



Boy Scout Roundtable Presentation

Webelos Transition



Three Areas of Focus and ONE THEME:

1. What is Webelos Transition and why does it exist?
2. What is the role of the Webelos Leader, Parents and Pack in the Webelos Transition Process?
3. What is the role of the troop / troop leaders is in the Webelos Transition Process?

THEME: Partner, Partner, Partner

What is Webelos Transition and why does it exist?

- It is a 30 month program / process to encourage and prepare Webelos scouts for the Boy Scout adventure.
- It begins right after a Cub Scout graduates from the rank of Bear to 1st Year Webelos (April / May timeframe) and continues for approximately 30 months ending about 6 months after becoming a Boy Scout & attending long-term camp.
- Why Does It Exist:
 - To recruit Cub Scouts into Boy Scouts – Webelos are the source of 90% of all new Boy Scouts. They are the lifeblood of the future of **your** troop.
 - It recognizes that Cub Scouts is different than Boy Scouts (see notes)
 - Boy Scouts focuses on Boy Leadership and Leadership Development, How?
 - By promoting and providing the ability to work in Self Governed Patrols
 - Working on advancement by working with Patrol leaders (boys) or leaders (adults)
 - Offering an Outdoor Program – Adventure Component
 - More / different adult association dynamics
 - Promoting personal growth & community service
 - Adjusting Responsibilities:
 - Cub Scouts is a family, and home-centered program that develops ethical decision-making skills.
 - Boy Scouting is designed to achieve the aims of Scouting through a vigorous outdoor program and peer group leadership with the counsel of an adult Scoutmaster.
 - Successful transition manifests itself through high Boy Scouts retention metrics

What is the role of the Webelos leaders, parents and Pack in the Webelos Transition Process?

- Help Webelos advance (Webelos Badge, Arrow of Light)
- Prepare for Webelos for Boy Scouts
- Take outdoor program training
- Schedule a Key Leaders Meeting by October inviting leaders from one or more troops.
- Attend as many troop open houses as possible.

What is the role of the troop / troop leaders is in the Webelos Transition Process?

- Designate an adult leader (ASM or other) to work with the incoming Webelos.
- Promote and encourage Webelos to attend the district transition events (Fall & Spring).
- Encourage the scheduling and participate in one or more Pack Key Leaders Meeting by October (the earlier the better).
- Hold at least one troop meeting open house for 2nd year Webelos and non-scouts (get them involved & don't preach to them).



Boy Scout Roundtable Presentation

Webelos Transition



- Encourage the Webelos leaders (for sure the enthusiastic ones) and parents to join the troop with the Webelos (acting as a Patrol Adviser, Assistant Scoutmaster or committee member).
- Actively participate in Pack activities / events (Outings, Pack Meeting, Blue & Gold, Graduation, AOL, and Crossover).
- Attend Pack Committee Meetings as regularly as possible.
- Provide Den Chiefs for the Pack (particularly for Webelos Dens). It is ideal if a Den Chief starts with a Tiger or Wolf Den and grows with it.
- Promote and encourage Webelos to attend the District transition events.
- Participate in District Webelos Transition Events (Fall Camporee / Spring District Crossover)
 - Troop should attend the Fall Camporee Event and host Webelos.
 - Troop should attend the Spring Crossover Event and teach incoming Scouts
 - Great marketing opportunity
- Once they join the Troop:
 - Promote spring and summer camping with the Troop for incoming Webelos (particularly long-term camp).
 - Assign a Troop Guide to work with the new scouts (pick a good one).
 - Establish a formal “First Year-To-First Class” program.
 - Make it a person goal to minimize attrition of new scouts (any scouts for that matter).
 - Remember...24 months goes into getting Webelos to crossover...don't drop the ball once they join.

RESOURCES:

Northern Lights District Web Site:

<http://northernlights.nsbsa.org/Advancement/WebelosTransition.htm>

- 30 Month Transition Program - highlights what should be occurring by the Webelos, Webelos Leaders and Boy Scout Leaders during the transition period.
- Webelos to Boy Scout Transition Hints - information for Webelos leaders
- Webelos Transition - Feb Graduation - information on the importance of graduating Webelos in February (vs. later).
- Webelos Transition Feature - information for leaders and parents relative to Webelos Transition
- Webelos Transition Guide for Parents and Leaders - flyer / guide for leaders and parents involved in Webelos Transition
- Troop Visit Questionnaire - Used for scouts and parents when visiting with Troops in determining the best Troop for them
- September 2007 Roundtable Boy Scout Breakout Session Handout – notes from a presentation done at the Boy Scout Breakout Session during the 2007 September Roundtable

National Council Web Site (Webelos Transition Specific Content):

<http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/18-086/>