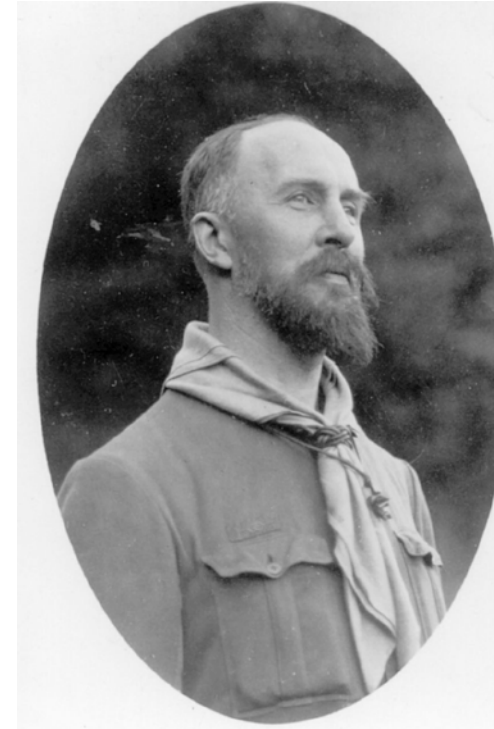


The Scout Unitaire de France
London

May 2017



During the siege at Mafeking, Baden Powell put in place a communication system using young boys (scouts). This experience enabled him to understand that even youngsters could be trusted with simple missions and train each other for these. 8 years later he took 20 youngsters to Brownsea Island and scouting was born!



In France, in the 20's, Father Sevin who first read English at University before become a priest was very interested in Baden Powell's work and decided to create his own youth group whilst adding a Christian spiritual dimension.

The Scout Promise is common to and at the heart of all scouts groups across the world. It was part of the founding principals described by Baden-Powell in his book « Scouting for Boys » published in 1908.

*« On my honour, and with the grace of God,
I promise that I will do my best
to do my duty to God, the Church and my Country
To help others at all times
And to keep the Scout Law. »*





The Scout's Law

1. *A Scout's honour is to be trusted*
2. *A Scout is loyal to his country, his parents, his chiefs and his subordinates*
3. *A Scout's duty is to be useful and to help others.*
4. *A Scout is a friend to all, and a brother to every other scout.*
5. *A Scout is courteous and chivalrous*
6. *A Scout see in nature the work of God, he cares for plants and animals*
7. *A Scout obeys orders without question and does not leave tasks half done*
8. *A Scout is master of himself: he smiles and whistles in difficult times*
9. *A scout is thrifty and looks after others' belongings'*
10. *A Scout is clean in thought, word and deed*

Principles

1. *A Scout is proud of his faith and he dedicates his whole life to it*
2. *A Scout is a son of France and good citizen*
3. *A Scout's duty starts at home*

Vertues

Honesty, Devotion, Purity



The SUF are a French Catholic Scouting Association whose ambition is help children and teenagers grow into responsible, happy men and women as per the educational methods imagined by Baden Powell.

- Created in 1971
- The French Ministry of Youth and Sports has registered it as an Association of Public Service
- 220 groups across France
- 27 000 members (22 000 youths et 4 600 voluntary chiefs)
- 15 employees in the National Team





Link into the families

Our teaching methods are applied in conjunction with that of families who are at all times kept informed and regularly involved. The relationship of trust between with the families is crucial. Parents are required to see to their children's attendance throughout the year.

Learning Responsibility

Our philosophy is based on learning through play and developed around the relationship big brother / little brother // big sister / little sister. The older brother/sister leads by example and the little brother/sister learns through games and tries his best. Our aim is to start building on responsibilities from day one and increase these as the youth develops and grows older. It is based on the educational methods described by Baden Powell and later by Father Sevin.

Taking part in society

Learning to live together through games with rules, outperforming oneself whilst counting on others and being selfless and working as a team member. Learning team spirit and teamwork as each member has an allocated role within the group hence avoiding rivalry and creating the opportunity to develop ones talents & skills (cook, medic, bursar,...)

