



1st Magill Scout Group

<http://magill.myscoutgroup.org>

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30 May 2011

Dear Magill Parents,

IMPORTANT MEETING

We are calling your attention to an important issue that has been happening with our Scout group for some time now.

As you may know from the 3 Joey leaders that are running our Joeys section, our assistant Joey leader Matthew recently resigned because he has moved out of the Magill area and with a new job starting as well, the travel time just became too much. The unfortunate thing was that this happened just as our Joey leader Karyn was on an overseas family holiday and I was also on an overseas business trip!

So this left assistant Joey leader Sarah in the untenable situation of having to run the whole Joey section on her own. Fortunately, the other Cub and Scout leaders jumped to the rescue and assisted Sarah whenever they could and all was well again.

But the fact is, things are not well.

Our group has 3 fairly large sections with each section at about or over 20 children and with transfers between sections we expect Cubs to be approaching 30 children within the next 6 months. At the moment all of these sections have only two dedicated leaders. Karyn and Sarah for Joeys, David and Rod for Cubs and Martin and Graham for Scouts. I'm sure that all of you are thankful for their efforts and agree that the training and lessons your children are receiving are valuable for their development.

However, as we have recently seen, these leaders (dedicated as they are), simply may not be able to be there for section meetings or camps all the time. And as it is virtually impossible to run a section with 20 children or more with just one leader (not to mention that it is not even allowed or what the safety and duty of care implications are) this means that we will have to cancel meeting nights.

So far this has not happened very often simply due to heroic efforts from other leaders to jump in when needed. But I hope you can imagine how much pressure this puts on the leaders on having to be there all the time. And did I mention that we do this all voluntarily?

This situation is simply not sustainable and we need urgent help.

To ensure that the valuable Scouting lessons can continue for existing and future Joeys, Cubs and Scouts we need at a minimum 3 or more people who are willing to be trained to become a Joey, Cub or Scout Leader (we would like each section to have at least 3 leaders).

We have called a Meeting of Parents for Tuesday 14th June at 7p.m. at the Tower Hotel Function room to discuss these critical issues.

Its outcome will affect all existing and future Joeys, Cubs and Scouts and so it is a meeting for all parents to concern themselves with. So please ensure that at least one parent from your family attends.

Unless we can find more people willing to train as a leader there is a real danger that running a large section with just the 2 of them may simply become too much to handle for one or more of our dedicated current leaders at which we have no option other than to close the section.

What would be really good is for you and other parents to talk amongst yourselves and say "*I will if you will*". In that way you can share the role and have a lot fun together.

Please come to this meeting to find out what you can do to help resolve this serious problem facing our Group.

If you would like more information before the meeting, please contact me on: 0407 78 55 66

Kind regards,



Marco Hess
Group Leader
1st Magill Scout Group