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# Pomperaug District Boy Scout Program Planning Guide

2018-2019 Scouting Year



*Serving the Scouting Communities of Bridgeport, Easton,  
Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford, Trumbull Weston and Westport*

# Welcome

Planning your unit's Annual Program is an opportunity to plan an exciting year of activities for all of youth of your unit. An annual plan is the foundation to a high performing unit. An annual plan will allow you to recruit more scouts, offer better programs and stay financially solvent. Following the steps in this guide can provide opportunities for more Scouts and aid you in obtaining a Journey to Excellence Award. And we want to help!

The steps in the program planning process are not complicated and this guide will walk you through all of the steps that your unit should take to ensure a quality program.

Our District Team can provide resources and help in recruitment, programs and activities, advancement, finances, fund raising and more. Your Unit Commissioner is there to help coach and guide and represent your unit's needs to the District and Council. Thanks so much for your unit leadership and being a part of our Powahay Team. Please do not hesitate to contact us for questions, concerns and areas that we can help.

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## Program Planning

To Start Planning Your Annual Program Go to:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/boy-scouts/planning/>

One of the key elements of all successful units and an indicator of a potentially successful year would be the unit's annual program plan and planning conference. Research has shown that a common element of a strong unit is a good annual program planned a year in advance that is then shared with all families in the form of a calendar. The important result of a shared annual program calendar is that a unit will attract more families and Scouts will stay involved longer.

### Preparation

The unit program planning conference offers the opportunity to draw up an effective, exciting course of action. The conference is organized and conducted by the senior patrol leader with the help of the Scoutmaster. At the above link you can download the guide to setting up this important planning.

### The Annual Program Planning Conference

It is not hard to figure out what keeps Scouts in the program. They like to have fun, do really cool challenging stuff, go places, and learn things, even though they might not want to admit it. That is what we call program, and it doesn't just happen by chance. It takes planning and preparations, starting with your planning conference. Use these ground rules while discussing ideas at your conference, and you can add your own rules, too: It is important to respect the views of each other, Listen and don't interrupt, Keep focused on your task to plan your annual program, Don't get sidetracked, Write out your ideas so everyone can see them, Be in agreement.

Your plan will be a living, breathing document. For it to have real value, you must follow it, share it with everyone, and review it regularly to see if modifications must be made. Good luck on another great year, and don't forget to share your plan and calendar with every Scout family!

The national program planning site, at the link above, also offers a variety of tools and templates to help your unit have a successful program planning conference.



## Fall Camporee

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Hoyt Scout Reservation  
Redding, CT  
October 12-14

## Klondike Derby

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Hoyt Scout Reservation  
Redding, CT  
January 18-20

## Spring Camporee

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Hoyt Scout Reservation  
Redding, CT  
May 17-19

## Activities

### Boy Led Camporees

*“Empowering boys to be leaders is the core of Scouting. Scouts learn by doing, and what they do is lead their patrols and their troop. The boys themselves develop a troop program, then take responsibility for figuring out how they will achieve their goals. One of our most important challenges is to train boy leaders to run the troop by providing direction, coaching and support. The boys will make mistakes now and then and will rely upon the adult leaders to guide them. But only through real hands-on experience as leaders can boys learn to lead.”*

— Scoutmaster Handbook.

This is the concept we are bringing to the Boy Scouts Camporees and Klondike's. Senior Patrol Leaders and other youth leaders from troops participating in the event form the Greenbar (PLC) for the camporee. The host SPL serves as the Camporee SPL. SPL's from each troop are invited to a Roundtable for a planning session and promotion before the event.

This is valuable learning experience for the scouts. It is one of the rare opportunities for the scouts to plan an event for such a large group. Putting on an event of this magnitude requires the scouts to sharpen the skills they have learned planning their unit level campouts and helps them grow even more as leaders.

By taking part in these district events you will have the opportunity to earn one of our traveling trophies like the bumble.




