

LONG TERM PROGRAMMING FOR THE SCOUT TROOP

A tool for the Troop Council & Leaders

Part One

The following templates have been developed to assist the Troop Council to develop an outstanding program for the year, whilst ensuring the key components of our program – The Areas of Personal Growth and the Scout Method are covered in everything that the troop and patrols complete during the year.

Use in conjunction with the document, 'Understanding the Areas of Personal Growth & The Scout Method'.

GUIDELINES FOR LONG TERM TROOP PROGRAM PREPARATION

OVER 12 MONTHS THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM:

- √ Major activity – that engages the whole troop, takes several months of preparation, includes areas of the award scheme and culminates with a camp, or other significant event
- √ Participation in branch, region and district events
- √ Minimum of two troop camps
- √ Minimum of one patrol camp per patrol
- √ Minimum of one patrol activity per term
- √ Has a balance of indoor and outdoor activities
- √ Has a balance of activities at and away from the local meeting place
- √ Minimum two activities with local Venturer Unit to support linking
- √ Minimum two activities with Cub Scouts to support linking
- √ At least two advancement ceremonies
- √ Opportunity for everyone to complete parts of the award scheme
- √ At least one troop council meeting per term
- √ Training for PL's & APL's

Balanced program that covers all of the AREAS OF PERSONAL GROWTH

- √ Spiritual Development
- √ Physical Development
- √ Intellectual Development
- √ Emotional Development
- √ Social Development
- √ Character Development

Regular inclusion of all facets of the SCOUT METHOD

- √ Learning by doing through games & activities
- √ Nature
- √ Promise and Law
- √ Team System
- √ Service
- √ Symbolic Framework - *(for Scouts this means exploring new territories with a team of friends)*

SUMMARY – At all times we need to consider the following with everything that we do -

- √ **Is it challenging?**
- √ **Is it fun?**
- √ **Is it rewarding?**
- √ **Is it useful?**
- √ **Is it safe?**

1. LONG TERM PROGRAMMING – Patrol Preparation

Good preparation will make programming simple! Developing the troop program is the responsibility of the Troop Council. Long term planning should happen at a special Troop Council Meeting at either the beginning of the year or late in the preceding year. Before meeting PL's need time to also plan with his/her patrol. Following this process implements the Scout Method and so empowers Patrol Leaders to take responsibility for their Patrol. Each patrol to complete the template below.

PATROL _____ **Date completed** _____

TROOP PROGRAM IDEAS - Each patrol to complete the following:

(Major troop activities and camps, areas of the award scheme to cover as a troop, program themes and ideas. Goals for the troop to achieve over the next 12 months as suggested by each patrol.) Gather ideas from all patrols to then prioritise suggestions and then determine troop activities and themes for the year.

If not clear, add a brief explanation about each suggestion and some pointers on why the troop should run the activity so you are ready to 'argue' your ideas on behalf of your patrol.

TROOP GOALS FOR THE YEAR

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

PROGRAM THEMES & IDEAS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

MAJOR TROOP ACTIVITIES & CAMPS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

AREAS OF THE AWARD SCHEME TO COVER

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

LONG TERM PLANNING FOR EACH PATROL FOR THE YEAR:

What does each patrol want to achieve during the year? Patrols to brainstorm key ideas around; Patrol Activity Badge, Patrol Camp suggestions and areas of the award scheme to be covered by the Patrol. PL's to bring along to the troop council meeting to share with the troop, learn what others are doing and to see where patrol activities fit within the troop program.

List when the patrol would like to organise its activities. (Each patrol to complete the template below.)

PATROL GOALS FOR THE YEAR

WHEN

1.

2.

3.

4.

PATROL ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

WHEN

1.

2.

3.

4.

AWARD SCHEME AREAS TO COVER AS A PATROL

WHEN

1.

2.

3.

4.

PATROL ACTIVITY BADGE IDEAS

WHEN

1.

2.

3.

4.

OTHER PATROL SUGGESTIONS TO HELP DEVELOP THE TROOP PROGRAM

1.

