

SWC Meeting Q&A – July 20, 2022

The following questions were addressed directly during the meeting – please refer to the Minutes and Slides for the recap. Please feel free to reach out to your Group's Relationship Manager (GSS/SRM) if you need clarifications:

Registration / Onboarding Related

- Is it possible we move the registration back to September - August? Right now it is a lot of unnecessary work for us Scouters
- What happens to youth on the 2022 waitlist when registration opens in Sept. for 2023. Do they still get first preference if there is room available?
- Why can't groups control who to accept for registrations (eg - give priority to siblings or those referred by sponsor)?
- Can we have more in-person training especially for new scouters?

Program Related

- Are there any regional or Council events we should be aware of for the coming year? Can they be added to ScoutsTracker?
- Our group have youth who are Special Needs. Scouter do not have proper training to handle those youth. Scouters are frustrated and lag of support.
- Any details with the next challenge (like Claim the Flame)?

Other

- When will the Certificate of Insurance be ready? we can't confirm our permit until we show the school board the Certificate
- When Scouts Canada is going to issue the Certificate of Insurance for Sept 2022 - June 2023?

The following questions were submitted on Slido, but we did not have a chance to address them due to time limitations. Please see below for our written response. Please feel free to reach out to your Group's Relationship Manager (GSS/SRM) if you need clarifications:

Registration / Onboarding

The July 16 email to current members with subject "Youth Registration – Get the Scoop!" gave 3 dates, but I don't see the difference between Sep 1 and Jan 1.

The message's intent (difference between September 1 and January 1) is to distinguish between Early Registrations and Winter/Spring Registrations. From a fee and eligibility perspective (i.e., Open to All), you're correct that there is no difference between September 1 and January 1. One thing to keep in mind is that new members who register between September 1 and December 31 will get 2022 for free – and pay for January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

Why are potential members allowed to Wait List on an unlimited number of opportunities. Don't registrars/GCs have enough to do?

You may find this article useful: <https://help.scouts.ca/hc/en-ca/articles/360040094512-Waitlists>

We understand it may be extra work for GC/Registrars. However, from a parent/youth's perspective, being allowed to be on multiple waitlists increase their chances of getting a spot in a Group nearby. Once the youth is registered with a section within any Group, the youth is removed from all other waitlists in the myScouts system (as indicated by the "Registered" status)

How to give priorities to graduating Cubs to register and join the Troop in the same Group, instead of letting in brand new people first?

You may find this article useful: <https://scoutsca.s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/docs/FocalPoint-Greetings+and+Guidance+from+Member+Services.pdf>

If you're referring to 2023 registration – Advancing Cubs can register with a Troop Section at the same time as all other returning members (i.e., August 15, 2022). During the renewal process, myScouts will recommend the parent to choose Troop Section (based on age). The same principle applies to all other sections (e.g., from Beaver to Cub, from Troop to Venturer, etc.)

Program

Apple Day - Is Scouts Canada doing anything to get "big" approvals for canvass locations? LCBO is now off-limits to Scouts. Anyone trying for Metro, SDM, McD..?

LCBO changed their program for canvassing in 2020. To our knowledge, no other agreements with other retailers are being pursued. For specific situations, you can inquire at contract@scouts.ca or reach out to Jen Austin jenaustin@scouts.ca.

We want our Council events back. Council Rally, Council Camp, Beaveree, Cubroee, Challenge Camp etc. Do you think it's going happen this coming Scouting year?

Yes – we want to have more Council / Local Events for sure!

We have noted the decrease in Council events for the past two years. However, the key reason is the pandemic (not the transition to the Shared Service Model). As we move toward the post-pandemic, we look forward to resuming many Council / Local Events we had in the past.

Scouters interested in hosting Council / Local Events may find the Event Management Playbook helpful: <https://www.scouts.ca/resources/event-management-playbook/low-risk-events.html>

Additionally, the Event Support Team is looking for **Event Support Scouters** to help support large events and provide guidance through the event planning and application process. The process to join the team

is quick and straightforward - <https://www.scouts.ca/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities/event-support-scouters.html>. You can also eventsupport@scouts.ca with questions about the role.

Will there be in-person ceremony for Chief Scout's Award and Queen's Venturer Award this year? I've heard other councils have one

If there is sufficient interest from Youth Recipients, we are happy to host one. Having said that, it is important to focus on the youth (Some youth enjoy being in the spotlight, while other kids prefer to celebrate their accomplishments in a more local / family environment).

Is the Barrie Biathlon confirmed for Sep 24?

The dates for the Barrie Biathlon are confirmed - September 22 evening (Thursday) for safety training and September 24 (Saturday) for the event. For specifics, please reach out to Greg Peach or Allan Bray.

Other

Scout shop, the stock in very unstable. Seems like all the groups are fight for badges. I still owe our youth some badges because they're out of stock

We reached out to the Scout Shop – and here is the response

Yes, like most retailers we have run into some supply issues over the last year or so. I cannot guarantee that we won't have any more such issues but I can share some information that might help with your groups. Most importantly is that there a several bulk orders expected to arrive in the coming week which will replenish a lot of our program materials, including uniforms. As for the Shining Waters badge it was one of the council badges that we previously ordered from another vendor but switched over to Zone West in an attempt to speed things up because of supply challenges. We don't foresee having issues moving forward. However, we've even seen badges and crests delayed because a colour of thread was unavailable. Lead times also vary based on the style and complexity of the crest: whether it is woven or embroidered and the size of the order.

We have adjusted the way we buy products in terms of vendors, quantities, and timing of ordering to accommodate potential supple issues but I cannot guarantee that we won't run into any product specific delays. These usually stem from a specific material not being available.

While we recognize inconvenience, we must realize our Scout Shop staff is trying their best – and many of the issues are clearly outside the Scout Shop's control.

Why do event organizers insist that participants fill out the ancient Personal Fitness form when we have medical information in myscouts and cellphones.

The Personal Fitness Form is only for non-members.

In general terms, we see no reason why event organizers/groups require medical information beyond what is already asked in myScouts. Also, according to Scouts Canada's Privacy Policy (<https://www.scouts.ca/resources/bpp/policies/privacy-policy.html>), we should collect only the personal information necessary to deliver programs and activities. However, please reach out to your GSS/SRM for case-by-case guidance.

Girl Guides have their cookies sold on the shelves at Food Basics and others. They also have "GGMint" flavour at DQ. Can SCanada work on anything like this?

We have previously partnered with London Drugs to sell Scout Coffee and Scout Popcorn. For more information about fundraising and potential partnerships, please do reach out to popcorn@scouts.ca

Will Scouts Canada do away with the promise containing the word God (like the Girl Guides)

There are two versions of the Scout Promise: <https://www.scouts.ca/about/about.html>

As Commissioners, It should be incumbent on us to present the option of either promise to our youth and Scouters and to familiarize ourselves with both options. Youths and Scouters can then make an informed decision using whatever version resonates with them the most. No one should insist another person use one version over the other – as that is an individual's choice.

We need to create & maintain an open space for youth to express their unique dedication. Now is the opportunity to reflect further on our relevancy and commitment to diversity and inclusion in an ever-changing world. We don't want our descendants to be apologizing for our actions today.