Adventure

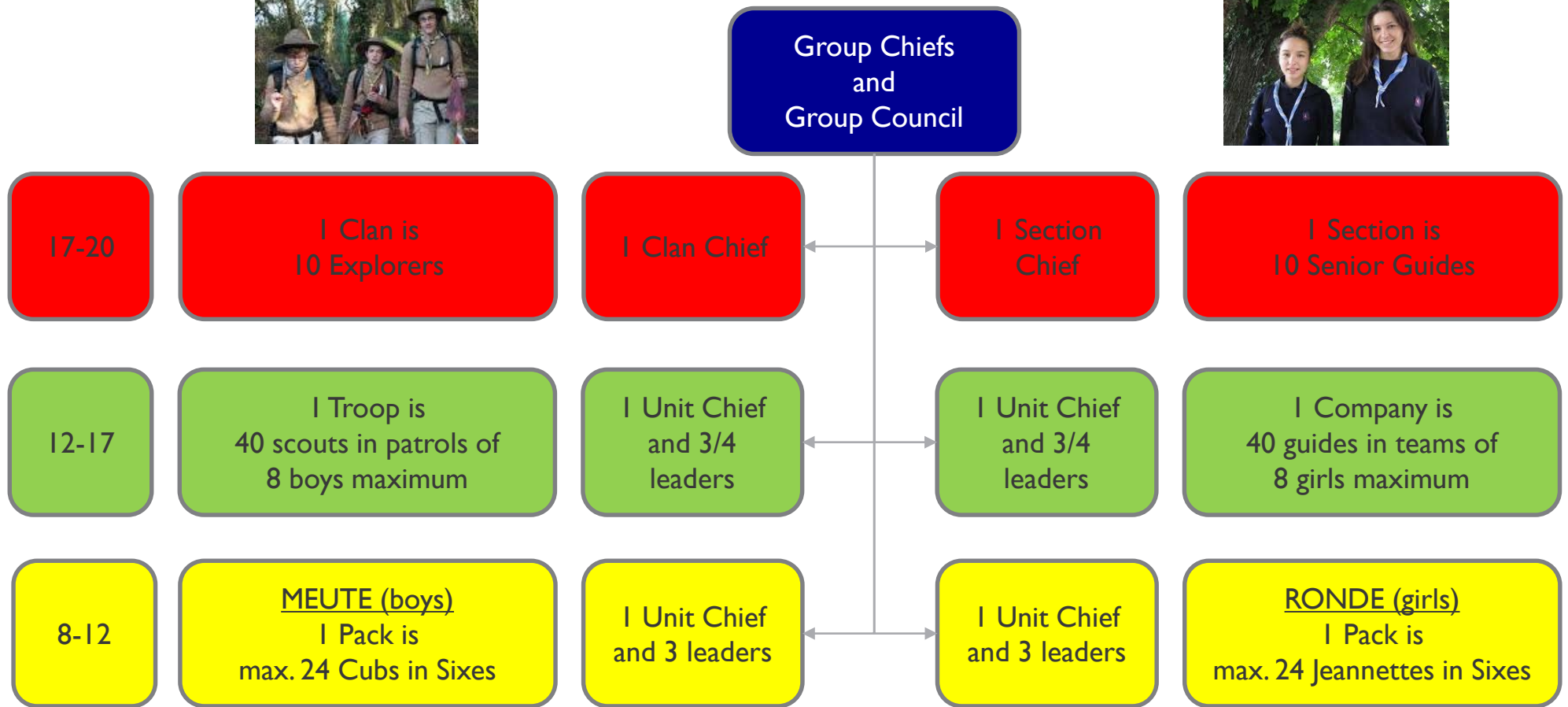
Learn resourcefulness through initiative and adventures especially at the summer camp where autonomy is important yet supervised by older leaders. Learn to control one's body and mind whilst in full physical growth and living life to the full.

