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 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!