



Boy Scouts of the Philippines

National Office

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NATIONAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM

No. 09 Series of 2018

TO : Regional Scout Directors, Council Scout Executives and Officers-In-Charge

SUBJECT : 100 YEARS CELEBRATION OF ROVER SCOUTING:
ROVERING... YOUR WAY AND BEYOND

1. **Introduction.** Scouting started in 1907 with what is now known as the Scout section, which was followed by the establishment of the Cub Scout section (Cub Scouts) in 1916. During World War I, the need for a Scouting Programme for young adults arose, leading to the formation of the Rover Scout section in 1918.
2. **Historical Background.** The term "**Rover Scouts**" was first mentioned by Baden-Powell in The Boy Scouts Head Quarters Gazette in August 1918 and the scheme was fully established by November 1919. He wrote a handbook for the new scheme, which was published in 1922 under the famously known '**Rovering to Success**'. It contained his philosophy for a happy adult life as well as ideas for activities that Rover Scouts could organize for themselves.
3. **Rationale.** The 100 Years of Celebration of Rovers Centenary is an opportunity for Scouting worldwide to raise its profile among young adults and senior sections in line with the World Organization of the Scout Movement's Vision 2023. This will help attract more young people within this age range who may help increase membership in the younger section as well as Adult Volunteers. This being said, it is important to highlight that Rovers are not only members who just practice Scouting at grassroots level but also as future leaders of Scouting. While the celebration of the Rovers Centenary will primarily be the responsibility of the NSOs, calls for a closer working collaboration at all levels – World, Regional and National – should be done. Therefore, we propose to support to highlight the Centenary through various activities, focusing on the main areas of activities suggested by the WOSM's Empowering Young Adults, Guidelines for the Rover Scout Section document (p.115 See link below) that will be developed, planned and rolled out throughout the year.
 - a. For Downloads: WOSM's Empowering Young Adults: Guidelines for the Rover Scout Section <https://www.scoutsecuador.org/site/sites/default/files/%5Bbiblioteca%5D/Rover%20Guidelines%20en%20%28ingl%C3%A9s%29.pdf>
4. **Aim and Objectives.** The 100 Years Celebration of Rover Scouting: Rovering... Your Way and Beyond... aims to highlight the Rover Scouting Program as the fifth and final stage of the educational program of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, and its vital role in educating young men and women, young adults and adolescents to become responsible and active citizens of this Nation. It further seeks to provide leadership opportunities through training and service to community and eventually lead to youth involvement and empowerment.

At the end of the Year-round Rovering Celebration, the BSP, through its Local Councils and Scouting Regions should be able to;

1. Promote Rover Scouting Program as viable initiative that will gather support to the Youth and their role in Nation-Building through Community-Based Scouting;
 2. Provide safe, meaningful, timely, relevant and exciting Programs, Projects and Activities (PPAs) that will challenge young people to go through the ladder of Progressive Scheme and Badge System in the Rover Section;
 3. Conduct Rover Moots at various levels with greater emphasis in Community Development Projects through Immersion Programs to help and reach out the marginalized sector of the society;
 4. Provide great opportunity to young people and adolescents to act as advocates and raise awareness for local issues affecting their lives in the community such as Health, Education, Livelihood, Sustainability and Governance;
 5. Rekindle Scouting Spirit, Brotherhood and Fellowship among Rovers as the fastest growing Local and Global Network of Young Leaders and agents of change; and
 6. Strengthen Scouting Profile and Positive Image through public relations, visibility in the community and partnerships with various civic groups and civil society organizations.
5. Attached herewith are the **100 Years Celebration of Rover Scouting Activity Package** and the **WOSM Circular No. 25 and 49 Series of 2017** on Rovers Centenary for your reference.
6. We enjoined all Commissioners of all ranks and at all levels involved in the Program and Training to help in the planning and organizing various Rover activities at the Local Council, Scouting Districts and Sponsoring Institutions.
7. **Share Your Stories.** Inspire others and be a Scout Messenger of Peace by sharing your stories to other Scouts from different parts of the world thru the www.scout.org platform. If you have not signed up yet, please visit www.scout.org/register, create a profile and start sharing. Send us your action photos with caption and will include your activities and service projects in the "News and Events" section of the BSP Official Website at www.scouts.org.ph.
8. Should you have further queries, requests for program materials, resources and references, you may refer them directly to **Mr. Yasser F. Sarona**, Program and Adult Resources Development Executive, Field Operations Division, thru Tel. No. (02) 527-8317 loc. 524 or via Telefax at (02) 525-5112 or via email at yaz.sarona@scouts.org.ph and yasser_bsp@yahoo.com
9. For more information, guidance and wide dissemination.


