

Patrol Leaders' Council Monthly Meetings

The patrol leaders' council will meet every four weeks to put into action the program feature for the coming month. Schedule the monthly PLC meeting at the same time and place each month to make it easier for troop youth leaders to remember and fit the meeting into their schedules. The PLC can review the program feature and complete the plans for all of that month's troop meetings. The senior patrol leader will assign responsibility for specific portions of each troop meeting to particular patrols. Members of the PLC can discuss and finalize plans for the month's campouts or other troop activities and ensure that all members of the patrol leaders' conference understand the roles they are to play.

Prior to the meeting, the Scoutmaster may assist the senior patrol leader in developing a written agenda. The senior patrol leader should encourage members of the PLC to stick to the agenda so that all items of importance can be covered in a reasonable amount of time. A monthly meeting of the patrol leaders' council usually lasts no more than 90 minutes.

The Scoutmaster attends patrol leaders' council meetings as an observer and a resource. At the end of each meeting the Scoutmaster can close the proceedings with a general assessment of the meeting's important points, then offer positive reinforcement for all that went well.



Agenda for the Patrol Leaders' Council Monthly Meeting

The PLC monthly meeting should follow an agenda so that all items of business are covered. The following explains a sample agenda.

1. **Opening**
The opening of a monthly PLC meeting could be a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance or the Scout Oath and Law. It is an indication that it is time for council members to get down to business.
2. **Roll call and reading the log**
The troop scribe records the attendance and then reads the log—that is, the minutes of the previous PLC meeting. Reading the log may not be necessary if everyone has had time to review the information before the meeting.
3. **Patrol reports**
Each patrol leader is expected to come to the patrol leaders' council meeting prepared to give a brief report on the status of his patrol. The report can include announcements of advancement progress and information about any patrol activities that have occurred since the last meeting of the PLC.
4. **Old business**
The senior patrol leader sets aside time for the council to discuss items mentioned in the minutes of the previous meeting that were unresolved or otherwise left undone. The group can determine what steps should be taken to close these matters.
5. **Planning the month's program features and big event**
The troop's big event of the month (a campout, camporee, summer camp attendance, or other extended activity) requires careful planning. So does the program feature for the month to come. The patrol leaders' council should discuss these

portions of the troop's annual program, review the preparations that have occurred, and figure out what else must be done. The senior patrol leader can assign to various patrols the responsibilities for making final preparations.

6. Planning the month's troop meetings

Each PLC member should have copies of the troop meeting plans for the coming month. With the help of the senior patrol leader, patrol leaders can finalize which patrol or troop leader will be accountable for each portion of the meetings. PLC members filling in the blank spots on their troop meeting plans can also include information about where to find the equipment and other items necessary for any of the month's games, skills instructions, or other meeting activities.

7. New business

As the PLC meeting nears its conclusion, the senior patrol leader can bring up for discussion any new items of business and can invite PLC members to raise any issues they feel should be considered by the full council.

8. Scoutmaster's Minute

The Scoutmaster will wrap up the meeting with a positive, motivational thought or story that will help pull the group together as a unified team.



Patrol Leaders' Council Meeting Agenda

Activity	Run by
Opening and Call to Order	Senior Patrol Leader
Roll Call and Reading of the Log (Minutes)	Troop Scribe
Patrol Reports	Patrol Leaders
Old Business	Senior Patrol Leader
Big Event Planning	Senior Patrol Leader
Troop Meeting Planning	Senior Patrol Leader
New Business	Senior Patrol Leader
Scoutmaster's Minute	Scoutmaster