

NSW BRANCH STATE PATROL LEADERS CONFERENCE

Held at Cataract Scout Park
9th, 10th & 11th November 2007

Welcome:

Phil Crutchley (State Commissioner Scouts) welcomed 24 Patrol Leaders and 10 Leaders. The weekend program was explained and attending Leaders introduced.

PLs were advised that the Leaders present were there only to assist the Conference when asked, not to participate.

Gail Paddison to act as facilitator. A 'coming in' game was played and Patrols make ups decided upon.

Attendance:

Patrol The Cookies:

Beau-Jon Ryan	Hunter and Coastal
Thomas Spedding	Sydney North
Rebecca Kangro	Sydney North
Matthew Allen	The Golden West
Thomas Paddison	North West
Samantha Edwards	Western Australia

Patrol The Phone Books:

Briony Grainger	Hume
Josh Aird	Hume
Peter Zuiderwyk	South Coast and Tablelands
Kristy Rowe	South Met
Ben Martin	Riverina
Nicholas Gailer	Riverina

Patrol The PBP's

Stuart McManus	Sydney North
Eugene Lee	Greater Western Sydney
Jessica Groves	Greater Western Sydney
Hamish Dobinson	South Coast and Tablelands
Dylan Halloran	North West
Nattha Kenyon	Western Australia

Patrol US

Bradley Saywell	South Coast and Tablelands
Jordan Wong	The Golden West
Keegan Midson	The Golden West
Richie Warner	North West
Charles Barlow	Riverina
Mitchell Hayes	Greater Western Sydney

Leaders:

Phil Crutchley	State Commissioner Scouts
Gail Paddison	Assistant State Commissioner Scouts
David Spear	Assistant State Commissioner Scouts
Vern Casey	Western Australia Branch Commissioner Scouts
Rhonda Christie	Regional Commissioner Special Duties Scouts, Sydney North Region
Michael Barnes	Regional Commissioner Scouts, South Coast & Tablelands Region
Paul Halloran	District Commissioner, North West Region
Gerhard Grauer	Regional Commissioner Scouts, Riverina Region
Robin Garrett	Regional Commissioner Scouts, Greater Western Sydney Region
Barry Read	Regional Commissioner Scouts, The Golden West Region

REPORT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STATE PATROL LEADERS CONFERENCE 2006
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1 Communications:

This is ongoing and continually being improved. The Star Project will help with some of the issues. The introduction of the Extranet will enhance Scouts access to information.

2 Rock-a-Ree:

Nothing – due to the fact that the current calendar is full. The idea will be progressed at the appropriate time in the future.

3 Badge Packs:

State supports this notion – but is really a matter for the Troop Council to control.

4 Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders Activities:

- A. Patrol Leader training for Jamborees. Sydney North Region held training for 2007, which will be used as a template and introduced Statewide for 2010.
- B. Scout Leadership Course. David Spear is heading this review, which is underway.
- C. More PL & APL only activities. Still needs to be pushed at State Level.

5 Public Image:

The communication team need to **understand** the idea of a 'True Scout' doing what is done on a weekly, monthly and term basis not just Outdoor activities.

Still not happening.

6 State Rally:

After safety considerations were discussed, the State Mindari concluded that movement between RACS at night put scouts at risk and therefore decided to disallow movement between RACS. The matter will be reviewed again in the future. RACs were requested to improve the entertainment as a compromise.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SCOUT PRESENTATIONS

Nattha Kenyon and Samantha Edwards talked on how Western Australia Scouts formulated their State Youth Council when they do not have Regions. The concept of Troop Council is used at State, District and Troop level effectively with communications being very good from the Mindari to Youth Council and back again on each level.

The Youth Council meets at the same time as the Mindari every 2 months.
A CD was shown of the Environmental Camp - Rottnest Invasion. Very interesting.

Patrol Leaders Activities for the Weekend

- Cataract Water Slide - Saturday
- Michael Barnes - Navigation by the stars: on-site activity
- Visit Zone 3 in Campbelltown - Saturday Night
- Viewed Scout Hike 2008 CD promo. Each PL received one to take back to troop
- Viewed 'Try Scouting', 'Get out' revamped program presentations.
- Paul Halloran - Ballista Challenge: on-site activity
- Various games and activities were also conducted by the PL's.

