

# Webelos to Scout Transition Plan

## 12-month plan to assist in preparing Webelos II for Cross-over

### Continuous Recruitment = Retention and Growth

Increased Cross-over leads to enthusiasm and excitement for newer Scouts and helps give older Scouts purpose.

### Pack level approach:

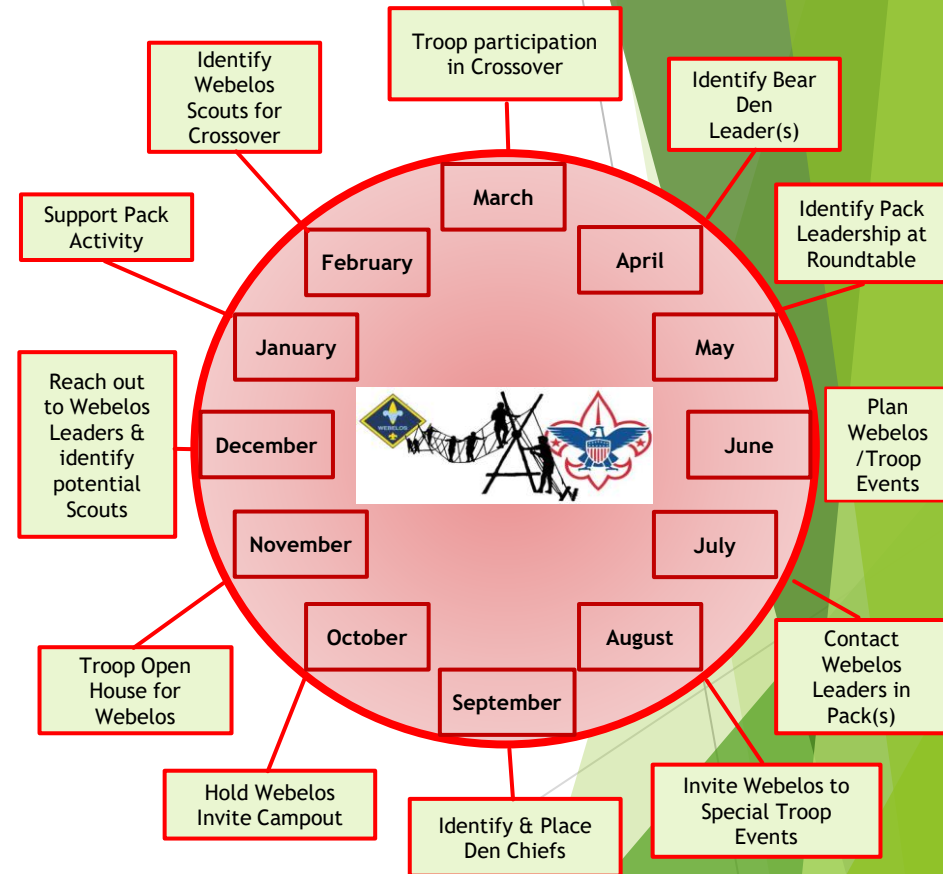
- Webelos I leaders should plan to have the Scouts in their Den be ready to crossover within 1.5 years.
- Develop a relationship with the Scouts BSA Troops within your area for visits, encourage and illustrate the benefit of Den Chiefs to help support Webelos Advancement.
- Support a meaningful bridging ceremony at the Blue & Gold Dinner by inviting a Troop and their older Scouts to welcome them into the Troop.
- Webelos leaders should graduate to the Troop as well, as a Committee Member or Asst. Scoutmaster.

### Troop level approach:

- Troops need to engage Packs and encourage them to have their Webelos Dens graduate to a Scout Troop. This begins when Cub Scouts transition from a Bear Den.
- Encourage Scouts to become Den Chiefs to support Cub Scout Packs.
- Work with the PLC to incorporate Webelos opportunities into your planning.
  - Webelos Invite Campout – identify advancement needs
  - Troop Open House - prepare a Troop information packet to distribute
  - Cub Scout Support Opportunities (i.e., Pinewood Derby, Arrow of Light)
- Request Webelos contact list from Packs/Unit Commissioner and include them on relevant Troop activities and yearly Troop plan.
- Troop visit to Pack nights in order to discuss Scouts BSA and the youth led Troop.

### Putting the Plan into Action:

- Start early
- Make it easy
- Identify Webelos Scouts (I & II) & the Pack's Crossover date
- Engage them personally



# Supporting Ideas

## ***Remember***

### **Cub Scout Recruitment**

- **95%** of Scouts BSA participated in Cub Scouts at some point.
- However, only **55%** of Cub Scouts join a Scout troop.
- Just one year of poor Cub Scout recruiting can have an upward ripple effect on Packs, Troops and Crews for many years.
- Diminished Cub Scout recruiting in any given year typically means diminished recruitment of new adult leaders as well.

- ▶ **Den Chiefs help introduce Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts**
  - Train and integrate Den Chiefs into Packs to aid in recruiting
  - <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth/den-chief-training/>
- ▶ **Continuous interaction with Packs helps support continuity of Scouting**
  - Cub Scouts & their parents need to see that Webelos is not the end of the line
  - Entices Cub Scouts with new adventures
- ▶ **Webelos Open House and Campout**
  - Demonstrates Troop activity
  - Introduces potential Scouts to Troop level Scouts
  - Leadership opportunity for Scouts
    - ✓ Teach Webelos requirements
    - ✓ Demonstrate Patrol Method
  - Have “take-away” item that is created at function
- ▶ **Demonstrate Commitment of Troop to Pack**
  - Troop Leaders (or New Member Coordinator) should engage with Pack and Webelos Leaders
  - Troops (Scouts & Leaders) should be welcoming of Cub Scouts and their parents at all functions