



PARENT ORIENTATION NIGHT

WHAT IS PARENT ORIENTATION NIGHT?

Parent Orientation Night is a designated night to welcome new (and potentially returning) families to the unit. The evening should have two main purposes:

- Excite youth with a fun & interactive activity so they are excited for the next meeting
- Provide an orientation and overview to parents about the Pack and Scouting



HOW DO I RUN PARENT ORIENTATION NIGHT?

Time: Define a specific meeting time (on the Orientation one-pager you passed out at sign-up night) and keep the meeting length to one hour or less

When: Ideally within two weeks after the sign up night

Setup:

- Create two main areas, one for youth & one for adults, with volunteers in place for each.
- Welcome families as they arrive and explain that the kids are going to go do an activity while the parents learn a little more about the Pack.

Scouts: Setup the necessary supplies for an exciting activity. Make it interactive and fun! Consider a 2-part activity that Scouts can do: Build your rocket now and launch it at the next meeting. Make sure to launch examples to create the excitement at the beginning. Ask your local Troop if a few Scouts can help to run the activity for the Scouts.

Parents: Walk through the parent orientation guide with parents:

- Explain the Den, Pack, & Council
- Share a few benefits of the Scouting program

- Share the uniform & handbook requirements for your unit
- Explain how Pack is run & request any specific parent expectations
- Discuss some of the fun activities your unit does
- Discuss that safety is paramount in all activities.
- Explain how each Scout will learn new things and earn achievements along the way.
- Highlight any fundraising the pack does to help pay for the activities above.
- Recap with when the next meeting is and a few of the things coming up next

RESOURCES NEEDED:

- Parent Volunteer Sign-up Sheets
- Supplies for Scouting Activity
- Pens
- Handouts (uniform, pack organization info, etc.)
- Parent Orientation Guides
(encourage parents to bring this back with them from sign-up night)

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