

## Patrol Method Refresher

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## **Methods of Scouting**

- 1. The Ideals
- 2. The Patrol Method
- 3. The Outdoors
- 4. Advancement
- 5. Association with Adults
- 6. Personal Growth
- 7. Leadership Development
- 8. The Uniform



#### Patrol Method – What Is It?



What do you think it is?

#### **Patrol Method**

- Patrols & their boy leaders run the program in their Patrols & the Troop
- Adults stand aside & let Scouts do it
- Scoutmaster (and ASMs) is leadership trainer, mentor, safety officer, & guide



#### **Patrol Method - Aims**

- Primary aim is to teach leadership
- Scouts learn leadership by leading
- Scoutmaster provides them with tools & encouragement to do their

jobs



## Patrols Teach Youth Leadership

- Organizing patrols
- Using duty rosters
- Planning menus & figuring food costs
- Encouraging advancement
- Guiding a patrol's involvement in problem solving
- Teaching outdoor skills
- Helping other Scouts make the most of their own leadership opportunities

#### **Patrol Leader**

- Each patrol in a troop elects a patrol leader (usually every 6 months)
- Patrol leader takes leading role in planning & conducting patrol meetings & activities, represents patrol at meetings of the Patrol Leaders' Council
- Each PL can appoint an asst.
   patrol leader to serve with him

#### **Senior Patrol Leader**

- In charge of all Troop Meetings & Troop Activities
- SPL doesn't belong to a patrol
- Appoints assistants
- SPL & Patrol Leaders (PLC)
  plan all troop calendars,
  troop activities & troop meetings

#### **SPL and Scoutmaster**

SPL is the troop member with whom the Scoutmaster works most directly



#### PLC

- Primary leadership body of the troop
- SPL + PLs + Assistant SPL
- Plan troop's overall program
- Lead prep for troop meetings & campouts
- Ensure all troop events are efficient, interesting, and well run

## **Maintaining Patrols**

- Every patrol must be given responsibility
- Patrols need to compete, responsibly
- Responsibility of SPL & troop PLC to conduct inter-patrol

competitions

Keep patrols active



#### Scout Leader's Goal

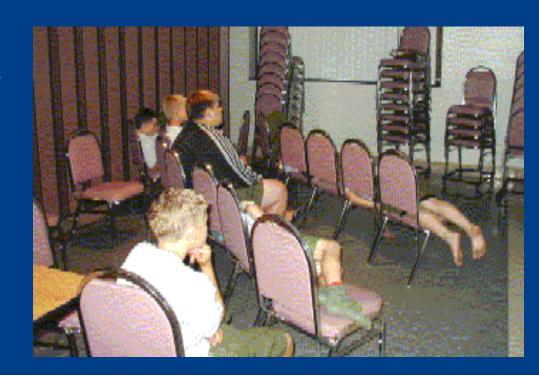
You can sit & placidly watch as your Scouts execute their planned troop meeting



You probably won't get there overnight...

### **Typical Boy-Led Problems**

- Troop Meetings are boring
- Troop Meetings are chaotic
- Low attendance at troop meetings



#### **Potential Solutions**

- Full agenda for every meeting
- SPL brings agenda to every meeting & follows it
- Pre-meeting meetings with SPL to confirm agenda
- Post-meeting meetings w/SPL & PLs to review

## Signs of Adult-Led Troop

- All scouts are dressed perfectly
- Meeting agenda is complete and posted weeks in advance of troop meetings
- Adults making lots of announcements
- Adults stand w/Scouts or in front of scouts during activities
- Troop focuses on advancement



# "Train 'em, trust 'em, and let 'em lead!"



## Training

- Best adult training to learn patrol method?
- SM's job to train all junior leaders ASAP after Scout is elected/appointed



## Training

- Train SPL first
- He becomes your co-teacher, and starts him on path to leadership
- Use informal teaching opportunities
- NYLT
- Training never stops...

