

Strategic Priority 1

Youth Involvement – revitalising the Scout Method



The World Organization of the Scout Movement



Youth Training Team – New Zealand

PROMISING PRACTICES

The Results

Scouting New Zealand has set up a Youth Training Team to further its commitment to actively involve young people.



A Venturer training a Scout at the 16th New Zealand Jamboree

Through the Youth Training Team, Scouting New Zealand has taken the next step - from involving its youth members in decision making to involving them in implementing the decisions throughout Scouting New Zealand.

Scouting New Zealand has increased and broadened the opportunities available to the young people of New Zealand to become involved in Scouting.

Here is what John Eastwood (21), Chair of the National Youth Committee, had to say of the Youth Training Team:-

"Having young people involved in training of the Movement's Leaders is a natural step in achieving a Movement of young people, supported by adults. The idea is all about partnership between adults and young people in a Movement committed to developing everyone's potential".

The Reasons

The National Youth Committee developed the concept of the Youth Training Team with the aim of:

- Adding value to the Movement by furthering active youth involvement.

- Adding value to training courses and the participants of the courses.
- Giving young people the opportunity to gain/develop training skills and then provide opportunities for the young people to use these skills to benefit Scouting.

The Methods

A flexible approach has been taken. The Youth Training Team is a flexible grouping of young people that can assist in the development and delivery of youth and adult member training.

There is very little structure to the team. There is an upper age restriction and a requirement for young people to be members of Scouting New Zealand. The team has no prescribed size, term or representation requirements.



A group of youth members and young leaders all involved in training



New Zealand: Scouting New Zealand

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Our Learning

A personal profile has been developed; identifying the skills and attributes that members of the team should have or have the potential to develop. These are: charisma, communication skills, energy, enthusiasm, open-minded, passion, people-skills, responsible attitude, speaking skills, team player, willingness to learn and an understanding of Scouting.



The first Scout Advanced Training Course where all participants were younger than 30

Members of the Youth Training Team are offered a number of courses - Section Leader Training, and courses in instructing, coaching and training. In addition, the members are also encouraged to undertake training outside Scouting.

Appointment to the Youth Training Team is made by 'trainers' but primarily by members of the National Training Team and the Area Training Leaders. The team is utilised on an ad-hoc basis under the management and direction of the National Training Commissioner and Area Training Leaders.

- That the training of Youth Trainers is quite different to that of training more senior trainers. The Youth Trainers were more accepting of training, learnt in different ways, and at a much higher pace and impact (short sessions, lots of technology, lots of noise, colour, and movement).
- That a support mechanism that is quite different to that of more senior trainers is required to support the team.
- That mentoring of team members by more senior trainers is very important but something that could not be assigned or structured, it is a natural occurrence.
- That an identification system needed to be developed to recognise natural and diverse skills and abilities.
- It is important to treat each team member on a case by case basis with respect to the training they require and the training they can do.
- Having the concept developed by the National Youth Committee enabled it to be developed into a reality quickly and effectively. The National Youth Committee already understood the concept and were therefore able to answer the questions of 'how do we identify young trainers?' 'What support/training they would want and need?' 'Where & how can we involve these young people in the Scouting New Zealand training structure?'
- The Youth Training Team operates far more effectively in a non-formal environment. Scouting New Zealand achieved this by setting very few parameters.

Our Future Plans

Scouting New Zealand wants to see 2 'generations' of young people pass through membership of the Youth Training Team before it conducts a thorough review

of whether it has achieved what is intended.

The National Youth Committee is working on other initiatives and concepts that will strengthen the next step from involving its youth in decision making to involving its youth in the delivering on those decisions to Scouting at all levels.

For further information contact:

- Mrs. Lesley Anderson, National Training Commissioner at jml.ander@xtra.co.nz

- Mr. John Eastwood, Chair National Youth Committee at j_eastwood@xtra.co.nz



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Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout



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World Scout Bureau
P.O. Box 241
1211 Geneva 4, Switzerland

www.scout.org
worldbureau@world.scout.org