



**Scouts**  
Palm Beach Scout Group

# Parent Information Kit

JANUARY 2021

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## Welcome.

Welcome to Palm Beach Scout Group, one of the fastest growing Scout Groups on the Gold Coast.

Palm Beach Scout Group has grown to more than 50 youth members, 6 adult Leaders, parent adult members, and 3 youth helpers. Palm Beach has Cub Scouts, Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rovers.

Congratulations in making the decision to join us here at Palm Beach Scout Group and we welcome your family to our Group.

Scouting is the largest youth organisation in the World and we aim to provide programs to our youth members that are exciting and vibrant. We also ensure that our programs are provided in the safest possible environment.

Scouting can offer many exciting experiences and I am sure that with your support we will be able to provide fantastic activities and adventures for your child.

This Parent Information Kit aims to provide you with some information about Scouting in general and more specific information about Palm Beach Scout Group that will help you become part of the action at Palm Beach. Please read through this information and if you have any questions, please ask.

Beyond the information provided in this kit, I can only encourage you to become actively involved with the Group. At Palm Beach we promote the concept of "Group family", by this I mean that not only does your child/children become part of the Palm Beach Group, so do you!

Scouting is not a place where you just leave your child for others to look after for a few hours but rather a place where you can be actively involved in your child's Scouting journey and all the Leaders and I want you to be part of this.

Don't hesitate in talking to our Leaders, or join in the activities and camps; with enough helpers the load can be shared fairly amongst us all. Please get involved, your friendship and support are critical to the success of our Group and through your participation you will be able to share in your child's Scouting experience and you will learn more about the world of Scouting.

I hope to see you at the hall joining in or just helping out.

Group Leader

## Where we meet.

Palm Beach Scout Hall  
Salk Oval  
Sarawak Avenue  
Palm Beach

## When we meet

Joey Scouts	Currently Closed until leaders recruited
Cub Scouts	Tuesday 6.30pm – 8.00pm
Scouts	Thursday 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Venturer Scouts	Wednesday 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Rover Scouts	Meet as part of Region Rover Crews

## Section Contacts.

### Palm Beach Scout Group

LIC/Group Leader	Mobile	0430 009 202
Steve Marshall (Wolf)	Email	<a href="mailto:gl@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au">gl@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au</a>

Joey Scout Leader	Mobile
	Email

### Cub Scout Leader (Temporary)

Syd Mainland (Barree)	Mobile	0439 567 246
	Email	<a href="mailto:cubs@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au">cubs@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au</a>

### Assistant Cub Scout Leader

Claire duPlessis (Meerkat)	Mobile	0437 695 328
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### Scout Leader

Rod Searle (Jacala)	Mobile	0415 126 295
	Email	<a href="mailto:scouts@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au">scouts@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au</a>

### Assistant Scout Leader

Mel Hicks (Quokka)	Mobile	0411 697 273
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### Venturer Scout Leader

Dan Byron (Bonsai)	Mobile	0468 646 976
	Email	<a href="mailto:venturers@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au">venturers@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au</a>

### Assistant Venturer Scout Leader

Syd Mainland (Barree)	Mobile	0439 567 246
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Each of our Sections have, and need more, Assistant Leaders to provide support to the Leader of each of the Sections of Scouting at Palm Beach. The Assistant Leaders play an active role in the development and delivery of the programs provided each week. All Leaders at Palm Beach Scout Group are part of the overall Leadership Team for the Group.

***All Leaders at Palm Beach Scout Group are VOLUNTEERS, giving up their time and energy so that the youth members of the group enjoy exciting programs and activities.***

Whilst we appreciate that not all parents/carers are able to give up their time to volunteer there are other ways parents can help out at Palm Beach Scout Group.

To help out, contact the Group Leader or one of the leaders listed above.

## About Scouting?

Did you know Scouting is bigger than any other youth movement in the world?

Scouting is a worldwide youth movement with current membership at 30 million (around 66,000 in Australia).

Scouting Is...

A global leading youth movement

### **Meeting real needs**

Scouts are involved in a vast number of issues facing the communities where they live. Scouts work with others in the community to achieve mutual objectives. They work with friends, neighbours, community leaders and other organisations. Many work on projects of bilateral cooperation between Scouts in developing and industrialised countries.

### **Open to all**

Scouting is open to all, regardless of race or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles and method conceived by its founder Robert Baden-Powell.

### **Fun, with a purpose**

Through recreation, Scouting achieves its purpose to help young people develop physical, intellectual, social, spiritual, character and emotional aspects of their lives.

