



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).



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- 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/>



Webelos Transition



An important but often-overlooked part of scouting is the flow of scouts between a pack and a troop. Many scouters have watched Webelos walk across the bridge as they symbolize their passage from cub to boy scouting. But the amount of planning, training and work that prepares a cub scout for the crossover is sometimes taken for granted.

The scouting program is, at its best, a seamless progression from youth to adulthood. A large part of its

success depends on how well the cub and boy scouting programs work together.

Webelos transition is about *how* a den of Webelos scouts crosses that bridge—whether their steps are uncertain and doubtful or enthusiastic and proud. It is also about whether the crossover is viewed by the Webelos (and their parents!) as an end or a beginning.

Webelos I and Webelos II: What's the difference?

Unlike the Bobcat, Wolf and Bear patches, the Webelos patch is worn for two consecutive years. Although "Webelos I" and "Webelos II" are similar in name, the programs are different—they must be different, because scouts would lose interest if they did similar things two years in a row. So what's the difference?

Webelos I:

The **GOALS** of the first Webelos year are:

--to *earn the Webelos badge.*

--to *learn the basics of boy scouting (scout oath, law, sign, etc.)*

The highlight of the first Webelos year is often an outing with the troop, most likely in the Spring. This gives Webelos a taste of the outdoors and scouting, and something to think about over the summer.

Webelos II:

The **GOALS** of the second Webelos year are:

--to *earn the arrow of light.*

--to *move into the troop (this is the main goal!)*

During this year, the Webelos program draws closer to the scouting program. The den should do more outdoor activities with the troop (at least two), attend troop meetings (more than one meeting and more than one troop!), and practice doing things as a patrol, without adult help (setting up tents, cooking, fire building).

Tips for Troops

- If you have a fall or winter fundraiser, invite Webelos to participate in it. Let them earn money for their scout accounts so they'll have funds waiting for them when they cross over.
- When you invite the Webelos to camp with you, make them responsible for part of a meal. Pick some dish, have the ingredients and instructions ready, and let the Webelos know their task is to prepare the food.
- Have a Webelos II den attend a few meetings with the troop (this is different from having them over to observe a troop meeting). The Webelos should be part of the meeting opening, then move to another room for their den meeting and return later for the troop game and closing.
- **Immediately** after planning your yearly calendar, give a copy of it to Webelos den leaders or the Cubmaster. Packs plan their activities months ahead of time. If they know when your outings are, they'll plan accordingly.
- Service projects and courts of honor (especially Eagle courts of honor) are great opportunities to invite Webelos—partly because including the Webelos requires little extra planning.

What Dens Need

Names & Numbers

You can get the names, numbers and meeting places for troops in your area. Stop by or call the council office (or call your unit commissioner!)

Den Chiefs

Want help at den meetings? Need some scouts to teach by example? Any troop in your area should be able to supply you with a den chief (or two).

The key to a successful den chief program is letting the Den Chiefs know ahead of time what you want them to teach. Scouts know a great deal about camping, and you'll be amazed at what they can present, given time to prepare.

Campouts

Nothing gets Webelos more enthusiastic about scouts than spending time in the woods. On any given month, you should be able to find a troop willing to let your den accompany them for a day.



Webelos Transition



Games Parents Play: (Cub Scouts vs. Boy Scouts)

Many cub scouts parents have some idea of how boy scouting works. After all, they've been doing cub scouts for a while, and it can't be too much different, right?

Well, mostly right. At heart, boy scouts and cub scouts are both games. The goal is to have fun, and possibly learn something. But the games have different rules.

In the Cub Scout game, parents and boys play together as a team. It's an easy game—nearly impossible to have a losing season. The game doesn't involve much competition. There are lots of pins and patches and ribbons and trophies, to display on a bookshelf or up on the wall.

But in the Boy Scout game, the boys form their own team. Parents aren't on the team—they watch from the sidelines. The game is much harder, pitting scouts against nature. It is possible to lose—not preparing for the outdoors or failing to work as a team carries real consequences (being wet or hungry, for instance).