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THANK YOU TO THE 2017-2018 HOST TROOPS  
Troop 65 Trumbull host of the Fall Carnival Camporee

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Take the challenge and host a camporee. Contact Lawrence Ratner  
[lawrence@theratnerfamily.com](mailto:lawrence@theratnerfamily.com)

## 2017-2018 Scout Year Eagle Scouts

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William Graney-Green  
Leonard Johnson  
Odin Bartie  
Alexander Jarrett  
Nolan Tornay  
Jacob Gratrix  
Justin Riffard  
Jacob Welch  
John Kane  
Adam Boczar  
Jake Fones  
Rahul Kiefer  
Eric Lenhart  
Frank Villagomez  
Arnav Srivastava  
Anthony Liquori  
Drew Newcomb  
Alexander Adzima  
Jesse Veilleux  
William Allen  
Steven Ditelberg  
Dheraj Ganjikunta  
Jack Osborne  
Sean McAteer  
Reineer Valenzuela  
Ethan Dubrosky  
Stephen Kinne  
John Sears

## Advancement

*Advancement... An important part of your Troop's Annual Program Planning "The more interesting the program offered by a troop, the better its record of advancement. A troop with many events and frequent outdoor adventures will provide varied opportunities for Scouts to complete advancement requirements."*

*-Scoutmaster Handbook*

### Advancement Resources:

- ◆ Advancement information can be found at:  
<http://www.ctyankee.org/program/advancement>
- ◆ Eagle to Scout: Workbook and Applications can be found at:  
<http://www.ctyankee.org/program/advancement/eagleprocess> Life to Eagle Workshops are scheduled throughout the year. Watch for email and newsletter notifications.
- ◆ Merit Badge Counseling Training is now available online at  
<https://my.scouting.org>
- ◆ Connecticut Yankee Council has also created its own online training program for Merit Badge Counselors. The training consists of an overview of the Merit Badge program, followed by a 13 question quiz. Access this course here at  
[http://www.ctyankee.org/fs/page/002641/meritbadgecounselorthe\\_essentials-2017rev0420a.pdf](http://www.ctyankee.org/fs/page/002641/meritbadgecounselorthe_essentials-2017rev0420a.pdf)
- ◆ Classroom sessions for Merit Badge Counselors will also be scheduled throughout the year.

### Merit Badge Opportunities:

- ◆ **Merit Badge College:** 4 Saturdays in January-March (Snow Dependent)
- ◆ **Scout Day at The Norwalk Maritime Aquarium:** March 2019
- ◆ **Camp Sikorsky:** September 2018
- ◆ **Building Trades Merit Badge Workshop:** June 23, 2018,  
<http://www.ctyankee.org/program/buildingtrades>
- ◆ **Fairfield Audubon Society Scout Day:** April 2019  
<https://www.ctaudubon.org/fairfield-birthdays-scouting/>

## Youth Training Opportunities



### Youth Leader Training

August 12 - 18, 2018

Camp Pomperaug,  
Union, CT



### Powderhorn

September 28 - 30, 2018

Camp Sequassen,  
New Hartford, CT

## Training

### TRAINING FOR YOUR ADULT LEADERS

#### Leader Online Training

<http://www.ctyankee.org/program/training/newonline>

The BSA is pleased to announce the launch of the Boy Scout Leader eLearning content. Working closely with a team of experts and experienced volunteers, specific content was developed to provide a high quality learning experience while creating an additional training option for volunteers who need to complete their position specific training requirements.

Modules, each ranging from 4-12 minutes in length, were designed to be viewed over a period time, and can be completed on a computer or tablet any time of day – from anywhere. These modules are a valuable resource for leaders to refer to when needed. For Scoutmasters and ASMs, completion of the required eLearning modules for your role, in addition to the completion of the Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) face-to-face course, will trigger you as position trained in the BSA Learn Center.

For Committee Chairs and Committee Members, these online modules replace the Troop Committee Challenge for position trained requirements. If you are already position trained, this will not affect your trained status.

Merit Badge Counselor training is also included in this release, which consists of six online modules that, once completed, will trigger Merit Badge Counselors as position trained. Merit Badge Counselors are reminded that ALL registered positions in Scouting MUST complete online Youth Protection training at least ONCE EVERY YEAR. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Please note: Fast Start trainings are now retired and have been replaced by this online learning. Please refer to the Boy Scout Position Trained Requirements chart to see the online module requirements necessary to be completed for your specific position.

Scouters who prefer to complete their courses in a face-to-face classroom environment can find course dates here at:

<http://www.ctyankee.org/program/training/catalogue> or contact our district training chair Gene Waring at [ewaring@snet.net](mailto:ewaring@snet.net) to set up a personal training session for your unit.

As always, the BSA Learn Center continually strives to provide content you need – when you need it. ScoutingU and the BSA Learn Center can be reached through <https://my.scouting.org/>.