### **Education for life**

Scouting complements the school and the family, filling the needs not met by either. Scouting develops self-knowledge, the need to explore, to discover, to want to know. Scouts discover the world beyond the classroom, tapping the skills of others to learn, and passing that knowledge on to others.

### **Voluntary**

Scouts and leaders must choose to join Scouting.

### **Non-partisan, Non-governmental**

Scouting does not and must not represent any political party or organisation. Nonetheless, Scouts are encouraged to make a constructive contribution to their community, society and country.

### **Adult Involvement**

- A chance to help young people.
- A way to improve the understanding between generations.
- In their service, adult leaders get valuable training and experience, adding to their personal development.

### **A Movement for youth**

Scouting is a Movement...on the move. Scouting is constantly evolving and adapting according to local conditions and serving according to local needs.

### **International**

There are recognised National Scout Organizations and branches in more than 161 countries.

- Scouting has never stopped growing since its founding in 1907.
- Today there are more than 30 million members- boys and girls.
- Scouting has doubled its membership in the last 20 years and much of its growth is in developing countries.

## **The Scout Method**

### **Making a Personal Commitment**

- To a simple code of living: the Scout Promise and Law
- Learning By Doing
- Active participation, with others.
- Working In Small Groups
  - In patrols to develop leadership, group skills, and individual responsibility.

### **Stimulating Programmes**

Progressive activities based on the interests of young people.

- Activities in contact with nature, a rich learning environment where simplicity, creativity, and discovery come together to provide adventure and challenge.

Considering the problems faced by young people today, Scouting has a far greater application than ever before.

The adult contribution to Scouting means many things to many people, but above all it is about service to young people by providing them with a tried and tested program of activities designed to train them to cope with the world as responsible and valuable citizens.



## About Palm Beach Scout Group

There are two ways that you need to look at the Palm Beach Scout Group.

**Firstly**, there is the hands-on work that the Section Leaders do each week either at the hall or out and about in the community, we call this 'delivery of the Scout Program' and the focus of these activities is on development of the youth of the Group. A team of uniformed '**Section Leaders**' (that have received formal training applicable to the age group that they are leading) provide the weekly excitement and adventure and during the year run camps and outings for their Section.

Section Leaders' have **Assistant Leaders** that receive the same training as the Leader but may not be as experienced or may not have the time available to be able to commit each week. At Palm Beach we support '**part time Leaders**', for those parents that want to help but cannot be there every week due to other commitments etc. This is OK and we welcome anyone who helps at our Group.

No one, including the Group Leader, interferes with the delivery of the program, unless a problem is identified. The Group Leader however does have a responsibility to parents and the Scouts Association for the management of every facet of the Group, including the delivery of the Scout Program.

Our Leaders focus is on delivering exciting programs in the safest possible environment so your son or daughter can have the best time at Scouts.

**Secondly**, there is the management of the group behind the scenes. This vital work is carried out by the **Group Support Executive Committee**. The Committee is made up of parents of the Group and they are responsible for raising funds and looking after resources such as equipment. This also includes the maintenance of the building, grounds and all gear.

Resources such as camping equipment, consumables (pens, paper, glue, ropes, and other craft type materials) for weekly programs and insurances are all necessary for the delivery of the Scout Program. This all costs money and whilst a strategy has been put in place to minimise some of these overheads funds are still required and your assistance will be needed from time to time to help raise funds and our expectation is that you will avail yourself to assist.

To find out how you can help the Group and support your son or daughter at Palm Beach please contact either the Group Leader or the Group Committee Chairman.



## The Sections of Scouting at Palm Beach

### JOEY SCOUTS – ‘Discovering a wider world’

Boys and girls in Joey Scouts have lots of adventure and make lots of new friends. They'll learn all about nature, sing songs, go on fun trips, make crafts, play games and even do some cooking! Sometimes we have special visitors who'll help Joeys Scouts with nature knowledge.

Do you know how to cook chocolate spiders? Or how to make a water scope and see under the water? You can learn this at Joeys. You can even make your own frog puppets, and earn your very own badges.

When you're a Joey Scout you'll have a special Joey Scout scarf, a woggle to keep it in place.

The Joey motto is 'HOP' (Help Other People)



### CUB SCOUTS – ‘Doing their Best’

Cub Scouts have a lot of fun doing a lot of interesting things! There are games to play, codes and skills to learn, places to see and new friends to meet.

Cub Scouts all help each other, and try to help other people too.



Each week you'll get together with other boys and girls your and be led into adventure! You'll wear your own Cub Scout uniform to show you're one of us. And you'll be able to collect special badges to put on your uniform to show your achievements.