YACS REPORT - ACTIONS

Action : "State Commissioner Scouts to clarify the requirement of the Scout Section Outdoor Activity Awards (Get Out in NSW) and confirm that experience in the Scout section does qualify for these awards regardless of when the Scout Group actually starts using the awards."

Answer: *Retrospective credit for these participation awards will only be from September, 2006. As the awards did not exist prior to that date the State Mindari decided that only achievements since that date will count towards the awards. – State Commissioner, Scouts.*

ITEMS IDENTIFIED FOR DISCUSSION BY PATROL LEADERS
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These items were discussed at length by the Scouts:

- 100 year Camp for Scouts
- Internet
- 2008 State Rally Theme
- Youth Council
- Scout Belt Buckle
- Wrist bands for State Rally
- Uniform
- Scout Badges
- Advanced Leadership Course
- More involvement higher ranks
- More State Camps
- More info on lanyards (State Rally)
- State Rally
- 14 year olds camps
- Better advertising - Leader and Scouts
- More fundraising
- Bring back white cords and the pl whistle
- Activities log book
- Better Publicity

- State Calendar
- Scout Leadership Course
- Better Communications
- Year of the Scout 2008
- NSW travel shirt

To be able to cover all these above items similar items were grouped together and discussed. Syndicate Patrols worked independently on subjects and reported in plenaries.

1. State

- 100 year Camp for Scouts
- More involvement higher ranks
- More State Camps
- Year of the Scout 2008
- 14 year olds camps

More Camps

1. Cub Camp (State Rally style)
2. 100 years Scouting – 100 hour camp
3. Regional Scout and Venturer Camp – Ventout is happening now in SNR
4. Scout verses Guide Camp (State Rally type camp)
5. 14 year old camp. Scouts and Venturers only 14-15 years olds
6. PL & APL Fun Camp. Getting to know other scouts who are going to up to Venturers. State or Region.

Year of the Scout + 100 years of Australian Scouts Camp

*Phil informed the Patrol Leaders there is to be a State Camp which will be held at the Sydney Show Ground to celebrate The Centenary of Australian Scouts.
1000 Scouts for the camp to be held on 24-25 October 2008.*

No one had heard about this camp.

Greater Access to Other Youth Sections

2. Internet and State Calendar

- More Detail on Calendar
- Dates what's happening
- Maps – Activities
- Scout E-Bay
- Direct Email – Forum – Chat room – MSM
- Music on
- Troops to have USER NAME and Password
- Dates what activities are on across the state
- Join in. Only if we know what is happening
- Should be on Scout website with links
- Easier to use
- Photos

3. State Rally

- Wrist Bands for State Rally Larger ones for Leaders
- Visit other RACs at night (Phil explained the need for safety and there would be no visiting to other RACs at night until the State Mindari could figure out a way to protect Scouts effectively)
- Better Entertainment
- More info on Lanyards
- Structure Change
- With non competitive patrols would like a performance report
- 'B' competition patrols with one or more PLs. Non competitive.

Why Patrol Leaders didn't attend this years State Rally?

1. Family reasons
2. Advertise more / Notification on NSW web site
3. Didn't know any patrol could attend
4. If you want to go make a noise about it
5. Phil said if your scout leader does not want to allow you and your patrol to attend then he would like to know about it!!

State Rally 2008 Suggested Themes

Romans	Surprise – Happy Birthday	100 years of Brownsea Island
Scouting Down Under	Out Back Australia	International Culture
Over the Rainbow	100 years – Year of the Scout	Dictatorship
Hierarchy	Under the Sea	Cross Dressing
Country	Cowboys & Indians	Attach 100
Zip Zap	Horror	Cartoons
Music	Sport	Environment
Space	Japan	Australia
Iran – Nuclear	Dead Terrorists	Gangsters
100% Aussie	100% Pure Love	100 Movies
100 Hippies	100 Snacks	Egypt
100 years of Sport	The Hundred Scouts	Beach
Science Fiction	Military	Challenge 100
Religion	BBQ	Toast
	100 Years of Scouting Down Under	

Phil mentioned that 180 Patrols attended the Rally 2007 and would like to see 200 Patrols for 2008.

