



Naval Home Command

Staff Officer Scouts
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See Distribution

6 Mar 08

INSPECTION OF 8th WORTHING SEA SCOUTS – 5 MAR 08

1. This shore based inspection commenced when Lt Cdr Griffiths was piped onboard the Group's Headquarters. Also present were the Mayor of Worthing, Councillor Dr H Mercer, the County Commissioner, Mr J Spickett, members of the County team including Mr S Dawson and Mr D Eager and the District Explorer Scout Leader (YL), Mr G Telfer.
2. Colours was conducted in a most disciplined and proper manner with full ceremonial. Following this Cub representatives from the 3 packs were inspected. They were well turned out and responded enthusiastically to questions describing a most full and active programme. It was pleasing to see the high number of Chief Scout Silver awards and badges on display.
3. With 2 Scout Troops and an Explorer Unit larger than many Sea Scout Groups, properly reviewing each of them and having the opportunity to see them under instruction requires a considerable amount of planning and thorough briefing/practice. This was most impressively and slickly achieved through the inspection of one section, followed by viewing another on activities whilst the third fell in for inspection.
4. All Scouts and Explorers were very smartly turned out and are to be commended for their obvious efforts. When spoken to they all described enjoying an active programme which includes a good mix of land and water activities. It was most pleasing to note that both troops have the opportunity to use the boating assets and that all have the opportunity to gain BCU and RYA qualifications. One Summer camp at Longridge was washed out due to flooding but the most was made of the time to take Scouts out on Southwater Lake. This year both Troops are camping at Decoy Broad, Norfolk, where they should all have ample opportunity to progress their water qualifications.
5. The Explorers are all engaged in the D of E scheme with several just completing their DofE Bronze award. A large number are Young Leaders (YL) and all are undertaking the YL training. This is well organised in the District by a dedicated leader who led a good, interactive, training session with active and enthusiastic participation from the Explorers.
6. Activities seen during the evening included cooking, splicing, instruction on lifejackets, rigging a Topaz, line throwing, BCU 2* theory and Young Leader Training. All activities were well led and fully engaged the Youth. It was most pleasing to be shown around by a member of the Troop/Unit concerned.

7. The Group are holders of the National Dragon Boat trophies in the mixed and under 14 age groups and also participate in the RN scheme, currently holding the Explorer soccer trophy. They also participate in District events and currently hold the quiz and football trophies.

8. At the last inspection they had just replaced their kayaks and purchased 6 Topaz. These combined with their power and pulling boats gives the Group an appropriate and balanced fleet of well maintained craft.

9. The situation regarding the lease for their Headquarters has not changed since the last inspection. Understandably reluctant to spend money on major projects, the HQ has had minimal maintenance but this has included a complete internal repaint undertaken as a Probation Service community project. The Headquarters was well presented for inspection. The Education Authority have requested a short extension to the timescale for resolution of the lease situation, which the Group have granted, however a decision will have to be made in the near future. The Group are wished all success in getting a favourable resolution to this long standing problem following which they will be able to go ahead with appropriate development plans.

10. There is a strong and well trained Leadership team who are ably supported by the Explorers. The well led Group Executive will shortly undergo some changes, including the change of Treasurer and auditors. A recent mailing to all parents and advert in the local press has produced a favourable response and the posts should be filled. They continue to fund their running expenses through capitation and Gift aid and remain financially sound.

11. The inspection ended with presentations of a 3 Chief Scout Gold Awards by the County Commissioner and the Inspecting Officer was honoured to be able to present a Chief Scout Platinum Award. This was followed by prayers and Sunset, again conducted with full ceremony before the Group was addressed by the Inspecting Officer. During this address he announced that they had once again successfully passed inspection and presented their Certificate of Recognition to the Group Scout Leader, Mr I Wetherell.

12. The 8th Worthing is one of the largest Groups within the Recognition Scheme. This presents its own problems which they overcame with excellent organisation and slick execution. It was most pleasing to note some of the changes since their last inspection, particularly the wider spread of water activities and the gaining of qualifications. They are heartily congratulated on winning the National Dragon boat Championships, and in this their 80th year, are wished all the very best for a happy, enjoyable and most successful year of Scouting.

