

Scout Troop 166/066

Newcomer Guide: Troop Structure

Two Organizing Principles: Scout Led & Patrol Method

Scouts

Patrols

A patrol is a group of 3–8 scouts who camp, cook, and eat together. Patrols elect their Patrol Leaders (typically two per patrol) who organize the patrol and ensure assigned tasks are carried out.

Staff

All scouts elect a Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) to manage patrols and divide tasks. The SPL appoints two Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders (ASPLs) to help with Staff jobs.

Patrol Leader Committee (PLC)

The Patrol Leaders and Staff form the PLC, which meets monthly (usually the Monday after an outing). The PLC approves outing plans, decides meeting agendas, collects feedback, and handles small discipline issues. Scoutmasters attend as the communication link to the Adult Committee.

Adults

Troop Committee

Parents, sponsoring organization representatives, and concerned adults make up the Troop Committee. It handles Treasury, Recruitment, Fund-Raising, Outing Scheduling, and Discipline. In most cases, the committee makes recommendations to the PLC, who then approve, reject, or request amendments.

Communication & Safety

Direction between adults and scouts flows through the Scoutmasters to ensure scouts don't receive conflicting directives. Safety-first: any adult witnessing an unsafe situation should act immediately.

Scoutmasters

Scoutmasters are advisors who encourage scouts to make their own decisions and provide their own leadership. They serve as a fail-safe to keep decisions within reasonable bounds, and as the conduit for communication between Scouts and Adults.

See Troop Job Descriptions for details on specific roles.