the Meeting Service
    - 1. Refreshments
    - 2. Cleanup All-in
  - K. Days after
    - 1. Thank-you to talent, hosts
    - 2. Advancement updates and follow-on items.

## II. Pack Meeting Planning

### A. Number One Goal: KISMIF!

#### 1. My approach:

- a) Whole-family participation
- b) Active-vs-passive (games vs classroom)
- c) High energy
- d) It's a pep-rally with a purpose.
- e) It's a safe environment for learning and graceful failure (growth)
- f) Raise the bar

### B. Advancement Planning

1. Rank target deadline (eg, blue-and-gold)
2. AOL Crossover
3. Accelerants (summer camp)

### C. Annual Planning

1. Seasonally-sensitive items (hiking)
2. Seasonally-appropriate activities (xmas, etc)
3. Volunteering outings
4. External talent (keep kids engaged in april/may/june)
5. Summertime Pack Award
6. Unit traditions?

### D. Meeting Plans - What can you do in 30 minutes?

1. BSA's own plans - YMMV
2. Pinterest / your spouse.
3. Borrow from summer camp
4. Google: "cub scout pack meeting plans"

### E. Staffing

1. Den Leaders & leadership
2. Families
3. Den Chiefs & Troop Guides
4. Webelos
5. External Talent

### F. Resources

1. <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/04/15/pack-meeting-plans-2015-2016-2016-2017-available-free-download/>
2. <http://www.scouting.org/home/cubscouts/leaders/cubmasterresources/packmeetin/gplans.aspx>

### III. Den Meeting Planning

- A. Advancement Planning
  - 1. Bobcats / first-rank
  - 2. Seasonally-sensitive
  - 3. Dependent on external resources: other dens, units, city council, fire dept, etc
- B. Annual Planning
  - 1. Seasonally-sensitive
  - 2. Unit advancement goals
  - 3. Divide-and-conquer
  - 4. "Homework" -- expectations on family involvement
    - a) DTG
    - b) Long-term, eg, grow a plant
- C. Meeting Plans
  - 1. BSA's own plans
  - 2. Pinterest, youtube
  - 3. Opportunities for cross-den/cross-patrol collaboration
  - 4. Parent resources
  - 5. Go-see-its
- D. At the meeting
  - 1. Just like a pack meeting, only smaller, more intimate.
    - a) "Service" or host families
    - b) Advancement
    - c) Themes and clusters
  - 2. Use your parents. Make it not possible for stop-and-drop.
  - 3. \*YOU\* are the embodiment of the program. Model it. Own it.
  - 4. Den Chiefs, Troop Guides, Denners
- E. Rank-specific thoughts:
  - 1. Lions - Along for the ride? How does YOUR unit the kindergarteners?
  - 2. Tigers - Explorers! Lots of go-see-its
  - 3. Wolves - Focusing on core cub scout skills
  - 4. Bears - starting to spread wings
  - 5. Webelos - get them engaged in assisting the unit
  - 6. Arrow-of-light - focusing on patrol method
- F. Other Resources