Training

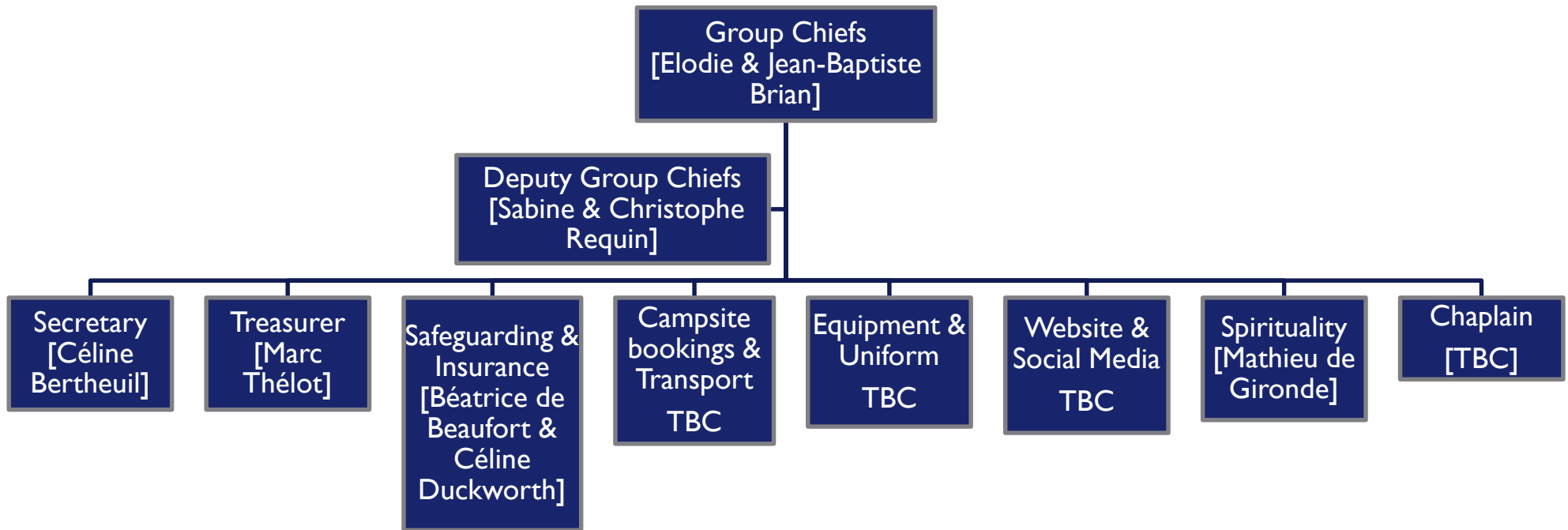
Training starts on day one as youths learn from each other and transmit the scouting knowledge and culture to one another. Leaders attend special week long training camps organised by the National Team in France.

Faith

The SUF is a Catholic movement and parents are made fully aware of this. Parents accept that their child partakes in all activities of the unit including religious ones.



The Unit Chief is responsible for recruiting his/her own assistants and the children. He/she will ensure they are in agreement with the Group's philosophy



Roles & Duties of the Group Chief & Deputy Group Chief



GROUP CHIEFS

- Are a married couple and volunteers
- Are the point of contact for the SUF association for the group and wear the full uniform at meetings.
- Attend the initial week long training for Group Chiefs
- Attend the annual SUF weekend for Group Chiefs.
- Call and lead regular Group Council meetings to ensure the group in coordinated and lead efficiently.
- Call and lead the group's leadership week-end in September.
- Attend the annual National SUF Day for Explorers, Rangers and Leaders.
- Recruit & support the Unit Chiefs & Leaders in their role, duties and communication with parents.
- Ensure the Unit Chiefs & Leaders attend the required training.
- Meet the Chaplain and the parish regularly.
- Visit each unit during one of their weekends and their summer camp.
- Personally meet new parents to ensure they are fully on board with the group philosophy.
- Attend the Units' parents' meetings
- Recruit a replacement couple prior to leaving.

DEPUTY GROUP CHIEFS

- *Are a married couple and volunteers*
- *They support the Group Chiefs in their mission and decision making and wear the full uniform .*
- *They are the point of contact for the group in case the Group Chief are not available.*
- *May attend the initial week long training for Group Chiefs*
- *May attend the annual SUF weekend for Group Chiefs.*
- *May attend the annual National SUF Day for Explorers, Rangers and Leaders.*
- *Assist in recruiting & supporting the Unit Chiefs & Leaders in their role & duties.*
- *Assist in ensuring the Unit Chiefs & Leaders attend the required training.*
- *May visit each unit during one of their weekends and their summer camp.*
- *Assist in preparing parents' meetings to present the programme for the year ahead (September) and the summer camps (June).*
- *The Deputy Group Chief would replace the Group Chiefs if the couple resign and would recruit new Deputy Group Chiefs.*



