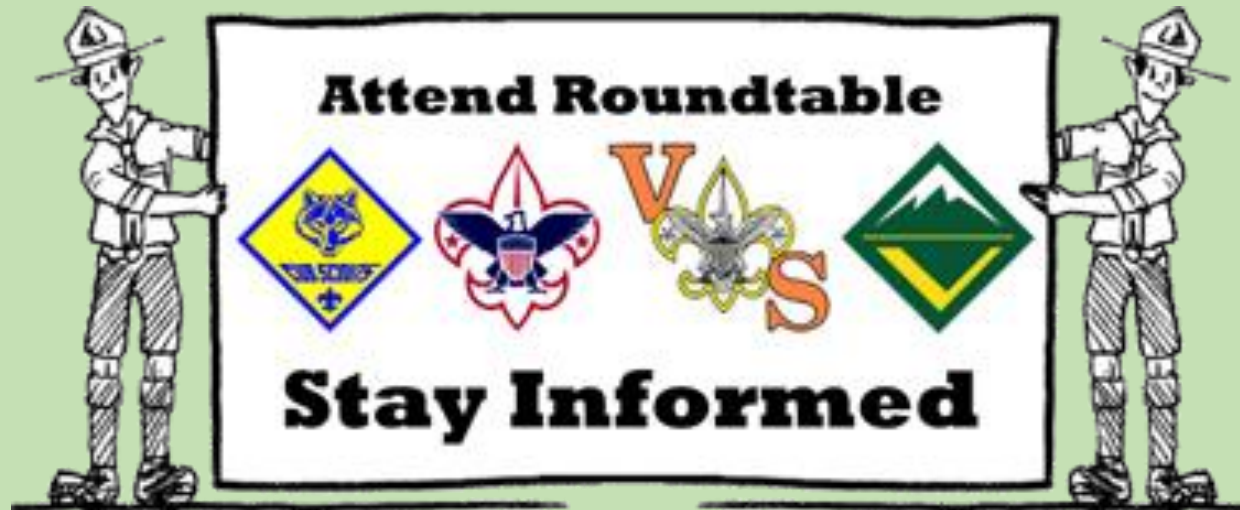


George Mason District Roundtable

June 8, 2023



Pledge



Welcome

New to Roundtable?

Please introduce yourself!

Council Update

- **2024 National Dues** – Update in July
- **2024 Council Dues** – Two listening sessions completed; update in July
- **Safety Moments for Summer**
 - Aquatics Safety – [Aaron on Scouting](#); [Aquatics Safety the BSA Way](#)
 - Lightning – [Weather Related Safety](#); [Fairfax Alerts Lightning Awareness Week](#)
- [Outdoor Ethics Virtual Roundtable \(June 14\)](#) - Edwin Guevara from the Maryland DNR will introduce a few apps that can be used by youth and leaders to make their outdoor experience more exciting.
- **VFW Post Cleanup** - VFW Post 8469 – the Blue and Gray Post, is having a cleanup this Saturday, June 10, 9:00 am – 12 noon at 5703 Vogue Rod., Fairfax Station, VA 22039. All scouts are welcome to participate in this community service event. A sloppy Joe luncheon is planned. Please consider participating for an hour or so. Thank you. <https://www.vfwpost8469.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/vfw8469/>

NCAC 2023 Unit Growth Conference

- Who: Unit Key-3 Leaders, New Member Coordinators, Commissioners, and anyone looking to grow their unit's membership are invited to NCAC's 2023 Unit Growth Conference!
- Topics Covered:
 - How to market your Unit
 - Best Practices for Joining Events
 - NCAC's One-Stop-Shop for Membership
 - Recruitment & Marketing material pick-up
- Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 8304 Old Keene Mill Rd, Springfield, VA 22152
- Date: Saturday June 10, 2023
- Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm





Whitewater Paddling

National Capital Area Council



Aquatics Committee (<https://ncacbsa.org/aquatics>)

2023 Training Schedule

- **Paddle Craft Safety (Still – Camp Snyder/Silver Lake; Moving – Riley’s Lock, MD)**
 - Aug 26 - Still Water Safety - Class Size 12
 - Aug 27 - Moving Water Safety - Class Size 12
- **Aquatic MB Partial Wrap-up**(only for those that are missing a few requirements from camp)
 - 10/01/23 (Sunday); noon – 5pm; Location TBD



