

1st Easingwold (Forest of Galtres) Scout Group Constitution



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Approved By: Group Exec April 2010

Group Scout Leader: Dave Waring
Group Chair: Gerard Tubb
Group Secretary: Marion Hodgkiss
Group Treasurer: Jean Bannerman

This document describes the Management and Constitution of the 1st Easingwold (Forest of Galtres) Scout Group, which is part of the Easingwold Scout District in the County of North Yorkshire.

This document is a copy of the guidelines issued by the Scout Association in their Policy, Organisation and Rules document, or POR, which is available on the Scout Association website at www.scoutbase.org.uk. Rule numbers and paragraphs are taken from POR.

1st Easingwold (Forest of Galtres) Scout Group is a charity registered in England and Wales and its trustees are the members of the Group Executive Committee.

Introduction

The purpose of Scouting is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

Scouting is open to all faiths and must therefore take account of the different religious obligations of its Members while upholding the essential spirit of the Promise.

Membership of the youth sections of the Scout Group is open equally to boys, girls, young men and young women of the appropriate ages.

Details of the aims and objectives of Scouting can be found in POR.

Rule 3.23 Management of the 1st Easingwold (Forest of Galtres) Scout Group

- a) The Scout Group is an autonomous organisation holding its property and equipment and admitting young people to membership of the Scout Group subject to the policy and rules of The Scout Association.
- b) The Scout Group is led by a Group Scout Leader and managed by a Group Executive Committee. They are accountable to the Group Scout Council for the satisfactory running of the Group.
- c) The Group Scout Leader is assisted and supported by the Group Scouters in the delivery of the Balanced Programme for young people within the Group.

Rule 3.23 The Constitution of the 1st Easingwold (Forest of Galtres) Scout Group

a. The Group Scout Council

The Group Scout Council is the electoral body which supports Scouting in the Scout Group. It is the body to which the Group Executive Committee is accountable.

i. Membership of the Group Scout Council is open to:

- Scouters;
- Colony, Pack and Troop Assistants ;
- Skills Instructors;

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- Administrators;
- Advisers;
- Patrol Leaders;
- all parents of Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts;
- any other supporters including former Scouts and their parents who may be admitted by the Group Scout Leader, the Group Executive Committee or the Group Scout Council;
- Explorer Scout Leaders (if stated in a Partnership Agreement);

ii. The District Commissioner and District Chairman are ex-officio members of the Group Scout Council.

iii. Membership of the Group Scout Council ceases upon:

- the resignation of the member;
- the dissolution of the Council;
- the termination of membership by Headquarters following a recommendation by the Group Executive Committee.

iv. The Group Scout Council must hold an Annual General Meeting within six months of the financial year end to:

- receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Executive Committee, including the annual statement of accounts;
- approve the Group Scout Leader's nomination of the Group Chairman and nominated members of the Group Executive Committee;
- elect a Group Secretary and Group Treasurer;
- elect certain members of the Group Executive Committee;
- appoint an auditor or independent examiner or scrutineer as required.

b. The Group Executive Committee

i. The Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of their appointment. The Committee is responsible for:

- the maintenance of the Group's property and equipment;
- the raising of funds and the administration of the Group's finance;
- the insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- assisting with the recruitment of Leaders and other adult support.

ii. The Group Executive Committee consists of:

Ex-officio Members

- The Group Chairman;
- The Group Secretary;
- The Group Treasurer;
- The Group Scout Leader;

- The Assistant Group Scout Leader;
- All Section Leaders;
- The Explorer Scout Leader (as stated in the Partnership Agreement);

Nominated Members

- persons nominated by the Group Scout Leader;
- the nominations must be approved at the Group Annual General Meeting;
- the number of nominated members must not exceed the number of elected members.

Elected Members

- persons elected at the Group Annual General Meeting;
- these should normally be four to six in number;
- the actual number must be the subject of a resolution by the Group Scout Council.

Co-opted Members

- persons co-opted annually by the Group Executive Committee
- the number of co-opted members must not exceed the number of elected members.

Right of Attendance

- the District Commissioner and the District Chairman have the right of attendance at meetings of the Group Executive Committee.

iii. Ideally, between the nominated members, elected members and co-opted members, the Group Executive should include a parent of at least one Member of each of the Sections in the Group.

iv. The Group Executive Committee may establish any sub-Committees that it deems necessary.

v. The Group Scout Leader and the Group Chairman will be ex-officio members of any sub-Committee of the Group Executive Committee.

vi. Any fundraising committee must include at least two members of the Group Executive Committee, in addition to the ex-officio members. No Section Leader or Assistant Leader may serve on such a fundraising sub-Committee.

vii. A Scout Group is an educational charity. Members of the Group Executive Committee are the charity trustees of the Scout Group.

viii. Only persons aged 18 and over may be full voting members of the Group Executive Committee because of their status as charity trustees.

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ix. Certain people are disqualified from being charity trustees by virtue of the Charities Acts.

x. Charity trustees are responsible for complying with all the legislation applicable to charities.

xi. 1st Easingwold (Forest of Galtres) Scout Group is registered as a charity and is required to make an annual return to the Charity Commission.

c. The Group Scouters' Meeting

i. Membership of the Group Scouters' Meeting consists of the Group Scout Leader as chairman, all Section Leaders and Assistant Leaders. Explorer Scout Leaders are included as stated in the partnership agreement.

ii. The role of the Group Scouters' Meeting is to:

- consider the well-being and development of each Member of the Group;
- ensure the progress of each Member through the programme;
- plan and co-ordinate all the Group's activities;
- to keep the Group Executive Committee advised of the financial and other resource requirements of the training programme.

d. Conduct of Meetings

i. Only members as defined above may vote in meetings of the Group Scout Council and the Group Executive Committee.

ii. Decisions are made by a majority of votes cast by those present at the meeting. In the event of an equal number of votes being cast on either side the chairman does not have a casting vote and the matter is taken not to have been carried.

iii. The Group Scout Council must make a resolution defining a quorum for meetings of the Group Scout Council and the Group Executive Committee and its sub-Committees.

Rule 3.24 Administrators and Advisers

a. The Group Chairman and the Group Scout Leader must be able to work in partnership.

b. To assist the formation of this partnership the Group Chairman is nominated by the Group Scout Leader. The appointment should not be held by a Scouter.

c. The appointment of the Group Chairman is approved by the Group Scout Council at its

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Annual General Meeting.

d. Every effort should be made to find a Group Chairman. Only in extreme circumstances

may the Group Scout Leader act as Group Chairman for a short period.

e. The Group Secretary and Group Treasurer are elected by the Group Scout Council at

the Annual General Meeting every year. Neither appointment may be held by a Scouter.

f. No individual should hold more than one of the appointments of Group Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer.

g. Other Administrators and Advisers may be appointed by the Group Executive Committee with the approval of the Group Scout Leader as per POR: The Appointment Process.

h. Administrators and Advisers appointments may be terminated by:

- the resignation of the holder;
- the unanimous resolution of all other members of the Group Executive Committee;
- the expiry of the period of the appointment;
- confirmation by Headquarters of the termination of the appointment in the event of the cancellation of the registration of the Group.

i. The appointment and termination of all Group Administrators and Advisers appointments must be reported to the District Secretary who should maintain a record of such appointments.

Rule 3.25 Minimum Age for Appointments

a. To hold a adult appointment in a Scout Group a person must have reached the age of 18.