

YOUR FIRST DEN MEETING

The tone you set at the first meeting will determine, to a large extent, the success of your year.

- Wear your adult uniform to all meetings, and remind boys to wear their uniforms.
- Be completely organized before the start of the meeting.
- If you are new to running meetings like this, it is easier to think of it as seven short activities (see the parts of the den meeting section) rather than a single long event.
- Explain clearly to the boys the behavioral expectations. Be consistent, friendly, but firm with the boys.
- Explain that Scouts should bring their handbooks to each meeting.

If you are a new den leader, ask the assistant den leader(s) to arrive at least 15 minutes before the starting time of the meeting. He or she can help you with final preparations before the rest of the boys arrive. It is a good idea to have something constructive for boys who arrive early to do (known as the "Gathering" part of the den meeting plan) while you are making final preparation for den meetings; you might even have them help set up some parts of the meeting.



Youth Protection Training is a joining requirement for all registered adults and must be retaken every two years. Adult leaders in units are considered "trained" and eligible to wear the official Trained emblem when they have completed the following trainings:

Youth Protection Training

YPT can be taken in the classroom during Roundtable, or online.

AND

Position Specific Training

Den Leader

Before the First Meeting

First 30 Days

Position Trained

Youth Protection Training and Position Specific Training for Den Leaders is available online. Create an account, or log into your account at My.Scouting.org. Go to Home, and then go to My Dashboard.