13. Lt Cdr Griffiths thoroughly enjoyed this inspection and thanks his hosts for their kind and generous hospitality.

D T Griffiths
Lieutenant Commander Royal Navy

Distribution:

Mr I Wetherell, Group Scout Leader, 8th Worthing Sea Scouts
Mr E Matthews, Training and Programme Manager, Gilwell Park

RN4 PART B:

Royal Navy Recognition Sea Scout Troop/ Unit Self-assessment / Inspection

Name of Troop / Unit	8 th Worthing Sea Scouts	RN No.	59
Venue	Group HQ, St Thomas a Beckett Middle School, Worthing	Date	5 Mar 08

Please assess your Troop /Unit against the criteria statement shown and indicate how closely you believe you meet it by entering a number between 1 & 20 in the Group Assessment box.

Area One - Training

Balanced Programme (refer Part A Sections 5 & 6 and/or Sections 8 & 11)			
16-20	The Scouts are taking part in an exciting Balanced Programme, with attention given to each of the Programme Zones and a wide range of methods	11-15	The Scouts are taking part in a varied programme that covers the majority of Programme Zones and a good range of methods
6-10	Most Scouts in the Troop take part in a varied programme, but there are some Programme Zones that are not being covered.	1-5	The Scouts in the Troop appear to have a very limited programme, with little or no attempt to cover the Programme Zones.
16	Group Assessment Score	15	Inspecting Officer Score

Nautical Skills training and seamanship (refer Part A Sections 7 & 11 and/or Sections 9 and 11)			
16-20	The Scouts receive the widest range of possible nautical skill training and older members progress to a high standard in all boating skills (sailing, canoeing, pulling, power and cruising)	11-15	The Scouts receive a good range of nautical training and older members have progressed to a basic level in most boating skills and a high standard in a few
6-10	The Scouts receive an adequate level of nautical skill training and older members have progressed to a basic standard in several of the boating skills.	1-5	The Scouts are receiving a less than adequate level of nautical skill training and few if any and reach a basic level in any boating skill.
15	Group Assessment Score	13	Inspecting Officer Score

Activity Badges and other Awards (refer Part A Sections 7 & 11 and/or Sections 9 and 11)			
16-20	Scouts in the Troop are successfully achieving the full range of 'RN endorsed' badges	11-15	Scouts in the Troop are successfully achieving many of the 'RN endorsed' badges
6-10	Scouts in the Troop are successfully achieving a few of the 'RN endorsed' badges	1-5	Scouts in the Troop are failing to achieve any of the 'RN endorsed' badges
15	Group Assessment Score	14	Inspecting Officer Score
Comments :			

Area Two - Equipment

Boats and Equipment (refer Part A Sections 13)			
16-20	Scouts have access to a comprehensive range of craft and training equipment, which is owned by the Group, well maintained, in a good state of repair and fully certified.	11-15	Scouts have access to, and frequently use a comprehensive range of craft and equipment, which is adequately maintained, in good repair and fully certified.
6-10	Scouts have access to a limited range of registered craft, some of which is now in need of repair/replacement.	1-5	Scouts have access to a limited range of craft much of which is in a poor state of repair and not certified.
18	Group Assessment Score	16	Inspecting Officer Score

Building and facilities			
16-20	The Scouts have use of an excellent building, adequate in size for their needs, which is in a good state of repair	11-15	The Scouts have access to a good building, which suits their needs and is adequately maintained
6-10	The Scouts make good use of the building, which is not ideal for their use and is in some need of repair/modernisation.	1-5	The Scouts have use of a building, which is in poor condition and in need of major renewal.
18	Group Assessment Score	16	Inspecting Officer Score
Comments:			

Area Three – Membership

Age ranges (refer Part A section 3)			
16-20	The Scouts are part of a large Troop with a good number of members at each age across the full age range	11-15	The Scouts are part of a medium size Troop with a good number of members at each age across the full age range.
6-10	The Scouts are part of a medium sized Troop that does not have members at each age across the full age range	1-5	The Scouts are part of a small Troop, that does not have members at each age across the full age range
20	Group Assessment Score	19	Inspecting Officer Score

