

SID 13/03
National Secretary
14th December 2003.

Role and Function of the Scout Group Scouting Ireland

Scout Group

The Scout Group is the local and primary level of the Association in Scouting Ireland.

The Scout Group consists of any number of Programme Sections and is supported by the Scout Group Council.

The Function of the Scout Group Council is to ensure that the Mission of Scouting is being implemented throughout the Scout Group using the progressive programmes as developed by the National Youth Programme Committee.

Role of the Scout Group / Group Council.

The Scout Group must comply with all aspects of the Constitution and Rules of Scouting Ireland as it pertains to the Scout Group / Group Council. **(Scouting Ireland Rules, Sections 31 thru 73, or as amended by the National Council from time to time: the main aspects of the Constitution & Rules are attached to this document)**

The Scout Group should encourage interaction between the various programme age ranges to ensure an orderly development of the youth member through the age ranges.

The Scout Group should encourage and ensure that all of its leaders should be properly, and adequately trained for whichever programme age range they are responsible for.

The Scout Group Council should manage the intake and flow of youth members within the Group.

The Scout Group in so far as possible should ensure attendance at County / Provincial / National events for the various age ranges.

The Scout Group should take an interest in achieving active participation of its youth members at Local and County level and operate the Association's Youth Participation in Decision Making policy.

The Scout Group has a responsibility to further the aims of Scouting within the local area through community involvement and through the various aspects of the Youth Programme with regards to the Community.

It is the responsibility of the Scout Group in so far as possible to ensure that all programme age ranges are catered for within the community.

It is the responsibility of the Scout Group to ensure that all the Safety Guidelines and Child protection Policies of Scouting Ireland are enforced and implemented. It should ensure that Incident reports are forwarded to National Office and adequate reporting takes place.

The onus is on the Scout Group to make an orderly and timely return of the Annual Registration returns so that all members are recorded on the National Register.

To ensure a recruitment policy for adult leaders is implemented within the local area.

To form a Parents and Friends Committee to support the local Scout Group

SCOUTING IRELAND

THE SCOUT GROUP

1. The Role of the Scout Group in Scouting Ireland

The Scout Group is the local and primary level of organisation in Scouting Ireland.

2. The structures of the Scout Group

a. The Programme Sections.

The Scout Group is divided into Programme Sections which operate youth programmes developed by Scouting Ireland for appropriate age ranges.

b. The Scout Group Council

The Scout Group Council is responsible for the administration and support of Scouting in the Scout Group.

c. The Parents & Friends Support Group

The Parents & Friends Support Group provide support and assistance to the Scout Group. The Support Group is responsible to the Scout Group Council. The Support Group holds an Annual General Meeting for all the parents and members and friends of the Scout Group.

3. The Scout Group Council: Membership, functions and formalities.

a. Membership

The members of the Scout Group Council are:

1. The Group Leader
2. Deputy Group Leader
3. Up to 3 Programme Scouters from each Programme Section
4. Group Chairperson
5. Group Secretary
6. Group Treasurer
7. Group Spiritual/ Religious Adviser/ Chaplain
8. Group Quartermaster/ Bo'sun
9. Up to 3 other members of Scouting Ireland co-opted annually for agreed purposes.
10. Up to 3 other representatives of the Parents and Friends Support Group, who are members of Scouting Ireland, subject to the approval of the Scout Group Council.

Group Scouters who are not members may attend meetings of the Scout Group Council. Other persons may attend meetings subject to the approval of the Scout Group Council.

The County Commissioner may attend meetings of any Scout Group Council and where the Scout Group is not functioning satisfactorily the County Commissioner may direct and support the affairs of the Scout Group.

b. Functions

The functions of the Scout Group Council include:

- To plan and co-ordinate all activities of the Scout Group.
- To control and allocate finance and maintain proper accounts.
- To ensure that the Programme sections operate the Youth Programme within the Purpose, Principles and Method of Scouting Ireland.
- To implement the National Youth Participation Policy of Scouting Ireland.
- To provide support to the Group Scouters in the delivery of the Youth Programme within the Programme Section.
- To consider and approve nominations and proposals for submission to the County Board, the County Management Committee and the National Council, as appropriate.
- To facilitate the leader training of all Group Scouters.
- To recruit suitable individuals to membership of Scouting Ireland and make nominations for appointment as Group Scouters.
- To form a Parents & Friends Support Group.
- To co-ordinate a social programme for adult members as desired.
- To contribute to the local community through the aims and methods of Scouting.

c. Meetings and formalities

The Scout Group Council shall meet at least 4 times a year including its Annual General Meeting. Every member of the Council has one vote and the chairperson has a casting vote.

d. The Annual General Meeting

The Scout Group Council shall have an Annual General Meeting. The agenda for which will include:

- The approval of the report of the Group Leader.
- The approval of the report of the Group Secretary.
- The approval of the accounts prepared by the Group Treasurer.
- The approval of the report of the Group Quartermaster / Bo'sun.

- The appointment of the Group Chairperson, Group Secretary, Group Treasurer, the Group Spiritual Advisor / Chaplain and the Group Quartermaster / Bo'sun.
- When necessary the nomination of the Group Leader and the Deputy Group Leader(s).

4. Group Appointments and positions

a. The Group Scouters:

i. The Group Leader.

The Group Leader is appointed by the Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources) on the nomination of the Scout Group Council and the recommendation of the County Commissioner. The Group Leader is appointed for a 3 year term which can be renewed once (on re-appointment). Subsequent one year terms may follow but subject to the joint approval of the Scout Group Council and the County Commissioner.

The duties of the Group Leader include:

- To ensure that the Group Council, the Programme Sections and the Group meets its responsibilities to Scouting in the community;
- To manage the Group resources;
- To ensure that the Group meets its responsibilities to Scouting Ireland and carries out its functions as set out in these Rules and in accordance with the Constitution;
- To represent the Group Council at meetings of the County Management Committee;
- To co-ordinate and support the youth programme in operation by the Programme sections to achieve a continuity in the youth programme offered by the Scout Group;
- To approve the nomination by the Group Council of Programme Scouters for appointment by the County Commissioner

ii. The Deputy Group Leader.

The Deputy Group Leader assists the Group Leader in the carrying out of his or her duties. The Deputy Group Leader is appointed by the Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources) on the nomination of the Scout Group Council where recommended by the County Commissioner. The term of office runs concurrently with the Group Leader.

iii. The Programme Scouters.

Programme Scouters operate the Scout Groups Programme Sections.

Programme Scouters are appointed by the County Commissioner to operate a specific youth programme on the nomination of the Scout Group Council and the approval of the Group Leader.

b. Other positions

- i. Group Chairperson
- ii. Group Secretary
- iii. Group Treasurer
- iv. Group Spiritual/ Religious Adviser/ Chaplain
- v. Group Quarter-master/ Bo'sun

They are appointed by the Scout Group Council and their duties are listed elsewhere.