## WEBELOS to Scout Transition

Boy Scout troops should assign an assistant Scoutmaster or a troop committee member to be responsible for new Scouts, which would include developing a relationship with the Cubmaster and the WEBELOS den leaders. This person serves as a resource during WEBELOS overnight activities and builds enthusiasm among boys and their parents for the exciting challenges that await them in Boy Scouting.

1. Select Scouts to serve as den chiefs for each WEBELOS Scout den and Cub Scout den. Arrange for Den Chief Training.
2. Offer to have scouts in your troop to run a den meeting for local packs. This will help the cubs build a relationship with your troop.
3. Serve as a resource for overnight activities. The troop can be of service to provide equipment, leadership, and logistics for WEBELOS parent-son campouts.
4. Conduct an orientation in the Bear Cub Scout dens to explain the changing role as boys become WEBELOS Scouts and then again as they become Boy Scouts. Explain how being a WEBELOS Scout will help prepare them for Boy Scouting.
5. WEBELOS den/Scout troop campouts should show WEBELOS Scouts and their parents what to expect when they move into the troop. The troop should cook and camp by patrol, and use skills that the WEBELOS Scouts can participate in.
6. Arrange for WEBELOS dens to visit a troop meeting. This should be planned several weeks in advance.
7. Provide each WEBELOS Scout a copy of the troop's activities for the upcoming year.
8. Work with WEBELOS den leaders to encourage them to plan to move into the troop with their WEBELOS Scouts and to serve either as committee members or assistant Scoutmasters.
9. Conduct a Scoutmaster conference under the guidance of the Scoutmaster or the assistant designated by the Scoutmaster. This conference should cover the meaning of the Scout Oath and Law, the advancement program, troop camping, the patrol method, summer camp, and personal equipment.
10. Work with the Cubmaster in planning a meaningful crossover ceremony at the pack's blue and gold banquet. Coordinate the ceremony and arrange for each WEBELOS Scout to receive a troop neckerchief and Boy Scout Handbook along with his Arrow of Light Award. Members of the Order of the Arrow may assist in the ceremony.



## FAMILY SCOUTING

OFFERING ICONIC BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA PROGRAMS TO BOYS AND GIRLS



## Scouts BSA

In 2018 the BSA opened up the Cub Scouting Program to girls. Packs were given the choice to remain boy's only, allow girls into their existing packs or to create a new girls only pack. Starting in February of 2019 we will be expanding our inclusion of girls to older girls. The boy scout troop will still remain boys only, but new troops can be formed that are girls only. The program for girls will be the exact same as the current boy scout program. To better align the program with this change though, the Boy Scout program will be changing its name to Scouts BSA. The overall organization name, Boy Scouts of America, will remain the same.

Girl troops will come in two varieties: separate troops and linked troops. A separate troop will have its own charter organization and adult leadership. A linked unit will be a sister troop to an existing boy scout troop. They will share the same charter organization and troop committee, but will have its own scoutmaster. These units will be allowed to each have the same troop numbers. In addition, a girl troop must have at least one registered female leader.

While unit leaders should help determine if a girl troop is for them, it is ultimately the choice of the charter organization whether to start a girl troop. If a charter organization feels a girl troop is not appropriate for their organization, they can continue on with the boy scout program as it was run before girl troops were started.

New information is being released all the time about these new changes to the program. For all of the latest information visit the family scouting website at <https://www.scouting.org/familyscouting/>.

## Communication

Stay in touch with the latest updates from the Pomperaug District by signing up for our email list. All emails are targeted by your town, unit type and position, so you will never receive an email that is not relevant to you. Sign up at <http://www.ctyankee.org/districts/pomperaug/mail>.

The Pomperaug District also puts out a monthly newsletter with more articles on policy changes, upcoming events, planning idea and much much more. You can check out the latest edition at <http://www.ctyankee.org/fs/page/002483/april2018.pdf>



## Recruitment

Membership recruitment is one of the pillar to ensure that your unit thrives now and for years to come. Recruitment should not be a once a year activity, but should be a continuous process throughout the year, with extra emphasis put on the activity in the Fall and Spring. Recruitment is not just for recruiting youth though, actively recruiting adult volunteers is also an essential part of the process as well.

To coincide with the launch of the family scouting programs the national BSA office has developed a new marketing campaign “Scout Me In”. Recruitment materials of all kinds have been developed to aid your unit in its recruitment effort, and all of them can be used free of charge. More information about the new marketing campaign and materials can be found at <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2018/05/02/scout-me-in/>.

