WEBELOS TO SCOUT INTERNET RESOURCES

Parent Guide
http://www.katahdinareabsa.org/wb2scout.htm

Year-Round Guide
http://www.dwcbsa.org/membership/HowToJoin/Boy/yrrndguide.htm

General Information
http://www.scouting.org/nav/enter.jsp?s=xx&c=ds&terms=Webelos+to+Scout&x=25&y=16
http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/18-086/
http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/18-086/commish.html
http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/18-086/chair.html
http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/18-086/pack.html
http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/18-086/troop.html

Worksheet
www.sftcbsa.org/forms/W2BSworksheet.pdf

Ceremonies
http://www.macscouter.com/Ceremony/index.html

Still More Out There
http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=webelos+to+Scout&btnG=Search

Some Other Stuff I Got From ????

Bob, I read your ideas on Scouts-L. I don't agree with making Webelos a three year program, but let me suggest this:

The second year of Webelos, switch to the tan shirts and have them choose a patrol name and get the patch for that patrol. Have them make a patrol flag, come up with a patrol yell and elect a patrol leader. You'll note the lack of capital letters there, but they need to start to become Boy Scouts. The WDL should go to the outdoor skills training and start the boys on an outdoor program and skills, along with continuing some of the Activity pins. This is the critical time to get a Den Chief from the proposed troop the Webelos may transfer to.

When does the Second year Webelos program start? In June, immediately after the first year Webelos program has finished up! Let them go camping for a night or two, take them to Webelos Resident camp, get them used to the idea of travel and outdoors. Then they can bridge across at or before the Blue and Gold Banquet, and start in the troop and be ready to go to summer camp. If you start the second year program in September, how can you have six months in for the Arrow of Light by Blue and Gold in February? Start in June, finish in December or January, give them the AOL at Blue and Gold, and bridge them at that time, too.

All this should be done in coordination with the Unit Commissioner, the Cubmaster and the Scoutmaster of the troop that most of the boys may transfer into. All four of these adults (including

the WDL) are involved in the Webelos to Scout transition, so that when the Webelos do bridge over, all they have to do is change scarves and epaulet tab colors. They already are in a patrol, have their flag and yell, know the Oath and Law, have the application filled out and should have their Tenderfoot badge upon entering the troop. Then they can start on the first year Scout program.

The tan shirts, patrol flag and patrol patch will set them apart form the rest of the Cub Scouts, make them feel "different" and more advanced. And keep them interested in Cub Scouting, plus prepare them for Boy Scouting sooner.

Rik Bergethon
Webelos to Scout Coordinator, Emeritus (among many other things)
Pueblo, CO

Webelos-To-Scout Transition Program

I. Goals

The Goals of the Webelos-To-Scout Transition Program are:

- To increase the percentage of Webelos Scouts who cross over to Boy Scouts.
- To increase the retention rate of first-year Boy Scouts.

II. Webelos Program

The Webelos Program is a 2-year/21 month program (June after 3rd grade through February/March of 5th grade). The program helps Webelos Scouts prepare for their entry into Boy Scouts. This is a transition from a parent-run program focused on primarily indoor activities to a boy-run program which focuses on outdoor activities. In the second year, the Webelos-To-Scout Transition program is designed to help all 5th grade Webelos to have a chance to join a Boy Scout Troop. One of the main challenges for Packs and Troops must be to help the Webelos Scouts to maintain their motivation towards Scouting in light of competition from other activities and non-Scout peers. Thus, the goal of each Pack and Troop should be to make sure that this transition is successfully accomplished. The District and the Council are there to provide support and such assistance as will help facilitate this transition.

III. Existing Transition Documents

Documents that address the Webelos-To-Scout Transition Program are:

- BSA Webelos-To-Scout Transition pamphlet, No. 18-086.
- Cubmaster's Disappearing Packet.

These documents assign specific roles and tasks to individual leaders. They also help to ensure that individual leaders become aware of their individual responsibilities and accomplish their assigned tasks.

IV. Job Descriptions for Cub and Boy Scout Leaders

A. Packs

1. Cubmaster.

- Must ensure that the Pack has energetic, trained Webelos Den Leaders.
- Meet with existing Bear Den Leaders after Cross-Over to discuss upcoming Webelos program.
- Obtain commitment from existing den leaders.
- Identify new den leaders, if required.
- Pick up Webelos Packet at Program preview and make copies for the 2nd year Webelos Den Leaders.
- Communicate with the Webelos Leaders to attend District meetings and events.

