

# Participating in Youth Fora

What are Fora? These are meetings where people get to give their opinions and make decisions about issues that affect them. Scout Youth Fora are where you get to decide what happens in your Troop, your County and even in your association, Scouting Ireland. And remember, it is your association. So you should take every opportunity you can to get involved.

## Patrol Leader's Council

The most basic Fora is the PLC, which is where the Patrol Leaders decide what kind of things the Scout Troop will do. But it does more than this. The Group Leader should visit two PLC meetings each year to see what the Scout troop is up to, and the Patrol Leaders should take part in at least two Group Councils each year. Both of these arrangements will allow you to have a say in things that affect the Scout Troop directly, like the buying of new camping equipment or deciding when the Cubs will start the Link with the Scout Troop. The more involvement you have with the Scout Group the better.

## County Youth Fora

This takes place once a year and is organised by your Scout County. It is a meeting for all Scouts in your County and is a great way to get to know other Scouts. You get the chance to talk about things such as the County Scout Programme and decide what you would like to see involved. In addition to this, 4 representatives will be elected who will get to attend at least one meeting of the Scout County Board, where they will be involved in decisions that affect all the Scout Groups in the County.

## Provincial Youth Fora

The 4 Scouts elected at the County Youth Fora will also get to attend the Provincial Youth Fora which takes place once a year. At this meeting you will get to talk with Scouts from your Province and discuss things such as what kind of help you would like to get for your Scout Troop. For example,



you might want PL training or mountain navigation training and this is the place where you will be able to arrange such things. At the meeting 6 representatives will be elected who will go on to represent the Province at the National Youth Fora.

## National Youth Fora

The National Youth Fora is a meeting of the Provincial Representatives that takes place once a year. At this meeting issues of a national nature will be discussed, such as National Scout Events, uniform changes, etc. Representatives from the National Youth Fora will attend meetings of the National Management Committee during the year to represent the views of Scouts. Three representatives will also be selected to work on the National Youth Programme Committee for the year.

## An Chéim (National Youth Conference)

An Chéim is a National Youth Conference where you get to meet Scouts from all around the country and one Scout from each Scout Troop can attend. The Conference will involve workshops about various issues in Scouting and in the wider community. You will have the chance to say how you feel about these issues and what action you would like to be taken.