




WEBELOS TO SCOUT TRANSITION

Program Launch 2019



Webelos to Scout Transition



- The transition from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA is often a point where youth leave Scouting
- Common Reasons for Leaving
 - *Tired of the Cub Scout Program after 5 years*
 - *More activities competing for time*
 - *Scouts are not asked to join a Scouts BSA unit*

Webelos to Scout Transition

- Webelos to Scout Transition IS:
 - *Everyone's responsibility: Webelos Leaders, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Commissioners, and Parents*
- Webelos to Scout Transition is NOT:
 - *Just a crossover ceremony for Webelos*
 - *Something that is done just in the spring of the 5th grade year*
- Packs and Troops need to work together with families to make sure that Scouts are:
 - *Aware of the process*
 - *Know local Scouting opportunities*
 - *Able to visit troops and find the troop that is the best fit for them*

Eligibility



- 5th grade and are at least 10 years old
- Arrow of Light Award and are at least 10 years old
- Age 11

3 Guides

Pack – Webelos to
Scout Transition Guide

Troop – Webelos to
Scout Transition Guide

Family – Webelos to
Scout Transition Guide

Responsibilities of the Troop



Troop Committee Chair appoints a Troop Membership Chair/Webelos to Scout Transition Chair/New Member Coordinator



Troop Membership Chair with the advice and agreement of the Scoutmaster selects Scouts to serve as den chiefs



Troop serves as resource for overnight activities

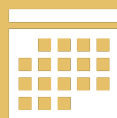


Troop hosts Webelos at a campout to get to know the troop



Troop Membership Chair arranges for Webelos to visit a troop meeting

Responsibilities of the Troop



Troop Membership Chair makes sure each Webelos Scout gets a copy of the troop's activities for the upcoming year



Troop Membership Chair works with the Cubmaster to plan a meaningful crossover ceremony

Responsibilities of the Pack

- Have a Pack Membership Chair or New Member Coordinator
- Develop working relationships with the leadership of local Scouts BSA troops
- Help coordinate activities and opportunities with local troops
- Work with Troop leadership to secure den chiefs
- Work with Troop leadership to plan visits to meetings
- Invite Troop leadership to special events
- Plan a meaningful crossover ceremony

Responsibilities of the Family

Find	Find the troop that is the best fit for your
Visit	Visit as many troops as you would like
Ask	Ask questions
Get	Get involved
Complete	Complete application process to transfer to new unit

Timeline

- June
 - *Arrow of Light Den Scouts receive Webelos to Scout Transition Guide for Scouts and Parents*

- August
 - *Get names and contact information of Arrow of Light Scouts*
 - *Plan a joint Webelos/Scouts BSA campout for October*
 - *Select a Den Chief for each Webelos Den*

Timeline

- September
 - *Mail a letter of introduction from troop to Webelos Scouts*
 - *Pack distributes:*
 - Questions to Ask When Visiting Troops
 - Webelos Troop Visit Checklist
 - Parent Troop Visit Checklist
 - *Invite Arrow of Light Den Scouts to the troop newsletter or mailing list*
 - *Continue planning joint camping trip*

Timeline

- October
 - *Conduct the joint camping trip with Arrow of Light Den*
 - *Webelos Leaders take Assistant Scoutmaster Training*
 - *Send invitations to Arrow of Light Den to visit troop*
 - *Discuss with leaders fundraising opportunities*
 - *Talk about Scouts BSA summer camp*
- November
 - *Attend an Arrow of Light Den meeting to teach Scouts how the troops work*
 - *Have Den Chiefs attend Den Chief training*

Timeline

- December
 - *Set a date for Arrow of Light Scouts and parents to visit a troop meeting if not already visited*
 - *Send a small holiday gift or card to each Arrow of Light Scout*

- January
 - *All Arrow of Light Scouts and parents attend a Scouts BSA troop meeting*
 - *Plan a crossover ceremony for the Blue and Gold Banquet*

Timeline

- February
 - *Hold the crossover ceremony*
 - *New Scouts are integrated in troop*
 - *New parents are integrated in troop*
 - *Conduct summer camp orientation*
- March
 - *Plan new Scout activity*
 - *Start preparing new Scouts for summer camp*
 - *Follow up with all the youth that did not crossover*

Timeline

- April
 - *Ensure all new Scouts are planning to attend summer camp*
 - *Ensure new Scouts are working on requirements for Scout and Tenderfoot*
 - *Attend a meeting of 1st year Webelos*
 - *Sponsor a troop activity for the new Scouts*

- May
 - *Work closely with new Scouts and parents during the transition to the troop*
 - *Work on rank advancement with new Scouts*

The Troop Visit

Webelos and their families are encouraged to visit as many troops as they would like

Troops are welcome to reach out to as many packs and dens as they would like

The Troop Visit – Things to look for

Fun	Program
Adult Leadership	Youth Leadership
Scout-Run Troop	Patrol Method
Meetings	Uniform
District & Council Involvement	Recruiting



RESOURCES FOR
FAMILIES AND FOR
UNITS

Questions To Ask When Visiting Troops

Webelos should ask:

1. Is the Troop active? Do they do things I would enjoy?
2. What size is the Troop? What size of Troop would I like?
3. Are there other boys/girls my age in the Troop?
4. Does the Troop go to a summer camp? Which one(s)? Is it important to me where they go?
5. Should I / could I go to summer camp?
6. Does the Troop participate in any Honor Camper programs (i.e. Order of the Arrow)? Do they matter?
7. How often does this Troop do outdoor activities (i.e. camping)?
8. Will I have a say in decision making?
9. Does the Troop have advanced programs for older Scouts?
10. How often does the Troop meet?
11. Do I have a good chance of advancing to Eagle with this Troop?
12. Will I have fun?

