



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Program and Training Conference 2023

Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Course description:

This class is designed for Commissioners, Webelos leaders and parents, Cubmasters, and Scout Leaders.

It focuses on transitional issues and ways to ensure a seamless transition between programs.





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Instructor:

Deedee Miller DLPMiller@gmail.com

Currently, I am an Asst. Cubmaster in Pack 427 and an AoL Den Leader. I've previously led Lions, Tigers (3X), Wolves (2X), Bears (2X), and Webelos, and AoLs (2X).



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Instructor:

Deedee Miller DLPMiller@gmail.com

I'm also an Asst. Scoutmaster with Troop 8422, and previously with Troop 1946.



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Instructor:

Deedee Miller DLPMiller@gmail.com

I'm a mother to 6 kids in Scouting, ages 8-19. I have kids registered in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts.





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Instructor:

Deedee Miller DLPMiller@gmail.com

My four boys have all made the transition from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA.





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

The two years, from the start of Webelos until after Summer Camp with their future Scouts BSA troop, are a transitional phase full of learning, growth, teamwork, and FUN!



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

These two years can be broken down into these phases:

- Cub Scouts
 - Webelos*
 - Arrow of Light*
- Crossover
- Scouts BSA
 - Scout*
 - Tenderfoot*
 - Second Class*
 - First Class*

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Cub Scouts:

- Webelos

Starts after earning Bear Rank

Program year opportunities for Advancement and meeting local Troops

Summer Camp (in the summer months after earning Bear Rank)

Fall camporees and troop recruitment events

Winter Camp and Klondike

Spring camporee

Ends with earning Webelos Rank

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Cub Scouts:

- Arrow of Light

Starts after earning Webelos Rank

Program year opportunities for Advancement and meeting local Troops

Summer Camp (in the summer months after earning Bear Rank)

Fall camporees and troop recruitment events

Winter Camp

Ends with earning AOL Rank and Crossing Over into Scouts BSA

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Cub Scouts:

- Arrow of Light

Why earn Arrow of Light rank?

Required rank work is foundational for Scouts BSA.

It's the only Cub Scout award that may be worn on the Scouts BSA uniform

There is a Square Knot patch for Scouters who earned Arrow of Light rank.

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Cub Scouts:

- Crossover

Typically in the Spring

Often around the Blue & Gold Banquet, which is usually in February

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Cub Scouts:

- Crossover

If the AoL Cub Scout completes the AoL required adventures, they earn the AoL rank.

If they did not finish the requirements for Arrow of Light, they may Crossover into Scouts BSA, anyway.

If the scout needs a little more time for AoL requirements, a little more time is permitted

If the scout has no desire to complete AoL, but wants to Crossover, proceed.

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Scouts BSA:

- Trail to First Class

Scout Rank

Tenderfoot Rank

Second Class Rank

First Class Rank

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Scouts BSA:

- Trail to First Class

The general consensus is an active scout can easily go from Crossover to First Class Rank within 18ish months

This is most effectively done through Experiential Learning

The requirements for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks may be worked on simultaneously; however, these ranks must be earned in sequence.

(p. 441 of the Scouts BSA Handbook)

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Scouts BSA:

- Trail to First Class

Scout Rank

Is nearly the same as Arrow of Light “Scouting Adventure”, except for a couple of additional requirements.

The first rank you can earn in Scouts BSA is the “Scout” rank. This rank shows you, your fellow Scouts, and your leaders that you know and understand Scouting’s basic premises.

Matthews, K. (2023, February 8). *Getting started in scouts BSA: Earning the Scout Rank.* ScoutShop.org - Official Retailer of the BSA. <https://www.scoutshop.org/blog/getting-started-in-scouts-bsa-earning-the-scout-rank.html>

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Scouts BSA:

- Trail to First Class

Tenderfoot Rank

The second rank you can earn in Scouts BSA is the “Tenderfoot” rank. This rank starts the dive into skill work. You will begin to learn about how to be a successful, reliable, and self-reliant Scout that people can count on to know their way around the outdoors and turn to for other important life skills. In short, this is the beginning to the three ranks where you learn foundational practices that you will later build upon so you can be a strong leader.