- Assist with completion and collection of Tracking Forms.

2. Committee Chairman.
- Helps the Webelos Den Leaders to promote the Webelos Camp Outs and Council Pow-Wow.
- Promotes Council Pow-Wow to the 4th grade Webelos Den Leaders and strongly urges them to attend.
- Assist with the 5th grade Webelos-To-Scout Transition Program.

3. Webelos Den Leaders.
- Develop a 2-year/21 month program that introduces Basic Boy Scout concepts to Webelos Scouts. Program should include Arrow of Light requirements, Tenderfoot knowledge, Camping experience, etc.
- Ensure that each Webelos Scout has a Boy Scout Troop for Cross-Over.
- Communicate expectations to parents of Webelos Scouts.
- Parent Orientation Meeting.
- Assist with completion of Tracking Forms.

B. Troops

1. Scoutmaster.
- Work with Cubmasters and Webelos Den Leaders.
- Attend and promote District and Council events.
- Attend and promote the District Cross-Over Ceremony.
- Ensure that a New Scout advisor and that the New Scout program is established in their Troop.
- Ensure that the Trail to First Class program is established and well organized.
- Boy Scout Retention. The key is:
  - Boys stay in Scouting because it is fun.
  - Advancement. Key item is successful progression to First Class (Mastery of basic camping skills, required participation, recognition, and being ready to assume leadership positions).
  - Goal: First Class rank before 2nd summer camp.

Job Descriptions for District Commissioners Staff

1. District Commissioner.
- Trains Assistant District Commissioners & Unit Commissioners on Commissioner roles in the Webelos-To-Scout Transition Program.
- Ensure that each Pack/Webelos Den is assigned a Unit Commissioner and keeps an accurate Tracking Form.
- Help with follow-up phone calls to Webelos Scouts.
- Assist in Den Chief assignments.
- Assist at the Webelos-To-Scout Transition table at the Program Preview.
- Work with units on the completion and collection of Tracking Forms.

2. Unit Commissioner.
- Help to track Webelos Scouts.
- Help Troops and Webelos Dens to communicate with each other.
- Help with follow-up phone calls to Webelos Scouts.
- Help Webelos Dens to find Troops. Also, help Webelos Dens that want to start their own Troop.
- Help identify and communicate with parents and leaders about the next step to the Troop level.
- Visit Cub Scout Packs and promote District Meet the Troop Night.
- Assist at the Webelos-To-Scout Transition table at the Program Preview.
- Work with units on the completion and collection of Tracking Forms.

3. Roundtable Commissioners.

- Encourage Webelos Leaders to attend Boy Scout Leader Roundtable.
- Plan Roundtable programs and breakouts to better inform Webelos Leaders about the Webelos-To-Scout Transition process and the Council Plan.

D. Job Descriptions for District Committee Personnel

1. Membership Committee Chairman.
- Recruit Webelos-To-Scout Transition Chairman.
- Help in compiling a roster/book of Troops.
- Assign a personal phone contact to each Webelos Den (See above, District Commissioner Staff).
- Web site contacts with assigned Troops in proximity to each Pack.

2. District Webelos-To-Scout Transition Chairman.
- Coordinate all aspects of Webelos-To-Scout Transition Program in the District.
- Distribute Webelos-To-Scout Transition packets at Program Preview.
- Visit Cub Scout and Boy Scout Roundtable meetings and promote Meet the Troop Night.
- Host Roundtable breakout session on Cross-Over.
- Work with District Web Master on Website communications.
- Work with District Key 3 and District Membership Committee Chairman in recruitment of necessary personnel to accomplish tasks.
- Assist with the completion and collection of Tracking Forms.

3. Advancement Chairman.
- Monitor Webelos I and II advancement.
- Communicate with District Commissioner and District Membership Committee Chairman.

4. Training Chairman.
- Ensure that the Webelos-To-Scout Transition Program is being taught and discussed at all New Leader Essentials and Leader Specific Training.
- Promote Council Pow-Wow Training.
- Offer Den Chief Training. Help Den Chiefs find Webelos Dens to work with.
- Consider providing new Webelos Den Leader training in the Spring prior to the start of the 2-year/21 month Webelos program.