And the rewards (of course) are greater. Many of them are harder to capture, outside of memory. How do you frame the silence of a lake at daybreak? Or the contrast between the icy wind outside and the snug interior of a snow cave? Or the tiredness of the arms after shoveling and digging all day to create those foot-thick walls of snow?

Boy Scouts is a different game for scouts, and a different game for parents. Here are some differences in how Cub Scout parents and Boy Scout parents play the game:

A pack leader needs to be outgoing and have the skills of an entertainer.

A troop adult needs to appear introverted and a little bit lazy.

A pack leader usually leads boys in songs, skits, and cheers.

That's the SPL's responsibility in the troop, with the adults quietly looking on.

A pack leader sets rules and enforces behavior.

In a troop, the scouts do that. Adults teach and guide the scouts on their performance—but behind the scenes, not during the action.

A pack leader is responsible for managing the troop program.

Troop adults let the scouts run their own program.

A pack leader gives badges to honor scouts.

Adults in the troop give responsibility, so scouts can find their honor.

A pack leader leads the boys on a hike so they have a wonderful experience.

Adults in the troop follow the scouts, to let them find the wonder in their experience.

Scouts and Sports

Sports, sports & more sports. The subject comes up right away when parents are asked about plans for moving from cub scouts to boy scouts. The popular view seems to be that scouts and sports is a one-or-the-other type of deal.

This feeling is easy to understand. After all, both cost time and money. Both have (somewhat) similar goals—practicing teamwork and having fun while growing in ability.

But it's mistaken. Scouts and sports are not mutually exclusive, and they never will be, for two reasons:

1. Scouts is no substitute for sports.

Scouts are always involved in athletics. Nearly every scout is absent for part of the year, during the play season. This is normal in any troop. Likewise, parents tend to help less with troop activities when they are busy (for instance) driving to and from hockey games. Again, this is expected. Different sports are played at different times of the year, and a good troop distributes responsibility across its membership to accommodate.

2. Sports is no substitute for scouts.

Despite things in common, athletics and scouts are not the same. Some sports, like wrestling, focus on the individual, and others are team-based. Scouting is a mixture—while there is much individual recognition and achievement, scouts do almost everything in groups.

More importantly, boy scouting is boy-run. In a sport, management decisions are made by an adult coach. In a troop, the scouts elect leaders from their own ranks to make these decisions.

*Finally, competition is the overwhelming priority in athletic programs. Teams usually have strict rules about attendance ("No practice, no play"). Scouting, on the other hand, is designed to fit a boy's changing interests, and a family's busy schedule. Miss a meeting? You can still come camping. Scouting's standards are based on principle--what someone **is**, rather than what he **does**.*

Besides sports, there are hundreds of things that boys and parents are involved in. The scouting program is designed to exist alongside the other activities of growing up. To the question of "sports or scouts?" The answer should be "yes!"

"I always hate to hear someone say their son will not continue on to Boy Scouts. I usually ask them if their son will go on to college after High School. Almost all will say "sure". I ask why they would put their son through years of preparation for being a Boy Scout and then let him walk away from that next level of education. At least it makes them think!"

--A Unit Commissioner



WEBELOS TO BOY SCOUT TRANSITION

FEBRUARY GRADUATION OF SECOND YEAR WEBELOS

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The Rationale and Plan

There are pros and cons to earlier graduation of Webelos into Boy Scouts. However, the central issue is: are we graduating and retaining as many boys as possible into Boy Scouting?

The information in the rationale section below provides a powerful case for February graduation and getting those new Scouts to summer camp their first year. We can only change their lives if we *get them in and keep them in*.