Whitewater Outfitters

- Best for one-and-done
- No need for special training
- \$\$\$

Outfitters

- **Antietam Creek:** <https://www.antietamcreek.com>
- **Calleva:** <https://calleva.org>
- <https://shenandoah-river.com>
- <https://harpersferryadventurecenter.com/whitewater-rafting/>
- <https://canoevirginia.net>
- <http://www.blueridgeonline.com/Virginia/VACanoeing>
- <https://harpersferryadventurecenter.com/whitewater-kayaking/>
- <https://aceraft.com/white-water-rafting/gauley-river-rafting/fall-upper-gauley-river-rafting/>
- <https://www.canoeingthenew.com>

Paddle Craft Safety

**8/26 & 8/27/2023 (Snyder & Riley's
Lock)**

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-68339>

Up to 12 attendees (adults only)

Offered Spring & Fall

Covers the Basics of Whitewater Canoeing

Paddle Craft Safety: *Part Two*

Council Offering



4-part advanced whitewater training



Up to 24 attendees (scouts & adults)

Proposed Schedule

- Sep 9 (1/2 day): Riley's Lock (flatwater training)
- Sep 23 (full day): Lower Antietam
- Oct. 14 (full day): GW Canal
- Oct. 28 (full day): Angler's Inn to Lock 10



Request for Support – Optimist International

- Optimist International needs 34 Scouts for a flag ceremony on Sunday, July 2, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency in Crystal City. Arrival time is 10am, so that we can work in a little practice. The ceremony itself is at noon. They need to know types and numbers of vehicles, so that they can arrange parking.
- Please put this out to your units who might be able to provide Scouts. They don't need to come from the same unit. They can be from any type of unit, in fact, it would be great to showcase all levels of Scouting, however the flags may be too big and heavy for young Cubs.
- Contact: Christine.McDanal@scouting.org, 240-395-0606

George Mason Program



John Drisco, Vice Chair Program
Matt Burns, Deputy Vice Chair Program
George Mason District



Current 2023 George Mason Calendar

- August 10, 2023 – Join Scouting Night/Roundtable
- August 16-18, 2023 – Summer Ordeal, Camp Snyder
- September 23, 2023 – Scouts Night – Nationals vs Atlanta Braves
- September 23, 2023 – Life to Eagle Seminar (in-person)
- October 6-9, Climb-o-ree
- October 20-22, 2023 – Fall Camporee
- October 28, 2023 – Scouting for Food (Tags)
- November 4, 2023 – Scouting for Food (Collection)
- November 11, 2023 – Flags In (Veterans Day)
- November 25, 2023 – 5K Trot & Ride, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA



STEM

- 06/26-6/30 & 8/7-8/11 – [STEM MB and Nova at Innovation Academy](#)
- 07/16 – 07/21 – [Scouts BSA Specialty Week](#), Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA
- 08/12 – [Townes Supernova Project](#) – Individuals and Small Groups, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA
- Anytime – [DC STEM Trek](#)- Showcases 24 government agencies, private organizations and monuments related to the tenets upon which STEM is based. Two hikes - 10.57 miles, or 4.75 miles



Fall 2023 Camporee

October 20-22, 2023

Merit Badges: Goshen (88)

American Cultures, American Heritage, American Labor, Animal Science, Animation, Archaeology, Archery, Architecture, Art, Astronomy, Automotive Maintenance, Aviation, Basketry, Bird Study, Camping, Canoeing, Chemistry, Chess, Citizenship in Nation & World, Climbing, Collections, Communication, Composite Materials, Cooking, Crime Prevention, Digital Tech, Electricity, Electronics, Emergency Preparedness, Energy, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Environmental Science, Exploration, Fingerprinting, First Aid, Fishing, Forestry, Game Design, Gardening, Geocaching, Geology, Inventing, Journalism, Kayaking, Law, Leatherwork, Lifesaving, Mammal Study, Metalwork, Mining in Society, Motorboating, Moviemaking, Music, Nature, Oceanography, Orienteering, Personal Management, Photography, Pioneering, Plumbing, Pottery, Programming, Public Speaking, Radio, Reptiles & Amphibians, Rifle, Robotics, Rowing, Salesmanship, Sculpture, Search & Rescue, Shotgun, Signs & Signals, Sailing, Soil & Water, Space Exploration, Sports, Swimming, Theater, Traffic Safety, Water Sports, Weather, Welding, Wilderness Survival, Wood Carving, Woodwork

Merit Badges: Camporee (32)