5. Outdoor/Camp Promotion Chairman.
- Help Webelos Dens find places to go camping.
- Promote 5th grade Webelos Camp Out.
- Plan and promote Webelos WOW Camp Out.

6. Webmaster.
- Makes Webelos-To-Scout Transition packets available on the District Website.
- Provides the means whereby units can fill in, update, edit, etc. their Webelos-To-Scout Transition Tracking Forms on the District Website.

V. Webelos-To-Scout Transition Time Line.

The Webelos Program is a 2-year program. In the second year, the Webelos-To-Scout Transition program is designed to help all 5th grade Webelos to have a chance to join a Boy Scout Troop. The goal of each Pack and Troop should be to make sure that this transition is successfully accomplished. The District and the Council are there to provide support and such assistance as will help facilitate this transition.

The Webelos-To-Scout Transition Time Line is a sequence of events that are suggested for calendar and event planning. These suggested activities have been proven in the past to make the Webelos-To-Scout Transition successful. Units will need to structure their unit time lines with these events so that they correspond with the District and Council calendars. See Attachment 1 for the Webelos-To-Scout Transition Time Line and a month-by-month breakdown of activities, events, and position responsibilities.

VI. Webelos-To- Scout Transition – Den Tracking Form

In order for the maximum number of 5th grade Webelos to have the opportunity to join a Boy Scout Troop, it is necessary to track these boys during their 5th grade year. In so doing, it can be determined at an early time which boys will transition into a Boy Scout Troop and which ones are not planning on continuing in Scouting. The tracking process can then identify those who are not going on so that extra attention can be given to that boy not only by his Pack, but also by local Troops, the District Committee, and the District Commissioner Staff. See Attachment 2 for the Webelos-To-Scout Transition – Den Tracking Form and instructions for completion and disposition of the form.

The District Executive will provide a District 5th grade Webelos Roster to the District Membership Committee no later than December each year. This roster will have all 5th grade Webelos Scouts in the District sorted out by Unit #. By cross referencing this roster with the Den Tracking Forms, the Membership Committee can track who has joined Boy Scout Troops, who has not joined, and why not.

Utilizing information obtained from these Tracking Forms, the District Membership Committee will prepare a summary report of their annual findings regarding the current year's Webelos-To-Scout Transition program. This report will be turned in to the District Chairman and the District Executive at the earliest District Committee Meeting possible.

VII. Webelos-To-Scout Transition – Troop Visitations and Checklist

One of the primary "requirements" for a 5th grade Webelos Scout is to visit a local Boy Scout Troop. It is necessary for the Webelos Scout and his parents to "shop around" for a Boy Scout Troop/program that they feel will best suit the needs of the boy. It must be noted that the selection of a Troop at cross-over time rests solely with the Webelos Scout and his parents.

In order to assist Webelos Scouts with this selection process, a Troop Visitation Checklist has been designed. This checklist will help prospective Boy Scouts and their parents to determine what they are seeking in a Boy Scout Troop. It will also provide them with a written record of their trips to local Troops. See Attachment 3 for the Troop Visitation Checklist.

The Pack Committee Chairman, or designated representative, should touch base with the Webelos Den Leader(s) to see how the Troop visitations are going and if there are any Scouts that need to be encouraged to join a Troop. Unit Commissioners need to encourage the 5th grade Webelos Dens to participate in District events (especially the District "Meet the Troop Night"), Troop visitations, as well as Pack/Troop camp outs. Unit Commissioners also need to talk with Pack Committee Chairmen and Webelos Den Leader(s) during this time to encourage ALL the Scouts to find, visit, and join a Troop. Roundtable Commissioners need to encourage Webelos and Unit Leaders to establish a goal to find, visit, and join a Troop for every Scout so that there will be 100% cross-over. The Webelos Roundtable Commissioner should have a special break-out session for the Webelos Den Leaders, Cubmasters, and Pack Committee Chairmen covering how to find, visit, and join a Troop. This can be accomplished by discussing the Webelos-To-Scout Transition process.

VIII. Webelos-To-Scout Transition – Cubmaster's Disappearing Packet

The Cubmaster's Disappearing Packet provides information vital to the success of the Webelos-To-Scout Transition program. Information contained in this packet is not only for Cub Scout Packs but for Boy Scout Troops and District personnel as well. This information denotes tasks, target dates, goals, and other information essential to a successful transition from Webelos to the Boy Scout program.