



Boy Scout Recruitment

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Why is Boy Scout Recruitment Important?

Keeping the troop strong!

Without boys joining a troop scouting can't and won't exist. Each year boys age out of the program and move on, this leaves holes in your troop, which if they are not filled will eventually lead to no youth left in the troop. Adding youth each year helps to avoid this problem.

If there are no more boys in the program we cannot change and affect lives through the aims and methods of scouting.

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Where do “new” Boy Scouts come from?

- **Webelos crossing over from a pack**
- **Former Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts**
- **Someone never involved in scouting**

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When should you be recruiting?

- **Year-round**

- While the two main times are fall and spring your pack should always be looking for ways to add youth to the program
- Remember that new families can move during the school year
- Keep an updated BeAScout pin so interested families can find you

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Developing a year Round Recruitment Plan

- **What are the 4 components of a good year round recruitment plan?**
 1. Webelos to scout transition
 2. Peer-to-peer recruitment/ bring a friend night
 3. Troop open house
 4. BeAScout pins

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Webelos to Scout Transition

- **Who is involved?**
 - Pack:
 - Cubmaster
 - Webelos Den leader
 - Webelos
 - Troop:
 - Scoutmaster
 - Assistant Scoutmaster
 - Boy Scouts

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Webelos Transition

- **Barriers to overcome:**
 - Families that are unfamiliar with Boy Scouts
 - Many people see the Arrow of Light as the end not the beginning

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Webelos Transition Long-Term

- **Expect to be the driving force of getting Webelos to move on to Boy Scouts.**
- **Get to know the Cub Scout leadership in your area.**
- **Conduct 1-3 events every year where the entire pack is invited to participate.**
- **Serve as a resource for overnight activities. This could be for equipment needs, logistics or for good solid advice.**
- **Offer the services of your scouts to help with their programs and events such as Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold, or Conservation projects.**

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Webelos Transition Long-Term, cont.

- **Conduct an orientation in late spring with the bear dens**
 - Explain the changing role as boys become Webelos.
 - Explain how being a Webelos Scout will help prepare them for Boy Scouting and how Boy Scouting is completely different than Cub Scouts.
- **Have Den Chiefs**
 - This shows the Webelos what being a Boy Scout is like. They can act as recruiters in the pack.

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Webelos Transition Short-Term

- In September, contact the Webelos Den Leader and Cubmaster to arrange for Webelos Dens to visit a troop meeting.
- Make sure the Webelos Den Leader and Cubmaster are aware of your scheduled events well in advance. Give them copies of the coming year's schedule.
- Webelos Den/Troop campouts should show Webelos Scouts and their parents what to expect when they move into the Troop.
- Once Webelos visit your Troop, be sure to give them and their parents a copy of your entire year's program.

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Webelos Transition Short-Term, cont.

- **Once commitments of Webelos have been made to join your Troop, contact the Cubmaster during the fall to find out when and where the pack cross-over ceremony will be held. Offer to have Troop representatives there to welcome Webelos crossing over into your Troop.**
- **Work with the Cubmaster in planning a meaningful and exciting crossover ceremony.**

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Troop Open House

- **Generally for late 5th to 8th graders**
- **Planned by:** The scouts, scoutmaster, and committee
- **Program ideas:** Rock climbing, archery, canoeing, etc. (remember to think about activities that will interest boys this age)
- **Promote the night!**
 - Fliers
 - Posters
 - Peer-to-peer

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Peer-to-Peer Recruiting

- **When is it effective?**
 - When Scouts are trained how to recruit.
 - When Scouts are motivated to recruit (an incentive is always a good idea as well).
 - When Scouts are reminded at every meeting to bring a friend.
 - When done in conjunction with an Open House Recruitment
- **Boys naturally talk about what is going on in their lives- including scouting. Encourage them to bring friends to meetings**

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BeAScout

- **A way for families to find Scout units in the area**
- **Go to beascout.scouting.org and enter type of unit and zip code to locate nearest pack, troop, or crew**
- **It is important to keep the information attached to your BeAScout pin updated**
- **For information on how to update your pin view the BeAScout PowerPoint**

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**Thank you for all
you do for your
units and happy
recruitment
season!**

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