



12<sup>th</sup> Australian Venture

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National Youth Forum

## Venture 2003 - National Youth Forum Delegates

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## **Communication**

The National Venturer Youth Forum has identified the need for improved communication to facilitate Scouting in Australia

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ The national website should be updated with links to Branches.
- ❖ Websites should be accessible and easy to use
- ❖ Activities should be posted on a bulletin board - National, Branch, local - all linked.
- ❖ A directory with contact details for all websites, email lists, newsletters, magazines for National and Branch information should be developed
- ❖ All relevant information should be passed directly to Unit councils - via internet and other means.

### **Strategies**

- ❖ Employment of a Web Master to manage bulletin boards and websites.

## Image of Venturers and advertising

The National Venturer Youth Forum would like to see the image of Venturers promoted true to life.

### Recommendations

- ❖ Venturers should be promoted to younger Section age groups as:
  - ✓ Fun
  - ✓ Exciting
  - ✓ Different from Scouts
  - ✓ Adventurous
  - ✓ Unique opportunities
  
- ❖ Venturers should be promoted to 15 to 18 year age group as:
  - ✓ Fun
  - ✓ Exciting
  - ✓ Social activities
  - ✓ Adventurous activities
  - ✓ Unique opportunities
  - ✓ Responsibility
  - ✓ Self discipline
  - ✓ Respect
  
- ❖ Venturers should be promoted to parents as:
  - ✓ Fun
  - ✓ Place to grow
  - ✓ Safe
  - ✓ Chance to meet new people
  - ✓ Different experiences
  - ✓ Better than other activities
  - ✓ Worth the cost

## Strategies

- ❖ Advertising internally to other Sections and families
- ❖ Advertising externally
- ❖ Printed materials to be improved and be more realistic
- ❖ Improved web sites to be used as communication tool
- ❖ Use of web banners to advertise Scouting
- ❖ Actively encourage media coverage of events in preference to structured advertising campaigns.

## Scout / Venturer Linking and retention

The National Venturer Youth Forum has identified that a problem exists in the retention of Scouts moving into Units.

### Recommendations

- ❖ Venturers should take an active role in the promotion of their Section to Scouts.
- ❖ Linking process should be extended while the youth member is still in the Scout Section.

### Strategies

- ❖ Venturers should be visible and promoted to and interact with all younger Sections.  
    *"Get them while they're young!"*
- ❖ Venturers should run a "Kaleidoscope" activity at all local, state and national Scout events.
- ❖ Section Leaders and Venturers should plan Linking process together.
- ❖ Venturers and Leaders should take care that no Scout is intimidated by Venturers

## **Training, qualifications and certificates of attainment**

The National Venturer Youth Forum has identified the need for recognition of skills, knowledge and achievements acquired within Scouting.

### **Recommendations**

- ❖ Scout training, skills, knowledge and achievements should be recognised across all Branches.
- ❖ Scouts Australia should pursue outside recognition for some qualifications acquired by youth members.
- ❖ There should be opportunities of extension within courses.
- ❖ Youth members should be advised of the educational level of training they have achieved.

### **Strategies**

- ❖ Scouts Australia to establish nationwide acceptance of youth qualifications within Scouting.
- ❖ Scouts Australia to interact with educational/government bodies to establish recognition of qualifications.
- ❖ Scouts Australia to establish a communication system to advise the youth sections of the qualifications' external equivalents.
- ❖ Scouts Australia should support the ANTA "Youth Participation Certificate" draft discussion paper.



# 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: <b>Miscellaneous</b>	
Comment	Frequency
Facilities - mixed camping - large tents, units together	2
Facilities - unisex toilets and showers - cheaper to set up	1
Health issues - abuse of people. Verbal and mental abuse of people should be recognised and stopped. All Venturers need to be aware of what abuse is and put a stop to it.	2
Health issues - fitness of Scouts should be improved and encouraged	1
Insurance - review insurance to take the strain off Scouting	4
PR - putting Scout logo on racing cars is not good use of resources. Better use should be made.	1
Websites - rationalise sites, links from National to Branch to Regions and Groups	1

## The Yackery - Response Record Sheet

Topic: Uniform	
Comment	Frequency
Promotion - change advertised image not the uniform	10
Uniform - Pants, change them	4
Uniform change was used as a tool to appeal to people outside Scouting to increase membership - what about the people in Scouting already?	3
Uniform is recognisable, identifiable	9
Uniform worn for practicality	2
Uniform, image of current uniform is dignified	7
Uniform, keep it - do not introduce the polo shirt	45
Uniform, camp uniform as well as our formal uniform needed	3
Uniform, change will not bring in new members	6
Uniform, new version does not look good	16
Uniform, tradition goes back to BP - keep the traditions	15
Uniform, we are proud of our uniform and enjoy wearing it	14
Youth feedback from previous surveys not listened to	5
Youth to decide on changes	1

## The Yackery - Response Record Sheet

Topic: Scouting	
Comment	Frequency
Programming - Scouting is about good programming and Leaders	8
Promotion - change advertised image not the uniform	10
Promotion - use young people for promotions	6
Scouts to Ventures - large drop off. Why? Survey	1

# The Yackery - Response Record Sheet

Topic: Venture	
Comment	Frequency
Telephones - need more	4
Email good	4
Computers - need more	4
Activity suggestion for next Venture - Band Jam. Tent full of musical instruments. Venturers able to have a go, and be shown how to play instruments	1