



Mayflower Council Roundtable

Scouts BSA Leader Session
Using Patrols to Restart Unit Events

July 16, 2020
Greg Green, Metacomet
District

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Mayflower Council July Roundtable Agenda

- **Pre-Opening Remarks, Google Meet and Presentation Limitations**
- **Opening**
- **Video Presentations**
 - Brian Williams, National Membership Chair, on Fall BSA required advertising
 - Mayflower Council Key-3 statements
- **General Announcements**
- **Breakout Session:**
 - Scouts BSA Leaders: Using Patrols to Restart your Unit
- **Conclusion, Closing Comments**

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Announcements

- For attendance records, please sign in, using Chat - please note unit type, #, & town
- All slides from these Roundtable sessions will be posted on Council Web Site
- Ensure Scouts & parents aware of “Virtual Camp” opportunities
 - ScoutsBSA: <https://www.mayflowerbsa.org/2020-camp-in-a-box-not-your-typical-summer-camp/>
 - Cubs: Free Virtual Day Camp: <https://landing.mailerlite.com/webforms/landing/l5q1a0>
- Pay attention to Council COVID-19 updates: <https://www.mayflowerbsa.org/covid-19/>
- Start planning fall start-up
 - Review BSA Safe Restart Checklist: <https://bit.ly/31ZKhc2>
 - Contact your Scouts & leaders – how are they doing?
 - Provide assurance that unit will function in the fall following safety guidelines
 - Check in with Chartering Organization
 - If in person meetings OK, units that met in schools may not have access this fall – start reviewing alternatives
 - Committee & leaders meeting: plans with contingencies

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Announcements

- Mayflower Council Virtual Campfire, July 18, 7 PM: <https://bit.ly/2C1KmBa>
- National “Family Fun Fest”, Aug. 8, 11 AM: <https://www.scouting.org/familyfunfest/>
 - Via Facebook Live
 - Open to all – a BSA virtual “open house” recruiting tool
- -----
- ***Training note for Scouts BSA Volunteers:***
- Have you partially completed online training for SM/ASM, CC, MC, NMC, MBC? If so, ***YOU MUST COMPLETE BY AUG. 1*** (or you’ll need to start over!)
 - Learning management system upgrade goes live Aug. 3
 - Fewer modules, streamlined courses – less time required to complete
 - Upgrade cannot keep track of partial completion of old courses
 - Reference: Scouts BSA Adult Training Updates Summer 2020 Training Times page 8: <https://bit.ly/3eneVyD>

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Fall Recruiting Plans and Notes

- Volunteers need to understand impact of BSA Bankruptcy “Bar Date” (Nov. 16) and required Sep. 1 to Oct. 16 advertising
 - Need positive publicity testimonials
 - Consider sharing video clips of Scouts involved in fun activities
- Mayflower Council-wide recruiting effort: Sep. 12
 - Plan single outdoor site per town, all units participate
 - More information to follow
- Online application process
 - Review information: <https://www.scouting.org/resources/online-registration/>
 - Units & Commissioners – check BeAScout.org pin information is current
 - Refer to Bryan On Scouting Post: <https://bit.ly/3ee4q0l>
 - Enable online applications for youth
 - Can't use online process for Adults in MA due to CORI requirement
 - Fees must be paid by credit card to use online registration
 - Ensure unit monitors Invitation Manager Leads in my.scouting.org
 - Draft/update welcome letter/email/package

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Video Presentations

Brian Williams, National Membership Chair, on Fall BSA required advertising National Video

Mayflower Council Key-3 statements

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Restart of Troop In-person Events

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Restart of In-person Activities



S = Supervision

- Understand local and state guidance on preventing COVID-19 exposure.
- Engage your chartered organization and local council on necessary adjustments.
- Conduct the “before you gather” protocol.

A = Assessment

- Identify participants who fall under the CDC’s group of higher-risk individuals. Notify all participants about the risks of participating since COVID-19 exposure cannot be eliminated.
- Verify that the planned activity, gathering or group sizes are not prohibited by local or state orders.

F = Fitness and Skill

- Review Annual Health and Medical Records and consider using a [pre-event screening](#) for all participants.

E = Equipment and Environment

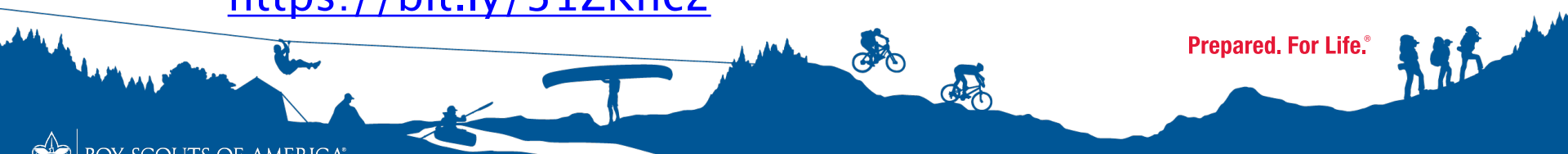
- Verify that handwashing, hygiene and cleaning supplies are available and used properly.
- Monitor social distancing, interactions and sharing of equipment and food among participants.
- Monitor participants for changing health conditions.
- Use the “as you gather” protocols.