The Rationale

- Seventy to eighty percent (70-80%) of all new Boy Scouts were Webelos first. Therefore, Webelos transition is of critical importance.
- Boy Scouts who attend summer camp are retained in the program much better (300% better) than Scouts who do not attend camp. Therefore, getting them to camp is critical.
- Many (50%) new Boy Scouts drop out during the first year. There is no second chance to get them to camp, and get them committed to the program. Therefore, getting them to summer camp the first summer, immediately after transition, is *absolutely critical*.
- May is “quitting time”. School and school-related activities end. People take a break from programs and commitments to which they are not fully committed. Cub Scouting and Boy Scouts are not one program in most parents’ minds. They are graduating out of one program and “scanning the horizon” for something fun for the summer. If they are not yet comfortable with the troop, leaders, and troop program, it is easy to not join this new and unfamiliar program with new, unfamiliar leaders.
- The patrol method is the number one satisfier that retains Boy Scouts.
- The National *Two-Year Webelos Plan* calls for the boy to get his Arrow of Light in January of his second year.

The Plan

- Scoutmasters and Webelos Leaders meet in November to get acquainted, share the Webelos roster, plan transition, review camp plans and fee schedule, and get a date for Webelos parents’ camp promotion meeting.
- Second year Webelos Dens choose a patrol name, make a flag, wear patrol medallions and elect a patrol leader. This will further ease the transition into the Troop and its patrol method.
- Webelos graduate into Troop in *February*, at the Blue and Gold Banquet, *as a group*, with or without their Arrow of Light. The critically important issue here is that the den friends *stay together* and become a patrol. In this case, peer pressure within the den works for transition. This will also increase Cub Scout parent awareness of Boy Scouting, since this is always a well-attended meeting. The second year Webelos leader’s job description includes acting as an assistant Scoutmaster (patrol advisor) March – June for the new patrol.
- Troop and Webelos leaders make every effort to get every Webelos recruited into the Troop and signed up for camp.

What This Achieves

- This plan assists increased transition and increased camp attendance, both of which should increase long-term Boy Scout membership and impact more boys’ lives.



WEBELOS TO BOY SCOUT TRANSITION

FEBRUARY GRADUATION OF SECOND YEAR WEBELOS

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- The emphasis at February graduation is: This is the same program with the same, familiar leaders but now with a new program emphasis . . . Boy Scouting outdoor fun and adventure and preparing for camp.
- Hopefully Webelos leaders will enjoy the Troop and become active adult leaders, helping to retain “their” boys.
- February graduation gives new Scouts and parents more time to “plug in” to camp promotion program and fee schedules.
- February graduation gives Scoutmasters time to get to know boys and parents, and train boys for camp. (Some are reluctant to take new, April-graduated Scouts to camp.)
- February graduation gives parents time to get to know troop leaders before they send their son, who perhaps has never been away from home before, to camp. Obviously, parents are more willing to encourage their son to go with a “safe” leader whom they know, as opposed to a stranger they have just met.
- February graduation gives the Scout more time to get to know and be comfortable with older Scouts, so the boy is more willing and excited to go to camp, and better prepared to have a good first experience.
- February graduation of the whole Den keeps boys together with friends. This is probably the single most important point for the new Scouts. It also focuses units, districts and councils on Webelos transitions as a major event, like Scout Night.
- February graduation “fits” with the two-year plan of Webelos receiving their Arrow of Light in *January*.
- Webelos Dens ready to graduate in February could elect to start their own, new troop, with leader and parent support, if a satisfactory troop is not available. If they do, they have time to get ready for camp, and have their leaders trained.
- The *overall emphasis* is that second-year Webelos begin their second year in April. The next February they become Scouts, and in May, they are oriented Boy Scouts, familiar with troop and leaders, and sign up for camp. This should happen as a smooth flowing, continuous plan.
- As much attention at regional, council, district and unit levels should be given to Webelos transition as is given to School Night. Webelos are our best prospects for new Boy Scouts.
- This emphasis does not decrease the continuing emphasis on starting new troops or recruiting non-Webelos new members. It does address improving the transition, recruitment and retention for our *best prospects*.



