

Nicomekl Area Scouters' Club
November 16, 2017
Minutes

NOTICE: There is no water in the camp due to a break in a water line.

PLENARY

Welcome: 4 Scouters were attending Scouters' Club for the first time. Hooray!

Chairperson of the Evening: Bernie Delahaye

Safety Moment: Meeting Place Assessments

- Reminder to check your facility and develop an Emergency Plan:
 - o Emergency Exits; Meeting place if have to evacuate; process for informing parents etc

5 Minute Training: Guest speaker: George Gouraud (Provincial Guildmaster)

- Working on building relations between Guilds and Scouters
- Guilds are designed for Scouters who wish to remain in Scouting but not actively engaged in the day to day group activities
- Example: 120th Guild meets at Camp McLean, and focuses on maintaining and developing the camp
- A Guild does not get involved in Canadian Path, or running program activities
- For more information about establishing or joining a Guild contact George Gouraud. Phone: 604.941.3806 or email: bcprovguildmaster@gmail.com

New Plenary format

- Designed to streamline the plenary, and give more time to focus on program, questions, sharing ideas etc.
- A new email has been set up to use for communicating information about Scouters' Club: nicomeklcommunications@gmail.com
- Standard reports (Treasurers' Report; Training Info etc) will be sent out to the GC's a day or two before Scouters' Club rather than being read out during the meeting
- Within a few days after Scouters' Club, the Minutes of the meeting will be sent to the GC's
- GC's should forward both these communications to all Scouters in their Group
- The email address may also be used for other queries to Area

Training

- Scheduled, upcoming training dates were sent out through nicomeklcommunications (see above). If you haven't seen this, talk to your GC!
- Addition: December 2: Winter Skills Theory (at Camp McLean) followed by the practical experience camp on January 19-21, 2018. Location TBA
- WBI & GC/GYC training has been added on Feb 4 at the BCIT woodlot in Maple Ridge
- Tonight's 7:30 Workshop was on Dealing with Youth with Special Needs in your Section, and was hosted by DeEtte Bryce

- If you have any suggestions or requests for a training/information workshop for the January Scouters' Club, please email nicomeklcommunications@gmail.com

Program

- Reminder that Fall Program Reviews should be starting with the youth in your section, followed by sharing with your GC and Group Committee.
- Coming soon on myscouts: section Scouters will be able to enter seasonal PQA, but remember that there still needs to be a discussion with GC and Group Committee.
- Note: ScoutsTracker has a facebook discussion group which you may find helpful: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=scoutstracker%20discussion%20group>

Announcements

- Please submit any announcements for next month's Scouters' Club to nicomeklcommunications@gmail.com so they can be included in the monthly email report. Deadline for inclusion is midnight of the Monday before Scouters' Club
- Next Work Weekend for Ponder Park will be in April
- Scout Night with the Surrey Eagles is Jan 14. Cost \$7 due next Scouters' Club (Dec. 21)
- Earl needs groups to check their contact lists on the www.nicomeklscouting.ca website to be sure information is current and correct (Contact names, emails, time and location for section meetings). He is missing the 2017-18 information for the following groups:

11th Nicomekl LDS
1st Brookwood Thunderbirds
1st Semiahmoo Sea Scouts
1st Walnut Grove
1st Willoughby
24th F.Valley Med-Vents-Rovers
2nd Aldergrove Legion
2nd Brookwood Eagles
3rd Langley LDS
5th Langley Creekside
98.5th Nicomekl
9th Peace Arch LDS

Next Scouters' Club

- Thursday, December 21 at 8:15pm. It is primarily a social evening with time to share some Christmas goodies with fellow Scouters. Meetings will be very short. There was some discussion about changing to earlier in the month, but the consensus was that changing the dates causes confusion, and interferes with regular group meetings, school concerts and the many other seasonal activities, so it was best left where it was.

