

9. SCOUT SECTION

9.1 Scout Section Functioning

Educational outcomes, method, membership, organisation, and leadership are set out in P&R.

9.2 Scout Leaders

9.2.1 Appointment

- a) SLs and ASLs are appointed on the recommendation of the District Commissioner.
- b) Females are eligible for both ranks. Those appointed in Guides NSW may also be appointed in the Scout Section provided they meet the Association's normal requirements.
- c) A Scout Troop of mixed membership shall comply with the **Error! Reference source not found.**
- d) To ensure continuity it is most desirable that a Troop should have at least one ASL and where a Troop consists of more than four patrols, additional ASLs are desirable.

9.2.2 Qualifications

The special qualifications for SL and ASL, in addition to the general qualifications are as follows:

- a) A general knowledge of "Scouting for Boys", P&R, O&I Manual, Scout Leader and Scout Handbooks.
- b) An understanding of the Personal Protection Policy and Procedures.
- c) Age for SL, not less than 20; for ASL, not less than 18.

9.2.3 Functions

- a) The SL takes charge of the Troop with the assistance of any ASLs subject to the general supervision of the GL.
- b) The SL will, however delegate as far as possible, to the Troop Council all internal matters of discipline, program, and administration including the expenditure of Troop funds.
- c) The SL is responsible for the training of the Patrol Leaders of the Troop in their functions.
- d) The Scout Leader shall ensure that, as far as possible all members of the Troop are given opportunities to develop leadership skills by experience, and are given responsibilities commensurate with their age and development.

9.2.4 Uniform and Badges

SLs and ASLs wear uniform and badges as approved.

9.3 The Scout Troop

It is desirable that a Scout Troop consists of at least two Patrols (8 to 16 Scouts) but, unless approved by the District Commissioner, not more than six Patrols.

9.3.1 Troop Council

- a) The Troop Council is a body composed of the Patrol Leaders who shall meet regularly in the presence of the SL. Assistant Patrol Leaders may also be present if desired. The Adult Members of the Troop should normally act in an advisory capacity only.

- b) The Troop Council is responsible for the broad program planning, routine Troop management and for the policies and operations of the Troop, which are within the capacity and experience of its members. It is also responsible for the expenditure of Troop funds in accordance with para 9.2.3 b) of this chapter. The training of Patrol Leaders is also partly carried out through the Troop Council.

9.3.2 The Patrol

- a) The Scout Troop is composed of Patrols, each containing from four to eight Scouts, including the Patrol and Assistant Patrol Leaders.
- b) The Patrol should be the unit as far as possible in all activities.

9.3.3 Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders

- a) A Patrol Leader is a Scout appointed by the SL in consultation and with the Troop Council and the Patrol concerned, lead a Patrol of Scouts.
- b) The Patrol Leaders train their Patrol through activities at Scout Troop and Patrol meetings and camps.
- c) The Patrol Leaders plan the activities for Patrol meetings and camps, with the assistance of their Assistant Patrol Leader and subject to the advice of the SL and the Troop Council.
- d) Patrol Leaders wear uniform and badges as approved.
- e) Assistant Patrol Leaders are Scouts selected by the Patrol Leader with the approval of the SL and Troop Council to assist them to take their place when absent.
- f) Assistant Patrol Leaders wear uniform and badges as approved.

9.3.4 Patrol in Council

The Patrol in Council is a meeting of all the Scouts in a Patrol for the discussion of its affairs under the leadership of the Patrol Leader.

9.3.5 Troop Leader

Troop Leaders may be appointed within the Scout Section subject to the following conditions:

- Have been a member of Scouts NSW for at least two and half years or obtained the age of 14;
 - Have gained the Scout Explorer Level Cord;
 - Have attended a Scout Leadership Course;
 - Have been a Patrol Leader for a minimum of six months;
 - Have their appointment approved by the Troop Council;
 - There must be a minimum of two patrols in the Troop;
 - Can only be appointed for a maximum of six months.
- a) The minimum responsibilities of a TL are to:
 - Act as Chairman of the Troop Council;
 - Provide instruction to the new youth members in addition to the instruction provided by Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders;
 - Assist Patrol Leaders in programming Patrol meetings and activities;

- Prepare Troop meetings for opening and closing ceremonies;
 - When required attend Patrol Activities at the request of the Patrol Leader in an advisory capacity; and
 - Such other activities as may be determined from time to time by the Troop Council.
- b) TLs wear uniform and badges as approved (see UNIFORM VARIATION).

9.3.6 Youth Helpers

- a) A Venturer Scout offering service to the Scout Troop may be appointed as a Youth Helper subject to the approval of the Venturer Scout Leader and the Scout Leader (minimum age 17).
- b) Applications for appointment as a Youth Helper are made on Form Y9. Application forms and conditions of appointment are available from the Region Office and the NSW Website.
- c) A Youth Helper will have completed a “Youth Leadership” Course prior to commencing service.
- d) Service as a Youth Helper will, where possible, not be with their previous Group.
- e) Service as a Youth Helper will be for a minimum period of 3 months, maximum of 6 months, with a total of at least 40 hours’ service.
- f) A Youth Helper is entitled, on appointment, to wear a cloth badge depicting a Scout Arrowhead above the right breast pocket, or in an equivalent position.
- g) The appointment as a Youth Helper under this rule shall terminate when the person concerned attains the age of 18 years.
- h) Youth Helper must not in any circumstances.....
- Take charge of a Troop or any part of a Troop at any time.
 - Perform any role in Ceremonies that is to be carried out only by a Scout Leader.
 - Attend any Adult Training Course.
 - Be a regular visitor at the Group Council.

9.4 Youth Members

9.4.1 The Scout Investiture

Young people become Scouts by investiture as described in “The Investiture Ceremonies Book/Guide” during which they make the Scout Promise. They are then entitled to wear the Scout uniform and badges as approved.

9.4.2 Qualifications

Before being invested, a young person unless previously a Cub Scout who has earned the Scout Link Badge must:

- a) Know, understand, and accept the Scout Promise and Law.
- b) Show a general knowledge of the Scout Movement and the development of worldwide Scouting.
- c) Attend three Scout meetings.

9.4.3 Subsequent Training

After investiture a Scout proceeds to participate in the Award Scheme training as detailed in the relevant handbooks.

9.4.4 Uniform and Badges

A Scout wears uniform and badges as approved.