

## Group Leader Calendar - March

St. Patrick's Day on 17th March will be the focus for a lot of Scout Groups all around the country. Many towns and cities hold parades and these provide an ideal opportunity for Scouts and Scouters to get out and be involved in the local community. If your Scout Group decides to take part in the festivities you need to agree what you will do. For example will the Scout Group march together or may you will consider entering a float. A float will take time to prepare and you will need to consider the well-being and safety of all those taking part very carefully.

- Hold a Group Council; use it to discuss National Council elections and motions

Below are some additional items which might be included in the Agenda:

- St. Patrick's Day preparations - are you entering a float, have you considered all the safety aspects of this plan?
- Discuss and evaluate the Group Development Plan. At this stage you should have put some of your plan into action and should be seeing some results. Review what has taken place and what is left to achieve.
- Get updates from all Programme Sections regarding their plans for Annual Camps and Expeditions or any sectional weekend camps or slumber nights. Ensure that each Section is aware of the forms, procedures and other requirements for overnights.
- Consider holding a Group Open day in the Community, this could be done in tandem with St. Patrick's day celebrations or as a separate event.
- Decide who will be representing the Scout Group at National Council. Each Group can send 4 delegates, one of whom must be a registered as a youth member of Scouting Ireland. Each Scout Group should ensure they are fully represented. National Council is your chance to have your say in the running of the Association. It is also a great opportunity to meet people and to network with other Group Leaders and Programme Scouters.

Visit all Programme Sections, discuss plans for programme, camps and overnights for the coming months with each section and check training requirements for Scouters. Ensure that all Scouters are registered and have completed the necessary training for their roles.