Matthews, K. (2020, November 23). *The second rank in scouts BSA: Earning the Tenderfoot Rank.* ScoutShop.org - Official Retailer of the BSA. <https://www.scoutshop.org/blog/the-second-rank-in-scouts-bsa-earning-the-tenderfoot-rank.html>



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Scouts BSA:

- Trail to First Class

Second Class Rank

To earn the Second Class rank, you'll expand your Scoutcraft skills, spending more nights outdoors, building a campfire, planning and cooking camp meals, the using a compass and map, identifying wild animals and plants, and developing swimming and water rescue skills. You'll also perform community service and begin learning about things like earning and saving money.

Steps of scouting. Great Smoky Mountain Council - Boy Scouts of America. (2023, April 4). <https://eastnscouts.org/steps-of-scouting/>

Prepared. For Life.®



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Scouts BSA:

- Trail to First Class

First Class Rank

Requirement for the First Class rank include continuing to build on the Scoutcraft skills learned for the Second Class rank, plus learning about weather, the use of a GPS unit, canoeing or kayaking, more advanced first aid and rescue techniques, and civic concerns like constitutional rights and obligations.

Steps of scouting. Great Smoky Mountain Council - Boy Scouts of America. (2023, April 4). <https://eastnscouts.org/steps-of-scouting/>



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Why is this transition phase so crucial?

- The Webelos-Scouts BSA years sees the required skills for rank increase in breadth and complexity

Knotwork

Civics & Citizenship

Weather & Meteorology

Outdoor Ethics

Camping & Gear Selection

Scout Skills

Reverence

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Why is this transition phase so crucial?

- These years are often when scouts leave Scouting for good, due to:

Lack of interest

Poor relationships with peers or leaders

Increased participation competitive sports

Increased focus on musical performance

Francis, N. (2019, June 24). *How to have a successful Webelos transition*. Scouting magazine. <https://scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/how-to-have-a-smooth-and-successful-webelos-transition/>

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Why is this transition phase so crucial?

- “Studies show that the longer a Scout stays in the Scouting program, the more likely he or she is to demonstrate those behaviors and attitudes associated with good citizenship, character and fitness,” says Bob Scott, the BSA’s Cub Scout experience manager (in 2019).

Francis, N. (2019, June 24). *How to have a successful Webelos transition*. Scouting magazine. <https://scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/how-to-have-a-smooth-and-successful-webelos-transition/>





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

How do we ensure an ideal transition to Scouts BSA?

- Provide Webelos and Arrow of Light programming that provides a sure foundation for future Scouting skills



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

How do we ensure an ideal transition to Scouts BSA?

- Develop relationships with local Scouts BSA Troops during the Webelos year



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

How do we ensure an ideal transition to Scouts BSA?

- Gain invitations to Troop events that are appropriate for Webelos/AoL Cub Scouts



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

How do we ensure an ideal transition to Scouts BSA?

- Plan a fitting Crossover that celebrates the Cub Scout work completed and the future after Cub Scouts (Scouts BSA, sports, music, etc)



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

How do we ensure an ideal transition to Scouts BSA?

- Plan a fitting Crossover that celebrates the Cub Scout work completed and the future after Cub Scouts (Scouts BSA, sports, music, etc)

Representatives (Scouts & Leaders) from their future troops should be at Crossover to receive the new Scouts into their troop.





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

How do we ensure an ideal transition to Scouts BSA?

- Plan a fitting Crossover that celebrates the Cub Scout work completed and the future after Cub Scouts (Scouts BSA, sports, music, etc)

If a Scout is resolute that they're not continuing with Scouting after Cub Scouts, it's Kind to recognize what will be next for them:

- *Members of their sports team*
- *Bandmates*
- *Dance studio*
- *Etc*

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Can't Scouting fit with sports/band/etc?

- Of course!

This is one of the reasons to allow scouts to vet numerous troops. They all have their own culture that includes differences in:

- *Schedule*
- *How Youth led is interpreted*
- *Camping culture*
- *Community Service culture*

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Can't Scouting fit with sports/band/etc?

- Of course!
- Allowing Cub Scouts & their families to decide on their future troop without expectation of outcome is pinnacle!





