

National Youth Forum

20th Australian Jamboree

January, 2004



Decline in Scouts after the Jamboree

Many Scouts leave the Movement after the Jamboree

Reasons:

- ❖ Lots of activity in the lead up to the Jamboree and then everything goes quiet.
- ❖ Jamboree is seen as the climax of Scouting
- ❖ Maybe bad experience at Jamboree
- ❖ Venturers are not promoted well to Scouts

Strategies to stop loss of members:

- ❖ Develop and promote events that will give Scouts a taste of Ventures - in Group/District/Regions etc.
- ❖ Venturers could help with Adventurer badge or activities
- ❖ Portray the Jamboree as just a step-up to the next X-treme action (Venturers)
- ❖ Ensure that the Scout program after the Jamboree is action packed and interesting

National Youth Week

Scouts Australia involvement in National Youth week

Reasons:

- ❖ Promote Scouting as a nation wide youth organisation.

Strategies:

- ❖ Develop and run an Australia-wide activity to be run in all states and territories at the same time.
- ❖ Link activities by JOTA/JOTI
- ❖ Publicise activities in national media
- ❖ Conduct interactive activities to involve the public in Scouting - eg in central town/city locations or shows.
- ❖ Co-ordinate activities with other youth organisations
- ❖ Australia-wide promotion, eg. Uniformly coloured ribbons on the trees across Australia.
- ❖ Scout logos sprayed on grass on sports fields
- ❖ Teddy Bear relay - bear to travel from group to group across Australia.
- ❖ Scout relay similar to Olympic torch relay.

Progression from Section to Section

Many youth members do not progress to the next Section in Scouting.

Reasons:

- ❖ Lack of knowledge about the Section
- ❖ Fear of the next Section
- ❖ Lack of encouragement to progress to the next section

Strategies to improve the progression rate:

- ❖ Members of the older Sections get involved with the younger Sections - by helping at the Section meetings, activities, etc
- ❖ Hold joint Section activities - tailored for the younger Section, so that the younger members are not overcome by the activity.
- ❖ Improve Linking process and apply it in the Groups.

Recommendations:

- ❖ Leaders are trained and reminded of the importance of the Linking process.
- ❖ Members of the Sections are involved in the "education" of the younger sections and in the Linking process.
- ❖ Develop "team" activities - teams of Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venturers together in District/Region activities.

Special needs training

There is a need for awareness training in special needs for PLs, APL and Leaders.

Reasons:

Leaders and PLs and APLs need help to work with and help youth members with a range of disabilities and behaviour problems.

Strategies:

- ❖ Develop training sessions, similar to Leadership Courses, to give PLs and APLs awareness and information about common disabilities that affect children. Topics could include ADD, ADHD, asthma, autism, diabetes, epilepsy, allergies, downs syndrome, aggression/violence
- ❖ PLs to be included in information sharing with the families of children with disabilities.
- ❖ Award of special badge / epaulette to signify completion of this training.
- ❖ Organisation and promotion of special needs camps - eg. Agoonoree, Jack Roberts camps etc.
- ❖ Work with special needs organisations - eg Special Kids, Asthma Foundation etc.
- ❖ Appoint and publicise Branch Counsellors

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The Yackery

The Yackery is a "drop-in" base where participants are invited to give their opinion on any topic relating to Scouting that they wish.

The comments have been classified under broad headings recorded with the frequency of mention.

The Yackery - Response Record Sheet

Topic: Jamboree	
Comment	Frequency
ABLUTIONS - automatic taps not good in showers	6
ABLUTIONS - need doors on showers, not curtains, more privacy	462
ABLUTIONS - not enough showers and toilets (<i>Note: many of the responses particularly commented on the lack of facilities for females</i>)	224
ABLUTIONS - showers and toilets need cleaning more often	460
ABLUTIONS - showers need good supply of hot water	63
ABLUTIONS - showers need space for clothes and changing	152
ABLUTIONS - showers need time limit	40
ABLUTIONS - need hand basins for hand and face washing needed	14
ACTIVITIES - all activities on site should be free - eg. Arcade	46
ACTIVITIES - awesome!	46
ACTIVITIES - Chill out time good	12
ACTIVITIES - fun and exciting	22
ACTIVITIES - good variety	22
ACTIVITIES - internet could be sponsored by internet provider - email access could be free	7
ACTIVITIES - more free time in town to look around	12

ACTIVITIES - more free time needed	129
ACTIVITIES - more space needed for activities to fit more people in at a time	59
ACTIVITIES - more suitable available for people with disabilities	4
ACTIVITIES - more technology	3
ACTIVITIES - need more and better	9
ACTIVITIES - need activities for wet weather	13
ACTIVITIES - need more adventurous	9
ACTIVITIES - need variety of skill levels on some bases	34
ACTIVITIES - reduce number to get award	28
ACTIVITIES - X-site more activities needed - queues too long. Different levels of difficulty would be good	16
CAMPING - boys and girls should be allowed to enter each other's tents	61
CAMPING - mixed gender tents	23
CAMPSITES - need clock set to correct time, radio, water tank	4
CAMPSITES - need spare tent for sick people	5
COMMUNICATION - Pre-Jamboree information more condensed not spread over a long time	6
COST - find more sponsors to help lower costs	22
COST - too high	48
CURFEW - good time	4

