

6th September 2017



Dear Everyone,

I hope you had a great summer and are already back into the routine of school.

Attendance & Our Waiting List

Last term we had a couple of meetings where less than 10 Scouts attended. For a troop of 30 that's a little concerning. It also is really disappointing for the Leaders who put a huge amount of time into arranging equipment, people and ideas for activities. At the same time we have a waiting list of young people who would love to take part in our activities. This led us to question if we have names on the membership who regularly fail to attend. Looking at last term we have noticed that attendance ranges from 30% to 90%. We don't think it's fair on those sat on a waiting list that some members rarely attend Wednesday evenings. As a result, we will be monitoring attendance more closely and you may get an email from us asking if you think your place would be better offered to someone who can make more meetings.

Plea for help

This time last year we sent a plea for help. Here's what we wrote...

Mark & Bob are increasingly challenged to combine Wednesday evenings with our work schedule. Last term we had several meetings that were a scramble to get organised (mainly because of Mark having last minute work commitments). We **REALLY** need another uniformed member to help take the strain, if we can spread the load it becomes so much easier! Otherwise we are going to get a rapid decline in meetings and our ability to offer the more adventurous activities that the Scouts so enjoy. **PLEASE** have a chat to any of us and ask how you can help.

Plea for help

Several parents have really helped us out over the last few terms by supporting us during Wednesday evenings. Bob and I are increasingly finding it difficult to make every Wednesday night due to work commitments. We really need a couple more uniformed members in order to ensure we meet the Scout requirements and avoid us having to cancel meetings. The level of commitment is entirely up to you (remember we're all volunteers!) and there's only a couple of on-line training sessions and a DBS check and you're in! After that there's as much or as little further training as you want/need. Come and talk to us if you're able to help.

Time Keeping

We start at 1830hrs and run through to 2030hrs normally. Please do all you can to arrive by 1825hrs so we can get started promptly. It's so tough trying to brief the Scouts on the evenings activities when folks are arriving still at 1845. We have to go over it all again and then don't have time left at the end of the evening for the game... which really upsets them!

I hope all this makes sense... as always you are most welcome to contact us if you have any thoughts. Over the last few years we have managed to create a fantastic reputation across the whole Scouting community in Bucks and we will continue to 'do our best' for our young members.

Happy Scouting!

Mark, Bob & Steve