

LONSDALE DISTRICT SCOUT LEADERS' MEETING



Notes of Scout Leaders' Meeting held on 5 December 2011 at DHQ, Moor Street, Lancaster.

Present:

Caton: Sylvia Myall, **16 Lcr:** Andrew Holland, **33 Lcr:** Martyn Browitt, **53 Lcr:** Andrew Buckley, **16 More:** Alan Hague.

District: Mark Walker (ADC), John Buckley (DSL).

Apologies: Paul & Clare Burrows, Don Hartley, Bridget & Mark Worsnop.

1. Review Minutes of 10 October 2011 Meeting

There was nothing additional to report that was not on the agenda for this meeting.

2. Chief Scout's Gold Award

Mark reported that the next County certificate presentation evening was to be held in Ormskirk.

Any nominations needed to be sent to him by 23 December to allow him time to interview nominees.

3. Competitions Update:

a. Night Activity 19 November 2011

John reported that this had been another successful evening. 28 teams had taken part with 21 bases having been mounted. Results were as follows:- Senior event – 1st. 16th Lancaster, 2nd. Silverdale, 3rd. 16th Morecambe. Junior event – Joint 1st place Caton, Forton, Silverdale.

Issues highlighted included one base being initially unmanned owing to the late arrival of one Troop; the Police had attended querying the safety of walkers on the B6385 road, despite John having made special efforts to notify them previously of the event, a leaders' briefing would have been helpful to remind Troops that their junior and senior teams should be set off in opposite directions, that bases were to run for 3 minutes only and that no half marks should be awarded. A briefing would also have separated competitors from their leaders during the map reference and equipment checks.

b. District Quiz

John had previously circulated entry forms. Copies were also available [on the website](#), together with details of the first round draw. Some fixtures had been arranged. All the first round matches must be completed by 31st January 2012

4. Patrol Leaders' Forums

a. District

District PL's forums were planned for 4 February, 7 April and during the PL's Training Camp 30 June/1 July. Venues and details would be advised in due course.

b. County PL's Day, 18 February

The County Scout Team is running a FREE Patrol Leaders' Day on Saturday 18th February 2012 at Waddecar. The day will be in the format of outdoor activities and discussion groups. Please encourage your Patrol Leaders to apply for a place.

There will be 80 places available on the day. All PL's applying will be notified at the end of January 2012 whether they have been allocated a place.

Documents detailing the event and how to apply are available on the website. Lonsdale District Team will be helping out on the Explorer base with a construction project; please encourage your PL's to attend. A lot of work goes into organizing these events to help your PL's.

5. Leader Training & Support

Please let Mark know of anything that you require. Do you want another 'Skills & Chills' event to improve your skill levels? Please let Mark know as soon as possible as organization of this would need to be put in hand soon.

6. County Scout Team Update

The County is proposing having a push on encouraging more night's away experiences for Scouts. It is apparent that some Troops do much more than others. A discussion took place on reasons why this might be. Do you have a Nights Away permit? Do you need support in gaining the necessary expertise to feel confident to lead an event? Would anyone be interested in supporting a District Camp again in 2012? What about attending the County Rally? – Experienced Scouters are usually available at both these latter events to offer assistance and advice and catering is usually done centrally.

Another area of County interest is promoting badges and awards for Scouts. Do you encourage Scouts to gain the moving-on awards?

7. Football Competition

Andrew H volunteered to help run this; Mark to investigate venue and dates – possibly February half term.

8. County Rally, 11/13 May 2012

a. Theme

The theme for the camp would be the Olympics; Each District had been allocated a country and Lonsdale's would be Germany.

b. Numbers

147 had attended from Lonsdale this year and it was hoped that more might be encouraged to attend in 2012.

c. Information Pack

This would be available in January. In respect of camp fees, it was proposed that this would be in just one payment this time of £30 per person (includes transport by coach).

9. Any Other Business

a. Remembrance Sunday

Andrew reported that, as far as Lancaster was concerned, there had been a good attendance. It was felt that more organization of the Scout contingent would be of benefit in promoting our image. The party could have stood within the Garden of Remembrance. The value of members of the younger sections attending was questioned.

b. St. George's Day Parade

Discussion took place on the date and possible venue for the 2012 event. What are your views?

Is this likely to attract more participants if held on the actual day, Monday evening, or on the nearest Sunday?

A view was expressed that having a suitable venue capable of holding the numbers was perhaps more important than alternating between Lancaster and Morecambe. Also, difficulties in travel were highlighted if the event was scheduled too early in the evening. Another member felt that the event was much better when held indoors in terms of organization and audibility. The Platform at Morecambe was suggested as one possible venue worth exploring.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting was arranged for 9 January at 7.30 pm at DHQ..