ROGELIO S. VILLA, JR.
Secretary General

100 YEARS CELEBRATION OF ROVER SCOUTING

The Theme: Rovering... your way and beyond has been chosen as the theme for the Centenary. It emphasizes that Rovering:

- is part of Scouting and a way of life
- gives individuals the opportunity to decide on their future paths
- goes beyond current and future limitations

Suggested Rovering Activity Package for Local Councils and Scouting Regions. As support to the 100 Years Celebration of Rover Scouting, the BSP calls to all Sponsoring Institutions, Scouting Districts, Local Councils and Scouting Regions to promote and strengthen the Rover Scouting Section with wide array of varied Programs, Projects and Activities to include but are not limited to:

- 1. R.O.V.I.C. – Rover Orientation Vigil and Investiture Ceremony.** The perfect way to start your great journey in Rovering is through the Rover Orientation Vigil and Investiture Ceremony. This is the formal acceptance rites to Rover aspirants, former Senior Scouts and Young People who wants to become full pledge Rovers. The ceremony lasts from dusk until dawn with a couple of talks, reflections, community singing and campfires where fellowship and brotherhood in the open air and service commit themselves to serve Scouting and the community and live-up to the ideals of Rover Scouting.
- 2. Rover ComDeCa – Community Development Camp.** We would like to invite and challenge existing Rover Circles at the same time to plan and organize Community Development Camp and start to engage your community leaders to take action in making real contribution that will help uplift the lives of the people in the community and rekindle the tradition Filipino Spirit of “Bayanihan”. This also helps enable young Rovers to earn their Quadrant Awards by means of accumulating points through service. You may look for ideas and best practices at www.scout.org
- 3. Rover Indaba –** Indaba is an old African word which means “important conference”. The term comes from a Zulu Language word meaning business or matter. Rover Indaba is a Conference of Rover Leaders which aims to inspire the exchange of ideas and experiences, to foster international friendship, to promote dialogue and understanding, and to empower young people with skills for today’s challenges. Thanks to their years of experience in Scouting, Scouts and Rovers have a lot of expertise and best practices. 2018 would be a good year to hold online and offline talks and workshop hosted by speakers from the Scouts Global network. You may look for ideas and best practices at www.scout.org

- 4. Scouts of the World Award Special Rover Centenary Edition.** A Call to Action for all registered Rovers to undertake the Scouts of the World Award Discovery (21 Hours) and Voluntary Service (80 Hours) in field of (1) Environment Education; (2) Development Education; and (3) Peace Education such as;

a. Environment Education

- i. Mitigating the Impact of Climate Change and Global Warming
- ii. Disaster Risk Reduction Management
- iii. Solid Waste Management
- iv. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Re-sell

b. Development Education

- i. Reproductive Health Awareness Education
- ii. Anti-HIV/AIDS Advocacy and Awareness Campaign
- iii. Anti-Drug and Substance Abuse
- iv. Literacy and Numeracy Skills Training through Alternative Learning System
- v. Delivery of Social Services to Marginalized Sectors of Society
- vi. Livelihood and Entrepreneurship
- vii. Vocation and Technical Training

c. Peace Education

- i. Anti-Bullying
- ii. Cyber Bullying
- iii. Children in Conflict with Law
- iv. Street Children
- v. Peace Advocacy Campaign
- vi. Human Rights
- vii. Indigenous People's Rights
- viii. Children in Armed Conflict Situation
- ix. Child Labor

- 5. The 'R' date - 12 August.** The Centenary is a significant occasion. Sponsoring Institutions, Area/Districts, Local Councils and Scouting Regions are encouraged to join the international community in celebrating International Youth Day. You may consider commemorating this day with Non-Governmental Organizations, local influencers and other institutions. Conduct Rover Youth Forum or Congress highlighting the celebration of the International Youth Day. For more information your visit this website for program reference: <http://www.un.org/en/events/youthday/>