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Other issues causing rocky transitions:

- Lack of understanding the differences between Scouts BSA & Cub Scouts program leadership
Adult-led versus Youth-led



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Other issues causing rocky transitions:

- Lack of understanding the differences between Scouts BSA & Cub Scouts program leadership

Adult-led versus Youth-led

- Concerns about camping experience differences in Scouts BSA

Tenting with peers or alone versus with parents (back in Cub Scouts)

Opposite gender tenting at a nearby campground

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Other issues causing rocky transitions:

- Lack of understanding the differences between Scouts BSA & Cub Scouts program leadership

Adult-led versus Youth-led

- Concerns about camping experience differences in Scouts BSA

*Tenting with peers or alone versus with parents (back in Cub Scouts)
Opposite gender tenting at a nearby campground*

- Parents not ready to “let go”

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Solutions:

- Lack of understanding the differences between Scouts BSA & Cub Scouts program leadership ?
- Provide education opportunities during the Arrow of Light months

Parent Meetings focusing on different parent opportunities (committee, scouter reserve, merit badge counselor)

Demonstrations about the use of Scoutbook

Explaining the Advancement process

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Solutions:

- Concerns about camping experience differences in Scouts BSA?
- Provide information to parents
 - About YPT guidelines*
 - Tenting with patrol mates provides opportunities to bond with peers*

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Solutions:

- Parents not ready to “let go”?
- Sometimes a new Crossover into the troop might be the oldest of their family’s kids

This might be the first time a parent has had to allow increased independence for their child.

Acknowledge that it is new territory for their family

Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Other resources for success in Scouting:

- Tons of resources on the internet!

(See handout)



Prepared. For Life.®





106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Webelos-to-Scouts Transition

Closing discussion



Prepared. For Life.®



106: Webelos to Scout Transition

106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Boy Scouts of America "Webelos-to-Scouts Transition" <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/troop-resources/recruitment-marketing/webelos-to-scouts-transition/>

National Capital Area Council: Bull Run District "Webelos-to-Scout Transition" <https://www.ncacbsa.org/bull-run/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2018/04/Parents-Webelos-to-Scouts-Transition-Guide-Bull-Run-District-2018.pdf>

Northeast Iowa Council, Boy Scouts of America "Webelos-to-Scout Transition" <https://www.scoutsiowa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Webelos-to-Scout-Transition-Guidelines.pdf>

National Capital Area "Webelos-to-Scouts Transition" <https://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Unit-WEBELOS-to-Scout-Transition.pdf>

Scoutingwire "8 Ideas for an Easy Webelos to Scouts BSA Transition" <https://scoutingwire.org/8-ideas-for-an-easy-webelos-to-boy-scouts-transition/>

Scouting Magazine "How to find the right troop for your Webelos transition" <https://scoutingmagazine.org/2018/10/how-to-find-the-right-troop-for-your-webelos-transition/>

Scouting Magazine "How to have a smooth-and successful- Webelos transition" <https://scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/how-to-have-a-smooth-and-successful-webelos-transition/>

Northern Star Scouting "Moving from Arrow of Light Scouts to Scouts BSA" <https://www.northernstar.org/news/enavigator/moving-from-arrow-of-light-scouts-to-scouts-bsa>

Simon Kenton Council "Webelos to Scout Transition Plan" <https://www.skscouts.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Webelos-to-Scout-Transition.pdf>

Heart of America Council "Recruiting Guide Webelos-to-Scout Transition" <https://www.hoac-bsa.org/data/sites/1/media/advancement-documents/webelos/webelos-to-scout-transition-plan-1.pdf>

Lincoln Heritage Council "Webelos to Scout Transition" <https://lhcbasa.org/webelos-to-scout-transition/>

New Birth of Freedom Council "Webelos to Scout Transition Guide for Scouts BSA Troops" <https://newbirthoffreedom.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Webelos-to-Scout-Transition-Troop-Guide.pdf>

Prepared. For Life.®

Adult Leaders Can Learn Through Play Too!



WOODBADGE Sept 25-29 & Oct 10-13

106: Webelos to Scout Transition

Boy Scouts of America “Webelos-to-Scouts Transition” <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/troop-resources/recruitment-marketing/webelos-to-scouts-transition/>

National Capital Area Council: Bull Run District “Webelos-to-Scout Transition” <https://www.ncacbsa.org/bull-run/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2018/04/Parents-Webelos-to-Scouts-Transition-Guide-Bull-Run-District-2018.pdf>

Northeast Iowa Council, Boy Scouts of America “Webelos-to-Scout Transition” <https://www.scoutsiowa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Webelos-to-Scout-Transition-Guidelines.pdf>

National Capital Area “Webelos-to-Scouts Transition” <https://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Unit-WEBELOS-to-Scout-Transition.pdf>

Scoutingwire “8 Ideas for an Easy Webelos to Scouts BSA Transition” <https://scoutingwire.org/8-ideas-for-an-easy-webelos-to-boy-scouts-transition/>