Prize draws and Breakout to Section Meetings

GROUP COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Called to order at 8:43pm

Membership (Viki)

- Nicomekl is at 98% of last year
- 7 groups are currently at capacity, so if other groups have room, please accept new youth
- Volunteers are restricting access to new members due to pending status, or vacancies.

Youth Leadership Teams

- Viki wants to know:
 - Are they are being used?
 - Are they working?
 - Please email Viki with comments, questions etc about the experiences in your group. (Note: This will help determine what type of support is needed, if any)
- Many groups are currently going through the development of leadership teams.

Venues

- Finding weekly meeting space is a challenge for many groups
- Many groups are meeting outside more to help reduce facility costs.
- Some sections meet indoors occasionally, twice a month, or not at all
- Those groups have found that a side benefit is the youth's behavior is more focused

Program

- Fall PQA's (Program Quality Assessment's) should be starting any time now.
- Soon Section Scouters will be able to enter these into myscouts, but GC's need to keep track if this is being done, and ensure that discussions are still taking place within the section, as well as being shared with Group Committee. GC's may also choose to continue being the person who enters the PQA information.
- Scouters Tips, FAQ, Top Section Award, How to...' and much other helpful information can be found at 'myscouts.ca'. Link to online support for Scouters: <https://help.scouts.ca/hc/en-ca/categories/200197944>

Volunteer Role Titles

- Will be changing soon in myscouts to reflect the Canadian Path terms, and to reduce the number of roles that can be assigned to volunteers. Also to increase consistency in terminology, and clarify youth leadership roles
- EG: Beaver Leader, Beaver Contact Leader, Assistant Beaver Leader etc will come down to either 'Colony Scouter' or 'Contact Colony Scouter'. Venturer Advisor will become Company Scouter etc.
- Scouter-in-Training, and 'Activity Leader' will no longer be used. Instead youth taking on these roles will be Colony Scouter, Pack Scouter etc.
- More information will be emailed out to all Scouters soon

Volunteer Support (Viki)

- Pending Report was passed around. 79 Scouters are currently listed as having 'pending' status.
- GC's should review status of all their Scouters
- Some discussion took place about the continuing challenges with this status:
 - o Getting Scouters to actually sit down and do the training
 - o Challenges with myscouts working (or not) with phones, tablets etc
 - o GC's would like reports for each individual so they can see exactly what is needed
 - o Pdf file to be shared with GC's about steps for Volunteers
 - o Pending Volunteers receive a letter with outstanding areas they need to address
- Please: Do not have Scouters re-do online training. Contact Viki to have it looked into first. Also encourage people to take screen shot showing the screen indicating they have completed a section.
- Reminder: Scouting Fundamentals is the required course for a new volunteer to be on the floor. WB1 Can Path is required to count as ratio.
- Forms:
 - o Many links are broken on nicomeklscouting.ca because of the updated scouts.ca website.
 - o Hope to have these updated soon
 - o Heather (1st Semiahmoo) suggested asking ScoutsTracker to add forms – if lots of people make a request, greater likelihood of it happening
- Reminder to send updated personnel lists (contact names, emails) to Earl for updating on nicomeklscouting.ca. scouter@earlearl.com
- Volunteer Survey: take the opportunity to provide feedback.
 - o Better value for time spent training
 - o Better support at the section level with constructive feedback
- What support means...
 - o Assist youth with planning (especially troop)
 - o Area has come out and made a difference especially with new scouters
 - o Please reach out to the Service Team, but ensure you identify what areas you need assistance with.
 - o Encourage feedback on Area events so can continue to improve them

Save the Date:

- January 20, 2018: Group Leadership Conference sponsored by FVC.
- Hope to include section Scouters this year, as well as GC's
- Hope to have sessions on Scouts Tracker, Challenging Youth behavior, inclusiveness etc.

Popcorn: Delivery date has been delayed (production problems?)

- email will go out with info on new date, time, location for pickup.

Meeting adjourned: 9:55pm. Next meeting is on Dec.21, 2017.