6. 2018 – A Rover Festival. Rovers around the world, have a wide range of practices, stories and traditions. We encourage NSOs to coordinate efforts with the local community and partners to dedicate special occasions not only to enhance and showcase these traditions, but also to provide learning opportunities for the young people of the community. This can be done through:

- events (gatherings and exhibitions) on music and art
- workshops on the development of soft and hard skills that are related to:
 - o entrepreneurship
 - o volunteering
 - o leadership
 - o decision-making
 - o project planning
 - o humanitarian action
 - o sustainable development
 - o Dialogue for Peace (intergenerational, intercultural, interreligious, social, etc.)
- fairs that showcase the impact of community projects to non-Scout and potential partners
- parties and celebrations
- Rover balls
- Special recognitions of outstanding Rovers and adult leaders. There are many other ways to commemorate and celebrate the Centenary, but the main ideas are to showcase the contributions of Rovers and to provide learning opportunities.

7. Rover Global Footprint – Community Service. Similar to what we did for the centenary of Scouting, we would also like to use this year to try and leave this world a little better than we found it. We envision Rovers to be the drivers or key players in the development of new and innovative solutions for issues affecting young people and local communities through initiatives such as

- community service in local communities
- international exchange for community development
- service for humanitarian action

8. Rovers for Sustainable Development Goals. Raising awareness and educating people on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) help to create positive behavioral change that will enable us to achieve the goals, and prompt more action in alignment with SDGs. NSOs are instrumental in spreading out this understanding; and in supporting Rovers who are eager to become SDGs ambassadors among their peers and community members. You may consider:

- organizing SDGs workshops for young people aged 16 years and above
- organizing campaigns and partnerships to understand SDGs and Rovers' role in its achievement
- mentoring Rovers and helping them to understand and promote SDGs in local institutions and communities

9. Rovers' Tongue – Peace Talks. If we can reach more we can inspire more. Contact your local radio stations asking for a possible time slot to talk about “how scouts contribute to peace through service”. Invite people to join our global effort to promote Peace Culture with small acts of kindness and become part of the 200 million people united together to create a better world in our Global invite them to Scout.org. 1. Step 1: Make a database of radios with number and contact person 2. Step 2: Contact them to ask for a space to talk about Scouts and Peace Day 3. Step 3: Schedule accordingly with the radios accepting to have you. 4. Step 4: Prepare some key points to use in your interview. Share it with other scouts if they are also joining. Prepare a certificate or token of appreciation for the radio. 5. Step 5: Go and enjoy the radio world. Ask someone to record or ask the radio to provide you with the recording.

10. Rover Time Capsule. What messages and items would you like to leave Rovers 50 or 100 years from now? This is an interesting way to send a message to the future and encourage young people to continue to create positive impacts and transform communities. Your time capsule can include:

- a letter
- your Rover community's manifesto
- fun and exciting pictures of your adventures
- memorabilia of your Rover community
- messages from members of your Rover community (link to list of time capsule ideas)

11. On the Trail - Outdoors Adventure. Young men and women are eager to explore and discover places, meet old and new friends as well as to develop a sense of a global and cohesive community. National and international explorations to discover culture, nature and sports can be done via

- parties in the forest
- outdoors route and challenges
- environmental action

12. Rover for a Day – Growth and Volunteering Campaign. Let's share the awesomeness of being part of the world's leading educational youth movement! We are aiming to have 100 million active citizens by 2023, and one way to achieve that is to inspire more people to discover interesting activities organized by local Scouts. Invite non-Scouts to participate in:

- community development projects
- outdoors camps and explorations
- multicultural experiences
- weekly meetings

13. Rovers on Facebook. Use Twibbon <https://twibbon.com/support/boy-scouts-of-the-philippine-3> and change your Profile Picture with this commemorative 100 Years of Rovers Twibbon frame or Change your Cover Picture of your Facebook account.



14. National Rover Moot. Be Prepared. 2018 will be a great Rover Way to celebrate the 13th BSP National Rover Moot as our National Culminating Activity for the 100 Years Celebration of Rover Scouting.