Webelos to Boy Scouts Transition Hints



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1. Attend Webelos Den Leader training before you start your program.
2. In the spring while your scouts are Bears, talk to the current Webelos leaders for ideas, suggestions, and advice.
3. Start your program in May or June for fourth grade Webelos to get all of them to Arrow of Light and have opportunities to try every activity badge.
4. Plan ahead - make a schedule for the next 20 months, which activity badge for each month.
5. Remember the 5th grade program ends in February - they transition to Boy Scouts in March.
6. Share the load - have a sign-up sheet so every parent can lead one or two activity badges.
7. Have a Parent Meeting at the start of the program to explain differences between Cub Scouts, Webelos, and Boy Scouts and what you expect of them.
8. From the very start of the program, expect the boys to become Boy Scouts. Never say 'if', always say 'when' and keep them looking forward to being in a troop.
9. Plan outdoor badges like Naturalist and Outdoorsman to fall in prime outside seasons. Artist, Family Member, .. can be done more easily indoors.
10. It is important that boys experience camping before joining Boy Scouts.
11. Start early to get boys ready for camping. Have backyard campouts.
12. A parent must be with a Webelos scout on all campouts, but the scouts can do all the work.
13. Keep the program going during the summer between 4th and 5th grade.
14. Fun summer activities like backyard campouts or campfires, hikes, swimming will give scouts a good taste of what to expect in Boy Scouts.
15. Encourage scouts to attend Webelos Camp before 4th and 5th grades.
16. Help scouts create duty rosters and menus for campouts. Healthy meals during Boy Scout camping are one of the bigger challenges so making the habits now is good.
17. Plan a service project for school, church, or community each summer.
18. Start presenting the requirements for 'joining Boy Scouts' early in the program and continually until they finish.
19. Keep your program outdoors as much as possible - a little rain or snow won't kill you.
20. Employ experts to present skills for more excitement and value, for example a retired Forest Ranger for Forester or Paramedic for Readyman.
21. Using a trained Den Chief from a local troop gives the scouts great exposure to what a Boy Scout is - get one!
22. Attend the Roundtable meetings to pick up information and ideas from others.
23. Meet the Scoutmasters of local troops. Arrange some visits for your scouts to see the Boy Scouts in action.
24. Work together on requirements to earn the Webelos badge. Try to have all scouts earn it and receive it at one pack ceremony.
25. After reaching the Webelos badge, transition to individual progress. Each scout is responsible for completing a badge, not all together as a den.
26. Make the scouts more and more responsible for the program, from leading games, to leading entire



Webelos to Boy Scouts Transition Hints



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meetings, to planning the upcoming month's outings. As Boy Scouts, they will plan and execute their entire program.

27. Become a Patrol rather than a Den once everyone earns their Webelos badge. This is a good time to transfer to tan uniforms. The patrol also chooses a patrol name, emblem patch, patrol yell, and makes a patrol flag. These are all things they'll do in Boy Scouts too.
28. Proper insignia placement on the tan uniform is important - it will carry over to Boy Scouts.
29. Present EVERY activity badge. Get another adult to lead those that require different skills than what you have.
30. Offer a hike at least every other month.
31. Teach how to safely camp, and have the scouts CAMP often. Healthy, tasty, hot food is critical to success in scouting.
32. Teach how to safely cook, and have the scouts COOK often. Healthy, tasty, hot food is critical to success in scouting.
33. Teach how to safely use knives, and have the scouts USE them often. Every scout should have his Whittling Chip card.
34. Teach how to safely build fires, and have the scouts BUILD them often. A scout should build all campfires and you should have many fire-building contests.
35. Encourage inactive parents to participate. A successful scout needs the support of his parents.
36. Buy a Boy Scout Handbook for your reference, and to make your Webelos drool.
37. Ask a Boy Scout troop representative (scout and adult) to come to your den and tell you all about Boy Scouts.
38. Understand, believe in, and always use the Guide to Safe Scouting - always.
39. Work with your Cubmaster to ensure a good AOL ceremony with Order of the Arrow participants.
40. Know which troops your scouts are going to so the Scoutmaster can be at the ceremony.