American Cultures, American Heritage, American Labor, Animal Science, Animation, Archaeology, Archery, Architecture, Art, Astronomy, Automotive Maintenance, Aviation, Basketry, Bird Study, Camping, Canoeing, Chemistry, Chess, Citizenship in Nation & World, Climbing, Collections, Communication, Composite Materials, Cooking, Crime Prevention, Digital Tech, Electricity, Electronics, Emergency Preparedness, Energy, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Environmental Science, Exploration, Fingerprinting, First Aid, Fishing, Forestry, Game Design, Gardening, Geocaching, Geology, Inventing, Journalism, Kayaking, Law, Leatherwork, Lifesaving, Mammal Study, Metalwork, Mining in Society, Motorboating, Moviemaking, Music, Nature, Oceanography, Orienteering, Personal Management, Photography, Pioneering, Plumbing, Pottery, Programming, Public Speaking, Radio, Reptiles & Amphibians, Rifle, Robotics, Rowing, Salesmanship, Sculpture, Search & Rescue, Shotgun, Signs & Signals, Sailing, Soil & Water, Space Exploration, Sports, Swimming, Theater, Traffic Safety, Water Sports, Weather, Welding, Wilderness Survival, Wood Carving, Woodwork

Merit Badge Instruction

Traditional Half
Day/Full Day
MB Day Format

Partials Clinic
Format
(Variable Skill
Demo by Scout)

Skills Clinics
(Jamboree
Format)

Merit Badge Counselors needed!

Google Drive will be available by July

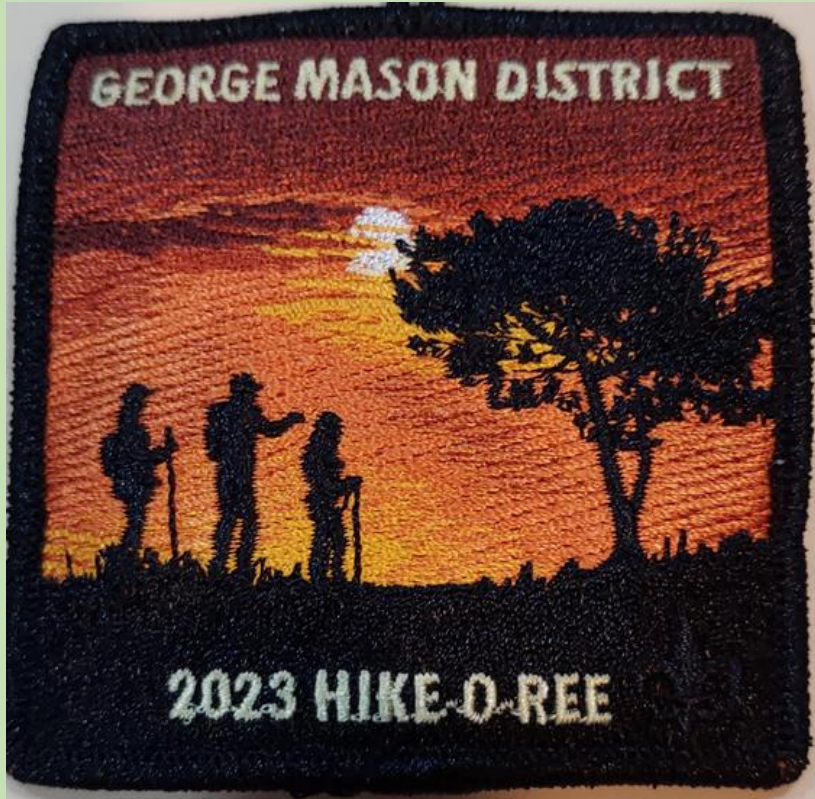
All MB Counselors encouraged to attend, including non-camporee attendees

“Key 3”: EP, S&R, Wilderness Survival

Advancement – Changes to Merit Badge Counselors

- Starting August 1, 2023, the fee for new Merit Badge Counselors that are not already registered in a BSA adult position (Unit leader, committee member, district staff, etc.) will be \$25.
- Current Merit Badge Counselors that are not also registered in a BSA adult position will need to pay \$25 when the District recharter in December.
- Impact on merit badge counselor re-registration is uncertain.
- I'd like a volunteer to help me work with unit merit badge deans to assess impact on MBCs and help recruit new ones to cover gaps.