Each Patrol was asked to select one theme and discuss the ways that theme could be promoted through the State Troops. The PLs then voted:

1. **OUTBACK AUSTRALIA (8 votes)**
2. **SPORTZMANIA (10 votes)**

3. HORROR (0 votes)

4. 100% AUSSIE (6 votes)

The theme for 2008 State Scout Rally is to be recommended as **SPORTZMANIA**.

All patrols came up with similar points for getting the word around. These ideas included Posters, CD/DVD promo, Pamphlets, Newsletters, On the state and regional calendars, and Tell a friend.

4. Uniform:

- Belt Buckle
- More Info on Lanyard
- Bring back Patrol Leader White Cord and Whistle
- NSW Travel Shirt
- Scout Badges
- Pants, Hat, Shoes and Epaulets
 - Blue shirt across the whole Group/all Sections. This would reduce the need the buy different shirts for each section
 - Epaulets very cool please bring back
 - Change Patrol Leader badge too much like Assistant Patrol Leader badge
 - Belt Buckle breaks very easy bring back the old sturdy belt buckle
 - Keep the green strip in the Scout Shirt easier to identify
 - Scout Leadership and Scout Craft badge needs to be bigger and the same size *Phil mentioned this is happening now, as the National Scout Youth Program Committee agreed to a badge size change in June of this year. However, Snowgum had to run out of old sized badges first before new size is available..*
 - Pants need to be zip off style
 - Black or Navy Blue pants not cream. Cream not practical
 - White cord back for Patrol Leaders
 - Green Beret
 - Bring back the Scout Hat

NSW Travel Shirt.

A lightweight travel shirt for NSW scouts to be worn when travelling to and from camps. Not the Official Function Shirt. Benefits would be:

1. comfort
2. uniform
3. NSW
4. not wear out the official shirt
5. Australian made shirt not import
6. Hike shirt

Phil mentioned Jamboree 2010 T-Shirt might be worn to the 2010 Jamboree and not the Official Uniform Shirt. More discussions with the NSW Contingent Executive and State Mindari.

The State Mindari would look at the broader matter if a recommendation was forthcoming.

5. Leadership Courses:

- State Leadership Course needs changing bringing it more up to date
- Advanced Leadership Course.
- Leadership training for Jamborees
- Same Leadership Course State wide

Phil discussed the need to review the Scout Leadership Course which was a topic of recommendation from 2006 Council.

He has asked David Spear (Assistant State Commissioner Scouts/Program Development to head up this Review. David ran an activity for both the scouts and leaders present to give their opinions using cards and sheets of cardboard.

Each patrol was asked to place the topic cards in groups under a section of the course.

They were then asked to decide whether the section of the course should be delivered eg

1. Chalk and talk,
2. Lecture
3. Guest Speaker
4. Activity

David was very grateful for the response both from the Scouts and the Leaders. He has taken all away and will begin the task of the Course Review.

6. Public Image/Fundraising

- More Fundraising
- Better Publicity
- Advertising kids/adults

Fundraising

1. State wide Phone Books distribution
2. Scout Festival / Fete / Carnival
3. Make Job Week healthy
4. Cadbury Chocolates 50,000 at cost and sell double.
5. National Scout BBQ for Harmony Day
6. State Raffle

All fundraising needs to have a **fundraising certificate** which is issued by the District Commissioner. You will need to know what the monies are being used for.

Improve Public Image

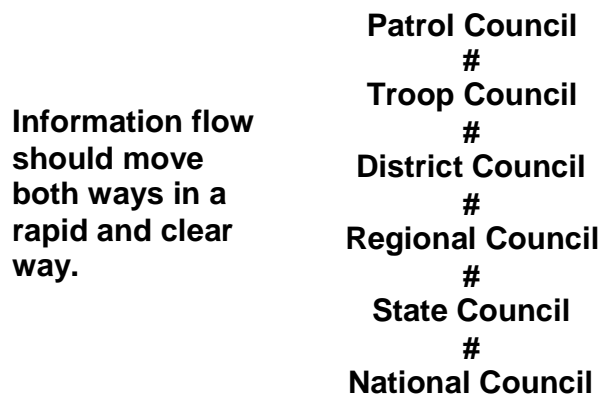
1. Newspapers / magazines
2. Radio Prime Time
3. True image of a scout troop – not all outdoor activities as being shown now
4. Promote what you can get out of being a Scout or a Leader, For example:
 - a. Leadership
 - b. Outdoor Activity Qualifications
 - c. Degree in Leadership
 - d. First Aid Qualifications

7. Youth Council and Better Communication

- Better communication between Scouts / Leaders / Higher & Lower Levels
- Hold more State Scout Councils.
- Hold more National Scout Councils

More State Scout Councils:

1. Select youth to go to Mindaris and learn how things are run.
2. Express the ideas from their Regional Councils
3. Information is not getting through to the scouts from higher levels
4. Tele conferencing a possibility.