Members of the Group Council are all volunteers

SECRETARY

- Membership management
- Ensures members are up to date membership administration
- Record keeping
- Distribution of the members' magazine

TREASURER

- Management of the group's accounts
- Planning of expenditure for each unit and their camps

SAFEGUARDING & INSURANCE

- Ensure Safeguarding requirements are in place
- Liaise with Parish Safeguarding officer
- Train all staff on safeguarding issues
- Process DBS for all adults
- Manage Insurance issues

CAMPSITE BOOKING & TRANSPORT

- Assist Unit Leaders in finding camps sites (summer & WE)
- Assist Unit Leaders in arranging transport

EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

- Buy and Repair tents and the basic equipment for each unit
- Liaise with families and leaders and order uniforms & badges

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

- Create a website and/or facebook page for the group
- Keep the website and/or facebook page up to date ensuring the group members images and data are safe from predators

SPIRITUAL LEADERS

- Relationship with the parish to ensure the priest meets with the units regularly
- propose spiritual themed conferences.

CHAPLAIN

- Part of the Group Council as well as a member of each Unit Council.
- Assists the Group Chief as well as the Unit Chiefs in their educational and spiritual decision making.
- Takes part in unit weekends and summer camps particularly in order to celebrate mass
- Supports each member and blesses their promise



For all Unit Chiefs and Leaders

- The Unit Chief is appointed by the Group Chief
- The Unit Chief has overall responsibility for the children and his/her Unit's activities.
- Unit Leaders are appointed by the Unit Chief to assist and support him/her in his/her role, duties and tasks.
- The Unit Leadership Team call and lead two parents meetings per year:
 - > One in September to present the programme for the academic year ahead.
 - > One in June to present the summer camps.

For Jeannettes & Cubs (8-12 yo)

- Unit Chief (min 18 yo).
- Unit Leaders (min. age 18 yo)

For Guides & Scouts (12-17 yo)

- Unit Chief (min 19 yo).
- Unit Leaders (min. age 18 yo)

There must be at least one year break from the troop/company before being able to become a Unit Leader.

Senior Guides & Explorers (17-20 yo)

- The section/clan is supervised by the Section/Clan Chief (min 20 yo).



Unit Chiefs and their Leaders attend training provided throughout by the Group (UK Safeguarding) as well as week long SUF Training Camps in France (Camp Ecole Préparatoire (CEP) – 1st & 2nd Degree). These cover the following subjects:

- Security : current safeguarding legislation, carrying out risk assessments
- Child/Adolescent psychology: capacities, needs and limits of a child/adolescent
- History of the Scouting movement and the SUF
- The Scouting Philosophy: the 5 aims of scouting, general philosophy of the SUF, the Scout Law and Ceremonies
- Progress: the different stages and how get to know a child and to best support his/her progress
- Annual Program: themes, the importance of imaginary play, rhythm for the year and general planning of activities throughout the year
- The Summer Camp: what's at stake, activities, the authorization to camp application, preparation planning, security
- Spiritual life of the Unit: the link between spiritual themes and themed activities, the role of the Chaplain, liturgical life
- First aid skills : first aid kit, risk assessments, how to treat minor injuries
- Camping skills: put up a tent, tent maintenance, where is a good place to camp, security
- Orienteering: how to orientate yourself and read a map
- Woodwork: choosing trees, making forest furniture, maintaining and storing equipment, security
- Cooking: the importance of a balanced diet, hygiene, lighting, maintain and putting out a fire, security
- Entertainment: planning a game, a camp fire evening, preparing and celebrating mass and prayer
- Leadership: coordinating and supporting your assistant-leaders, listening skills and conflict management
- How to be a good educator
- How to have harmony in your life
- How to have Spirituality in your life

} Jeannettes & Cubs – Unit Structure



For this age group the units are called the **Ronde** (Pack) for the **Jeanettes** (Brownies/girls) and the **Meute** (Pack) for the **Louveteaux** (Cubs/boys).

