

**Lenape District  
Jersey Shore Council  
Annual Webelos to Scout Transition Plan  
Troop Guide**

To all Troop Leadership,

You are very important in insuring that the majority of our Webelos transition and become Boy Scouts. Unfortunately, all too often Cub Scout Packs think their jobs are completed when a Webelos Scouts earns his Arrow of Light. While that is not true, everyone's job is done when a boy joins a Boy Scout Troop, it is too often the pack leadership's perception. Therefore, every troop must make attracting Webelos to join Boy Scouting a priority. Effective transition doesn't just happen. It is planned carefully.

This booklet gives you a plan to help recruit more Webelos into your troop.

It is important that every troop appoint a membership chairman. If a troop is to follow this plan, there must be one person whose primary job is to make this plan happen.

While some troops have a pack chartered to the same community organization, some do not. In some cases this plan may need to be altered and troops will have to work together since they will be working from the same pack. To be fair, where there are two or more troops involved they should both share in the process described in this booklet. Plus, both membership chairmen should be in contact with each other. Remember the object is to keep the boy in the Scouting program.

In Scouting,

Karen Anderson

Lenape District Membership Chairman

**Lenape District  
Jersey Shore Council  
Annual Webelos to Scout Transition Plan  
Troop Guide**

**August**

**1. Troop Membership Chairman**

Contact the local Cub Scout pack(s) to get the name, address, and phone number of each boy who will be a second year Webelos. If the troop leadership does not know the leadership of the pack, call the Council Service Center @ 732-349-1037 and ask for your District Executive.

**2. Scoutmaster**

Select Den Chiefs for each Webelos and Cub Den in the local pack(s) working closely with the Cubmaster. The local pack may not utilize Den Chiefs and may need help understanding the importance of the Den Chief.

**3. Scoutmaster**

Contact the second year Webelos Leader and arrange for the Webelos to go camping with the troop in October or another Fall month.

**September**

**1. Troop Scribe/Senior Patrol Leader**

Mail a letter to every fifth grade Webelos, telling the boy how much they look forward to him joining the troop in February. Enclose a copy of the September troop newsletter and/or the website address. In the letter, let them know they will begin receiving the troop newsletter in the mail each month. Make sure the Webelos Leader and the Cubmaster receive the newsletter also.

**2. Scoutmaster/Senior Patrol Leader**

Contact the Webelos Leader and set a November date for the Scoutmaster and the Senior Patrol Leader, and any other key junior leaders to visit the second year Webelos den meeting.

**October**

**1. Troop**

After arrangements have been made with the Cubmaster, the Troop attends the pack meeting and helps conduct an induction ceremony, Bobcat ceremony, etc for pack. Make sure the entire troop attends in proper uniform. This gives all the parents and boys a chance to see the older Scouts. Plan an impressive Bobcat induction ceremony. At the end of the ceremony invite the entire fifth grade Webelos to join the troop at the front of the meeting. Say something like "Since we know the entire fifth grade Webelos will be joining our troop in February, we want them to stand with us and give a cheer to our newest Bobcats."

**Lenape District  
Jersey Shore Council  
Annual Webelos to Scout Transition Plan  
Troop Guide**

2. The Webelos attend the troop's October campout (with a parent). Plan a good but fairly easy campout for October. Let them see the Patrol Method. Work with them on a few skills. Play a great outdoor game.
3. Make sure the troop's October newsletter is mailed to every Webelos scout, Webelos Leader, and Cubmaster.

**November**

**1. Scoutmaster/Senior Patrol Leader**

Attend a meeting of the second year Webelos den(s). Talk about the troops program. Show slides, photographs, or a video of a recent troop outing.

2. Mail the troop newsletter to all second year Webelos, Cubmaster, and Webelos Leaders.
3. If available, make sure Den Chiefs receive Den Chief training.

**December**

1. Mail the troop December newsletter to second year Webelos, Cubmaster, and Webelos Leaders.

**2. Scoutmaster/Webelos Leader**

Set a date for the second year Webelos and their parents to visit an "open house"-troop meeting.

**3. Senior Patrol Leader**

Send a personal note to each boy, telling how much you look forward to him joining the troop in February. Mention the date of the "open house" or visitation of his den.