30-MONTH TRANSITION PROCESS

Pack and Troop Leaders Action Steps and Timeline

Division of Responsibilities			
Date	Webelos (First and Second Year Webelos)	Webelos Den Leader	Scout Master/Assistant SM
April-May	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bears graduate to first year Webelos 2. Attend Webelos Overnight Adventure. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Webelos leader training 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participate in Pack graduation ceremony
June-August	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend 1st Year Webelos Camp. 2. Attend Day Camp. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend 1st Year Webelos Camp. 2. Ask for Den Chief from Troop. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select Den Chief(s) for Pack
September-April	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work on activity badges in den meetings. 2. Attend Webelos Experience if available. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage Webelos to work on activity badges. 2. Attend Webelos Experience, if available. 3. Attend University of Scouting 	
April- May	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Become 2nd Year Webelos. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Webelos leader training, if needed. 	
June-August	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend 2nd Year Webelos Camp. 2. Attend Day Camp. 3. Attend Fun With Son Camp. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend 2nd Year Webelos Camp. 2. Make arrangements to attend Fall Camporee. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote and attend the Fall Camporee. 2. Prepare compelling presentation for Webelos at Fall Camporee.
September-January	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Fall Camporee to visit Troops. 2. Attend Troop open houses with parent. 3. Attend one or more troop meeting per month. 4. Finish Arrow of Light requirements. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote Fall Camporee. 2. Attend one Troop meeting per month. 3. Attend University of Scouting. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Fall Camporee (host new Webelos). 2. Hold Troop open house for Webelos and non-Scouts. 3. Promote Summer Camp at Many Point or other planned camp. 4. Designate ASM to work with the Webelos
January-April	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend an outing with the Troop (could be earlier). 2. Complete Boy Scout application. 3. Participate in the Pack cross-over ceremony. 4. Participate in the District Crossover Ceremony. 5. Join a Boy Scout Troop and become a Scout 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete Adult Leader application for the Troop. 2. Participate in the cross-over ceremony with the Webelos. 3. Participate in the District Crossover Ceremony. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participate in the cross-over ceremony, Arrow of Light ceremony. 2. Participate in the District Crossover Ceremony. 3. Assign a troop guide to work with new Scouts. 4. Welcome new Scouts into the Troop
April-August	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Troop outings. 2. Attend Boy Scout Long-term Camp. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Troop outings as SM or MC. 2. Attend Boy Scout Long-term Camp. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow-up with untransitioned Webelos. 2. Provide first-year-to-first-class program.
<u>Webelos to Scout Transition – Primary Leader Responsibilities</u>		<u>Assistant Scoutmaster/Troop Webelos Coordinator Responsibilities:</u>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Fifth Grade Webelos Leader/ Pack Responsibilities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your goal is the successful transition of all 5th grade Webelos in your pack into a Boy Scout troop. Arrange for Webelos to visit troops to determine the best fit for them. Encourage all Webelos to seek out the troop that best fits their interests. Provide an information session on the Boy Scout program for all Webelos leaders, parents of Webelos, and other leaders moving on to the troop. Webelos Leaders are the most influential leader throughout the Webelos transition process. Pack leadership to schedule a key leaders meeting by October with one or troops. Pack leadership to invite Scoutmaster and troop youth leaders to speak at special pack activities. Webelos leaders work with troop leaders to secure den chiefs for each Webelos den. Continued communication with the troop leadership is essential. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webelos are the source of 90% of all new Boy Scouts. They are the lifeblood of the future of your troop. Schedule a key leaders meeting by October with one or more Packs. Arrange for Webelos dens to visit a troop meeting. Assign a Boy Scout who will be a good example of Scouting to be the Webelos Den Chief. Attend pack and/or pack committee meeting as often as possible during the year to keep the lines of communication open plus become acquainted with the Webelos and their parents. Encourage the most enthusiastic Webelos leaders and parents to join the troop with the Webelos as a Patrol Adviser, Assistant Scoutmaster or committee member. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unit Commissioner Responsibilities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is an important part of the Unit Commissioner responsibilities to assist the Webelos leaders and troop leaders through the entire transition process and ensure that the action steps are followed as scheduled. Promote communication by scheduling a meeting of key volunteers. Be sure new Scouts have completed Boy Scout application, that they have a copy of the troop's activities, and that they know when and where the troop meets. 	



