

2025 Arrow of Light to Scout Crossover Plan

Arrow of Light is the final badge of rank in Cub Scouting for 5th graders and is designed to prepare Cub Scouts to join a Scout troop.

Arrow of Light Scouts and their families should be familiar and comfortable with the youth and adult leaders of the Scout troop, their role in the troop and troop activities, and feel excited about beginning this new adventure. The passage from a pack to a troop should be smooth, with no time lost in between. The crossover ceremony should clearly signify the progression to a new level of Scouting.

The key factor to a strong Arrow of Light to Scout crossover is the ongoing working relationship of the leaders of a Cub Scout pack, the Arrow of Light den leader, and the adult leaders of the Scout troop. By planning and coordinating their efforts, the pack and troop can help make the Arrow of Light -to-Scout crossover seamless and give all Arrow of Light Scouts a chance to experience the fun and excitement of joining a Scout troop.

Pack Responsibilities

It should be the goal of the Cubmaster and Arrow of Light den leader to have each Scout continue their Scouting experience. Pack and den leaders can use these tips:

- First thing is to develop a working relationship with the leadership of a Scouts BSA troop or troops in the community. Most troops should have either an assistant Scoutmaster or a committee member assigned to new Scouts. Your unit commissioner can help put you in contact with troop leaders.
- Ensure that Arrow of Light Scouts visit a Scouts BSA Troop as early as possible, this is a requirement for the required Bobcat Adventure.
- Work with troop leaders to secure den chiefs, with a focus on Arrow of Light dens.
- Work with troop leaders to get assistance with delivering Arrow of Light required and elective Adventures.
- Invite the Scoutmaster and troop youth leaders to special pack activities. This will help create familiarity and a level of comfort for the Arrow of Light Scouts and their parents as they ease into the troop.
- Plan a meaningful crossover ceremony. Include troop leadership to be present to accept the Arrow of Light Scouts as they graduate.
- If a troop does not exist in your community, discuss with the head of the pack's chartered organization about the possibility of organizing a troop. An Arrow of Light den can form the nucleus of a new troop.

Troop Responsibilities

The crossover from an Arrow of Light den to a Scout troop is an important stage in the Scouting journey. It is crucial that Scout leaders do everything they can to make the process as seamless and inviting as possible for Arrow of Light scouts and their parents, including:

- Become familiar with the requirements for the six Arrow of Light required Adventures.
- Schedule and prepare for Arrow of Light Scouts to visit the Troop meeting as soon as possible (start of the school/program year).
- Select Scouts to serve as den chiefs for each Arrow of Light den. Arrange for den chief training.
- Serve as a resource for overnight activities. The troop can be of service to provide equipment, leadership, and logistics for Arrow of Light den or pack campouts.
- Conduct an orientation for parents when Arrow of Light Scouts are visiting the Troop to explain the difference between Cub Scouting and Scouts BSA and how the Arrow of Light badge or rank will help prepare them for joining Scouts BSA. Include information on Summer Camp to allow families to prepare financially and take advantage of fundraising opportunities.

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Troop Responsibilities (cont)

- Arrow of Light den campouts with a Scout troop should show Arrow of Light Scouts and their parents what to expect when they move into the troop. The Arrow of Light den and troop should cook and camp by patrol and use skills that the Arrow of Light Scouts can participate in.
- Provide each Arrow of Light Scouts and their parents with a copy of the troop's activities for the upcoming year.
- Get to know the parents and leaders in the Arrow of Light den. Have personal one-on-one discussions about how they can be of service to the troop when their child joins.
- Work with the Cubmaster and Arrow of Light den leader in planning a meaningful crossover ceremony.

Suggested Crossover Calendar

<u>Month</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>
August	
1. Get names, addresses, and telephone numbers of Arrow of Light Scouts. Record the information on the Arrow of Light Scout Tracking form.	TNMC, OALDL, CM
2. Plan a joint Scout troop/Arrow of Light den camping trip for October.	SM, PLC, CM, WDL
3. Schedule the Arrow of Light den visit to the Scouts Troop to complete the Bobcat Adventure requirement.	OALDL, SM, TNMC
4. Select a den chief for each Arrow of Light den.	SM, SPL, CM
September	
1. Mail a letter of introduction from the Scout troop to Arrow of Light families.	TNMC, SM
2. Put Arrow of Light Scouts on the mailing list to receive the troop newsletter.	TNMC
3. Continue planning the joint camping trip for October.	SM, PLC, CM, AOLDL
October	
1. Conduct the joint camping trip with the Arrow of Light den.	SM, TNMC, SPL, CM, AOLDL
November	
1. Assist Arrow of Light Den Leader with Adventures at den meetings.	SM, TNMC, SPL
2. Have den chiefs attend a local council or district training course.	SM
December	
1. Confirm the date, time, and location for the Arrow of Light crossover ceremony.	SM, TNMC, SPL, CM, AOLDL
2. Inform Arrow of Light parents of the dates, location, and costs for Summer Camp.	SM, TNMC
January	
1. Finalized plans for Arrow of Light crossover.	SM, SPL, CM, AOLDL

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Suggested Crossover Calendar (cont.)

<u>Month</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>
February	
1. Recommended time to hold cross-over ceremony.	SM, CM, SPL, TNMC
2. Get new scouts actively involved with the troop through troop activities.	TNMC, SM, CM
3. Recruit parents of new Scouts to become assistant Scoutmasters or troop committee members.	TCC, SM
March	
1. Plan a troop activity for new scouts to get them involved with their new troop.	PLC, SM, TNMC, TG
April	
1. Conduct summer camp orientation to encourage troop involvement.	SM
2. Sponsor a troop activity for the new scouts.	SM, TNMC, TG, PLC
May	
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.	TNMC
2. Work on rank advancement with new Scouts.	SM, SPL, TG
June	
1. Ensure that all new Scouts attend summer camp.	TNMC, SM
July	
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.	TNMC
2. Work on rank advancement with new Scouts.	SM, SPL, TG

Person Responsible Key:

CM-Cubmaster

PLC-Patrol leaders' council

SM-Scoutmaster

SPL-Senior patrol leader

TCC-Troop committee chair

TG-Troop guide

TNMC-Troop new member coordinator