



Webelos to Scout Transition Planning

Frontier District Roundtable
October 2018





Agenda

- What should Webelos Dens and Packs be doing?
- What should Scouts BSA Troops be doing?
- Crossover planning
- Journey to Excellence (JTE)
- Life after crossover
- Challenges
- DOs and DON'Ts
- Takeaways





Webelos Dens and Pack Preparation

- Preparing for Arrow of Light and Scouting Adventure requirements
 - Scouts BSA Troop meeting visitation
 - Practice patrol method for one month
 - Develop patrol name, emblem, flag, and yell
 - Participate in and use the patrol method during a Troop campout or other outdoor activity
- Participating in other activities with Troop to build stronger bonds
- Webelos Den Leader should be preparing parents for transition into Troop





Scouts BSA Troop Preparation

- Parents' Meeting
 - Attended by Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, and New Member Coordinator
 - Possibly Asst. Scoutmaster for new Scouts
 - Touch on key differentiation points between Cub Scout Dens and Scouts BSA Troops
 - Scout led vs. adult led
 - Patrol method
 - Discuss Summer Camp and High Adventure opportunities
 - Encourage parents to get involved in the Troop Committee
 - Best way for parents to have a direct impact on the success of the Troop
 - Make sure the new parents are getting Troop emails, website, etc. for communications
 - Troop uniform requirements
 - What are the uniform requirements?
 - What assistance can the Troop provide?
 - Which parts of the uniform are the families responsible for?





Scouts BSA Troop Preparation

- Scouts' Meeting
 - Attended by
 - Senior Patrol Leader and Asst. Senior Patrol Leader
 - Webelos and Den Chief(s)
 - Discuss fun activities and outings the Troop is doing
 - Talk about Summer Camp
 - Discuss leadership opportunities
 - Discuss uniform and importance





Scouts BSA Troop Preparation

- Ensure parents have a single point of contact for follow-up questions and/or additional information
- Determine if there will be a New Scout Patrol or decide which patrols Webelos scouts will join
- Plan the first outdoor activity after Webelos join to get them involved with Troop, and functioning as a member of their Patrol
- Name tags for Scouts





Journey to Excellence (JTE)

Membership

- Webelos-to-Scout Transition
- Retention

Program

- Advancement
- Service projects
- Short-term camping
- Outdoor activities





Crossover Planning

- Begin planning early
 - Scoutmaster, Cubmaster, and Webelos Den Leader
 - SPL, Webelos Den Chief(s)
 - Determine roles and responsibilities
- Crossover Ceremony
 - New Order of the Arrow ceremony (January 1, 2019)
<http://bit.ly/oa-aol-crossover>
 - Other non-OA ceremony
 - No regalia or other Native American costumes
 - Pack and Troop choose actors and rehearse script





Life after Crossover

- Troops conduct first outdoor activity after Webelos join
- Packs verify final Cub advancement has been recorded
- Troops transfer Scouts into Troop
- ASM for new Scouts responsible for getting them through Scout rank, and on their way into Tenderfoot
- Ensure Den Chiefs remain active and transition into Troop Guides *(for new Scout Patrols)*





Challenges

- Troop - Pack integration
 - Packs without Troops
 - Girl Packs without Girl Troops
 - Different meeting nights
 - Strained or weak relationships
- Others?





DOs and DON'Ts

DO

- Recharter Webelos with Pack
 - Transfer them later
 - Coordinate with Troop
- Plan the crossover with the Pack and Troop
- Verify all Cub Scout advancement has been updated and processed before transferring to Troop
- Utilize the New Member Coordinator position in the Troop
- Assign an ASM for new Scouts and/or new Scout Patrol
- Get new parents involved in Troop Committee

DON'T

- Drop Webelos from Pack charter
- Transfer Webelos before verifying final advancement
- Wait 2-3 months before having first Troop outing
- Use old Order of the Arrow ceremonies or dress in regalia





Takeaways

- Plan early and involve key leaders, Scouts, and parents
- Discuss recharter plan and coordinate
- Ensure Webelos and Troop are working together, and building and strengthening bonds
- Conduct introduction meetings for Webelos and parents
- Get them on the path to Scouts BSA, and help them to succeed





Thank You

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