



# Boy Scouts of the Philippines

## National Office

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20 February 2023

### NATIONAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM

No. **18** Series of 2023

**TO :** REGIONAL SCOUT DIRECTORS  
COUNCILS SCOUTS EXECUTIVES AND  
OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE

**SUBJECT :** B.-P. 2023: CHIEF SCOUT OF THE WORLD

1. **Historical Background.** On 22 February every year, millions of Scouts around the world gather at local, national and international levels to celebrate Founder's Day. It is the birthday of **Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell** (1857-1941), the pioneer of Scouting. Among Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, this special day is referred to as the **"World Thinking day | Founder's Day"** celebration. Founder's Day is a crucial event in the Scouting calendar when members renew their Scout Promise reaffirming their commitment to the core values of the Movement.
2. **Rationale.** To date, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) issued a joint communication for all WOSM and WAGGGS member countries on the collaboration efforts of both organizations, particularly in the celebration of February 22, 2023. They circulated the Founder's Day Statement with greater emphasis to B.-P.'s last message to Scouters and Guides released in 1941, in describing the purpose of Scouting and guiding and he wrote:  
*"Its aim is to produce healthy, happy, helpful citizens, or both sexes, to eradicate the prevailing narrow self-interest, personal, political. Sectarian and national and to substitute for it a broader spirit of self-sacrifice and service in the cause of humanity; and thus to develop mutual goodwill and cooperation not only within our own country but abroad, between all countries."*

As we reflect on the events which happened over the years, we can clearly conclude that the purpose mentioned by the Founder remains relevant today as it was in 1941.

3. **Aims and Objectives.** February 22, 2023, The Founder's Day is coming, which is 166 years ago. Scouts worldwide — roughly 50 million in 165 countries — celebrate his birthday each year as Founder's Day. How will we celebrate BP Day 2023? Celebrating the Day of our Chief Scout of the World aims to build awareness and online crowdsourcing to and from Scouting communities in various parts of the country and encourages everyone to reflect on the vision of our Chief Scout and empower our promise to farther unite our young people in Peace in the spirit of collaboration and make change a potent factor in our communities, as we develop a challenging nation and create a better world, through a celebration:
  - a. Work in partnership with young people, male and female, to initiate a community service project that will benefit a certain community – particularly in line with Peace, Development and Environment;
  - b. Organize a celebration and/or a gathering reaffirming and re-dedicating ourselves to the Ideals and the Fundamental Principles of Scouting and the Scout oath and Law;

- c. Engage and involve more young people in the community and be able to create a social impact that Scouting is an educational movement of young people.
4. **Call to Action.** On its virtual meeting last February 19, 2023 with the theme: Founder's Day Town Hall 2023" talks about the many facets of BP's way on how to celebrate its birthday and this concluded the Betterworld Framework programs that the WOSM is promoting. National Scout Organizations gather to farther commit to this noble endeavor the said programs. Scouts all over the world share their significant contributions in "Creating a Better World." As we celebrate the **166<sup>th</sup>** Birthday of our Chief Scout, World Scouting call to serve the community and do good turn in the areas of Peace, Development and Environment Education, to include but are not limited through:
  - a. **Peace Education**
    - i. "Peace Start with Me" Campaign
    - ii. Anti-Bullying Awareness Campaign
    - iii. Campaign Against Child Labor
    - iv. Scouts Go for Traffic and Road Safety
    - v. Messengers of Road Show
  - b. **Development Education**
    - i. School grounds clean-up and Book Donation Drive
    - ii. Blood Donation
    - iii. Outreach Program
    - iv. Numeracy and Literacy Skill Workshop (Out-of-School-Youth)
    - v. Fund Drive for Differently Challenged Young People and Elderly
    - vi. Supports Indigenous People or communities
    - vii. Supports Ticket to Life Projects (Street Children)
    - viii. Joining the Habitat for Humanity
  - c. **Environment Education**
    - i. Green is Go! Go for the Real Thing Project
    - ii. Coastal Clean-Up and Inland Bodies of Water
    - iii. MANGROVE Planting and Massive Tree Planting
    - iv. Solid Waste Management: Segregate, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
    - v. Renewable Sources of Clean Energy: Scouts Go Solar
  - d. **Special B.-P. Day Activities**
    - i. 2023 Founder's Quiz Bee
    - ii. Film Showing: Life and Works of the Founder
    - iii. Weekend Backyard Camp
    - iv. Scout and Proud: wearing of Scout Scarf on BP Day
    - v. Poster and Slogan Making Contest (Theme: Do A Good Turn Daily)
5. **Action Period.** Joining the world celebration of B.-P.'s Day, Scouts and Leaders in all Schools, Scouting Districts, Local Councils and Regional Offices are encouraged to initiate service projects related to Peace, Development and Environment initiatives from **February 21-25, 2023** in their homes, schools, neighborhoods and communities as part of their regular Langkay, Kawan, Troop, Outfit and Circle Meetings and Activities.
6. ALL concerned are enjoyed to **promote the Founder's Day Celebration** through Service Projects, Programs and Activities by engaging more young people in the KID, KAB, Boy, Senior, Rover Scout Sections and the Neighborhood or Community-based Scouting units by involving your respective Commissioners at all ranks and levels to help and assist in the planning of programs and activities in the schools, communities, districts, councils and regions.

7. **Share Your Stories.** Inspire others and be a Scout Messengers 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 captions and will include your activities and service projects in the "News and Events" section of the BSP Official website at **www.scouts.org.ph**. You can also post on your social media platforms using the hashtag **#2023HappyBirthdayBP**.
8. Should you have further queries, you may refer them directly through the Field Operations Division, Program and Adult Resources Development at (02) 527-5112 loc. 518 and look for **Mr. Carmelo B. Francia**, Program Research & Development Officer III, or you may send emails at [boyet.francia@scouts.org.ph](mailto:boyet.francia@scouts.org.ph).
9. For your information, guidance and wide dissemination.



**DIOSDADO M. SAN ANTONIO**  
OIC - Secretary General