



# THE ADVENTURE BEGINS



The Venturer Scout program is fundamental to the success or failure of the Section. The program must reflect the interests, goals and inspirations of the Venturer Scouts who participate.

**Venturer Scouts must be involved in the planning and review of their program if it is to be relevant to them.**

Section Councils are essential for Venturer Scouts to perform checks and balances on the level of engagement, control and direction they have in the program and Section overall.

Specifically, in the Venturer Scout Section, they should be leading the way, setting the agenda, and running the meeting, with adult Leaders supporting and providing guidance only when necessary. In this Section there is only a small amount of leadership provided by adult Leaders, as the youth are completely autonomous in most capacities.

The Section Council should occur regularly (at least once every 4 to 6 weeks) so that all members feel engaged with the creation and implementation of their program. These don't need to occur in a formal setting. Sometimes it can be very beneficial for the Section Council to be held outdoors.

**VENTURER SCOUTS  
SECTION COUNCILS  
FACTSHEET**

The duties of the Section Council (with ability-appropriate support from Leaders) may include:

- Setting the direction for the section
- Planning and reviewing activities, programs and events. Adult Leaders support with specialist guidance with activities and events etc.
- Ensuring that the Section is following the concept of Youth Leading, Adults Supporting
- Discussing the Venturer Scout Section's application of the Scout Method and ensuring there are checks and balances on this
- Working together each year to make a Section Code that all agree to follow
- Solving problems and issues as they arise
- The collaborative coordination of inter-Section events and inter-Group events.
- Supporting all members of the Section in their Scouting journey and their personal life
- Autonomously discussing and approving badgework and endorsing peak awards
- Setting a clear standard of behaviour and supporting all Section members in maintaining it
- Constantly reviewing the performance of all members of the Venturer Scout Section

Ideas to make the Section Council as successful as possible include:

- Have clear guidance from the person leading the meeting (who should be a youth member)
- Prepare and follow an agenda for the meeting (which may depend on the age of the members, and the formality and location of the meeting)
- Ensure there is engagement and participation from all members present
- Record all the creativity, decisions, discussions and reviewing that occurs in our meeting
- Have appropriate support from adult Leaders or mentors from other Sections, especially when the meeting needs specialist knowledge or advice (but which shouldn't undermine or take over the leadership of the youth members)



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