Appearance			
16-20	The Scouts are very smart on parade, in correct uniform which included all badges	11-15	The Scouts are smart on parade, but not all Scouts had correct uniform
6-10	The Scouts paraded, but they are not all attentive, and a number did not have correct uniform	1-5	The Scouts are poorly behaved on parade with little regard for uniform and awards.
18	Group Assessment Score	17	Inspecting Officer Score

Role of Young people (refer Part A sections 9)			
16-20	Young people play a full part in the leadership of the Troop by active and frequent involvement in the Troop Leadership Forum, by running Troop ceremonies and parades and by teaching skills and holding Authorisation Charges.	11-15	Young people are involved in the leadership of the Troop through occasional meetings of the Troop Leadership Forums. Older Scouts help others to learn new skills and assist with boating skills on the water
6-10	Young people have limited involvement in the running of the Troop. The Troop Leadership forum meets infrequently and older scouts generally can't or won't help in training new members of the Troop.	1-5	The Troop has few if any young people in the 12 ½ plus age range. The Troop forum rarely meets if at all.
12	Group Assessment Score	15	Inspecting Officer Score
Comments:			

Area Four - Adult Leadership and support

Adult Leadership (refer Part A sections 4 and/or Sections 10)			
16-20	The Troop is lead by a strong team of well-trained and experienced Leaders, Assistants and instructors, who together provide an excellent programme of activities.	11-15	The Troop is lead by a team of Leaders and other adults with a adequate level of training and experience and committed to provide a good Balanced Programme
6-10	The Troop is lead by a small team of Adult leaders, but it needs more members to increase the skill and experience required to deliver a good Balanced Programme	1-5	The Troop has a serious Adult Leader shortage and despite the efforts of those involved, is failing to deliver a satisfactory programme.
18	Group Assessment Score	18	Inspecting Officer Score

Group Organisation and Structure			
16-20	The level of parental/community support for the Group is high, with a strong Group Executive and major fundraising schemes in place	11-15	The level of community/parental support for the Group is good, with an effective Group Executive, and a fundraising programme designed to meet expenses.
6-10	The level of Parental/community support for the Group is limited, with a group executive that has vacancies and a fundraising programme that is struggling to cover the costs.	1-5	The parental/community support is minimal and the Group Executive does not function properly and no programme of fundraising exists.
17	Group Assessment Score	17	Inspecting Officer Score
Comments:			

Area Five - Naval Knowledge and Participation

Naval Knowledge			
16-20	The Group accurately follows Naval ceremonial; the HQ is decorated with Naval illustrations and the Scouts are very knowledgeable about the Royal Navy and its role.	11-15	The Group follows the spirit of Naval Ceremonies proficiently, the conduct is correct and the HQ well presented with many Naval items on display with which the Scouts are familiar.
6-10	The Group has a Colours ceremony with satisfactory conduct; the HQ is tidy with some Naval items on display with which the Scouts are unfamiliar.	1-5	The Group is very informal in its ceremonial, does not use the Bosun's Call and there is little Naval feel to the HQ. Scouts know little about the Royal Navy or its ships.
12	Group Assessment Score	14	Inspecting Officer Score

Participation in RN Recognition Scheme			
16-20	Leaders regularly assist in the organisation of the Big Three Events; Scouts attend these regularly but also visit HMS BRISTOL and other establishments for Group arranged activities as part of their programme.	11-15	Leaders assist and participate in the Big Three events; Scouts attend one or more Events and occasionally visit HMS BRISTOL for other activities. Some uniform obtained from Sea Cadet Stores.
6-10	Leaders and Scouts have participated in a Big Three Event but do not use HMS BRISTOL or any other service facility. Sea Cadet stores not used.	1-5	The Group does not participate actively in the scheme and neither the Scouts nor the Leaders know much about it.
15	Group Assessment Score	13	Inspecting Officer Score
Comments:			

	Mark from last inspection: 187
Total :Group Assessment Score 206	Total: Inspecting Officer Score 187
	Signed SOSC

RN4 PART C: To be completed by Staff Officer Scouts and endorsed by Gilwell Park.

Recognition is hereby **GRANTED / RENEWED / TEMPORARY SUSPENDED / WITHHELD**

Signed: _____ Date: 6 Mar 08
Staff Officer Sea Scouts, Royal Navy

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Manager Programme & Development Dept., Gilwell Park