Cub Scouts spend weekends away together camping, fishing and exploring. They go to sports meetings, visit factories, and go to the zoo, the museum, or the fire department headquarters. Cub Scouts learn bushcraft, and learn how to fly model aeroplanes.

#### Fun in a Pack

Cub Scouts form a 'Pack' and the general theme of the section is based on Kipling's Jungle Book. There is no limit to what a Cub Scout can do and there is a structured award system in place that will challenge your son or daughter.

#### Fun in a Six

Each Pack is divided into 'Sixes', so named because each 'Six' will have 6 people in it. The first badge Cub Scouts get to put on their uniform is the colour patch of their Six.

#### Fun with your Sixer

One of the boys or girls in the six will be the 'Sixer' (a bit like the Captain of your school sports team). The Sixer is identified by the two yellow stripes worn on their left pocket.

## **SCOUTS – ‘Be Prepared’**

Your new Scout will join a Patrol, which is a group of 6-8 other Scouts.

The Patrol is run by a ‘Patrol Leader’ (PL) who is appointed by the “Troop Council”. The PL works with an Assistant Patrol Leader (APL) who is also appointed by the “Troop Council”.

Scouts camps could include long hikes, survival, canoeing, and abseiling and lots more.

Two or more patrols together make a Scout Troop.

The Scout Troop is run by the Patrol Leaders with the guidance of the Scout Leader; this is called the ‘Patrol System’.

Scouting is about learning new skills while having a lot of fun hiking, camping, abseiling, canoeing, other water activities and much, much more.

Scouting will give your son/ daughter a unique responsibility (to themselves and others) not only to be trustworthy, but to be honest and loyal as well – to become a better citizen.

We look forward to seeing your son or daughter as part of our Troop.



## **VENTURER SCOUTS**

Venturer Scouts never turn down a challenge, in fact, they make their own! Scaling a 30m rock-face or abseiling into caves may frighten most people, but Venturer Scouts face the challenge head on and then go white-water kayaking!

Venturer Scouts work in Units with other Venturer Scouts and Adult Leaders are always available to provide advice, encouragement, and support. Venturer Scouts are given the freedom to choose their own activities, depending on their interests.

Palm Beach Venturer Scouts have two leaders in training and has an exciting and challenging program of great activities and challenges for the year ahead.



## Leaders of Palm Beach Scout Group

ALL LEADERS AND GROUP COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE VOLUNTEERS.

All adult leaders and supporters are volunteers. They may be extended some privileges by the Group (Scout Association training courses paid for) in acknowledgement for the work they do.

To become a Leader a person must:

- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Be of excellent character;
- Submit the necessary applications and undergo various interviews;
- Attend training courses:
  - Leadership Training I – an introduction to Scouting.
  - Basic Training – e-Learning and practical skills.
  - Advanced Training – e-Learning and practical skills.
- Basic Training Practical Weekend
- Advanced Training Practical Weekend

Acknowledgement of leader service and special contributions, in the form of awards are made – some at regat level.

Enquiries for leadership at Palm Beach Scout Group can be made to the Group Leader. All enquiries will be treated in confidence and without obligation.

## Adult Members

Adult Members are parents or members of the community who assist by being a leader, an active member of the Group Support Executive Committee or help out regularly with our sections.

Adult Members are registered with Scouts Queensland and a Working with Children 'blue card' is issued to each adult member (provided free of charge).

## Palm Beach Scout Group Committee

In Scouting, support for the delivery of the Scout Program by the Section Leaders is provided by the parents of the youth members.

All Scout Groups have a 'Group Committee'. This Committee is made up of parents and supporters of the Group.

The Group Support Executive Committee generally consists of a Chairman who works closely with the Group Leader to ensure effective management of the whole Group. There is also a Secretary and Treasurer who are responsible for minutes and correspondence and the finances of the Group respectively.

There are other 'supporter' roles on the Group Support Executive Committee and at Palm Beach we have a Newsletter Editor, Fundraising Coordinator and a Quartermaster. The Group can have any role that it deems necessary for the successful operation of the Group so we may call on volunteers for these types of roles throughout the year...

The Group Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer all become registered members of Scouts Queensland and are issued with 'Working with Children Blue Cards'.

Any parent or member of the public can become involved with the Group as either a Uniformed Volunteer (Section Leader) or a Non-Uniformed Volunteer (committee, supporter, badge examiner, sponsor or helper).