CURFEW - needs to be later - some missed part of opening ceremony	100
ENTERTAINMENT - good	5
ENTERTAINMENT - good	14
ENTERTAINMENT - more "big name" bands	43
ENTERTAINMENT - more music we know and more comedy	4
ENTERTAINMENT - need more notice of entertainment performers	10
FOOD - better rations required. Not enough supplied	174
FOOD - better variety needed	242
FOOD - food for special needs and diets to be supplied	41
FOOD - less processed food, eg. Devon, chicken roll	22
FOOD - more health food needed	4
FOOD - off site activities need better supplies	18
FOOD - off site food is bad	12
FUN	49
JAMBOREE - have them more often - every 2 years	51
JAMBOREE - is great	56
LIKES - activities and entertainment	35
LIKES - food	12

LIKES - meeting other scouts and getting to know their culture	12
LIKES - radio station	16
OPENING CEREMONY - Gang Show terrific	4
OPENING CEREMONY - great	14
OPENING CEREMONY - make stage easier to see, big screen up high	70
OPENING CEREMONY - more rock music less Gang Show wanted	68
ORGANISATION - outgoing committee should talk to incoming committee - don't repeat mistakes	6
PATROL LEADERS - need a time out/cool off tent	5
PATROLS - less emphasis on staying in patrols - allow more informal groups	26
SERVICES - more ATMs needed	11
SERVICES - more phones needed	163
SERVICES - more places to buy stamps, more letter boxes needed	6
SHOPS - prices too high	73
SITE - ban vehicles	6
SITE - better street and path lighting needed	6
SITE - Hubs are cool	5
SITE - laundry facilities needed	35
SITE - more shade areas needed - protection from sun and rain	54

SITE - need open space for games such as cricket and soccer	56
SITE - need walking paths beside roads	12
SITE - sub camp HQ should be easier to find	6
SPONSORSHIP - don't like corporatisation of Jamboree	12
SPONSORSHIP - get more to support Jamboree	12
TRAVEL - air travel faster and more comfortable, or train	98

The Yackery - Response Record Sheet

Topic: Promotion / Marketing	
Comment	Frequency
LOGO - spray it on sports fields	6
PROMOTION - bring a friend/family	5
PROMOTIONS - advertise that Scouts get to travel all over Australia and the Pacific to events	4
PROMOTIONS - get special deals or privileges for Scouts - access to "cool" places or reduced fares.	4
PROMOTIONS - introductory camp for people to try Scouting	5
PUBLICITY - advertise for young Leaders	16
PUBLICITY - advertise Scouting with better image - modern "with it" image	132
PUBLICITY - advertise with them of "look what you are missing" emphasising exciting activities	55
PUBLICITY - make sure that it is clear Scouting is for boys and girls	25
PUBLICITY - need more public presentations to promote Scouting	6
PUBLICITY - put ads on buses, taxis and bus stops	6
PUBLICITY - really good advertising of the Jamboree will let people know how good Scouts are	17
PUBLICITY - Scouts should wear uniforms to PR and fundraising activities	6
PUBLICITY - stop media from "bagging" Scouts	6
PUBLICITY - use more advertising on television	25
SPONSORSHIP - get it and use it	9

The Yackery - Response Record Sheet

Topic: Scouting	
Comment	Frequency
ACTIVITIES - more outdoor activities needed	6
ACTIVITIES - more water sports like SCUBA diving, water skiing	6
ACTIVITIES - need different types of activities - schools do a lot of Scouting activities now	5
ACTIVITIES - need more state events	5
AWARD SCHEME - badge work boring	15
AWARD SCHEME - some badges are hard to achieve because of lack of facilities - need to make it possible for Scouts to achieve	6
BADGEWORK - requirements should be general and then individualised by scouts	6
CAMPING - cabin camps for Scouts - less setting up, better for bad weather	4
CAMPS - costs should be lower	7
COMMUNITY - we should help more in the community	16
DISABILITIES - more facilities needed	6
GROUPS - increase numbers by improving the look of the Scout Halls	3
LIKES - camping	63
LIKES - friendships and making new friends	57
LIKES - Jamboree	6

The Yackery - Response Record Sheet

Topic: Uniform	
Comment	Frequency
BADGES - make iron on or velcro badges	13
CAMP/ACTIVITY UNIFORM - need one	26
HATS - bucket hats like the Jamboree hat	24
NEW UNIFORM - good look, will be more comfortable	98
NEW UNIFORM - like the Jamboree uniform	12
NEW UNIFORM - looks tacky, uncool	636
NEW UNIFORM - material too thick and hot	51
NEW UNIFORM - need to change for each Section - not good	207
NEW UNIFORM - Scouts to vote on better one	11
NEW UNIFORM - use as activity uniform	24
NEW UNIFORM - will attract more people to Scouting	12
NEW UNIFORM - will be cheaper, no pants	9
OLD UNIFORM - cool to wear	7
OLD UNIFORM - do not change it	652
OLD UNIFORM - easily recognised by public	324
OLD UNIFORM - keep it, keep tradition	254

OLD UNIFORM - keep shirt, change the bottom	170
OLD UNIFORM - more formal	170
OLD UNIFORM - out dated	25
OLD UNIFORM - fine, just up date it	22
UNIFORM - don't have one	16
UNIFORM - scarf only	6