Another great source of information and recruitment materials is the national marketing hub and brand center. It contains a wealth of knowledge you can use in planning your recruitment efforts. This information can be found at <https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-membership/>.

Also, did you know that the council office provides services to help with your recruitment efforts? They will print custom flyers for your recruitment events with all of the necessary information, yard signs and other marketing materials free of charge, but adequate notice must be given. Also, our district executive loves to help out at scout talks and is one of the best at it. If it fits in his schedule he will gladly assist you with your scout talks. If you are interested in any of these services contact our district executive Bill Reynolds at [bill.reynolds@scouting.org](mailto:bill.reynolds@scouting.org).

**THE FOUNDATION FOR  
YOUR SON'S FUTURE.**

[BEASCOUT.ORG](http://BEASCOUT.ORG)

**LA BASE PARA UN  
GRAN FUTURO.**

[SEUNSCOUT.ORG](http://SEUNSCOUT.ORG)

YOUR TEXT GOES HERE





## Commissioner Service

### Roundtable

Roundtable is a training and programming opportunity offered by a team of experienced district volunteers each month. Each month different topics related to different parts of the scouting program are discussed. In addition to being a great learning opportunity for adult volunteers it is also a great opportunity to network with scout leaders from other units and get new ideas from other units.

Our district's roundtable is held every month from September through June on the second Tuesday starting at 7:30PM at the Trumbull LDS Church, 30 Bonnie View Dr.

Over the summer the district round table team will be developing the roundtable topics for the next scouting year. Announcement of the roundtable topics will be announced on the district website, newsletter and email list.

### Unit Commissioners

Scouting magazine calls the Commissioner "a combination of adviser, counselor, information and idea resource person, and cheerleader." Commissioners have one essential goal: Do whatever it takes to help unit leaders succeed in effectively delivering the ideals of Scouting.

Commissioners are district volunteers that coach and guide unit leaders, help maintain the standards of the Boy Scouts of America and oversee the unit charter renewal plan.

The district leadership has been working hard over the last few years to increase our unit commissioner staff. While most of our units currently have a unit commissioner, we are striving to get a unit commissioner for every unit within the district. If your unit currently does not have a unit commissioner and believe that it would be a benefit to your unit, contact our district commissioner, Seth Strohecker at [seth.strohecker@gmail.com](mailto:seth.strohecker@gmail.com), to get one assigned to you.

We are always looking to expand our team. If you are interested in becoming a commissioner, contact our district commissioner, Seth Strohecker at [seth.strohecker@gmail.com](mailto:seth.strohecker@gmail.com), for more information.

## District Calendar

<b>June</b>
16 – Council Day of Service
16 – Catholic Awards Ceremony
23- Building Trades Merit Badge Workshop (Local 777 Training Center, Meriden)
<b>July</b>
<b>August</b>
12-18 – Youth Leader Training (Camp Pomperaug)
24-26 – Wood Badge Session 1 (Deer Lake)
<b>September</b>
4 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
4 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
7-9 Order of the Arrow September Ordeal (Camp Pomperaug)
21-23 - Wood Badge Session 2 (Hoyt Scout Reservation)
28-30 – Powder horn (Camp Sequassen)
28-29 – Scout Day at Lime Rock (Lime Rock Auto Race Park)
<b>October</b>
2 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
5-7 – Order of the Arrow Fall Fellowship (Camp Sequassen)
9 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
12-14 – Fall Camporee (Hoyt Scout Reservation)
<b>November</b>
6 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
13 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
<b>December</b>
4 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
11 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
<b>January</b>
1 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
8 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
18-20 – Klondike Derby (Camp Sequassen)
<b>February</b>
5 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
12 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
21 – District Dinner
<b>March</b>
5 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
12 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
<b>April</b>
2 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
9 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
TBA – Fishing Derby (Deer Lake Scout Reservation)
<b>May</b>
7 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
14 – District Roundtable (Trumbull LDS Church)
17-19 – Spring Camporee (Camp Pomperaug)
<b>June</b>
4 – District Committee Meeting (Trumbull LDS Church)
11 – District Kickoff (Trumbull LDS Church)

# Pomperaug District Organization

What is a District? A Scouting District is a geographical area of the BSA local Council. District volunteer leaders mobilize resources to ensure the growth and success of Scouting Units within the District's territory. All Districts are responsible for carrying out four standard functions:

## 1. Membership 2. Finance 3. Program 4. Unit Service

The membership, finance, and program functions are carried out by members of the District Committee. The Unit service function is carried out by the District Commissioner Staff.