***All adults that work with youth members MUST have a Working with Children Blue Card. This requirement is STRICTLY adhered to by the Scout Association of Australia, Queensland Branch.***

### Current Group Committee Members

<b>Chairman</b>	Alex Ramsay (Wobbegong) 0404 440 846 <a href="mailto:chairman@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au">chairman@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Cindy Wimberley (Waybar) 0407 752 802 <a href="mailto:treasurer@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au">treasurer@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Clare Midson (Bilby) 0412 456 035 <a href="mailto:secretary@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au">secretary@palmbeach.scoutsqld.com.au</a>

## Communication

At Palm Beach Scout Group we try to communicate with you as much as we can. We do this in a number of ways:

<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.palmbeach.gcscouts.com.au">www.palmbeach.gcscouts.com.au</a>
<b>Facebook</b>	The Group has a facebook page that is open for all to like and follow. This is where photos and events are shared.
<b>SMS</b>	This is our most common form please ensure that we have your correct Mobile number at all times.
<b>Email</b>	This is where you will receive your invoices – please ensure you check your emails and that we have your correct email address
<b>Personal Contact</b>	Our leaders and committee are available to talk to you anytime. Please be aware that on Section night this may be difficult, as our Leaders are getting ready to run the program for the night.
<b>Whats App</b>	The Cub Leaders communicates events and weekly plans to the parents with this and once you join you will be invited to join this page
<b>Team App</b>	All can join Palm Beach Team App, this is the communication method the Scout leader communicates weekly to the section. All members can follow the group

## Signing In/Signing Out

As part of the risk management of all our members it is **compulsory** that all youth members are signed in on arrival at the hall and sign out on departure at the end of the night.

Only parents/guardians can sign the register.

**Please note that NO youth member is to be dropped off in the car park and enter the hall alone.** The car park at the hall gets extremely busy, and to help minimise risk to all please ensure you accompany your son/daughter into and from the hall.

## Uniform and Badges

### **Uniform.**

The Scouts uniform consists of a shirt, scarf, woggle, belt and cap. Below the waist is stone, sand or beige long pants, shorts or skirt, and black or brown closed in shoes.

No board shorts, denim or camouflage shorts. No thongs for footwear please

The Uniform is very distinctive and each Section of Scouting has its own version. Each Section is identified by the colour of the 'yoke' or shoulder of the shirt, yellow for Cub Scouts, green for Scouts, maroon for Venturer Scouts and Leaders uniforms are navy blue.

Once you have decided that your son or daughter want to become a 'fully invested' Scout (Cub, Scout or Venturer) then you will need to purchase a uniform.

Please check with the Treasurer for how to order your uniform.

### **Badges.**

Upon investiture, a set of badges will be given to a new member to go on their uniform. The placement of these badges is indicated in their section book.

Each section has a system of badges that all youth members can earn. This 'system' is called the Award Scheme and it is intended to encourage young people to strive for a higher level of understanding or expertise over a multitude of activities.

Most badges are earned by participating in the regular program. This includes camps and various outings that your son or daughters section go on.

Some sections also have some work they can do at home, relying on the parent to write a note to say that the youth completed a set task at home.

Throughout the life of a youth member, they will continually earn badges so ask your son/daughter where they are worn – better still get them to sew them on!

As each Scouting Section has its own uniform you may want to keep the old uniform as a memento of their journey through that section.

## Fees

Every Scout Group across Australia is totally self-funded. Funds for each Group are generally raised from annual subscriptions/fees and fundraising activities of the Group.

Palm Beach Scout Group has two sets of fees you will be invoiced for:

Membership Renewal – now bi-annual, charged in Term 1 & Term 3 – figure set by Branch  
Term Fees - \$80 per term

Additional costs for camps, activities, excursions etc will be notified to parents as required.

Our preferred method of payment is by direct credit to the Group account, although cash and cheque is accepted. The details are:

<b>Bank</b>	Bank of Queensland
<b>BSB</b>	<b>124 001</b>
<b>Account No</b>	<b>1123 8457</b>
<b>Account Name</b>	<b>The Scout Association of Australia Palm Beach Scout Group</b>

Please use your **surname or invoice number as reference**, so we can identify your payment and issue a receipt.

### **Payments at Bank of Queensland**

If you are making a payment at a BOQ Branch please ask the teller to put a reference on the deposit.

### **Cheques and Cash**

If you find you have to pay by cash or cheque, please ensure that it is placed in an envelope clearly marked with:

- Youth member name
- Activity or what the cash/cheque is for
- Amount

**Please place all payments into the lock box for processing.**

Cheques are to be made out to 'Palm Beach Scout Group'

## Fundraising

To provide training and insurance cover for the Group and to equip the sections with camping equipment etc funds need to be raised.

