

## TEAMBUILDING



1. Take time for everyone in the patrol to get to know each other. The better you know your colleagues the better you will be able to work together. Hold your patrol meetings at the home of your patrol members, this way you get to know where everyone lives, what their backgrounds are.

## TEAMBUILDING



2. Getting to know each other. Play an ice-breaker game every so often. At first it's a good way to get to know everyone's name but later you can set up a game where everyone has to say their name and something about themselves that the others don't know. Sometimes you can work together with someone for years and still learn something new from them. If you know what their other hobbies are or what they are good at in school it will help the next time you need to divide tasks.

## TEAMBUILDING



3. Play an active game of sports. Football, baseball, rowing,... Good sports-teams have to work together really well to be able to beat the other teams.

## TEAMBUILDING



4. Cook a meal with your patrol. Invite the neighbors of your community for dinner next week. Decide together what you are going to prepare and send out invitations. On the day of the dinner divide the tasks so everything will be done in time. Good kitchens must run smoothly and everyone needs to carry out their responsibility. Besides, cooking together is fun and yummy! :D

## TEAMBUILDING



5. Welcome! How do you make a newcomer feel welcome in your patrol? Joining a new scout troop or patrol is often a very difficult and stressful time for any newcomer. Make sure to give him or her the time to adjust and learn the way your patrol works. You can even assign a 'coach' to help him or her along the way.

## TEAMBUILDING



6. Take the time to evaluate your team. Talk about what went great and what didn't and most importantly why that was. Try to learn from your mistakes as a team, don't just put the blame on an individual member. Team-problems require team-solutions. If you don't really know how to do an evaluation, ask help from an adult leader.

## TEAMBUILDING



7. Next time you have a problem hold a good brainstorm session. When someone offers an idea ask the patrol how they can build on that? "How could we work as a team to make it possible?"

## ROLES IN THE PATROL



1. Role-assignment. Discuss openly the division of the roles among the members of your patrol. When people get to decide themselves on what their task is, they are more inclined to take the responsibility.

## ROLES IN THE PATROL



2. Role-assignment. Consider the qualities and skills of every member in deciding on the roles, but also, be able to look beyond that. Maybe the cook is tired of being the cook and would just for once like to take up another role.

## ROLES IN THE PATROL



3. Give every member the chance to take up extra responsibilities. Create time to discuss what they want to achieve in their role and give them the opportunity to do so.

## ROLES IN THE PATROL



4. As a patrol-leader you should take the time to evaluate how your members are doing and if they are happy in their role. If not, ask them how you can help to make it better.

## ROLES IN THE PATROL



5. With a little help from my friends. Everyone needs a little encouragement now and then. Again this is not a task just for the Patrol leader, but for everyone. Celebrate when you have won something, celebrate when you have lost something. Cheer your team members on in the heat of the game. You will be surprised how some people get a performance boost when they feel supported by their fellow patrol members.

## DEMOCRACY



1. When you have a discussion in the patrol make very clear upfront about what the discussion will include and what not. What can be discussed at this time and what not? It is important for people to have a frame to know what the topic is exactly, this way you can prevent any confusion.

## DEMOCRACY



2. As a patrol leader you should clearly indicate before a discussion starts how a decision will be made. Will you just take advice but make the final decision on your own, or will there be a majority vote or will you try to find a consensus? Each way has its advantages but, being upfront and open about the decision-making process will prevent much frustration in the end.

## DEMOCRACY



3. Be sure to include everyone in any decision making. If a decision affects the whole patrol everyone should be able to voice his or her opinion.

## DEMOCRACY



4. As a patrol leader you should make sure that quiet people also get the chance to state their opinion. A decision should be based on everyone's voice, not just the loudest ones.

## DEMOCRACY



5. Create an open and friendly environment where everyone gets the chance to voice their opinion and ask questions, but also where ideas and good tips and practices are shared. Even if your idea isn't fully finished throw it in the group, maybe someone else will be able to add something to it or change it to something even better. Ideas are meant to be shared.

## DEMOCRACY



6. Sometimes it's important as a patrol leader to take a step back and just let the patrol make a decision on its own. Give them the freedom to make certain decision by themselves. It will empower them more than anything else.

## DEMOCRACY



7. When the patrol faces a challenging situation or problem, ask: "how can we solve or respond to this situation in ways that are consistent with our values (the scout law and the way of scouting)? How could we respond in a way that will build trust and openness among us?"

## DEMOCRACY



8. When a particular decision will have a big impact on your patrol members, make sure to involve them early in the process. Prepare them for the decision, provide transition and support. Try to minimize any negative impact as much as possible. If the decision is made by majority voting, see what you can do to help get the losing minority to agree to the final decision.

## PATROL LEADER



1. When the patrol leader is picked, all the members should be involved. While they might not get to make the final decision it is important to get their feedback and listen to what they expect from a good leader.