Each **Ronde/Meute** has a maximum of 24 **Jeanettes/Louveteaux** divided into four teams of six members known as the **Sizaines** (Sixes).

Each **Sizaine** comprises children from the whole age range and the eldest is called the **Sizenier**. He/She is granted small responsibilities adapted to his/her age.

Sixes are a useful way to quickly divide the group for the purpose of games and activities as well as for developing team spirit.

Sixes also make easier for the newer and younger members to familiarise themselves the rules of the group and its structure.



- Joining the Meute or Ronde is often for an 8-12 year-old a first experience of group socialisation. The themes inspired by The Jungle Book (Rudyard Kipling) and from Jeannette de Domrémy (Father Jean Debryunne) provide a child with a clear framework to respect the rules of society.
- Themes inspired Games heighten the child's interest through play allowing them to gain new skills using imagination and creativity.
- Progress for each child is at his/her own pace, age and motivation. Older children are offered gradual responsibilities adapted to their age and involvement. For instance, the Sizenier will be responsible for welcoming newer and younger Jeannettes/cubs into their Sizaine and leading a team during games or the Unit Chief/Leaders might involve him/her in organising an activity. They are always guided and supported by the Leaders in these tasks.
- Typically activities take place outdoors in a park, a forest or a common encouraging physical activities and observational skills. Unit Leaders can also organise special outings to a specific venue to illustrate a certain theme.
- Meetings are usually every 2 weeks during term time and can last a half a day (Meeting) or a full day (Outing) with one overnight stay per term and a 4-8 day summer camp in July. In order for the Summer camp to take place the Unit Chief must obtain full authorisation to camp from the SUF association. The application includes a full risk assessment.
- Activities usually take place as a whole Unit. {On an exceptional basis a Sizaine might meeting to prepare a specific aspect of the summer camp for instance in which case the Unit Chief or a Leader would supervise that meeting.}
- The Unit Chief and Leaders are responsible for applying for the Summer Camp Authorisation which needs to be obtained from the SUF association & French authorities.



Each Company for girl guides or Troop for boy scouts comprises about 30 members aged 12 to 17 years split into teams for girls and patrols for boys of 6 to 8 guides/scouts covering the whole age range. The eldest is usually the Team/Patrol Chief with the second eldest being her/his Deputy (Second).

This structure enables youths to adapt to living as part of a group abiding to the rules of life as a community which makes scouting such a powerful experience for adolescents.

This framework enables:

- challenges to be had between the teams/patrols during games and contests
- an opportunity for the older children to lead by example and be a coach to the younger ones who look up to her/him as a big sister/brother
- taking responsibility and the development of leadership and organisational skills



Proximity to nature and a sense of adventure encourages physical activities, observational skills as well as resourcefulness. Activities usually take place outdoors in a park, common or forest. Working with nature and the weather whilst planning activities helps adolescents mature and take responsibility. This helps heighten the youth's interest enabling them to gain new skills whilst using their imagination, creativity, teamwork and social skills. Games and contests are organised on the very many varying aspects of camp life (woodcraft, cooking, orienteering, ...)

There are various types of meetings and camps:

- Reunion : half day meeting often on a Saturday afternoon
- Sortie : full day outing usually on a Sunday
- Weekend : overnight stay which can take place as Troop/Company or as a team/patrol
- Mini-Camp: overnight stay of 2-3 nights (on bank holidays weekends or half term)
- Camp de HP : weekend for the Unit Leaders and the Patrol/Team Chiefs and Second.
- Easter Camp : week long camp over the Spring break for the whole Troop/Company
- Summer Camp : takes place usually in July for 2-3 weeks and is the pinnacle of the scouting year

It is recommended that two thirds of activities take place as a patrol/team and one third as a Unit. There is usually two patrol/team weekends and one unit weekend per term complemented by patrols reunions and outings so that a scout has something on every other week.

Patrol reunion, outings and weekends are prepared by the Patrol/Team Chief under guidance of the Unit Leaders. The aim of these activities is to prepare for the Summer Camp. Unit meetings are prepared / lead by Unit Leaders.

Unit Chief and Leaders are responsible for applying for the Summer Camp Authorisation which needs to be obtained from the SUF association.