2.

3.

2. LONG TERM TROOP PROGRAM IDEAS - *Work completed by the Leaders*

ACTIVITIES SUGGESTED BY LEADERS

Leaders have good ideas as well! What activities and events would the leaders like the troop to participate in over the next 12 months?

TROOP GOALS FOR THE YEAR

1.

2.

3.

4.

PROGRAM THEMES & IDEAS

1.

2.

3.

4.

MAJOR TROOP ACTIVITIES & CAMPS

1.

2.

3.

4.

AREAS OF THE AWARD SCHEME TO COVER

1.

2.

3.

4.

3. LONG TERM TROOP PROGRAM IDEAS – Troop Council Planning

As a Troop Council look at all of the programming ideas suggested by each patrol and then put them into a priority order for the troop.

TROOP GOALS FOR THE YEAR

	GOAL	OUTLINE (What will happen)	WHEN (Term/s)
1.			
2.			
3.			

PROGRAM THEMES & IDEAS

	THEME/IDEAS	OUTLINE (What will happen)	WHEN (Term/s)
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

MAJOR TROOP ACTIVITIES & CAMPS

	MAJOR ACTIVITY/CAMP	OUTLINE (What will happen)	WHEN (Term/s)
1.			
2.			

AREAS OF THE AWARD SCHEME TO COVER

	GOAL	OUTLINE (What will happen)	WHEN (Term/s)
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

4. CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR YEAR

It is important to know all events that might support or hinder programming over the year. Before the meeting PL's & Leaders need to find out what is happening for each of the dot points listed (share the tasks). **Including:**

- School holidays
- Public holidays
- Community events
- Leadership Courses and other training for Scouts
- Leader Training
- International, National, Branch, Region, District and Group events
- Leader holidays
- Major events in the schools of scouts

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
JAN					
FEB					
MARCH					
APRIL					
MAY					
JUNE					
JULY					
AUGUST					
SEPTEMBER					
OCTOBER					
NOVEMBER					
DECEMBER					

4. WHAT DID YOU DO LAST YEAR?

The Troop Council has now looked at their patrol and leader suggestions for the year but what else could also influence the program?

LAST YEARS PROGRAM

Bring along a copy of last year's program.

- Check it for key dates and events that might be happening again.
- Check it to list what parts of the award scheme were covered.

Check it to make sure the new program is totally different, so that you have new and interesting challenges for the year.

5. LONG TERM PROGRAM – Finally the Planning

Once all of the background information has been collected it is then time to start prioritising everything using the information that you collected.

- Firstly list everything that is non negotiable and must happen
- Prioritise major events over the year
 - What training will be required to achieve these events?
 - How much time will be needed to skill everyone to participate?
- Ensure all Areas of Personal Growth are balanced over 12 months
- Ensure all parts of the Scout Method are utilised
- Ensure the needs and interests of all members have been met (will all scouts be happy with most aspects of the program?)
- Make sure Patrol Activities either assist in preparing for a major event or, provide alternate activities to the troop so that patrol members remain interested

LONG TERM PROGRAM FOR THE _____ TROOP PREPARED BY THE TROOP COUNCIL

DEVELOPED BY: (List the Troop Council members outlining the long term plan):

DATE: _____

Leaders: _____

PL/APL _____ Patrol _____

PL/APL _____ Patrol _____

PL/APL _____ Patrol _____

PL/APL _____ Patrol _____

PL/APL _____ Patrol _____

PL/APL _____ Patrol _____

TROOP DESCRIPTION (A summary of the troop over the next 12 months to aid planning):

No. of members _____ Male _____ Female _____ Average age of troop _____ No. of leaders _____

No. progressing to Venturers _____ No progressing from Cubs _____

Target Awards to achieve Pioneer _____ Explorer _____ Adventurer _____ Scout Medallions to achieve _____

TROOP GOAL/MAJOR PROJECT FOR THE YEAR

- The big picture outline that will help the Troop Council outline the activity to the rest of the troop and parents. This outline will help you develop the detailed plan.

