



# Youth Leadership

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## Why Youth Leadership?

*Children have the right to say what they think should happen when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account.*

*Article 12 The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.*

Within Scouting, Youth Leadership is of paramount importance to ensuring that the Aim of Scouting is reached as it fosters responsible adults as a result. It is seen as an alliance between Young People and Adults where enshrined in the Scout Method:

*Voluntary membership of a group which, guided by adults, is increasingly self-governing in its successive age groups.*

With this in mind, Youth Leadership is a progressive process where young people are taught to take ownership of their right to be heard by seizing the responsibility of having their say. Throughout the Scout programme, in all sections, opportunities for young people to take on the responsibility of leadership are provided and encouraged by Scouters.

## How Youth Leadership?

Section	Individual	Team	Group	Programme
Beaver Scouts	The focus is working with others and doing jobs with someone else	Lodge corner discussions lead by Scouter and using games. Fluid groups that rotate a leader	Large group activities	Given choices on activities and used to brain storm ideas for adult to plan programme
Cub Scouts	Take on responsibilities and small jobs. Individuals picked to be sixers	Most programme done in sixes with a sixer to help control. Sixer Council meeting quarterly	Group activities but subdivided into their sixes. Teams used as much as possible	Sixes give feedback and choices to sixer with Adult supervision. Sixer Council used to brainstorm ideas
Scouts	Scouts take on bigger roles and jobs. Every scout should have a job to show their level of responsibility	Teams are the main focus of the group with teams doing their own programmes with some adult supervision	Only in large group when teams come together to do activity. Court of Honour the conduit for group communication	Teams run programme that they want. Court of honour there to keep the standard of the programme high
Venture Scouts	An individual's interests brought to the fore and shared with others.	Teams formed to follow a special interest with all the main decisions being made by the team	General standards set in the Group that direct the teams.	All decisions on programme set by teams. Programme only facilitated by adults. Programme should be getting more external.
Rover Scouts	All members at same level of responsibility	Small groups decide all matters with major decisions approved by Group Council	Very little if any large groups	Programme geared at interests of individuals while working with others. Community focus to programme

### Beaver Scouts

Beaver scouts should be given a say into what is happening in the programme. This should be done through lodge discussions/review games and at Beaver Scout lodge gathering when compiling programme ideas.

Individual Beaver Scouts should be given responsibility to do minor jobs in order to build on their ability to lead in such jobs - such as set up and clean up for example. Lodges are formed with no permanent leader of it. Every member should be given the chance of leading.

Each Beaver Scout should have a job to do within the lodge that they are responsible for (e.g. notice board, minding equipment etc.)

Lodge Chats should be lead by an adult but opinions of Beaver Scouts are listened to.

Scouters should seek and explore opportunities to 'layer on' responsibilities on Beavers as they progress in the section.

### Cub Scouts

Cub scouts are given more responsibility and bigger role in the running of programme.

Teamwork should have a bigger focus with a monitored leadership of the team.

In the teams every member should have a job to do no matter how big or small the job is. Large Group discussions should be periodical to chat about bigger issues or topics.

Scouters should seek and explore opportunities to 'layer on' responsibilities on Cub Scouts as they progress in the section.

### Scouts

The team should be coming to the fore here with more and more being done in smaller groups and even separate programme where the team decides.

The members feed into the Patrol with their ideas and comments and the Patrol/Watch leader bringing all of these to the Court of Honour.

The Court of Honour should direct the group and help maintain a high standard in Programme. Group work done in teams and general topics dealt with at this level.

Scouters should seek and explore opportunities to 'layer on' responsibilities on Scouts as they progress in the section.

### Venture Scouts

The members should be directed by the decisions of the team.

The members should have full say in relation to programme with adult involvement only when welfare or safety a concern.

The Groups should be a collection of the teams.

Scouters should seek and explore opportunities to 'layer on' responsibilities on Venture scouts as they progress in the section.

### Rover Scouts

The members should be acting as equal members in a team that makes collective decisions.

All decisions relating to the Rover scouts should be made by the Rover scouts except where it contradicts Group or Association Policy or Principles.

### Youth Fora

Youth Fora should be run in every section within the Group. County Youth Fora should be run for all sections except Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts. National Youth Fora should be run for Scouts, Venture Scouts and Rover Scouts. Group and County Fora should be run at regular intervals.

Youth Fora should be properly facilitated with an environment of trust and respect generated to allow all members to express their opinions openly.