All families are expected to participate in the fundraising activities of the Group. By raising funds in this manner it will prevent the need for additional levies to be charged or increases in the section subscriptions.

Most of our funds are raised through a small number of activities and events such as sausage sizzles at Bunning's or Master's, raffles, chocolate drives, etc, but we are also open to other suggestions anytime.

Your help in this area is vital to the success of the Group.

## Camps and Outings

Apart from the Term Subscriptions the other cost of Scouting is camps and outings. At Palm Beach, camps and activities costs are kept as low as possible, depending on the type of camp/outing and what the catering arrangements are.

All sections run a number of camps/sleepovers and activities so keep an eye on the Group website for dates and look out for notices about camps and activities sent out via email by our Leaders.

## Special Diets at Camp/Outings

If your child has a special diet due to a medical condition it may be beneficial for food for a camp or outing be provided by the family. This will help in keeping costs down for the camp/outing and the child concerned will have food that they are used to.

Please ensure that any special dietary conditions are noted on the Group 'Member Medical Statement' that all families must complete on joining Palm Beach Scout Group and updated annually.

## Forms

To attend an activity or event a form, usually a C4 Notification of Camp or Outing will be sent out by the Leaders of the Section well in advance of the camp or outing. It is important that these be returned to the Leaders, otherwise your child will be unable to attend.

The form will also have details such as when, where, what time departing from the hall and when they are due to come back to the hall at the end of the camp or outing.

Cost of the camp or outing will also be noted and funds can be direct deposited to the Group bank account so please make sure you include your surname. This helps the Group Treasurer identify who has paid for the camp or outing.

Other forms will come to you via email or with your son or daughter so please make sure you return them promptly if necessary.



## Badgework

Badges are an important part of Scouting and all sections have them as a reward for effort. At Palm Beach we encourage parents to learn about each Sections Award Scheme so you can help guide your child through the maze of options.

During your first few weeks at the Group, the Leaders will take time out to explain how their Section's Award Scheme works and how you can get involved and also what part the weekly program plays in the youth members working towards various badges.

Our Leaders also give up their time and often weekends to help the youth members to achieve various badges so do not hesitate in asking the Leaders if they need help keeping up.

## Helping Out At Palm Beach

Like all volunteer Groups we rely on parents to 'do their bit' and be part of their child's Scouting journey.

There are many volunteer jobs throughout Scouting, such as being a member of the Group Committee working in the background or helping out as one of our Parent Helpers, these are important Scouting jobs but there is no more important or rewarding job in Scouting as being part of the team that delivers the Scouting program to our youth.

Being a Leader with Palm Beach Scout Group can be very rewarding in lots of ways including the satisfaction of helping young people grow and become active members of our community. It is also a lot of FUN.

Many hands make light work and the more Leaders we have for our Group the lighter the load for all and more importantly the better our programs that we deliver to our youth the more FUN everyone will have.

Group Leader

## What happens from here?

If you have read everything in this manual to this point you deserve a 'cuppa' to consider what you have read. You probably need to consider what Scouting can do for your son or daughter and how you can be part of their journey at Palm Beach Scout Group. Scouting can build leadership in a young person, give them more self-confidence and teach them to become more self-reliant.

### ***What happens next to your child as they enter Palm Beach Scout Group?***

The first 2-4 weeks is an orientation period where the new boy/ girl gets to look at the Group and their respective section – to see if this is what they would like to do.

After this they will be invested at a special ceremony. The investiture ceremony is short and sincere – this is a good time to have a camera ready, after all this will only happen once in a lifetime.

After investiture, the Scout (generic term for all our members irrespective of their section) progresses through the award scheme for their section. Ask your leader about the award system – this is how they earn badges.

After spending about two or three years in a section (or having attained the age to 'go up') the youth member then progresses to the next section of Scouting.

This is a very important step in a young person's development. This can also be a traumatic time for some; they leave one section where they are 'king' or 'queen' of the castle and go to another section where they may not know many people. But scouting has ways of making the 'going-up' as painless as possible.

## Where do I go for help?

### **Want to discuss the content of the programme or badges?**

Ask the leaders

### **Want to discuss your commitment?**

See the Group Leader or Group Chairperson

### **Want to discuss fees?**

See the Treasurer

### **Don't like what you saw or heard?**

Discuss it with the Group Leader or Section Leader

### **Want to volunteer your service?**

See the Group Chairperson or Group Leader

### **Is there anything else you would like to know?**

Ask the Group Leader or your Section Leader