

FUN ADVENTURES.
Outdoor Experience.
FRIENDSHIP. GROWTH.

Defined Roles for Parents

Parents tell us their children benefit hugely from the adventures, fun and friendships they experience with Scouting. The majority of our Scouters and helpers are parents of our youth members, and they've seen firsthand how Scouting benefits young people.

Parents often think that they need to be a skilled, global adventurer in order to get involved with Scouting, and Orientation Meetings at the beginning of the year are the ideal opportunity to make them aware that there are multiple roles to be played: Do they have first aid knowledge? Are they good with numbers? Handy in the kitchen? Maybe they're a Do-It-Yourself magician? Perhaps they checked off some of the involvement categories on their child's registration?

Whether they help out on a regular basis or just at special events or camps, there is an important role for parents to play. Following are a series of roles that parents can fill. These will help you get started on engaging parents and identifying how they can participate in their child's great, safe Scouting Adventures.

Important Safety Consideration

In roles where parents will be interacting with youth other than their own child, they may do so as a parent participant 3 – 5 times a year, after which they must complete Scouts Canada's volunteer screening requirements (PRC, VSS, Code of Conduct and Child and Youth Safety Training). For complete guidelines and details, refer to [Scouts Canada's Volunteer Screening Policy](#) and Frequently Asked Questions.

- a. **(Co-)Coordinator(s) of campaigns/fundraisers** – Apple Day, Popcorn Sales, Scoutrees and others adopted by particular Groups/Areas/Councils. Fundraisers are important – they help pay for the Scouting Adventures, hall rentals, and supplies that help Scouts Canada deliver a quality program.
- b. **Special Event (Co-)Coordinator(s)/Team** – Pancake Tuesday Suppers, Open Houses, Family Spaghetti Nights, Bring-A-Friend Night, Leader Appreciation event: The list is endless, and they all require a support team if they are to be done well.



“ WHY DO I VOLUNTEER? To see the smiles on their faces when they complete something new, to watch them grow not only in what they know, but their new friendships. ”

- c. **Registration Assistant(s)** – the Registrar gets busy in late spring and early fall with new and returning Scouts. Anyone interested in assisting is welcome.
- d. **Group Webmaster/Communications Team/Photographer/Newsletter & flyer writer** – these important roles are key to success as they keep families up to date on regular meeting dates/times/locations, special events, changes due to weather etc., contact info for key Scouters and promo of upcoming program and events.
- e. **Needle & Thread Team** – making Necker Scarves, repair of uniforms or applying badges.
- f. **Career Info/Skills experts/hobbyists** – Inviting parents to share their special hobbies, skills, interests, past or current occupations might spark a youthful imagination or help youth fulfill their badge and award requirements. (E.g. Carpentry help – parents can bring and supervise the use of tools to assist youth making their Kub Kars, snowshoes or camp chairs.)
- g. **Food Prep for events:** Help with set-up, clean-up and hosting the food part of gatherings is always much appreciated and enables Scouters to focus on delivering a quality program.
- h. **Pre-camp gear check for winter & other camps** – ensuring youth have warm boots and other supplies; also helping with Group gear bin checks, packing, repair of items, replacement of tarps etc.

Parent Helper List

ADMIN ROLES	CoC	Screening	Training
Apple Day coordinator	x	x	
Apple day assistant	x		
Treasurer	x	x	x
Treasurer assistant	x		
Marketing and PR	x	x	
Marketing and PR assistant	x		
Sponsor Liaison	x		x
Equipment/gear Quarter Master	x	x	
Parade float coordinator	x		
Event/fundraising assistant	x		
Phone tree	x		
Camp/Outing planning assistant	x		
Meal/snack prep	x		
Quarterly news bulletin	x		
Group Secretary	x		
Uniform coordinator	x		
Web-site/Social media manager	x	x	
Special events Project manager	x	x	
Find-a-Group inquiry respondent	x	x	x
SECTION ROLES			
Guest speaker or coordinator	x		
Craft program assistant*	x		
Teach a skill/talent	x		
Teach/lead game	x		
Kub Kars, Beaver Buggies or Scout Trucks construction	x		

* Up to five meetings only