

Cub Breakout Session November 3rd

How did your joining day go? (Began discussing last month at Boys and Girls Club but only 4 Units were there (Marshfield and 2 Plymouth units, and me for Duxbury.)

Summary from joining day:

1. A few said the date was too early, more said it was too late. We are looking at Sept 10th next year.
2. A few units said they did not need paper applications or parent's guides as they were using online aps, and had the parent's guide on pdf. We will ask units next year what they need.
3. Some said the space they had did not work for the 5 trifolds, outdoor too windy, or they could not get 5 adults to help. We hope to have options for indoor outdoor events next year, and will work with units to enlist more adults from their packs to help
4. A few said the location was not great. Last year the District picked locations, and this year we asked unit to pick and secure. We hope units start earlier as we tried to secure locations by June 30th.
5. Some units in multiple unit towns did not: Like the competition, feel they were all treated the same, did not know about the event or have any input in the event. The council will have a zoom meeting with all multi-unit towns to pass on info and work on a better plan for that town.
6. Some units asked where was the social media blitz? Those towns also secured a location after Aug 15th. They might not have had a K-5 grader and lived within 5 miles of the sign up location, or had a facebook account.

There were 125 town facebook pages with a video posed to it. There were 27,000 people that clicked a link on the facebook ad.

7. Some units said their town was so big why was there only one location. (As in Plymouth.) We tried for months for units to add multiple location and only 1 was secured.
8. Some liked the signs listing Sept 18th JDS, some wanted blanks sign so they could write in small font a sign up date, location, time, address, email address and phone number.
9. Many liked the QR codes emailed out so adults could pay online. There still was confusion about if they pay online what goes where and how much is still due for recharter.

10. Family Scouting Units that had family scouting and did a good job with a plan for JSD got an average of 15 new scouts. Similar efforts on Boy packs got 3.

Tips to keeping your program lively during the winter?

- It all goes back to program planning. Did you plan your program year all the way through or just the fall months? If not, get your leaders together and plan December-March ASAP. This could include: Holiday activities, Winter exploration day-trips (Snowy Owl observations are local beaches, looking for animal tracks in the snow, winter hikes), Blue and Gold, Pinewood Derby.
- Anything can be done if your participants are warm and dry! Teach your families how to properly layer so they can enjoy outdoor scouting year-round. (Especially in this day and age of mandates and protocols, never knowing if we will need to have outdoor-only events or not moving forward)
- Network with other local packs to team up on event ideas.

Check out what Scouting Magazine said in 2018 about Winter for cub Scouts.

<https://scoutingmagazine.org/2018/10/making-winter-fun-for-your-cub-scouts/>

The main take-a-ways are: Shelter, clothing, activities, food, and A POSITIVE ATTITUDE!

Attitude: If you and your adults are miserable in the cold outside, your scouts will be too. Be positive and be prepared so that you can make it through a winter of scouting!

Thank you and see you all in December!!