Parents should ask [Troops should tell parents if they don't ask]:

1. What values/skills will my son/daughter learn?
2. What are the other adult leaders like?
3. Can I participate in leadership if I desire?
4. Is this a Scout run Troop? Is that important?
5. Where, when, and how often does the Troop meet? Is it convenient for transporting my son/daughter?
6. What is the age ratio of the Scouts? Do the older Scouts help the younger Scouts?
7. How much will it cost? Camping? Summer camp? Fundraisers?
8. How often does the Troop camp? Do I have to camp with them?
9. Does the Troop go to a summer camp? Which one(s)? Is it important to me where they go?
10. Does the Troop participate in the Order of the Arrow?
11. Is the Troop active? Do they do activities my son/daughter would enjoy?
12. Will my son/daughter be encouraged/able to advance to Eagle in this Troop?
13. Can moms/dads participate? Go camping? Go to summer camp?
14. Can this Troop provide a quality Scouting experience for my son/daughter and his/her friends?
15. What is expected of the parents and family by the Troop?
16. Will we have fun?



Webelos Troop Visit Checklist



Information about the Troop

Troop Number: _____ Date of Visit: _____
Meeting Place: _____ Time: _____
Scoutmaster's Name: _____
Senior Patrol Leader's Name: _____

My Evaluation of this Troop:

Are all the Scouts in uniform?	Yes	No
Was the meeting organized?	Yes	No
Is the meeting run by the Scouts?	Yes	No
Do they have Scouts of all ages?	Yes	No
Did I feel welcome?	Yes	No
Did their campouts sound like fun?	Yes	No
Do they have a calendar?	Yes	No
Do I already know Scouts in the troop?	Yes	No
Are there plenty of adult leaders involved?	Yes	No
Were the older Scouts helpful?	Yes	No
Did they answer my questions?	Yes	No
Do they have a program for new Scouts?	Yes	No

Notes:

Things I liked about this troop are:

Parent Troop Visit Checklist

Troop Number: _____ Date of Visit: _____ Quality Unit: Yes No
Sponsored by: _____ How Long: _____
Scoutmaster's Name: _____
Meeting Place: _____ Time: _____

Meeting Run by: Youth Adults Mixed
Was the meeting organized? Yes No
Does the troop produce a calendar of events: Yes No

Does the program schedule:
____ change yearly
____ remain similar with different summer camps
____ remain similar from year to year

What special events does the troop participate in? (i.e. Scouting for Food, Camporees)

Leadership Corp:

Does the troop have an active Scout leadership corps? Yes No
How often do they meet? _____
How many Scouts in the leadership corps? _____
How is the boy leadership decided? Elected by boys Appointed by adults
Other: _____
How often does the troop hold elections? _____

Unit Visits Program Plans & Ideas

Program ideas for when the Arrow of Light Den visits a Troop meeting.

Activity	Description	Run By	Time
Pre-Opening 10 Minutes	Hand out copies of your troop's annual program plan, introduce <u>Webelos</u> to troop members, exchange e-mail addresses, highlight past troop activities.	Senior Patrol Leader, Den Chief	6:55-7:05
Opening 5 Minutes	Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath, Scout Law	Senior Patrol Leader	7:05-7:10
Skills Instruction 25 Minutes	Skills instruction round-robin. 1. Let the boys try lighting a cotton ball on fire using a hot spark kit. 2. Allow the boys to set up a tent. 3. Have boys build a stretcher and have a stretcher relay by first putting a splint on the —victim's leg.	Select Boys within the Troop	7:10-7:35

**Program ideas for joint Arrow of Light Den/Troop Campout.
(Athletics Theme in troop program features)**

Time	Activity	Run By
Friday evening	Load gear at meeting location, leave for campsite. Plan only light meal <u>en route</u> . (Make sure <u>Webleos</u> and parents have enough gear).	Senior Patrol Leader
	Arrive at campsite, unload equipment, set up patrol sites. Stow gear and set up camp. (Have Troop Guide and Assistant Scoutmaster help <u>Webleos</u> and their parents set up their patrol site.)	Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader
Saturday 6:30 a.m.	Cooks and assistants arise and prepare breakfast. (Cooks should be working on <u>First and Second Class</u> requirements). The older boy patrol also makes breakfast for <u>Webleos</u> and their parents.	Cooks & assistants

**Sample Letter of Introduction from Scouts BSA Troop to Arrow of Light Den
(to be mailed in September)**

(Name)

(Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(Date)

Dear _____:

My name is _____ and I am the Senior Patrol Leader for Troop _____.
Soon you will cross-over the Cub Scout program into the Boy Scout program. This is an
exciting time, many fun adventures are ahead.

As a troop we go camping once per month. This year we are planning to *(use this
paragraph to briefly describe your annual program plan. Tell the Webelos what you are doing:
canoeing, climbing and rappelling, backpacking, fishing, etc.)*

**Sample Letter of Introduction from Scouts BSA Troop to Arrow of Light Den Parents
(to be mailed in September)**

(Name)

(Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(Date)

Dear _____:

My name is _____ and I am the Scoutmaster for Troop _____. In February, your son/daughter will be able to crossover into our troop. Much fun and adventure awaits him/her after he crosses the bridge into our troop.

You should encourage your son/daughter to continue his/her Scouting journey for the following reasons:

1. Scouting Builds Character - A Scout is —Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.