



Parent Meeting
Tuesday - 14th June 2011



Agenda

- Welcome & Apologies
- The Aim Of Scouting
- The Magill Scouting Community
- Why we need more leaders
- What is involved?
- Options
- Supper



What is Scouting?

Scouting aims to encourage the physical, mental, social and spiritual development of our young people so that they may take a constructive place in society as responsible citizens.



We achieve this through:

- Provisioning a wide range of attractive, constructive and challenging activities, including opportunities for adventure and exploration both indoors and outdoors.
- Providing opportunities for leadership and responsibility.
- Learning by doing.
- Encouragement of activity in small groups.
- An award scheme that encourages participation in a full range of activities and provides recognition of individual achievements.



Why does a Scout Group exist?

Scout Groups are formed and maintained by the community because parents believe in the benefits that Scouting has to offer and want to make it available to their children.

Leaders are simply parents from that community volunteering some of their time...



The Magill Scouting Community

- We continue to see strong growth in membership with all sections currently over 20 children each.
- Have experienced quite a bit of growth in youth members in the last few years.
- Parent committee has also grown to a level that we now have all major positions filled.
- The number of leaders has not grown.
- On average we have only 2 leaders per section!



Current Group Leadership

- Group Leader

- Marco Hess

- Joey Leaders

- Karyn
- Sarah

- Cub Leaders

- David
- Rod

- Scout Leaders

- Martin Gregory
- Graham Lloyd

All sections are in need of
extra parent assistance...



Why we need more leaders...

- It is difficult to supervise a large group of children with just one or two leaders.
- Leaders also have other commitments (like work travel) which sometimes leaves the remaining leader on their own.
- Leaders "feel" pressured to come to Scouts even when not well.
- Leaders from other sections often jump in to help but this means they are away from home for two nights in a week instead of one.
- Kids don't get the the attention they need for things like badge work as leaders need all their attention to supervise the group.
- Cubs and Scouts currently have only male leaders. This is a difficulty when taking girls onto camps and other overnight activities.
- We risk that the current leaders feel Scouting is too hard and no longer "fun" for them too.



A section leadership team

- Typically one leader in charge with a number of assistant leaders.
- All leaders involved in planning the term.
- Assistant leaders prepare some of the activities or games for the night.
- Setup/cleanup activities on the night.
- Supervise smaller groups/patrols.
- Help individual children with badge work.
- Badge work testing.



Leader Training

- All training and uniform is paid for and provided by the group.
- Some weekends required for training sessions.
- A lot of training is now available as a self-paced on-line course.
- You will be allocated a personal advisor from the district to help you through your training.
- Leaders in the group will be delighted to help you through your training as well.
- Have fun!



Scheduled Meetings

- Meetings and activities of the Section
- Program planning meetings (1 * term)
- Group Council meetings (2 * term)
- District or Branch training meetings (2 to 3 weekends per year)
- Specific training is often scheduled multiple times per year.



Hesitations?

- Let's talk about them.



Summary

- We really need extra leaders.
- It is much easier to train as a group of 3 than it is by yourself.
- No previous scouting experience is required.
- All we need is a little enthusiasm to give it a go.
- Part time is OK!



Anyone?



Options

- Limit section sizes to manageable limits by putting a waiting list.
- Expect weekly section meetings to get cancelled on short notice.
- Parent rosters to be setup to ensure there is enough help on each night and for camps.
- Use your interest/hobby to teach some skills.



Thank you for coming!