WEBELOS TRANSITION

Troop Visit Questionnaire – For Webelos & Their Parents

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ADULT 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 have an active boy leadership corps: YES _____ NO _____

How often do they meet: _____ How many boys in the leadership corps: _____

How is the boy leadership decided: Elected by the boys _____ Appointed by the adults _____

How often does the troop hold elections: _____

Does the troop produce a calendar of events: _____

How often does the troop camp: _____

What type of camping does the troop do? (check all that apply)

- _____ Summer Camp _____ In Council _____ Out of Council
- _____ Winter Camp
- _____ Camporees
- _____ High Adventure
- _____ Backpacking
- _____ Canoeing
- _____ Alternate _____ Frequency _____ Where: _____

Do all the boys get to go on all of the outings: _____

Are there any age or rank requirements: _____

Does the program schedule change from year to year or are the events the same: _____

Do campouts have a theme, merit badge or rank requirement focus: _____

What type of special events does the troop participate in (i.e. Scouting for Food, Scout Show, etc.): _____

What re the uniform requirements of the troop: _____

How many uniforms will each boy need: _____

Were the Scouts in uniform: YES _____ NO _____

Were the adults in uniform: YES _____ NO _____

Are there any additional costs to join the troop: _____

Other Notes: _____



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Troop Visit Questionnaire – For Webelos & Their Parents

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GENERAL QUESTIONS TO ASK AT TROOP VISITS

1. How often has your troop achieve Quality Unit status in the last 5 years?
2. How are new scouts handled? Are they mixed in with existing patrols or put into a new patrol?
3. How many registered leaders are there? What is their attendance history at regular meetings and on outings?
4. What is the boy-to-adult leader ratio at meetings and on outings?
5. Do you have an active outdoor program? How many days / year are spent camping? Where? What are the plans for summer camp?
6. What is your philosophy on uniforms?
7. How are new Scouts going to learn what to do as Boy Scouts (camping skills, patrol activities, advancement, etc.)? Will they have an experienced adult leader working with them?
8. What is a typical Troop meeting like? Do you work on merit badges? Do you play a lot of games?
9. What is your philosophy regarding advancement (at what pace are the ranks earned)?
10. What kind of program do you have for older Scouts? Are there any High Adventure activities?
11. What kind of fundraising do you have?
12. What are the financial obligations for each Scout?
 - a. At sign-up
 - b. Per campout
 - c. Summer camp
 - d. Dues
 - e. Other
13. Do you pay for or subsidize training for the boys (Junior Leader Training, Den Chief Training, Gray Wolf, etc.)?
14. Does your Troop have a limitation on size?
15. Do you have written policies? Are they followed?
16. Is your Troop “Boy Run” or “Adult Run”? What is your philosophy about this?
17. Are Troop meetings and activities planned...
 - a. By the boys?
 - b. For a full year?
 - c. At a Patrol Leaders’ Council?
18. What kind of equipment do you have? Is it in good shape? Do you have enough (quantity) if Webelos were to join your Troop?
19. Are your Scouts able to balance Boy Scouts with other activities such as sports, band, church, etc.?
20. How active is your Troop at District and Council events?
21. Does the Troop have a good reputation in the community, District and Council?
22. How many current leaders are trained in...
 - a. Youth Protection?
 - b. Leader Specific (i.e. Scoutmaster Fundamentals, Committee, etc.)?
 - c. Wood Badge?
23. What are the expectations/requirements of new adults/parents to this Troop – as assistant leaders, committee members, special event chairpersons, event workers, merit badge counselors?
24. Does the Troop pay for any/all adult leader registration and training?
25. How many leaders routinely attend District Roundtable Meetings?
26. How often do you feel about a Scout (and parent) visiting a meeting unannounced?