What will the troop do? _____ Why have you chosen this activity? _____

Where will it happen? _____ When will it happen? _____

Who can participate? _____ How much money will be required? (Estimate) _____

Target amount for the troop to fundraise for the activity _____ How will you know you have been successful? _____

















































What parts of the Award Scheme will be covered? _____

AWARD SCHEME




























































Highlight the areas of the award scheme you plan to cover during the year and what term this will happen.

Highlight the Areas of Personal Growth that can be covered by completing this part of the award scheme.

























KEY TROOP AWARD SCHEME AREAS TO COVER OVER THE YEAR (Highlight areas to be covered)































TARGET AREAS	WHEN (TERM)	TROOP or PATROL(S)	AREAS OF PERSONAL GROWTH COVERED (circle)	COMMENTS
Campcraft			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	
Citizenship			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	
Air Activities			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	
Construction			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	
Emergencies			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	
Environment			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	
Water Activities			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	
Water Safety			      <small>Spiritual Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Character</small>	

SPECIALIST BADGES TO COVER OVER THE YEAR AS A TROOP OR PATROL (Highlight areas to be covered)

SPECIALIST BADGE	WHEN (TERM)	TROOP or PATROL(S)	AREAS OF PERSONAL GROWTH COVERED (circle)	COMMENTS
Radio Operator			     	
Anchor			     	
Deaf Sign Language			     	
Faith awareness			     	
First aid/Life Saving			     	
Land Care			     	
Language Emblem			     	
Their Service – Our Heritage			     	
World Scout Environment Badge			     	
Other			     	

PROFICIENCY BADGES TO COVER AS A TROOP OR PATROL OVER THE YEAR (List badges to be covered)























































PROFICIENCY BADGE	WHEN (TERM)	TROOP or PATROL(S)	AREAS OF PERSONAL GROWTH COVERED (circle)	COMMENTS
			     	
			     	
			     	
			     	

			 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
			 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
			 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
			 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
			 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	

ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES

What Adventurous Activities will the troop participate in during the year and how does it fit into the award scheme and cover the Areas of Personal Growth?

Activities could include: Caving, Gliding, Flying, Canoeing, Hiking, Rock Climbing, Sailing and many more

ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITY	WHEN (TERM)	TROOP or PATROL(S)	AREAS OF AWARD SCHEME COVERED	AREA OF PERSONAL GROWTH COVERED	RESOURCE (PEOPLE/EQUIPMENT)					
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	
				 Spiritual	 Physical	 Intellectual	 Emotional	 Social	 Character	

PATROL ACTIVITY BADGES

List how each patrol proposes to complete the Patrol Activity Badge

PATROL	WHAT THE PATROL WILL DO	HOW IT WILL BE ACHIEVED	WHEN IT WILL HAPPEN	WHY IT WILL BE DONE

6. LONG TERM PROGRAMMING – *The overview (or, putting it all together)*

Now map everything out for the year so that you have an overview of everything that will happen to ensure a balanced, challenging and fun program that everyone in the troop will enjoy.

- The program is still flexible just in case other ideas or changes occur.
- The final columns can be completed at the start of each term to determine what exactly will happen, when it will happen, who will be responsible to organise the activity and what equipment will be required.

TERM ONE		Theme/Priorities:				COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONE TERM BEFORE		
MONTH	DATE	TROOP ACTIVITIES	GROUP, DISTRICT, REGION, BRANCH, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	PATROL ACTIVITIES	AWARD SCHEME COVERED	WHEN & WHERE	WHO	EQUIPMENT & OTHER PLANNING
JANUARY				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
FEBRUARY				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
MARCH				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				

TERM TWO		Theme/Priorities:				COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONE TERM BEFORE		
MONTH	DATE	TROOP ACTIVITIES	GROUP, DISTRICT, REGION, BRANCH, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	PATROL ACTIVITIES	AWARD SCHEME COVERED	WHEN & WHERE	WHO	EQUIPMENT & OTHER PLANNING
APRIL				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
MAY				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
JUNE				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				

