



Fundamental Principles of Scouting

World Organization of the Scout Movement

Introduction



- **Fundamentals** refers to the basic element
- These fundamentals are found in **Chapter 1** of WOSM's Constitution
- Adopted by the 26th World Scout Conference in Montreal in 1977



The Scout Movement



- Voluntary
- Non-Political
- Educational
- Movement for Young People
- Open to All without Distinction of origin, race, or creed
- ▶ In Accordance with the purpose, principles, and method conceived by the founder

The Scout Movement



- **Voluntary**
 - Emphasizes the fact that members adhere to it by their own free will and because they accept the fundamentals of the Movement.
 - It applies to both young people and adults.

The Scout Movement



- **Non-Political**
 - Scouting is not involved in the struggle for power which is the subject-matter of politics.
 - It is constitutionally required from all national associations (including the Boy Scouts of the Philippines).
 - This does not mean Scouting is completely divorced from political realities within a given country which is necessary to develop responsible citizens.

The Scout Movement



- **Educational**
 - Process aiming at the total development of a person's capacities.
 - Scouting is Non-Formal Education which is an organized educational activity outside the established formal system that is intended to serve an identifiable learning clientele or objective.

The Scout Movement



- **Educational**

– In the founders own word:

“...the most important aim in the Boy Scout training – to educate; not to instruct, mind you, but to educate, that is, to draw out the boy to learn for himself, of his own desire, the things that tend to build up character in him.”

The Scout Movement



- **Movement for Young People**

- Movement means a series of organized activities working towards an objective. It implies both an objective to be achieved and some type of organization to achieve it.
- It is youth movement and the role of adults consists of assisting young people in achieving the objectives of Scouting.

The Scouting Movement



- **Without Distinction**

- Principle of non-discrimination is one of the basic precepts of the Movement.
- A provision that the person must voluntarily adheres to its purpose, principles, and method.

Purpose of the Movement



“To contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national, and international communities.”

Purpose of the Movement



- Emphasizes educational character
- Aim of total development of person's capabilities
- Development of physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual cannot be done in isolation.
- Integrated development

Purpose of the Movement



- Scouting recognizes that it is but one of the several contributing factors of development.
- Scouting is not there to replace family, school, religious, or social institutions
- Scouting exists to complement the impact of these institutions

Principles of the Movement



- Duty to God
- Duty to Others
- Duty to Self
- ▶

Principles of the Movement



- **Duty to God**
 - “Adherence to spiritual principles, loyalty to the religion that expresses them and acceptance of the duties resulting therefrom”
 - The definition does not use the word “God” making it clear that it include non-monotheistic religions (e.g., Hinduism) or those that does not recognizes a personal God (e.g., Buddhism)

Principles of the Movement



- **Duty to Others**
 - “Loyalty to one’s country in harmony with the promotion of local, national, and international peace, understanding and cooperation. Participation in the development of society, with recognition and respect for the dignity of one’s fellow-man and for the integrity of the natural world.”
 - Loyalty to country not in a chauvinistic and narrow concept
 - Must be in harmony with the promotion of peace, understanding, and cooperation

Principles of the Movement



- **Duty to Self**
 - “Responsibility to the Development of Oneself”
 - In harmony with the aim of developing the full potentials of an individual

Methods of Scouting



- A Promise and Law
- Learning By Doing
- Membership of Small Groups
- Progressive and Stimulating Programs
- ▶

Methods of Scouting



- **A Promise and Law**
 - Embodies the Principles
 - Young person makes a personal commitment of his own free will

Methods of Scouting



- **Learning by Doing**

- Active education
- *A boy is always ready to do rather than digest*

Methods of Scouting



- **Membership of Small Groups**

- Small groups as agents of socialization (e.g., Barkada)
- A self-governing group with the role of adult being one of guidance
- Facilitates in the development of character

Methods of Scouting



- **Progressive and Stimulating Programs**

- Progressive to satisfy the need for gradual and harmonious development of young people such as the badge system
- Varied activities based on the interest of each participant
- Games, useful skills, and service to community