George Mason Hike-O-Ree



**Patch order site will be open to 6/20/23
- <https://scoutingevent.com/082-68269>**

- Congrats to the following units that supported all three GM Hike-O-Rees:
 - Pack 675
 - Troop 140
 - Troop 152
 - Troop 895
 - Troop 1539
- Kudos also to Troop 13 that supported the Hike-O-Ree in 2022 and 2023.
- Other units participating were:
 - Pack 78
 - Pack 656
 - Pack 681
 - Pack 1111
 - Troop 681
 - Troop 1113
- All told, we registered 787 miles which is a little lower than the 812 hiked in 2022 but higher than the 666 in 2021.



2023 Elks Youth Recognition Dinner

- Thank you to everyone who played a part in this year's dinner. We had 21 Eagles and 29 Gold Award Scouts and their families attend.
- The Elks Lodge 2188 again sponsored the dinner and provided the venue and meal for free.
- Next year's dinner for 2023 Eagle Scouts will be in the spring of 2024.

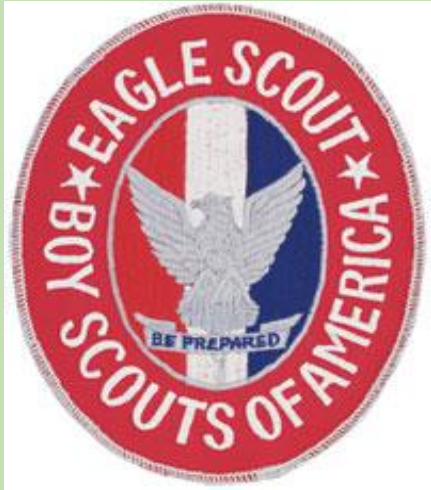
Flags In – May 29, 2023 (Memorial Day)

- Thanks to all that attended and those that supported the event!
- Approximately 325 Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Girl Scouts, Heritage Girls and their families attend.
- Next event is on Veteran's Day (Nov 11)

For more info, contact
Russell Pittman at
ruspittman@gmail.com



District Life to Eagle Seminar – September 23



- Saturday, 23 September 2023
- 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- In Person at St. James Catholic Church in Falls Church
- Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-70702>

Who should attend:

- Life Scouts or advanced Star Scouts who want to pursue the Eagle Rank
- Eagle advisors, coaches or unit leaders that haven't attended a seminar in two years
- Parents of Scouts working on Eagle or other adults interested in Scouting

Registration is live now and must be registered by 21 September 2023.

Any questions contact Matt Burns at 703-938-9550 or at gm.advancement@gmail.com

Merit Badges

- The online Merit Badge Counselor [registration](#) works for all Scouters who do not already hold another District position.
- New Merit Badge Counselors must complete online merit badge counselor training, in addition to YPT. Be sure the counselor uses his/her legal name – no nicknames.
- Merit Badge Counselors, or the unit Dean/Leader, also need to scan and send Margee the Merit Badge application form listing the badges the counselor is applying to teach and providing a justification of his/her qualifications.
- Youth Protection Training is the essential first step. Don't hit "send" on the application without it!
- Contact Margee if you have questions at GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com.

Did you know:

- The National Council does not limit the number of merit badges a youth may earn from one counselor, though a **unit leader is permitted to do so**, as long as the same limit applies to all Scouts in the unit. Ideally, Scouts should work with a variety of adults. (GTA 7.0.0.3)
- Partial Merit Badges have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. (GTA 7.0.3.3)
- Due to the BSA policies related to Youth Protection and two-deep leadership, a merit badge counselor must have another adult present during all merit badge counseling sessions. However, the parent or legal guardian of the Scout may serve as the second adult. **This parent or legal guardian does not have to be a registered leader.**
- If the requirements for a merit badge differ between the merit badge pamphlet and the current edition of Scouts BSA Requirements, the requirements in the Scouts BSA Requirements book supersede all others.

Merit Badge Opportunities:

- [07/16/23 – 07/22/23 - Camp Snyder Specialty Week, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [09/09/23 – Americanism Merit Badge Workshop, Fredericksburg, VA](#)



Training (<https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/training/>)

Cub Leader Position Specific (C40)

- [06/10/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO;C32)

- [06/17/23 – 06/18/23 – Lorton, VA](#)

Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills

- [06/17/23 – 06/18/23 – Lorton, VA](#)

Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS) – [09/23/23 \(Heritage Pres Church, Alexandria, VA\)](#) & [10/21/23 -10/22/23 \(Camp Big Mac, Markham, VA\)](#)

Powder Horn – [08/17/23 – 08/20/23 – Camp St. Charles, Newberg, MD](#)

Wilderness First Aid (N02)

- [09/08/23 – 09/10/23 & 10/07/23 - 10/08/23](#)

