

A brief introduction to.....

Scouting



Scouting.....

Where the Adventure Begins

What is Scouting?

Scouting is an international youth movement with a membership of more than 28 million youth and adults in 160 national Scout organisations in 217 countries and territories. It is also a non-formal educational organisation.

The Aim and Method of Scouting

The aim of Scouting is to develop good citizenship among boys by assisting in the formation and development of character; training them in habits of observation, obedience and self-reliance; inculcating loyalty, patriotism, courage and thoughtfulness for others; teaching them services useful to the public and handicrafts useful to themselves; promoting their physical, mental, moral and spiritual development.

The Method of achieving the Aim is through the provision an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

The Programme

The Programme is a seamless progression of training, activities and awards that covers everything that young people do in Scouting from the age of 4 to 21. The Programme is divided into four age groups called Sections.

Beaver Scouts	4 - 7 years
Cub Scouts	7 - 10½ years
Scouts	10½ - 15½ years
Venture Scouts	15½ - 21 years

The Programme is based around helping young people to grow in a number of personal development areas to ensure young people really are 'learning by doing'

The Association

Scouting in Barbados is administered by the Barbados Boy Scouts Association. The Association has jurisdiction over the entire island, and its headquarters is at Hazelwood, Upper Collymore Rock, St. Michael.

The first Troop on the island was registered on 9th March, 1912, at Combermere School, just 5 years after Scouting was founded. From 1912 to 1969, the local Association operated as a branch of the British Scout Association. On 20th February, 1969, the Association's Constitution was approved, making it an independent Association

and the 95th member of the World Scout Conference.

At present, the Association is headed by H.E. Sir Clifford Husbands, Chief Scout, Dr. Nigel Taylor, Chief Commissioner, and Mr. Harcourt Lewis, President. It has a membership of over 2,000 boys and adults.

The island is divided into three districts - Bridgetown, North and South.

The Scout Section

Scouting is for boys aged between 10½ and 15½ years who want to make friends and develop their widening interests in ways that are both educational and fun. It is ideal for young people who want a break from the usual after school routine of homework, video games and watching television.

Activities are typically about action and involvement and mean more than just camping. Hiking, sailing, pioneering, canoeing, abseiling, First Aid, motor mechanics, electronics, amateur radio and photography are just some of the things they can do.

Each Scout Troop consists of small groups (called Patrols) of six to eight young people, one of whom is the Patrol Leader. PL's share responsibility with the adult Leader for maintaining standards and training within the Troop. All Scouts are encouraged to take part in the decision making process and regular Forums provide the opportunity for them to contribute towards the planning of the Troop's activities.

Outdoor activities feature prominently in the Scout Troop. The highlight for most Members is the annual summer camp or expedition, and much of the rest of the year is devoted to preparation for this.

The Programme in this Section is divided into four progressive Stages. **Membership Badge, Track & Trail Awards, Course & Traverse Awards,** and the **Chief Scout Award.**

To complete each Award the young person must show growth in a number of personal development areas. This is achieved through specific activities in the areas of **Scoutcraft, Adventure, Culture, Community, Health, Commitment** and **Leadership.**

In addition to the Awards, there are a number

of Proficiency Badges which can be earned. These Badges are in a variety of areas which are of interest to young people including such areas as Camping, Hiking, Sports, Communications, and Information Technology.

Guidance and supervision for this Section is provided by the Scout Leader and one or more Assistant Scout Leaders. These Leaders are charged with the task of providing the guidance and encouragement for the young people of the Troop while at the same time allowing them to take an active role in the running of the Troop.

Further Information

Further information on Scouting can be obtained from Scout Headquarters, any of the Scout Groups, or www.bbsascoutcommittee.org.

The Person I would like to be

*As a young person who shares the
experience of the Scout Movement,
I aim to do my best*

*To be a person with freedom and integrity,
clean of thought and true of heart,
strong of will, responsible and self-reliant,
to make a personal commitment for my life,
to be constant and true to my word.*

*To be ready to serve others,
involved with my community,
defender of other people's rights,
pledged to democracy and committed
to development,
a lover of justice and a promoter of peace,
to value human labour,
to build my family on love,
to be aware of my own dignity and that
of others
and share with everybody joyfully and
affectionately.*

*To be thoughtful and creative,
to leave the world better than I find it,
to strive for the integrity of the natural world,
learning continually and searching
for paths still unexplored,
to do my work well,
to be free from the hunger to possess
and independent of material things.*

*To be open to the spiritual,
to have a transcendental sense of life,
to reach out to God,
to live my faith joyfully and make it part of my
daily life,
to be open to dialogue and understanding
and to respect others' religious beliefs.*