

Speaking Scout

(Steve Christensen & Ellen Henstrom)

I. Introduction – why we need to learn to speak scout

II. The Cub Scout Advancement Trail

Much of the complication in Cub Scouting and Scouting is understanding the advancement system. Most Cub Scouting awards are not required or “core” to the boys’ advancement. Rather, most awards are geared to acknowledge achievements and participation in activities.

III. Resource Materials/Manuals

We will discuss the following resource materials available to leaders

- A. Faith in God booklet
- B. LDS Scouting Handbook
- C. Wolf/Bear/Webelos Handbook
- D. Cub Scout Leader Book
- E. Webelos Leader Book
- F. Academic and Sports Program
- G. Ceremonies
- H. Scout Handbook
- I. Scout Leaders Guide
- J. External Resources (Note: Manuals often do not “Teach the Teacher”)

IV. Differences between LDS Scouting and Community Scouting

We will cover the principal differences between LDS Scouting Units and Community Units (8-11 year olds)

1. Sundays/Monday evenings activities prohibited
2. Finances (no dues, limited fund raising)
3. Age-based den advancements
4. No overnight camping prior to age 11, Max 3 one-nighters thereafter
5. Adult Leadership (called by Bishopric)
6. Youth Leadership (LDS Patrol leaders are nominated by Bishop)
7. No co-eds registered, no overnights with mixed groups of men and women (other than family camps)

V. Training

The importance of training cannot be emphasized enough. General Young

Men’s President Dahlquist said *“And the reason why Scouting training is vital is that, by and large, we do a very poor job in training the leaders we call to Aaronic Priesthood/Young Men callings—and yet expect them to work miracles in the lives of their young men.”*

One of the great blessings of our [association] with Scouting is the marvelous training that is provided. The call is for every leader (including stake presidency members working with youth, high councilors, stake Young Men presidents, bishoprics, ward Young Men leaders, and Scouting leaders) to be trained.

If we are really intent in touching the lives of our young men—in building, as Elder Ballard has challenged, ‘the greatest generation of missionaries this world has ever seen’—then we will do whatever is necessary to help us to accomplish that, including getting trained.”

We will cover the different trainings offered:

1. Fast Start
2. Youth Protection
3. Basic Leader Training
4. Position Specific Training
5. Other