

Factsheet

Joey Scout Unit Council



In a Joey Scout Unit, a Unit Council makes sure that the Joey Scout program is adventurous, fun, challenging and inclusive. Most importantly, they make sure that the Joey Scout Unit is having fun adventures that everyone joins in on.

Joey Scouts who take part in Unit Council should talk with the adult leaders to brainstorm activities and help plan adventures. They should also make sure that all members of the Joey Scout Unit are happy and engaged with their program. Adults will do most of the organising and recording of what happens but should support Joey Scouts to become involved in the running of the meeting where possible.

How often should the Unit Council occur?

In the Joey Scout Unit, a Unit Council should happen regularly, with help from the adult leaders. They should be short and involve as much active and creative activity as possible.

Remember – these don't have to be boring, formal meetings inside the Scout hall! There are benefits to having Unit Councils in an outdoor, unfamiliar or creative location.

How do we know if we are on the right track?

Take the time to go through the following statements with your Unit, Unit Council and adult leaders. What already happens in the Joey Scout Unit?

- We help with the planning of our activities and adventures.
- We talk about what we liked and didn't like for something we did together as a Unit.
- We help out with, and also run games, activities and adventures.
- We are able to talk about problems and issues, and are supported by our adult leaders to do this.
- We support each other and all the other members of the Unit.
- We talk with our adult leaders about what sort of activities and events we would like to do with other Joey Scout Units and sections within our Group.
- We talk about what we would like to do within the Achievement Pathways and help each other achieve our goals.
- We help our adult leaders make sure we are challenging ourselves.

How to make your Unit Council as successful as possible!

- Follow a plan to make sure everything is included.
- Ensure that all Joey Scouts are given the opportunity to talk and join in.
- Give Joey Scouts tasks. One can help watch the clock and keep time and another one can help to write down what happens at the Unit Council.
- Celebrate important achievements!

For more information about Unit Councils and programming for the Joey Scout section, please refer to Scouts | Terrain, the Program Handbook, **youth leading, adults supporting** documentation and Scouts Australia program support documentation.