

National Parent Initiative Program

Basically it includes the appointment of one parent to act as the "welcome wagon" to all new parents in your Pack and Troop. Their responsibility is to discover what talents they have, what areas they are interested in helping, and basically to get them involved as a parent in Scouting.

The objectives established for the program initiative include:

- 🚩 Increase parent recruitment.
- 🚩 Increase parent retention.
- 🚩 Increase parent participation.
- 🚩 Increase youth advancement.
- 🚩 Increase youth determination.
- 🚩 Increase the passion for participation in Scouting by youth and parents.

As part of the basic program, each youth member's family will be encouraged to:

- 1) Complete a "Parent Talent Survey" & turn into their unit.
- 2) Influence their child to become a Scout.
- 2) Participate in Scouting directly with their child.
- 3) Go to and observe Scout meetings.
- 4) Be part of the unit's program both in weekly meetings and outings.
- 5) Support the program financially (FOS).
- 6) Coach their child's advancement and the earning of recognition awards, and;
- 7) Serve in one support role during the Scouting year.

All units are encouraged to adopt the program as an integral part of their unit's program. It is a part of one of the requirements to earn the new Centennial Quality Award beginning in 2007.

Roles and Responsibilities of *ScoutParents* Volunteers:

ScoutParents Unit Coordinator

All units are encouraged to appoint at least one ScoutParents coordinator (as determined by the Committee Chairman) who will serve as a registered member of the unit's committee or as one of its assistant unit leaders.

- ✦ Provides an orientation for all parents about how the unit works and the benefits to their family.
- ✦ Assigns parents to help with at least one specific task, assignment, or project annually.
- ✦ The coordinator will complete the adult volunteer application and pay the annual \$10 registration fee.
- ✦ Coordinators will go through the regular adult background check like all other registered leaders.
- ✦ This new position will have a specific volunteer code "PC" on the adult application.
- ✦ Units may choose to have more than one ScoutParents Unit Coordinator, especially those units with a large number of members.
- ✦ Fast Start & Youth Protection training is the same for all units and is available through the BSA online learning center (www.olc.scouting.org).

ScoutParents

A *ScoutParent* is a parent or adult mentor of a Scout who enthusiastically participates with their Scout and also helps other volunteers to provide the best quality program experience to all youth in every unit.

A *ScoutParent* Involvement

- ✦ Leads their family in obtaining the values, benefits, experiences and rewards from their family's Scouting participation, and in sharing these with others;
- ✦ Enjoys participating with his or her Scout and inspires their child to persevere in Scouting with their tenure, activity participation and achievement;
- ✦ Helps enhance youth and parent-mentor recruitment, retention, enthusiasm, commitment and participation in the passionate *GREAT Family FUN of Scouting*, and
- ✦ *Helps Make It SO!*

- ✦ Each parent may make a commitment to be part of the initiative by marking the box on the youth application under the parent portion that reads:
 "I commit to be an active ScoutParent".
- ✦ There will be no fee required for parents to become active as a ScoutParent.

Additional Resources:

- ✦ Orientation for New Scout Parents Guide
- ✦ Volunteer Positions for Troops
- ✦ Volunteer Positions for Packs
- ✦ Trainer Presentation Guide for New Scout Parents Orientation
- ✦ Informational letter - Last Frontier Council