



Scouts Australia NSW

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Basic Scout Leadership Course Information Letter

Oct 31st / Nov 1st

Applications must be received at least two weeks prior to the Course (October 20th at Region Office)

Leaders should discuss this Information Letter with Scouts and Parents, before the application & A1 forms are completed to be eligible to attend the course.

Attention Scout Leaders,

RE: BASIC SCOUT LEADERSHIP COURSE

South Metropolitan Region has scheduled their second Basic Scout Leadership Course to be held at Camp Coutts on the weekend October 31st and November 1st 2015. This will be a residential course for the Scouts with the aim of the course to provide suitable basic leadership skills to Scout aged youth. The course will be organised and run, based on the Patrol System. This course is strictly limited to 24 youth members and not more than 4 members from the same troop.

Course Purpose:

The purpose of this course is for the members of the Scout Section to train and develop their leadership skills, particularly as they apply to their possible role as a Patrol Leader within the Troop. The Basic Scout Leadership Course has been designed for Scouts who have just completed their Pioneer Badge and wish to learn more about becoming a Leader. The leadership skills developed by a young person as a Scout will be of great advantage to them as they advance into the Venturer Scout Section and also in their adult life. This is not a Patrol Leaders Course.

The Basic Scout Leadership Course follows the Scouts Australia National Award Scheme - Scout Leadership Course requirements. As such, it is the course that is recognized to gain the Scout Leadership Course requirement of the Australian Scout Medallion. Scouts will be placed in Patrols (advised at the beginning of the course) which will form the basis of all aspects of the course. (This involves all training sessions, activities, dining). Each Scout will be provided with the opportunity to fill the Patrol Leader position during one of the sessions and associated activity/activities.

Scouts nearing advancement to the Venturer Scout Section are encouraged to complete the course to gain the leadership training, as this will benefit future membership of the Unit Council in the Venturer Scout Section.

Course Eligibility:

To be eligible to attend this course and benefit from the training, a Scout should:

- be at least eleven and a half years of age;
- attained their Pioneer Level in the Award Scheme;
- consulted their Troop Council;
- display an attitude that they are doing their best to keep the Scout Promise and Law;
- be willing to participate fully in the course program;
- have endorsement of the Troop Council and Troop Leader;
- have a Scout Leader willing to attend some part of the weekend with them.

Being a Patrol Leader or Assistant Patrol Leader is not a prerequisite to be able to attend the Course and this is not designed to be a Patrol Leader Training Course.

When sending a Scout to this course, we request a Leader from their home Troop will be assist over the course of the weekend. These Leaders will assist the Course Leader with certain aspects of the weekend.

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When selecting and endorsing Scouts, consideration should be given to mature candidates under the age of twelve and where the Troop is a "young" Troop. These Scouts if mature enough may be able to develop and support the operations of the Patrol System within their Troop after having attended this course.

Course Staff:

The Course Leader will need sufficient and suitable staff to assist in the running of this course. It is a requirement that the Scout Section Leader from the Troops attending be involved in assisting to deliver this course. Duties to be performed by Course Staff include:

- Session Leaders (to deliver allocated sessions)
- Mentors (to work with Patrols)
- Support Staff (to assist with equipment preparation, cooking etc)

These roles are not exclusive of each other but all require preplanning and organisation. The objective of each session is to deliver knowledge to meet the learning outcomes stated in the session notes. The session notes are a guide only and can be delivered in an alternate manner provided the learning outcome of each topic is achieved. Prior to the course, the Course Leader will allocate specific sessions to members of the Course Staff. Upon allocation of these sessions, the Session Leader must read the session notes to understand the objectives and suggested presentation method, and prepare a session plan for each allocated session with the assistance of the session notes.

Course Sessions:

The sessions have been categorised into the following topics:

- The Patrol System
- Leadership
- Problem Solving and Task Management
- Citizenship
- Planning and Programming
- Camping Standards

Each topic has a number of sessions and has learning outcomes for a Scout to successfully complete.

Sessions must be presented in a practical manner and made as interesting as possible. A balance of Lecture/Instruction style and Practical activity should be aimed for. It is preferred that all sessions where possible be practical and outdoors. Remember our Scouting Method "*Learning By Doing*"

Course Entry Closure Details:

Application forms and money are due back at South Met Region office before **the last Australia Post Delivery Tuesday 20th October 2015**. There is a strict limit of 24 participants on this course. Positions on the course will be allocated on a first in first served basis and applications will be accepted from any Scout Region in NSW. There is a maximum of 4 members from any one Troop.

The Course Application Form, Activity Notification Form Part I and Payment must be complete.

Late or incomplete applications and payments will be rejected.

All Activity Notification Form Part I, not fully filled out correctly will be rejected and returned to the Troop. The Troop will also be advised that if the form is not returned, correctly filled out by the closing date the Application will be rejected.

Please inform participants that there will be no refund of fees after the 23rd October 2015 for nonattendance.

Yours in Scouting,
Peter Jamieson

Region Commissioner Scouts
South Metropolitan Region

