

I Want a Team in My Community

Last Updated Monday, 03 November 2008

Welcome to Adventure Scouts USA! We've made Getting Started easy as 1,2,3. These steps can be completed in any order, however we recommend completing all three as quickly as possible to have more FUN faster.

Step 1 Forming a Team

Talk to people. No one will know about the team if you keep it a secret. Talk to friends, neighbors and family members. We can also speak with the parents of children your child goes to school with and members of a church, temple, community or service organization you may be a part of. Three families are all it takes to start a team.

Below is a basic script for when you are speaking to someone:

"Adventure Scouts USA is the only fully nondiscriminatory Scout Program in the United States, with three Scout Program, all coed, for ages 2-18. Our Scouts choose, organize, and lead their meetings, programs and activities, doing what is FUN for them."

When speaking to people there are a few main points you want to get across:

- We are fully nondiscriminatory
- We are coed
- We feature three Scout Program ages 2-18
- Our Scouts choose their own activities so they do what is FUN for them

When speaking to someone, you should know quickly whether they might be interested. If you tell the person our Scout Programs are coed and they say, "that's a stupid idea, I'd never let my kids join", you can be relatively certain that telling them more would be a waste of your time and theirs.

Like anything else in life, there will be people who are interested and people who are not. If you run into someone who is not interested, they're just not interested, it's not a reflection on you or on the quality of our Scout Programs. Don't let it stop you.

Step 2 Organize a Team

Get together with other parents. When you have a few interested potential Scouts, parents can get together and discuss when and where they want the first meeting to be. Parents can speak over the phone, can get together for coffee, or meet in the way that is most convenient for them. Parents can decide who is going to coordinate the first meeting.

Step 3 Finding a Team Sponsor

As a team grows, it will need a team sponsor. Good choices for team sponsors include churches, temples, schools, parent/teacher groups, government at all levels, community and service organizations and businesses of long standing.

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Personalize a list of good choices within your community. The best choices are a church or temple, community or service organization or parent/teacher group you are already a member of, or your place of business. If you already know the people there, they are much more likely to be receptive to sponsoring a team. At least one parent is likely to be familiar with a good choice.

Sponsors have a few responsibilities which include: appointing a committee to oversee the team and providing a meeting space. A team sponsor is needed as a team gets bigger. A team sponsor enables continuity and supports increased youth protection.