

Ceremonies

Ceremonies play an important role in the life of a Scout Troop. They usually take place to mark special occasions for a Scout, a Patrol, a number of Scouts or the whole Troop. It is important to create a sense of Scouting atmosphere for your ceremonies. This can be done by thinking about the location (a Scout hall, a camp site, a hill side), the props you use (a campfire or pioneering structure) and the content of the ceremony. For some ceremonies it may be appropriate to invite family & friends along. What is most important is that the occasion is special for everyone.

The following are ceremonies that you should consider having in your Troop:

Welcome to Scouts

This will be done on your first week or two in the Troop. You will be introduced to the Troop and this is the start of your journey in Scouts.

Investiture / Promise Renewal

You are only invested into Scouting once during your Scouting journey. So after being part of the Troop for a few months, having learned about Scouting and having taken part in Patrol and Troop meetings and activities, you will either be invested into Scouting Ireland or you will renew your Scout Promise.

If you join Scouts for the first time, you will participate in an investiture ceremony - to be recognised as a member of your Scout Troop, of Scouting Ireland and the worldwide movement. If you come up from Cub Scouts you will renew your Scout Promise and be recognised as a member of the Troop. These ceremonies sometimes take place in your Scout Den or Hall in the presence of your family, but that's not to say they can't take place up a mountain, on a boat, or while on camp.

At both ceremonies you recite your Scout Promise while making the Scout Sign with your right hand and holding the Scout flag in your left hand. You will then be presented with your Troop neckerchief and the Scout Discovery badge. Congratulations on becoming a Scout!

Scouts Own

These are ceremonies where we reflect on ourselves, our actions, what we have achieved and on the world around us. We can have these ceremonies during our weekly meetings or on activities like a sunrise hike or at a Troop campfire.



Presentation of Awards/Badges

Throughout your journey in Scouts you will have many opportunities to achieve badges. As you complete them they will be awarded in a suitable way - Perhaps at a regular Troop meeting, on camp, at a campfire or at a symbolic location, such as a mountain peak that you climbed while earning the badge. Your achievement may be recognised during a Scouts own - or you could organise an awards night where the presentations are made by a Scouting dignitary or someone special in the community!

PL/APL Appointments

During your journey with Scouts you may become a Patrol Leader (PL) or an Assistant Patrol Leader (APL). These are important roles in the section and your promotion to these roles will have a suitable ceremony. This ceremony should take place in an appropriate environment be that in the Scout Den, at camp, on board a boat or up a mountain, where you will be presented with your PL/APL badges.

Departure to Venture Scouts

This is a celebration recognising your achievements in the the Scout Troop as you prepare to move to Venture Scouts. It is the completion of your journey in Scouts and will be marked by your Troop. The celebration could involve a hike to witness the sunrise or a return to a mountain top. Reflect on the great time in Scouts as you prepare for the next part of your adventure.