

	Gasóga na hÉireann/Scouting Ireland			
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The Scout County				

Related Documents

Revision Schedule		
Revision	Date	Description
A	11/03/2017	Document Re-numbered and Category Re-allocated. General Consistency Review by the Constitution and Rules Committee.
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1. The Scout County

The Scout County comprises of a number of Scout Groups who co-operate for their mutual benefit. It is through the Scout County that the Scout Group should find most support.

The Scout County is based on a geographical area of reasonable distance. The boundaries of the Scout County are determined by the National Management Committee and are where possible based on Local Authority areas.

The main organisational structures of the Scout County are:

- A. The Scout County Board; and
- B. The Scout County Management Committee

2. The role of the Scout County and how it fulfils its role

The primary role of the Scout County is to support its Scout Groups. It does this in a number of ways, including:

a. Youth Programme Support:

- i. The Scout County supports the Youth Programme delivered by Scout Groups through a pooling of expertise and experience of the Scouters in the Scout County.
- ii. It advises of and aids the implementation of changes to the Youth Programme and new resource material produced by Scouting Ireland.
- iii. It complements the Youth Programme delivered by the Scout Group by providing events and activities for the various Programme Sections to attend. These events and activities provide opportunities for our Scouts to meet with other Scouts outside of their own Programme Sections.

How?

The Scout County Management Committee appoints a Scout County Programme Co-ordinator to support the various parts of the Youth Programme used by the Scout Groups of the Scout County. The Programme Co-ordinator and his/her/their team directly support the relevant Programme Sections and convene meetings of Programme Scouters as required to introduce new elements of the Youth Programme or to arrange various events and activities to compliment the Youth Programme.

b. Adult Resources Support:

- i. The Scout County provides a forum for Scouters to meet with fellow Scouters to discuss points of mutual interest and benefit to Scouting.
- ii. It enables the delivery of various adult -training courses, both for delivery of the Youth Programme and management of Adult Resources, developed by Scouting Ireland.

How?

- The Scout County Board meetings are for all of the Scouters in the Scout County.

- Scout County Programme Co-ordinator and his/her team convene meetings of Programme Scouters who use a particular part of the Youth Programme from time to time.
- The Scout County arranges for events and activities which Scouters will meet at.
- The Scout County Management Committee appoints a Scout County Training Co-ordinator to manage and promote the various adult training opportunities provided by Scouting Ireland through the Scout County.

c. Benefits for Scouting Ireland:

- The Scout County provides an opportunity for Scouters and Scout Groups to direct the policies and future development of Scouting Ireland through the representatives of the Scout County.
- It provides Scouting Ireland with a structure to communicate with Scout Groups and Scouters on policy changes and developments to the Youth Programme, adult resources and other initiatives of Scouting Ireland to develop and grow Scouting.
- It ensures that Scouting is delivered at local level in accordance with the Aim and Principles of Scouting Ireland.
- It provides a structure to enable new Scout Groups to be established with the benefits of the support mechanisms of the Scout County.

How?

- The County Commissioner is a member of the Provincial Management/Support Team which has direct input to the development of the Youth Programme, Adult Resources Policies and the National Management of Scouting Ireland.
- Every Group Leader is a member of the Scout County Management Committee which will be notified and can discuss the various policy changes and developments of Scouting Ireland.
- The Scout County Management Committee is best placed to determine how to support a new Scout Group in the Scout County.

d. Youth Participation:

- The Scout County provides an opportunity for Youth Members to express their views and formulate proposals to contribute to the development of Scouting Ireland.

How?

The Scout County Management Committee, through the County Commissioner and/or the Scout County Programme Co-ordinator, is required to arrange for the establishment of the Scout County Youth Fora.

e. Administration, Finance and Public Relations:

- The Scout County assists the Scout Group and the Scout Group Council with administrative and financial advice, including assistance in maximising local grant aid.
- It promotes Scouting in the Scout County through good community and public relations at local level.

How?

The Scout County Management Committee will be better placed to offer administrative and financial advice to the Scout Group with the support of the other administrative and financial structures of Scouting Ireland. It will also support the Scout Group in using the various community and public relation tools developed by Scouting Ireland from time to time and advise the Scout Group how to use these tools in accordance with Scouting Ireland policy on good public relations.

Full time Provincial Staff can be directed to support Scout Groups through the Scout County structures.

3. The Scout County Board

The Scout County Board is the governing authority of the Scout County. It meets at least once a year and has an Annual General Meeting. The meetings of the Scout County Board are convened by the Scout County Management Committee.