SAFE ≠ Risk-Free

BSA Safe Restart Checklist:

<https://bit.ly/31ZKhc2>

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General

- **Communicate with the Troop CO on the restart plan**
 - What facilities can / will be used
 - Agree on alternates if CO site is not available
 - Discuss both indoor and outdoor sites
 - Troop plan for Covid control
 - Events Planned by the Troop in the restart
 - Respect any requests from the CO

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General

- **Communicate with Families on the restart plan**
 - What facilities will be used
 - Troop plan for Covid control
- **Patience and Empathy are key**
 - Some families are not ready for in-person activities at all
 - Some families may look for additional safety steps
 - Communicate that 100% attendance / approval is not needed for troop to meet, camp, etc
 - Minimize impact on the Scout of parental decisions

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Troop Event Guidelines

- **PPE plan for your events**
 - Have clear guidelines for
 - Social Distancing
 - When to wear Masks
 - When gloves are required
 - Remember the neckerchief makes a fine PPE mask
- **Have adults and Senior Scouts enforce PPE practices**

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Eagle Projects

- **Will need to have Scouts modify their project plan**
 - Include PPE such as masks & gloves, plan to minimize close quarter activity
 - Address any other requirements of the CO and Beneficiary
- **If in doubt of timing apply for an extension for the Scout**
 - Must submit Petition before Scout's 18th birthday
 - Applies to delays caused by the Covid19 restrictions on Scout Activities

<https://www.mayflowerbsa.org/petitioning-advancement-extensions/>

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Camping in 2020

- **Increased Emphasis on Sanitation**
 - Protect the kitchen
 - Limit access and number of cooking Scouts
 - Increase hand washing / sanitizing of the cooking crew
 - Wear gloves and masks while cooking and serving
 - Enhanced cleaning of gear before / during and after events
 - Sanitize tools and cooking gear before each meal (boiling or sanitizer)
 - Handle only with gloves or sanitized hands
 - Review reusable mess kits vs. disposable plates and serving ware
 - Reusable mess kits will need to be sanitized before meals
 - Hand washing frequently (much more frequently)

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Campsite Modifications

- Many sites are limiting group size (i.e. >10 for Nobscot)
- Plan for 1 Scout / 1 Tent
- Be sure tent positions avoiding crowding and pinch points
- Make more space around fire pits or use multiple fire pits
- Plan dining areas so campers are appropriately spaced

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Activity Adjustments

- **Until there is other guidance avoid high contact games and activities**
- **Use Patrols to make smaller groups**
- **Manage masking**
 - Mask when in close quarters
 - Mask when there is expected heavy breathing or sneezing

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Discussion – Camping Locations

- **What are spots you or your Troop have used that are**
 - Close and easy to schedule
 - Have large sites for groups
 - Minimize contact with the wandering public
- **Great spots to canoe / kayak for Troops**
- **Day Trip locations**

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Patrols – our Covid Friendly Tool

- **Use this time to enhance the use of the Patrol Method**
- **Patrols as smaller groups are easier to manage with Covid guidelines**
 - Should be under 10 Scouts
 - Increases Leadership work at the Patrol Level
- **Consider setting up Patrols for specific Covid Risk levels**
 - A Virtual only Patrol can be used for families that must follow high risk criteria
 - Use other Patrols for families that are comfortable with in-person gatherings

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Patrol Method

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How Important is the Patrol Method?

It is necessary to point out at the start that the Patrol System is not one method in which Scouting for boys can be carried out, but that it is the only method.

-Roland Philipps, Commissioner for East London, The Patrol System, 1914



The Patrol System by Roland Philipps, 1914

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Take Any 30 Boys

TAKE any thirty boys, turn them loose in a closed street, a playground, or in a sports field-and you know what happens?



What is the Patrol Method?

- Patrols and their boy leaders run the program in their Patrols and the Troop.
- The adults stand aside and let the Scouts do it all.
- Patrols teach youth leadership

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What is a Patrol?

A patrol is that small group of boys and friends under their own leadership who plan and carry out troop and patrol meetings and activities.

It is the basic organizational unit of a Scout troop.

Aspects of a Patrol

- Friends and Responsibility
- Small Size - Up to 8 Boys
- Should the Patrol be able to function without the troop?

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Boy-Led Patrol

The Patrol

Patrol is the building block of the Troop.

Work together as a TEAM.

Optimum size is eight.

Each Patrol selects a name, creates a flag and a yell. A patrol takes pride in itself.

Three Types of Patrols

Regular Patrols.

New-Scout Patrols.

Venture Patrols.

Also “Virtual” Patrol during Covid

Patrol Leaders

Lead role in planning and conducting patrol activities.

Encourage advancement.

Represent the patrol at the PLC

Set a good example.

Other Patrol Positions

Assistant Patrol Leader.

Patrol Scribe.

Patrol Quartermaster.

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Patrol Leaders – Leading Your Patrol

- Organizing Your Patrol
- Supporting the Senior Patrol leader
- Teaching Leadership and Team Building
- Using Duty Rosters
- Planning menus and determining food cost
- Encouraging Advancement
- Guiding the Patrol through problem Solving
- Teaching Outdoor Skills
- Ensuring Patrol safety during outings and meetings
- Handling Patrol finance
- Helping other younger Scouts make the most of their Leadership abilities
- ***Have Fun !!!!!***

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Patrol Meetings

- During Troop Meeting
- On Campouts
- Separate from Troop
- At school
- Wherever the patrol is



PATROL ACTIVITIES

Types of Patrol Activities

- Hikes
- Campouts
- Service Projects
- Climbing gyms
- Patrol treks
- etc



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Patrol Method Resources

- <https://troopleader.scouting.org/the-patrol/> on Scouting .org for Troop Leaders
- [A beginner's guide to the patrol method - Bryan on Scouting](https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2014/09/05/patrol-method)
<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2014/09/05/patrol-method>

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