

Roundtable Hot Topic

Troop Visits for Arrow of Light Scouts



Beginning June 1, 2024, Arrow of Light Scouts will need to visit with a Scouts BSA troop right away in order to complete their Bobcat Adventure requirements. The new Bobcat Adventure is designed to be the first required adventure completed each program year. One of the Arrow of Light Bobcat requirements is to visit a Scouts BSA patrol with their parent/guardian or with their Cub Scout den. Troops and patrols should plan now to hold fun activities where they can welcome Arrow of Light Scouts.

Invite Arrow of Light Scouts to a Patrol Meeting

Reach out to nearby Cub Scout packs with an invitation to attend a troop meeting, outing, campout or event. Scouts may visit the Arrow of Light den and give personal invitations to visit their patrol meeting.

Brainstorm Activity Ideas

Scouts can brainstorm ideas for activities that involve Arrow of Light Cub Scouts. Some ideas include:

- Campouts
- Outdoor Activities
- Field Trips/Outings (fire station, police station)
- Ten Essentials Scavenger Hunt
- Work on a Cub Scout Adventure
- Learn the Scouts BSA Sign, Salute and Handshake
- Learn about the patrol method, meet the members of the patrol they are visiting and learn what they do.

Make it Fun and Welcoming

Start by having someone say “welcome!” at the event. Have Scouts practice welcoming Arrow of Light Cub Scouts during a patrol meeting where they are planning the event. When Cub Scouts arrive, involve them in activities and having fun right away. Encourage Cub Scouts to bring a friend to the event. The friend and the Cub Scout can both join the troop!

The new Arrow of Light program helps Cub Scouts “Be Prepared” to join a Scouts BSA troop by involving them in a patrol activity and when they make friends, they will want to cross over into that troop. Troops should maintain a relationship with the Cub Scouts that visit the troop so they feel welcome and excited to cross over into the troop! They can also create a relationship with the Arrow of Light den leader and/or the Cub Master to help facilitate smooth crossover events.

Check out the new Arrow of Light book! It contains all the information for Scout rank to help them transition into a troop.

Resources:

[Cub Scouts Archives | Boy Scouts of America \(scouting.org\)](https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-faq-1-3-24/)
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