

Integrating Scouts and Parents in Unit

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Eric M. Grund



Family Integration Into Troop:

1. Troop Culture: Living the Oath and Law (Friendly..).

1. Welcoming and inclusive to all visitors and current troop families
2. Who is responsible
 1. Whole Troop
 2. New Member Coordinator – next slide
 3. Remember – Every time a new family comes into your meeting place, CONNECT, ENGAGE, AND CELEBRATE!

2. Orientation for New Scout Parents:

1. At crossover time and when new family joins schedule an in person orientation
2. [Microsoft Word - Parent Orientation 2018 WEF 012319 final.docx](#)

3. New Family Guide Document

1. This document describes Scouting, the norms, and the Troop in detail
2. New version yearly and distribute over email and print version to each family



Family Integration Into Troop:

New Member Coordinator Adult Leader Position



- **WHY Are New Member Coordinators Needed** •

To Help Families • Many families are unaware of the benefits of Scouting. • **Families may feel isolated, worried, or overwhelmed at first. They need a caring new friend to help them.** • To Help Volunteer Leaders • Unit leaders are extremely busy and need to give most of their attention to presenting the program to youth. • Unit leaders don't have time to give a great deal of attention to new members or potential new members. • To Help the Unit • Units always need new members to join and stay. • Units always need more families who feel the sense of belonging that leads to active volunteer engagement.

- **WHAT Do New Member Coordinators Do**

Basically, they anticipate new member needs and do whatever they think will be helpful. They present themselves as welcoming and approachable, preferably wearing the welcome polo rather than the field uniform. • They use a variety of social networks to reach out to potential new members to share the benefits of Scouting. • They help lead the unit's recruitment process and its joining events to ensure that everyone feels welcomed. • **They guide new families through the engagement process and become a continuing point of contact and assistance.**

- **WHO Might Be Good New Member Coordinators**

No particular experience is needed. What's most important is that the person: • Understands the challenges of being new to Scouting • Has a warm and friendly personality • Is enthusiastic about Scouting and the unit • **Really cares about people and will follow through to help**

Parent Involvement (From Scouting America website)

Scouting is a program for anyone active in the life of a Scout. We recognize that who plays a parental role can vary from family to family. Scouting America works to ensure that parents and other individuals who play a parental role in a Scout's life can impact and participate in Scouting.

How Scouts BSA Differs from Cub Scouts

Scouts BSA is a youth-led program. If you are a parent or guardian who would like to be present during a Troop meeting, please consult with the Scoutmaster in advance so they can arrange for you to observe. If you are a parent or guardian who would like to get involved with Scouts BSA, check if there is a provision to **register** for a position on the Troop Committee or as an assistant Scoutmaster.

Scouts BSA vs. Cub Scouts

The goal of the Cub Scout program is to provide ready-made opportunities for **families to enjoy fun activities together**. The Scouts BSA program aims to help young people develop self-confidence and leadership skills by tasking them with the responsibilities of planning and carrying out activities and generating achievements. **An adult leader should not aim to get things done but should work to create a safe and healthy environment with the training and resources Scouts need to have a successful Scouting experience!**

Scouts integrating new scouts in Troop:

- All the Troop welcoming new Scouts and help them integrate

- **Troop Guide Scout Leadership Position:**

Troop guides serve as both a **leader and a mentor to the members of the new-Scout patrol**. They should be an older Scout who holds at least the First Class rank and can work well with younger Scouts.

The troop guide helps the patrol leader of the new-Scout patrol lead their patrol, so they can develop into a well-functioning group, working together harmoniously and productively.

Responsibilities

1. introduces new Scouts to troop operations, helps new Scouts towards earning the First Class rank
2. teaches basic Scout skills, coaches the patrol leader of the new-Scout patrol on their duties
3. works with the patrol leader at patrol leaders' council meetings, attends patrol leaders' council meetings with the patrol leader of the new-Scout patrol, counsels individuals Scouts on Scouting challenges
4. sets a good example, wears the Scout uniform correctly
5. lives by the Scout Oath and Law, shows Scout spirit

- First night camp out focused on cross overs and new Scouts:



Round Table Discussion:

Go around room and everyone says **one thing or story** (best) their Troop does that I did not mention.