BSA Leave No Trace Trainer Course – Outdoor Ethics

- [10/16/23 \(Zoom\)](#) & [10/21/23 \(Camp Snyder\)](#)

Outdoor Ethics Orientation Course (Scouts and Cubs)

- [06/10/23](#) – Brandywine, MD
- [09/09/23](#) – Brandywine, MD
- [12/03/23](#) – Brandywine, MD

Cub Scout Den Leader Specific (C42)

- [06/10/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)

Scoutmaster Position Specific Training (S24)

- [06/10/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT; S78)

- [06/18/23 – 06/23/23 – Session 23-2 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [06/25/23 – 06/30/23 – Session 23-3 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/23/23 – 07/28/23 – Session 23-4 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/23/23 – 07/28/23 – Session 23-5 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

Wood Badge (A90) - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/wood-badge/>

- [09/08/23 - 09/10/23 & 10/07/23 – 10/08/23](#)



Training for Citizenship in Society MBC

- Required to be accepted as a MBC for this MB.
- GM District is offering:
 - July 16th 4 pm – 6 pm
 - American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax, VA 22030
 - Register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4CAFA72BA5F94-citizenship1>
 - Class limited to 30.
- Questions - contact Margee Egan (GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com) or Roy De Lauder (eaglescout.roy@cox.net)

Training and Recharter

- ***Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Unit Committee Chairs, and New Member Coordinators must be fully trained by November 2023. Those who are not fully trained will be dropped at recharter. Any dropped Key 3 member will impact the unit's ability to recharter.***
- All required courses are available on-line except for IOLS which is required for Scoutmasters.
- NCAC has indicated that IOLS will be available at Goshen this summer.
- Many non-NCAC Summer Camps also offer IOLS to adults attending camp.
- Contact Roy at eaglescout.roy@cox.net if you need help finding an IOLS course.

GM High Adventure



June 2023

- High Adventure [Opportunities for Individuals](#) in 2023
 - Lenhok'sin – Backpacking Trek, 07/02 to 07/08 (Week 2) – 4 slots left
 - Several NCAC Units have space available for individuals in their crews
- NCAC High Adventure Trips - 2024
 - Philmont – Jul 13-27, 2024 - Crew of 8-12, 4Y/2A booked - \$2,795
 - Includes White Water Rafting & Pike's Peak!
 - Northern Tier – Jul 23-Aug 3, 2024, Crew of 6-8 - \$2,095
 - Sea Base – Jul 29-Aug 3, 2024 - Crew of 6-8, 3Y/2A pre-booked, \$2,100
 - Lenhok'sin – James River Canoeing Trek - Crew of 6-12, July 7-13, 2024
 - FOR INFO: highadventure@ncacbsa.org
- Training
 - *BCOLS: Sep 23/Oct 21-22, Heritage Pres & Camp Big Mac*
 - Philmont 2024 Sessions: I – 11/19/23; II – 01/07/24; IIIa – 03/24/24; IIIb – 04/06/24
 - Philmont Advisor Hikes: 08:00, Sat 3/09 & Sun 3/17/24, 0800 Catoctin Mt Park, Thurmont, MD
 - Northern Tier 2024 Sessions: Sat, 04/06/24 (in-person); Sat, 04/20/24 (virtual)

GM High Adventure (cont)



June 2023

- National High Adventure Base Quick Links
 - Philmont: <https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/register/>
 - Northern Tier: <https://www.ntier.org/provisional-scout-connections/>
 - Sea Base: <https://www.bsaseabase.org/scouts/scout-connections/>
 - Summit: <https://www.summitbsa.org/registration/scoutconnections/>
- Other High Adventure Bases
 - Adirondack High Adventure Area: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/hLgsVbk7Suju6cuDzQQJaEn4>
 - Maine High Adventure Area: <https://www.mainehighadventure.org/>
 - Montana Outdoor High Adventure Base: <https://montanabsa.org/camps/high-adventure/>

Shooting Sports

- Requests for Shooting Events – Lead Time!
 - 50+ scouts - 6mos
 - Less than 50 scouts - 3mos
- Shooting on private land:
 - Requirements
 - Permissions/protocols
- Shooting Sports [web page](#)
- Shooting Sports Instructor Classes:
 - [Rifle/Shotgun](#)
 - [Archery](#)



Other Activities (for units, Dens/Patrols, or families)

- June/July/Aug (Tues, 10am) – [Kids on the Green](#), Vienna, VA
- May 4, 2024 – [19th Annual Scout Orienteering Meet](#), Triangle, VA

