



The youth program, where are we up to?

Renewed energy

Our youth and adults are more active than ever before, engaging in a diverse range of outdoor adventures. This is the result of lots of hard work from Leaders and Youth in all Sections working through the Challenge Area program requirements through 2019.

Youth empowerment

Our youth plan their own journey and eagerly participate in program that they created. The Patrol System should be operating in all Sections. Adult support is essential throughout. All youth in the Section provide input to program planning. A number of related programs forms the 'program cycle'. The number of programs can depend on the theme.

Record Participates, Assists and Leads – from February

All youth and Leaders are now asked to start recording Participates, Assists and Leads (PAL) in all four program Challenge Areas. This will be a manual exercise for a few months. We have charts to help with this, [here](#). Excitingly our new app will be available mid-year. The app will track the pathway through PAL, Milestones and beyond. Patrol Leaders will sign off using the app. Parents will use the app to follow their Scout's progress. Section Leaders will use the app to monitor progress and help where needed.

Milestones - from July

From July Milestones start to replace the current age-related awards. In the Cub Scout Section, the Bronze Boomerang becomes Milestone One. In a three-year section, Milestone One represents the first year, Milestone Two – year two and Milestone Three - year three. In other Sections the total time is divided into thirds. Mixing and matching old and new is the easiest way to transition.

Beyond 2021

Outdoor Adventure Skills (OAS) in February 2021 and Special Interest Areas (SIA) in July 2021. We are moving fast; we are approaching the home stretch.

To recap

- **2018** - The Adventure Begins, you can revisit by [clicking here](#)
 - Recognising the Purpose of Scouting as the outcome of our program
 - Reinforcing the importance of The Scout Method and SPICES in our program
 - Names are interchangeable - Section = Unit, Six = Patrol
 - Unit Councils, Youth Leading - Adults Supporting, The Scout Promise and Scout Law and Plan>Do>Review> are the basis of a successful program
- **2019** - Our programs are a diverse mix of Challenge Area-related activities, [click here](#) for details
 - Recognising that a Scout's participation in a Unit's program is a measure of success
- **2020** - PAL in February and Milestones in July
 - The big picture? Check out a great new resource coming within the next week. It will be available [here](#).

Resources

All available on the Our Program webpage, [click here](#).

If these activities are a regular part of your Unit then your Scouts are well on their way to maximising the future opportunities of the program. Thank you to all for your continued hard work.

Please raise this program discussion at all District Section meetings.

If you need support, please email us at npi@scoutsvictoria.com.au

John Kerr

State Commissioner
New Program Implementation