

## Do you have an Adult Led Troop?

Many troops to have a boy run troop but, when you pull the covers back, the adults are the ones organizing, planning, and coordinating troop activities. Adults are responsible for participating in those things but our job is to let the scouts run their troop with as little interference from us as possible. The hardest thing to do is to step back and let the boys really run their troop but it is imperative that you do so. What are the signs that your troop is actually run by the adults rather than the scouts? If you want a Boy Run Troop and you answer “yes” to 3 or more of the “Adult Led Troop” column, you might want to consider making changes.

<b>Adult Led Troop</b>	<b>Boy Run Troop</b>
Adults start and lead the meetings.	Scoutmaster reminds Senior Patrol Leader to get the meeting started.
Adults do announcements at openings, closings, or during meetings.	Scouts work with adults to determine announcements and scouts make the announcement.
Adults lead the skills or rank advancement sessions.	Scout teach the skills and help each other advance.
Adults sign the rank advancements in the scout’s books.	Older or higher rank scouts sign the books – adults only sign for Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review.
Adults plan where campouts will be held.	Scouts plan where campouts will be held and the activities conducted at campouts – adults provide guidance regarding suggested locations, discuss distance, and provide transportation.
Adults pack trailers and vehicles.	Scouts pack trailers and vehicles with adults providing suggestions for the best weight distribution or pitch in to help with the heavy loads.
Adults elect any leadership position and pick leadership positions when a scout advances to a rank requiring leadership.	Scouts elect Senior Patrol Leaders, Patrol Leaders, and all leadership positions.
Adults decide what patrols scouts belong to and the makeup of the patrol.	Scouts choose which patrol they wish to join and how their patrols are organized (age, rank, mixed, etc.).
Adults decide to do fundraisers like Chili Suppers, Pancake Breakfasts, Christmas Tree sales.	Scouts choose their fundraisers and elect not to do certain ones, even if the adults believe they are tradition and must be done. Adults help coordinate fundraisers, provide transportation for pickup of items, but let the scouts lead the event and make all announcements.
Adults supervise the scouts, gain control during meetings, hover over scouts during activities, and are constantly yelling at scouts to stay on task or pushing them to work on rank advancements.	Scouts run the meetings, remind each other to stay on task, gain control of meetings using the Scout Sign, and push each other to advance. Adults provide resources, are there in case things go too far (fighting), and step back to let the boys work on tasks at their own pace and in their own manner.
Adults plan the year’s activities including creating the calendar and which activities scouts will do during meetings or campouts.	Scouts have an annual planning meeting to decide where they will go each month for campouts, where to go for High Adventure, and what activities they want to do on the campouts.
Adults tell the scouts what need to be done during meetings or plan activities during meetings.	The Patrol Leader Council meets every month to plan the month’s weekly meeting schedule and activities. Scoutmaster provides suggestions for activities or pass on requests from the Troop Committee.
Adults run the Patrol Leader’s Council.	Senior Patrol Leader runs the PLC and the Scoutmaster is there as a resource, saying as little as possible during the meeting.
Adults, other than the SM and ASM, attend the Patrol Leader’s Council.	Only the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters attend the PLC with the goal of not being active participants. The SM provides guidance to the SPL before the meeting to ensure the SPL knows what must be accomplished during his PLC.