The members of the Scout County Board are:

- a. All members of the Scout County Management Committee.
- b. All Group Scouters (Group Leaders, Deputy Group Leaders, Group Trainers and Programme Scouters).
- c. Four representatives from each of the Scout County Youth Fora.
- d. One registered scout from each registered Scout Group within the Scout County.

The Annual General Meeting of the Scout County Board

The agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Scout County Board includes:

- (a) Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
- (b) The report of the County Commissioner
- (c) Adoption of the Annual Scout County Report as prepared by the County Secretary
- (d) Adoption of the Accounts of the Scout County as prepared by the County Treasurer
- (e) Adoption of the Reports of the County Programme Co-ordinator and the County Training Co-ordinator
- (f) A report from each Scout Group in the Scout County
- (g) The nomination of the County Commissioner for appointment, when appropriate
- (h) The election of the County Chairperson, the County Secretary and the County Treasurer, when appropriate
- (i) Considering for approval proposals, reports and submissions submitted in writing to the County Secretary, including proposals to the National Council received not less than two weeks prior to the date of the meeting, by any member of the Scout County Board
- (j) Presenting the Programme of Events to support the Scout Groups of the Scout County
- (k) The nomination of the Deputy County Commissioner for appointment, when appropriate and if the Scout County Board decides to fill this role

4. The Scout County Management Committee

The Scout County Management Committee reports to the Scout County Board and administers and manages the Scout County on behalf of the Scout County Board in between meetings of the Board.

The members of the Scout County Management Committee are:

- i. The County Commissioner
- ii. The County Officers:
 - a. The County Chairperson
 - b. The County Secretary
 - c. The County Treasurer
- iii. The County Spiritual/Religious Advisor/ Chaplain
- iii.
 - iv. All Group Leaders (or alternatively a Deputy Group Leader or Group Scouter) within the Scout County
 - v. The County Programme Co-ordinator
 - vi. The County Training Co-ordinator
 - vii. A maximum of three co-opted persons (none of whom can hold voting rights)
 - viii. Two representatives from each of the Scout County Youth Fora for Scout/Venture Scouts/Rover Scouts
 - ix. The Deputy County Commissioner

5. The Scout County Youth Fora

The Scout County Youth Fora provide for the expression of views and formulation of recommendations, recognising that such Fora in Scouting provide a dual opportunity for Youth Members to discuss issues of interest to them and to make recommendations on these; and to learn the skills necessary to empower them to take part in decision-making in Scouting Ireland.

The Scout County Management Committee is responsible for the organisation of Scout County Youth Fora in accordance with the National Youth and Adult Involvement Policy (SID 14/03).

6. County Appointments and positions

The County Appointment Descriptions (SID 06/03) sets out the functions of the various County Appointments. Briefly they are:

a. The County Commissioner

The County Commissioner is appointed by the Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources) on the nomination of the Scout County Board. The term of the appointment is for 3 years with the possibility of re-appointment for one further 3 year term.

The duties and functions of the County Commissioner are determined by the Scout County Board subject to the approval of the National Management Committee.

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

b. The County Programme Co-ordinator

The County Programme Co-ordinator is appointed by the Scout County Management Committee on the nomination of the County Commissioner. The County Programme Co-ordinator manages the implementation of the Youth Programme within the Scout County and convenes meetings of the relevant Programme Scouters as required.

The term of office of the Scout County Programme Co-ordinator is concurrent with the County Commissioner.

c. The County Training Co-ordinator

The County Training Co-ordinator is appointed by the Scout County Management Committee on the nomination of the County Commissioner.

The term of office of the Scout County Training Co-ordinator is concurrent with the County Commissioner.

d. The Scout County Officers:

- i. The County Chairperson
- ii. The County Secretary
- iii. The County Treasurer

The Scout County Officers are appointed by the Scout County Board following an election.

They are elected by the Scout County Board for a term of three years and are eligible for re-appointment for one further term of three years.

e. The County Spiritual/Religious Advisor/Chaplain

The County Spiritual/Religious Advisor/Chaplain assists with the spiritual development of the Scout through the Youth Programme delivered by the Scout County.

The County Spiritual/Religious Advisor/Chaplain is appointed by the Scout County Management Committee for a term of three years and is eligible for re-appointment for one further term of three years.

f. The Deputy County Commissioner

The Deputy County Commissioner assists the County Commissioner in carrying out his/her duties and functions as well as any other duties and functions as directed by the Scout County Management Committee.

The Deputy County Commissioner is appointed by the Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources) on the nomination of the Scout County Board.

The term of office of the Deputy County Commissioner is concurrent with the County Commissioner.