

South African Scout Association

National Headquarters
PO Box 2434, Clareinch 7740
Tel: +27 (0)21 685 8420
Fax: +27 (0)21 685 9050
info@scouting.org.za
www.scouting.org.za



SCOUTS[®]
South Africa

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement

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Dear Members of the Movement

On behalf of the Steering Committee mandated by the National Scout Council (NSC) to deal with the revitalisation of Scouts South Africa I would like to inform you of the workshop on the Rev It proposals held on 12 – 13 November 2011. All the issues and concerns raised by the members were discussed in detail and at length. Many of them did relate to the details which are to be worked out in the implementation phase.

The members of the NSC came to a unanimous agreement on the way forward for the Movement. I write this letter to you in my position as Chairman of the Steering Committee and the NSC.

"Scouting transforms young scouts into independent, responsible and autonomous young leaders of the future" (Lars Kolind).

There was an agreement in broad principle to put the Scout Group at the centre of the Movement. This entails:

- A Single Central membership system
The further development of the current Scouts-on-line system is critical. An IT Advisory committee will be put together to take this project further with immediate effect.
- A Central accounting system (but does not include group finances)
Pastel Partner for NPOs will be implemented with a standard set of accounts to be used. All activities, except for Scout group activities, will be captured on the finance system.
- The Scout Foundation
The Scout Foundation acts as the overseeing body for all funding and investment coming into the Movement. It is separate from the Board of Trustees and releases money against the business plan and budgets.
- The Board of Trustees
The Board of Trustees is an overseeing body tasked with ensuring the Movement is acting in line with its aims and objectives and the criteria for membership of WOSM. The Chief Scout is accountable to the Board for the Movements' performance and strategic plans but the Board is not an operational body.

The Board of Trustees is made up of nominations from:

1 nominated by The SA Scout Foundation; 2 nominated by the SA Scout Alumni; 2 nominated by EXCO; 2 ex officio (Chief Scout and Chairman Youth Forum*); 2 nominated by Social Partners[#] (Scout Groups); Outgoing Chief Scout becomes a member of the board.

(*A new name should be looked at for Youth fora;

[#]It was suggested at the meeting that the Franchise concept should rather be called a social partnership.)

The underlying principle in electing the trustees for the Board is to elect a cross section of prominent South Africans to give an added status to the Movement.



be prepared.....

- The EXCO

The Executive committee is the decision making and leading body of the Movement accountable to ensure delivery of the scout business plan, scouting programs, ensuring adequate resourcing and driving the success of Scouts SA. Each member is responsible for a portfolio. The EXCO ensure a strategic plan, acceptable to the Board through the Chief Scout (who will be the Chairman of the EXCO) and it is agreed every 3 years. Each portfolio reports its performance against the plan on a regular basis. The executive members for Scouting channels are responsible to the Scout groups to ensure support is provided by the Central Support teams and provide guidance to their activities. Central Support teams would provide amongst other things Adult leader training, Cub, Scout and Rover programmes and event teams made up from individuals and any other activities currently provided or visualised in the future in the Regions.

The Chief Scout's Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer will report to the Chief Scout and the functions will be managed as follows:

Chief Executive Officer:

Administration (Professional staff)

Marketing and PR

Strategy/Property

Finance/Funding

Chief Scout's Commissioner:

Adult Resources

Youth and Rover Programmes

Scouts in Communities

Scouts in Schools

Scouts in NGOs and Churches

The job descriptions of all EXCO positions will be circulated and invitations will be invited from anyone interested in filling these positions.

- What has been described as the Franchise concept to date is considered to be better described as a Social Partnership Agreement

There will be a Social Partnership agreement between Scout SA and each Scout Group.

- The Regional structure

The Regional structure concept was agreed, but more detail is required such as the functions within the regions as well as the boundaries. One issue that was agreed was that the fulfilment of the conditions of the social partnership agreement will be in the hands of the Regional Commissioner.

- The Uniform

The image of Scouting of which uniform is one aspect, must be dramatically improved. It was decided that changes to uniform will not be made at this stage.

- The Cub Programme

The Cub programme team will continue with their work on revising the programme. The "Programmes on a Plate" for the current programme will be launched for 2012.

- The Positioning of Rovers

In discussion with the National Commissioner for Rovers it was agreed that the Rover programme will be seen as further development of young adults. With this re-positioning of Rovers, it will be seen that Rovers are the third level (not Branch) of training and not overlooked/sidelined. Being independent of the Fellowship will give the impression that a 'young adult' training programme does exist and not lost within the Fellowship. Once Rovers have completed their Rovering experience they can be deployed back into the Fellowship.

- The Scout Programme

The Scout programme team is working on what they are considering to be an exciting, flexible and less complicated system.

- The Funding model

Lars Kolind (recent past Chairman of the World Scout Foundation) advised, based on his recent contact with top businesses in SA, that Scouting SA should establish its credibility before going on a

major fundraising project. A note was taken of the Rev It proposal that visualised a self sustaining Scout movement with scouting at a reasonable cost for all groups.

It is extremely important that we involve as many people as possible in refining our plans as we approach implementation. I will be most grateful and encourage you please to liaise in the current structure and thus to participate in the process.

In future regular communications will be circulated to members, but I will encourage you if at all possible to sign up to the current e-mail listings via the website (www.scouting.org.za) or send an e-mail to info@scouting.org.za. Thank you.

Kind regards

Garnet de la Hunt
Chairman National Scout Council