

#DISCOVERYOURPATH

IDEAL YEAR OF SCOUTING

Planning without Limits. Funding with a Purpose

It All Starts with a Simple Question

What would the absolute BEST year of Scouting look like for our families?

“Too often, we unintentionally limit the experience for our Scouts before we even begin planning. We let budget drive the vision... instead of letting the vision drive the budget.”



Ideal Year of Scouting Framework

- » **Step One:** Plan the Ideal Year
- » **Step Two:** Budget Your Ideal Year
- » **Step Three:** Fund the Ideal Year

“If you can dream it, you can do it.”



The Ideal Year of Scouting Framework

The Ideal Year of Scouting is a simple process in which we plan a program **without any perceived limits, budget with honestly** and then **Fund with a Purpose**. Specifically, a purpose to deliver the ideal year of Scouting with less of a personal cost to each family.

START HERE



STEP ONE: Planning the Ideal Year of Scouting

Planning the Ideal Year isn't meant to be complicated, it is meant to be intentional. The ideal year is meant to mean...

The year every Scout would dream about
The year that keeps families engaged
The year that grows your unit naturally

Cub Scout Pack

- Monthly Pack Meetings
- Monthly Den Meetings
- 2–3 Camping Opportunities
- Big Pinewood Derby
- Signature Events: Rain Gutter, Space Derby, Blue & Gold etc.
- Summer programming
- Service projects
- Holiday-themed events
- Unique Field Trips
- Celebrated Crossover & Frequent Advancement

Scouts BSA Troop

- Monthly campouts (12 per year!)
- Summer Camp (non-negotiable)
- High Adventure (Philmont, Sea Base, Northern Tier etc.)
- Patrol Method in action
- Youth-led planning
- Merit badge Opportunities
- Service projects with impact
- Skills progression and rank advancement
- Leadership development (NYLT, troop leadership roles)

STEP 2: Budgeting the Ideal Year of Scouting

After dreaming big, it's time to budget honestly.

As you budget, every activity has a cost
Every cost gets listed
Divide fixed costs by number of Scouts

BUDGET PLANNING WORKSHEET



STEP 3: Funding the Ideal Year of Scouting

Funding the Dream and Funding with Purpose

As we seek to Fund the Ideal Year there are two main goals...

To **NOT** to ask families to pay out of pocket

Give Scouts the opportunity to **EARN** their way

We are paving the realistic and possible pathway for your entire unit to participate in everything you dreamed was possible.

Popcorn Sales (September-November)

- **It's set** – majority coordinated for you with easy-to-use tech and app support
- **It's proven** – Scouts do not have to guess if they will raise money, Scouts earn between \$200+ per storefront hour
- **It's appealing** – edible product, with a variety of choices for the customer
- **It's quick** – in a short window, units maximize profits and get back to Scouting
- **High return potential** – high average unit sells, high volume, high return to scouts

Adventure Cards (February-April)

- **Low risk** (unsold cards can be returned, no upfront cost to get started)
- Cards are **easy to sell** & explain
- The sale is **simple to manage** with one product that is simple to store and transport
- Community-supported with **value for customers** via discounts
- **High commission** (50% of each card sold)

Additional Unit Money Earning Projects

Important Considerations

Is it supported by your Charter Organization?

Is the opportunity efficient, both in time and return?

Is it an approached unit money earning projects?

Unit Money Earning Application are Required

Know we are here to support you to deliver Scouting and to say yes!



ADDITIONAL PLANNING

GCC-HUB.org

Often referred to simply as “The Hub”, this is one of the best resources to learn more about everything going on around the Grand Canyon Council. As you join, you subscribe to channels, curating the information you see based on your role(s).



Arizona Scout Leader Nights

Held on the first Thursday of each month, virtually 9-months out of the year and in-person for 3, we provide ongoing training and resource sharing surrounding specific topics useful for leaders.

We offer a wide array of topics on things like:

- Program Event Preparation
- Specialty Programs in Scouting
- Practical Unit Operation Topics
- New Programs or Changes in Scouting
- Support for Unit/Scout Challenges

Unit and Membership Renewal

Unit Renewal is an annual occurrence in the months of June and July. The June Arizona Scout Leader night will include training for Unit Renewal.

Membership Renewal is a monthly practice where each unit assists families in renewing their membership. We have available online training to help you and your unit best manage this process.

Back to Pack & Summer Programs

Staying active with events and meeting over the summer is critical. At the May Arizona Scout Leader Night, we will be walking through the Back to Pack concept which engages returning Scouts to the unit, further engages parents and help each unit get ready for the upcoming year.

Volunteer Resources

Located on the ScoutingAZ.org website, is the Volunteer Resource Center. Through this resource, we have evergreen content specific to program areas across Scouting such as: **Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Older Youth, Adults Leader Resources, and Program & Experiences.**

Recruitment Roadshows

Held in-person in May and June, are Fall Recruitment Kick-offs and training. Not only are these a place to receive resources for recruitment but to also learn the best practices you and your unit may want to adopt this fall.

Watch for more information on the HUB as well as from your local Unit Coaches and Field Executives.

This fall, we will also offer Recruitment Roadshows for Troops, focusing on crossover and new youth.

Parent Involvement Workshops

Parent Involvement Workshops, held each spring and fall, are designed to train units on best methods for setting a culture of parent involvement, tips on engaging current families, and recommendations for recruiting new families. The better we get parents in the game of Scouting the richer the experience and program of Scouting.

Google?

One of our greatest planning resources is often overlooked, that's Google and the network of thousands of unit leaders like us. Used with caution, this can be one of the best places for extra help.