Scouting Magazine “How to find the right troop for your Webelos transition” <https://scoutingmagazine.org/2018/10/how-to-find-the-right-troop-for-your-webelos-transition/>

Scouting Magazine “How to have a smooth-and successful- Webelos transition” <https://scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/how-to-have-a-smooth-and-successful-webelos-transition/>

Northern Star Scouting “Moving from Arrow of Light Scouts to Scouts BSA” <https://www.northernstar.org/news/enavigator/moving-from-arrow-of-light-scouts-to-scouts-bsa>

Simon Kenton Council “Webelos to Scout Transition Plan” <https://www.skcscouts.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Webelos-to-Scout-Transition.pdf>



Heart of America Council “Recruiting Guide Webelos-to-Scout Transition” <https://www.hoac-bsa.org/data/sites/1/media/advancement-documents/webelos/webelos-to-scout-transition-plan-1.pdf>





Lincoln Heritage Council “Webelos to Scout Transition” <https://lhcbbsa.org/webelos-to-scout-transition/>




New Birth of Freedom Council “Webelos to Scout Transition Guide for Scouts BSA Troops” <https://newbirthoffreedom.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Webelos-to-Scout-Transition-Troop-Guide.pdf>




Webelos-to-Scout Plan Key:

- CM-Cubmaster
- PLC-Patrol leaders' council
- SM-Scoutmaster
- SPL-Senior patrol leader
- TCC-Troop committee chair
- TG-Troop guide
- TMC-Troop membership chair
- WDL-Webelos den leader

	August		Person Responsible
	1	Get names, addresses, and telephone numbers of second-year Webelos Scouts. Record the information on the Webelos Scout Tracking form.	TMC, WDL, CM
	2	Plan a joint Scout troop/ Webelos den camping trip for October.	SM, PLC, CM, WDL
	3	Plan a program of upcoming events to present at a Webelos den meeting visit in November.	TMC
	4	Select a den chief for each Webelos den.	SM, SPL, CM
	September		Person Responsible
	1	Mail a letter of introduction from the Scout troop to second-year Webelos Scouts to introduce them to the troop.	TMC, SM

	2	Put second-year Webelos Scouts on the mailing list to receive the troop newsletter.	TMC
	3	Continue planning the joint camping trip for October.	SM, PLC, CM, WDL
	October		Person Responsible
	1	Conduct the joint camping trip with the Webelos den.	SM, TMC, SPL, CM
	November		Person Responsible
	1	Attend a Webelos den meeting to teach the Webelos Scouts how the Scout troop works.	SM, TMC, SPL
	2	Have den chiefs attend a local council or district training course.	SM
	December		Person Responsible
	1	Set a date for Webelos Scouts and their parents to visit a Scout troop meeting in January.	SM, WDL
	2	If desired, send a small holiday gift to each Webelos Scout.	SM, TMC
	January		Person Responsible
	1	Host Webelos Scouts and their parents at a troop meeting.	SM, SPL

	2	Plan a bridging ceremony to welcome graduating Webelos Scouts to their new troop.	SM, CM, TMC, SPL
	3	Attend a meeting of first-year Webelos Scouts to introduce them to Scouts BSA.	SM, TMC, CM
	February		Person Responsible
	1	Recommended time to hold cross-over ceremony.	SM, CM, SPL, TMC
	2	Get new Scouts actively involved with the troop through troop activities.	TMC, SM, CM
	3	Recruit parents of new Scouts to become assistant Scoutmasters or troop committee members.	TCC, SM
	March		Person Responsible
	1	Plan a troop activity for new Scouts to get them involved with their new troop.	PLC, SM, TMC, TG
	April		Person Responsible
	1	Conduct summer camp orientation to encourage troop involvement.	SM
	2	Attend a meeting of Bear Cub Scouts to introduce them to Scouts BSA.	SM, TMC, CM

	3	Sponsor a troop activity for the new Scouts.	SM, TMC, TG, PLC
	May		Person Responsible
	1	Work closely with new Scouts and parents during their transition to a troop, ensuring their needs are met and that their move has been natural and fun.	TMC
	2	Work on rank advancement with new Scouts.	SM, SPL, TG
	June		Person Responsible
	1	Ensure that all new Scouts attend summer camp.	TMC, SM
	July		Person Responsible
	1	Work closely with new Scouts and parents during their transition to a troop, ensuring their needs are met and that their move has been natural and fun.	TMC
	2	Work on rank advancement with new Scouts.	SM, SPL, TG