TERM THREE		Theme/Priorities:				COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONE TERM BEFORE		
MONTH	DATE	TROOP ACTIVITIES	GROUP, DISTRICT, REGION, BRANCH, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	PATROL ACTIVITIES	AWARD SCHEME COVERED	WHEN & WHERE	WHO	EQUIPMENT & OTHER PLANNING
JULY				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
AUGUST				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
SEPTEMBER				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				

TERM FOUR		Theme/Priorities:				COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONE TERM BEFORE		
MONTH	DATE	TROOP ACTIVITIES	GROUP, DISTRICT, REGION, BRANCH, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	PATROL ACTIVITIES	AWARD SCHEME COVERED	WHEN & WHERE	WHO	EQUIPMENT & OTHER PLANNING
OCTOBER				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
NOVEMBER				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				
DECEMBER				____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol ____ Patrol				

7. DO YOU HAVE A BALANCED PROGRAM?

At last, an overview of the troop program has been developed! Well done. But, how does it rate? Go through the program and rate it against the following checklist.

PLANNING

- The Troop Council developed the program
- All patrols submitted ideas
- Leaders contributed ideas
- All aspects of the program planning tool have been completed
- At least 1 Troop Council meeting planned per term
- Patrol Leaders have responsibility for implementing parts of the program

PROGRAM CONTENT

- An outline for a major event has been developed
- Minimum of one troop camp planned
- All patrols have a camp planned
- Planned participation in district events
- Planned participation in Region or Branch events
- Minimum of 2 activities with local Venturer Unit
- Minimum of 2 activities with Cub Pack
- Advancement ceremonies programmed
- The program has a balance of indoor and outdoor activities
- The program has a balance of activities at and away from the local meeting place
- The troop will participate in at least 1 community event
- Every member of the troop has the opportunity to camp out for a minimum of 10 nights
- Planned participation in at least 4 Adventurous Activities
- There is variation in the program from the previous year
- All leaders & scouts are excited about the content of the program

AWARD SCHEME

- Program allows for all scouts to achieve a Target Award
- All patrols have an outline to achieve Patrol Activity Badge
- The program covers all levels of the award scheme

AREAS OF PERSONAL GROWTH

- Over the year all facets of the Areas of Personal Growth are covered
 - Spiritual
 - Physical
 - Intellectual
 - Emotional
 - Social
 - Character

TRAINING

- Planned participation in Scout Leadership Training
- Leaders participating in leader training

VARIETY - (SCOUT METHOD)

- A variety of different activities and games have been planned
- A variety of activities occur in nature and the troop will participate in at least 1 environmental activity
- All aspects of the program reflect the values of both the Scout Promise and Scout Laws
- The Patrol Method is incorporated into every meeting
- Service is incorporated into the program every term
- Over the year scouts will explore new territories with a team of friends

VARIETY (AREAS OF PERSONAL GROWTH)

How is Spiritual Development covered each term? (List how)

Term One _____

Term Two _____

Term Three _____

Term Four _____

Spiritual Development is covered in a different manner every term

How is Physical Development covered each term? (List how)

Term One _____

Term Two _____

Term Three _____

Term Four _____

Physical Development is covered in a different manner every term

How is Intellectual Development covered each term? (List how)

Term One _____

Term Two _____

Term Three _____

Term Four _____

Intellectual Development is covered in a different manner every term

How is Emotional Development covered each term? (List how)

Term One _____

Term Two _____

Term Three _____

Term Four _____

Emotional Development is covered in a different manner every term

How is Social Development covered each term? (List how)

Term One _____

Term Two _____

Term Three _____

Term Four _____

Social Development is covered in a different manner every term

How is Character Development covered each term? (List how)

Term One _____

Term Two _____

Term Three _____

Term Four _____

Character Development is covered in a different manner every term

How did you go?

Have you developed a balanced and exciting program that will be both fun and challenging plus; included heaps of new learning? Congratulations if you ticked a lot of boxes. If not many boxes are ticked, is it worth going back through your program to see what changes can be made?