## PATROL LEADER



2. As a patrol leader you should make time to really get to know your patrol members. You are not an authoritarian ruler, but more an informal leader. Someone your patrol members come to for advice when they have problems.

## PATROL LEADER



3. Take the time for your patrol to evaluate you as a patrol leader. It's an important way to find out what they are thinking and if you need to pay extra attention to certain things or people. Everyone has a different opinion about what a good leader should do, so let them try to find a consensus on that.

## PATROL LEADER



4. Always be open to new ideas. Everyone can have a good contribution, even people you don't like can have a good idea : ). Encourage your members to actively participate in discussions and give their opinion or share their idea. If you decline their idea, tell them why. It will take away frustration.

## PATROL LEADER



5. As a Patrol Leader you should always strive to create an open atmosphere where critical feedback can be given in a constructive way and encourage behavior in others that works towards this goal.

## PATROL LEADER



6. Conflict is inevitable in any patrol. While it isn't always your task to settle it, people will often look at you to do so. Finding your conflict-handling-style isn't easy and will require trial and error. Give each conflicting party the time to tell his or her story. Having the ability to vent and having the feeling someone is listening to their problem will usually be already half of the solution. Try to find some creative ways to solve conflicts and let everyone participate in this process.

## PATROL LEADER



7. Good communication is an essential skill as a leader. Try to give full attention when someone is speaking, even to the non-verbal signs. Summarize what they said or paraphrase it. To keep everyone involved in a discussion you can ask: "lets go round the room and ask everyone's opinion about that". This way you can pay special attention to the less-assertive (the quiet or shy) people who sometimes feel uncomfortable in contributing idea's and opinions in a group.

## PATROL LEADER



8. If there is anything or skill you as a patrol leader feel you need to learn more about, ask your adult leader. He will gladly help you and give you tips about this. No great leader knows everything; you just need to know who to ask or where to find it.

## SCOUT LAW



1. The Scout Law is very important to us as scouts, and it should be to you and your patrol, since it forms the foundation of who we are as a scout. If you have problems remembering the scout law, you could write it out on a big poster and hang it in your patrol corner so you can clearly see it each meeting.

## SCOUT LAW



2. It is everyone's task to make sure that all the patrol members live by the scout law. If you see another member not living up to the law, it is everyone's duty (not just the patrol leader's) to point it out. This should be a topic of open discussion.

## SCOUT LAW



3. Make it your personal goal to pick 3 rules of the scout law each meeting to which you will pay particular attention that day.

## SCOUT LAW



4. Ask your elder. Go out and try to find a member's grandmother or -father who used to be a scout and ask them how they used to make the scout law a part of their activities. You will see that they are a huge source of information on everything.

## SCOUT LAW



5. A scout is a friend to animals. More than just being kind to animals you meet along the way, you can decide to go out and help them. Go help at your local animal shelter or if your Patrol Animal is an endangered species you can try to find an organization that helps these animals and create a fundraiser for them.

## SCOUT LAW



6. A scouts' duty. Performing a duty for your community is something very important. It shows how you can make an impact. Being helpful is a way of life that should be part of every scout. Try to think of ways you can make an impact in your community and if that proves to be a difficult task go on the internet and see if you can find a local organization fighting for a good cause. Get in contact with them, do a fundraiser or see how you can actually go out and do something for them yourselves.

## SCOUT LAW



7. A scout is friend to all. There are 28 million scouts in the world. Some of them in Africa or Asia where they often don't have the same possibilities or games as you do. You can try to get in contact with a Patrol in another continent, like Africa (your international team will be more than happy to help you) and you can exchange contacts, ideas, stories and even games. It's a fun way to learn about different cultures!

## SYMBOLS



1. Your Patrol Animal. The animal representing your patrol is more than just a name. Go out to your local library together and try to find as much information about it as possible. In the next step you can try to find things you can relate to it in your patrol. Make a decision on your patrol animal based on the traits and characteristics of the animal, not just its name.

## SYMBOLS



2. Paint your Patrol flag on a life-size piece of fabric. This can be a really fun activity. Afterwards you can hang it up in your patrol corner or you can even cut the flag up and give each member a piece so everyone can always carry a piece of the patrol flag with him or her. Or you can make several small paintings or flags for each member to take home and hang it above their bed.

## SYMBOLS



3. Visit Your Patrol Animal. Try to get in contact with your national or local Zoo. Zoo keepers are usually very nice people who are more than willing to share their love for animals with anyone who are interested. If the Zoo is close by you can go and pay a visit to your patrol animal with your patrol. If it is too far away you can ask the zookeepers if they can send you the feathers or a tooth or ... from your animal to keep in your patrol corner.

## SYMBOLS



4. Shout the Shout! Every member of the Patrol should know the shout by heart. It's a nice and fun way to set you apart as a team from the other patrols. Putting it as a tattoo on your arm may be a bit much but you could put your shout on a tshirt for every member of the patrol.



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