

Scoutmaster

The adult leader of the troop — coach, mentor, and backstop.

OVERVIEW

The Scoutmaster is responsible for the program, culture, and advancement of the troop. But their primary role isn't to run things — it's to develop the youth leaders who run things. The best Scoutmasters lead from the back, coach from the sideline, and step in only when they have to.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1 Deliver a quality, values-based Scout program
- 2 Train and mentor the Senior Patrol Leader and youth leadership
- 3 Conduct Scoutmaster Conferences for all rank advancements
- 4 Ensure BSA policies (especially Youth Protection) are followed
- 5 Build and maintain the troop's adult leader team
- 6 Serve as primary liaison to the troop committee
- 7 Maintain your own training (including Wood Badge)

TIME COMMITMENT

5–10 hours/week including meetings, prep, and campouts

IDEAL FOR

An experienced, trained adult volunteer who leads by developing others

WORKS WITH

Assistant Scoutmasters

Senior Patrol Leader

Committee Chair

TIPS FROM LEADERS WHO'VE DONE IT

Your job is to make yourself unnecessary. Scouts run the program — you coach.

Never skip a Scoutmaster Conference. It's your most important one-on-one time.

Build your ASM team before you need it. You will need it.

Youth Protection training is non-negotiable. Keep it current.

The committee is your support system, not your boss — build that relationship early.