**January**

1. Mail the troop's January newsletter to all second year Webelos, Webelos Leaders, and Cubmaster.
2. "Open House" or Den Visitation with parents should be exciting with lots of action. Make sure the Webelos are full participants, not spectators. Allow the parents to witness at least half the troop meeting. During the troop meeting, have the Committee Chairman and Membership Chairman meet

**Lenape District  
Jersey Shore Council  
Annual Webelos to Scout Transition Plan  
Troop Guide**

with the parents in another room to make a short presentation about the troop and answer any questions they may have. Give each Webelos an application. Give each parent an adult application and ask them to consider either being an Assistant Scoutmaster or a member of the committee. Also give each family a copy of the troop's annual schedule. Encourage them to begin planning family activities around the troop's schedule whenever possible to avoid conflicts.

**3. Scoutmaster/Cubmaster/Senior Patrol Leader**

Should plan out an impressive "crossing over" ceremony for the February Blue and Gold Banquet.

**February**

1. Mail the troop's February newsletter to every second year Webelos, Webelos Leader, and Cubmaster.
2. Troop attends Blue and Gold Banquet to conduct the "Crossing Over" ceremony.  
(Scoutmaster, Asst. Scoutmaster, Junior Leaders)  
Most troops give new scouts a gift – handbook, neckerchief, slide, bolo, troop t-shirt, etc  
At the end of the ceremony ask the first year Webelos to stand. Say something like "We want you guys to stand and be recognized because next year you will be standing here joining our troop."
3. Have the new scouts start attending troop meetings immediately. Organize them into a new Scout Patrol. Assign an older scout to be the Troop Guide and assign an Assistant Scoutmaster to work with the patrol.

**4. Committee Chairman/Scoutmaster**

Actively recruits new parents to serve on the troop committee. Recruit at least one new Assistant Scoutmaster from the new Scout parents. New parents should receive all written information the troop has about the troop, such as a troop handbook, calendar, etc.

**5. Open House**

During late February start planning to hold an Open House for non-Webelos. The District Membership Committee will give you all of the support you need – flyers, yard signs, presentation DVD, etc. Have your scouts make a list of their non-scout friends from school. Mail invitations to these boys. Personal invitations pick up more attendance at Troop Open Houses than Boy Talks. Get this prepared for a March meeting.

**Lenape District  
Jersey Shore Council  
Annual Webelos to Scout Transition Plan  
Troop Guide**

**March**

1. The March campout should be planned remembering you will have brand new Scouts. Make it a fun trip-one that will not be too difficult. The weather can still get very nasty in March, so plan accordingly. You want the new Scouts first trip to be a success.
2. Make sure every new Scout knows all of the details about summer camp. Give families the opportunity to start saving for camp. Strongly encourage every new Scout to plan to attend a week of camp with the troop.

**April**

**1. Scoutmaster/Senior Patrol Leader**

Arrange to attend a meeting with all the Bear Cub Scouts in the pack. Conduct an orientation to explain the changing role as boys become Webelos Scouts. Take along any other junior leader to talk to them from a boy's perspective.

There are two reasons this meeting is important. First, too many boys drop out of scouting after their Bear year. It is important that they understand Webelos will be a new challenge. Second, it is important to develop a rapport between the troop and the Cubs this early so they want to eventually move into Boy Scouting.

**May, June, July**

**1. Troop Membership Chairman, Assistant Scoutmaster of New Patrol**

Work closely to insure each new Scout is having a successful experience. Call the parents several times during this time to see if they have any questions or concerns.

**2. Troop**

Make sure each new Scout feels welcomed and a part of the troop. Work with each boy to help him achieve Tenderfoot and get started on Second Class.

This plan will work by recruiting and retaining your Webelos Scouts, as well as any non-Webelos through Troop Open Houses. Thanks for your interest in helping EVERY boy have a great Scouting experience.

**Lenape District  
Jersey Shore Council  
Annual Webelos to Scout Transition Plan  
Troop Guide**

Troop Participation Report

Troop # \_\_\_\_\_ Lenape District Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Scoutmaster \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, our Troop will use the Webelos to Scout Transition Plan. Our membership chairman will be :

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliated with Pack(s) \_\_\_\_\_

We would like a Troop Open House Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to  
Manny Fonseca  
1518 Ridgeway Road  
Toms River, New Jersey 08755