

Patrol Leader



General Information

Description: The Patrol Leader is the elected leader of his patrol. He represents his patrol on the Patrol Leader's Council.

Comments: The Patrol Leader may easily be the most important job in the troop. He has the closest contact with the patrol members and is in the perfect position to help and guide them. The Patrol Leaders, along with the Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader are the primary members of the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC).

Reports to:	Senior Patrol Leader
Type:	Elected by members of the patrol
Term:	6 months

Qualifications

Age:	None
Rank:	None
Experience:	None
Attendance:	75% for all activities over previous 6 months
Confirmation:	Nomination Approved by Scoutmaster

Performance Requirements

Training:	You must attend the troop Junior Leader Training, even if you have attended in the past.
Attendance:	You are expected to attend at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 80% of Patrol Leaders' Council meetings• 65% of troop meetings• 65% of troop outings• 65% of service projects If your attendance is low, or if you have three (3) unexcused absences in a row, you can be removed from office.
Effort:	You are expected to give this job your best effort and use the adult leadership and advice when you feel they are needed.

General Leadership Responsibilities

Uniform:	Set the example by wearing your uniform correctly. This means that you will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear all of the parts of the troop uniform as defined by troop communication. • Shirt buttoned correctly, shirttail tucked in. • All required insignia and badges current and in their correct locations.
Behavior:	Set the example by living the Scout Oath and Law in your everyday life. Show Scout Spirit in everything you say and do.
Attendance:	Set the example by being an active Scout. Be on time and prepared for meetings and activities. If you are not going to be at a meeting you must call the Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster. If you suddenly have to miss an outing, you must notify the Scoutmaster, the adult in charge, and the Senior Patrol Leader. You also need to make sure that the Assistant Patrol Leader or his delegate is ready to assume your responsibilities. This requires you to "Be Prepared". Plan ahead and this will never be an issue.

Specific Leadership Responsibilities

- Attends and functions as a member of the Patrol Leaders Council.
- Represents the patrol on the PLC.
- Appoints the Assistant Patrol Leader and Patrol Quartermaster.
- Plans and steers patrol meetings.
- Helps Scouts advance.
- Keeps patrol members informed and involved in patrol duties.
- Knows what his patrol members and other leaders can do.
- Follows the Patrol Method and understands the 10 things to be a better leader.
 - Keep Your Word.
 - Don't make promises you can't keep.
 - Be a Good Communicator. You don't need a commanding voice to be a good leader, but you must be willing to step out front with an effective "Let's go." A good leader knows how to get and give information so that everyone understands what's going on.
 - Be Flexible. Everything doesn't always go as planned. Be prepared to shift to "plan B" when "plan A" doesn't work.
 - Be Organized. The time you spend planning will be repaid many times over. At patrol meetings, record who agrees to do each task, and fill out the duty roster before going camping.
 - Delegate. Some leaders assume that the job will not get done unless they do it themselves. Most people like to be challenged with a task. Empower your patrol members to do things they have never tried.
 - Set an Example. The most important thing you can do is lead by example. Whatever you do, your patrol members are likely to do the same. A cheerful attitude can keep everyone's spirits up.
 - Be Consistent. Nothing is more confusing than a leader who is one way one moment and another way a short time later. If your patrol knows what to expect from you, they will more likely respond positively to your leadership.
 - Give Praise. The best way to get credit is to give it away. Often a "Nice job" is all the praise necessary to make a Scout feel he is contributing to the efforts of the patrol.
 - Ask for Help. Don't be embarrassed to ask for help. You have many resources at your disposal. When confronted with a situation you don't know how to handle, ask someone with more experience for some advice and direction.

Duties	What it means in Troop 804
Function as a member of the PLC:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend and participate in all PLC meetings. • Provide helpful suggestions in the meeting planning process. • Volunteer to lead activities at meetings. • Make a list of items assigned to you and follow through on those items.
Represent the patrol at the bi-annual TLT and program planning meeting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend and participate in the Troop Leadership Training session and the program planning meeting. • Know what your patrol members would like to do and convey that at the program planning meeting.
Plan and lead patrol meetings and activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have at least six patrol activities during your term. (Not Meetings) • Use patrol corners (rooms) during Troop meetings to make decisions and get informed. • Make sure Patrol Meetings are planned in detail one month in advance. You must use the Troop 804 meeting plan template. • Make sure Patrols meeting are planned two months in advance tentative. You must use the Troop 804 meeting plan template. • Ensure your meeting plan is represented properly on the troop's web site calendar.
Assigns patrol members a job and help them succeed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure your patrol has an APL, and Quartermaster. • Make up duty rosters and meal plans for campouts and post them in your patrol box. • Keep a list of what your patrol member's need for advancement. Get this from the Troop Committee Advancement Chair or use member's books.
Develop patrol spirit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have your patrol flag at all troop and patrol activities. • Have a patrol yell. • Have skits ready for outing campfires. • Have cheers ready for outing campfires. • Have songs ready for outing campfires. • Assist troop chaplain in Scout Own Service during outings when necessary. • Make sure new patrol members are welcome in the patrol.
Keep others informed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call the patrol members each week to check they are following up on their assignments and communicate program information. • Be sure to let your APL know if you are going to be absent so he can fill in for you. • Make sure he knows what is supposed to happen and what responsibilities the patrol has.
Set a good example:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be the first to reflect the scout sign. • Maintain a positive and enthusiastic attitude. • Exhibit good self-discipline. • Have a good attendance record. • Meet your obligations on time and in full effort. • Have fun but not at the expense of others. Goofing off without purpose wastes time and loses the interest and respect of the other scouts. • REMEMBER: The troop will follow your example.
Wear the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always conform to the Troop 804 uniform policy.

uniform correctly:	
Show Scout Spirit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the Scout Oath and Law as an everyday guideline.• Actively participate in the activities of Troop 804.• Set an example for the other Scouts to follow.