Explorers & Senior Guides



Scouts Unitaires de France

The ethos of the Explorers and the Senior Guides focuses on developing all aspects of the personality in order for each of them to thrive & shine helping them on the way to becoming self confident happy responsible and engaged adults who have placed God at the heart of their lives. It's three pillars are as follows:

I Adventure

Through simplicity and physical effort Senior Guides / Explorers have the opportunity to surpass themselves and push their own boundaries yet relying on the support of the community. This adventure enables a spirit of brotherhood amongst their section/clan and encourages respect for one's body and soul.

II Service

Serving is at the heart of the teachings for this age group. Hence these young adults develop their consideration for others, their skills and personality. Serving moves you away from self-centredness and become more open to the world and an actor within it. Serving is a key religious aspect for a Senior Guide/Explorer.

III Spiritual Life

Clan/Section life evolves around prayer and reflexion which are essential to breathe spirituality into the life of Senior Guides and Explorers making it a foundation for life. Key moments include prayer, conferences and the "clan/section hour" which is an hour long reflexion supported by readings. This enables a young adult to welcome the presence of God into his/her life.

**All year round meetings comprise:**

- In September/October, the Clan or the Section meets to put their annual plan and project together according to the Senior Guides/Explorers philosophy and the personalities of the members and the pool of skills/talent.
- Clan/Section Service: voluntary work throughout the year on a regular basis benefiting either within another association, community work, within a public body or even a private person.
- Outings or Week-ends can include spiritual retreats, a sporting adventure, a one-off service, ...
- Reunions can include preparation for the summer camp, conferences, debates, sharing of experiences,...
- National Clan/Section events (All Saints Meeting, National Day, ...)

The Summer Camp

- The Summer Camp is the highlight of the scouting year. It is an opportunity to build on everything that has been discovered, shared and learnt throughout the year.
- The Summer Camp is a balance between the three pillars of the Section/Clan: Adventure, Service and Spirituality. It must comprise an adventure (hike, cycling, trip...), a part during which the Section/Clan is at the service of an association, a community or even a private person, finally, spirituality guides the Section/Clan throughout the length of the camp.
- Each day is structure around a regular healthy balanced rhythm with built-in times for rest, meditation, prayer and relaxing.
- The Clan/Section has to apply for the Summer Camp Authorisation which needs to be obtained from the SUF association. This would typically include all the details of their project (location, transport, point of contact, budget, program,...)



Parents

Au cœur des SUF, éd. SUF, 2000

Jeannettes

Sur les Sentiers éd. SUF, 2010

Les carnets de fleurs (Vers la fleur bleue, Vers la fleur blanche et Vers la fleur d'or)

C'est un signe, éd. SUF, 2000

Ohé les jeannettes CD éd. SUF

Jeannette de Domrémy (Pere Jean Debryunne 1961)

Cubs

Passeport pour la Jungle, le manuel de progression du louveteau (éd. SUF, 2000)

A Pas de Loup, le manuel de la cheftaine de louveteaux (édité par les SUF, 1992).

The Jungle Book (Rudyard Kipling. Macmillan 1894)

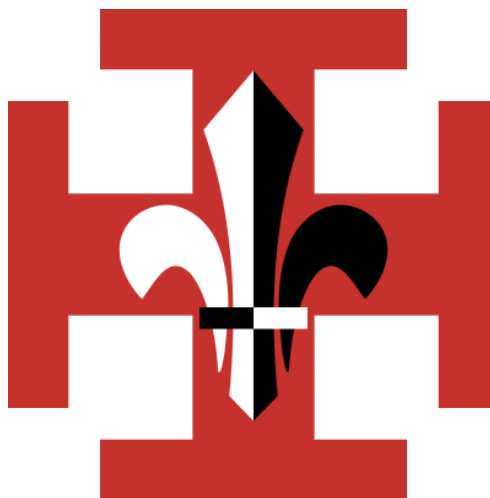
Scouts

Azimut, le manuel de l'Eclaireur (éd. SUF, 1996)

La Boussole, le manuel du Chef Eclaireur (éd. SUF, 1994)

Guides

Le Guide, le manuel de progression de la guide, éd SUF, 1998.



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Thank you