The Patrol Leaders feel very strongly that the flow of communication and information up and down the above chart is not getting through from National to the Troops.

Patrol Leaders are able to rectify the problem in their own area. They **can** hold Patrol Council as well as Troop Council and to even encourage District or Regional Council.

One patrol leader per troop to District Council
One patrol leader per district to Regional Council
One- Two patrol leaders per region to State Council

Communication

1. Scout Chat Rooms
2. Email – Patrol – Leaders – Districts – Calendars
3. District / Region newsletter monthly by email to save money
4. Report back from Mindaris to the troop council

Briony Grainger, Josh Aird and Bradley Saywell to attend the NSW Youth Council 2008

8. Activity Log Book

- The need to keep individual accounts of activities you have done.
 - This log would be used as you progress through the sections.
 - Document to verify the hours on activities.
- Phil felt this recommendation needed to go to the State Activities Team.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO TAKE TO THE STATE MINDARI

1. ACTIVITY RECORD BOOK:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

A document (log book style) be developed for the personal record of outdoor activities.

- Documentation of personal participation in outdoor activities.
- This would be able to be used across all sections.
- Suitable for both youth and leaders.
- Rock, Water, Hike etc

2. STATE RALLY THEME 2008:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

The theme for 2008 State Scout Rally be **SPORTZMANIA**.

- A different sport theme for each RAC
- 1 RAC to be totally Scouting in Australia 100 years

3. STATE SCOUT COUNCIL:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

The State Scout Council meets more than once per year.

A concept to be developed for implementation: (B Grainger / J Aird to action).

4. NSW TRAVEL SHIRT:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

A NSW Scout Travel Shirt be implemented.

- The Shirt is to be comfortable but durable.
- Shows we belong to NSW
- More comfortable when travelling to activities
- Uniform stays clean
- Not wearing out of the uniform
- Still shows the scouting movement – not too formal
- Not to be worn at official functions
- Use for outdoor activities

5. WRIST BAND FOR RALLY:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

Wrist Bands be introduced at State Rally 2008 as a form of identification.

- Security Reasons
- Identification - just who is meant to be there.
- Visiting other RACs and be recognised
- They look cool
- Replace the hole punch on the lanyard so that the lanyards can have more space for info.

6. MARKETING – THE TRUE IMAGE OF SCOUTS:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

When advertising scouts, the need exists to focus on the *real* scout who is meeting each week but may only do big **OUTDOOR** activities each term. They need to be targeting youth as well as leaders.

Suggested places to advertise:

- TV
- Radio
- Bill boards
- Newspapers
- Buses Like The Year of The Scout 2008
- Bus stops
- Air ports
- Flyers
- Cinemas

7. 14 YEAR OLD CAMPS:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

The State Mindari organise a 14-year-old camp for scouts.

Out of this camp scouts will gain more friendships of similar age (as they move onto Venturers) across the State/Region. Gives Scouts a greater chance of networking.

8. UNIFORM:

The State Patrol Leaders Conference recommends that:

1. The White Patrol Leader Cords be brought back and made compulsory for easy identification of Patrol Leaders.
2. The pants be made the same colour and style across Australia for formal occasions for all of the sections.

9. SCOUT LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE:

The State Patrol Leader Conference recommends that:

The course be review and changed.

- Updated to include a basic course for all
- One course across NSW
- Be made more interesting.
- More visual
- More Physical
- No chalk and talk

10. SCOUT ADVANCED LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE:

The State Patrol Leader Conference recommends that:

The State Mindari develop an Advanced Leadership Training Course for advanced leadership skills not just based in Scouting but for all areas of life.

This would be very beneficial for Patrol Leaders for Jamborees.

Close of Conference:

The Facilitator thanked all present for their contribution over the weekend and closed the Conference.