Order of the Arrow

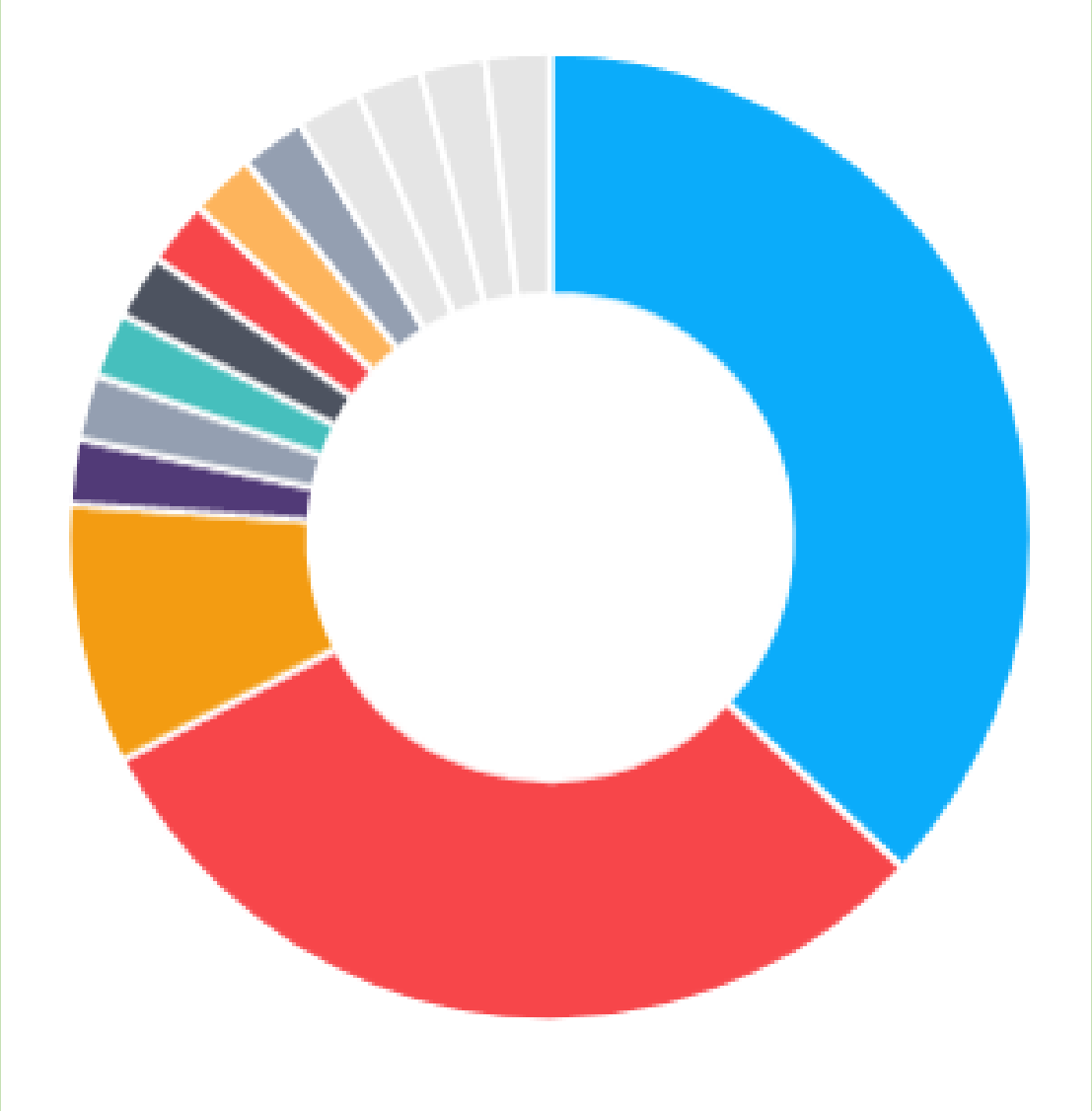
- 2023 Dues can be paid online: <https://wipit470.org/dues.html>
- 06/18/23 – 07/01/23 – GOAT
- July-Early August – Goshen Bus Loading
- 08/16/23 – 08/18/23 – Summer Ordeal, Camp Snyder
- 09/08/23 – 09/10/23 – Fall Fellowship, Goshen
- 11/01/23 – Election Season Opens

* Registrations open online <https://wipit470.org/index.html> under “Events”

Roundtable Survey

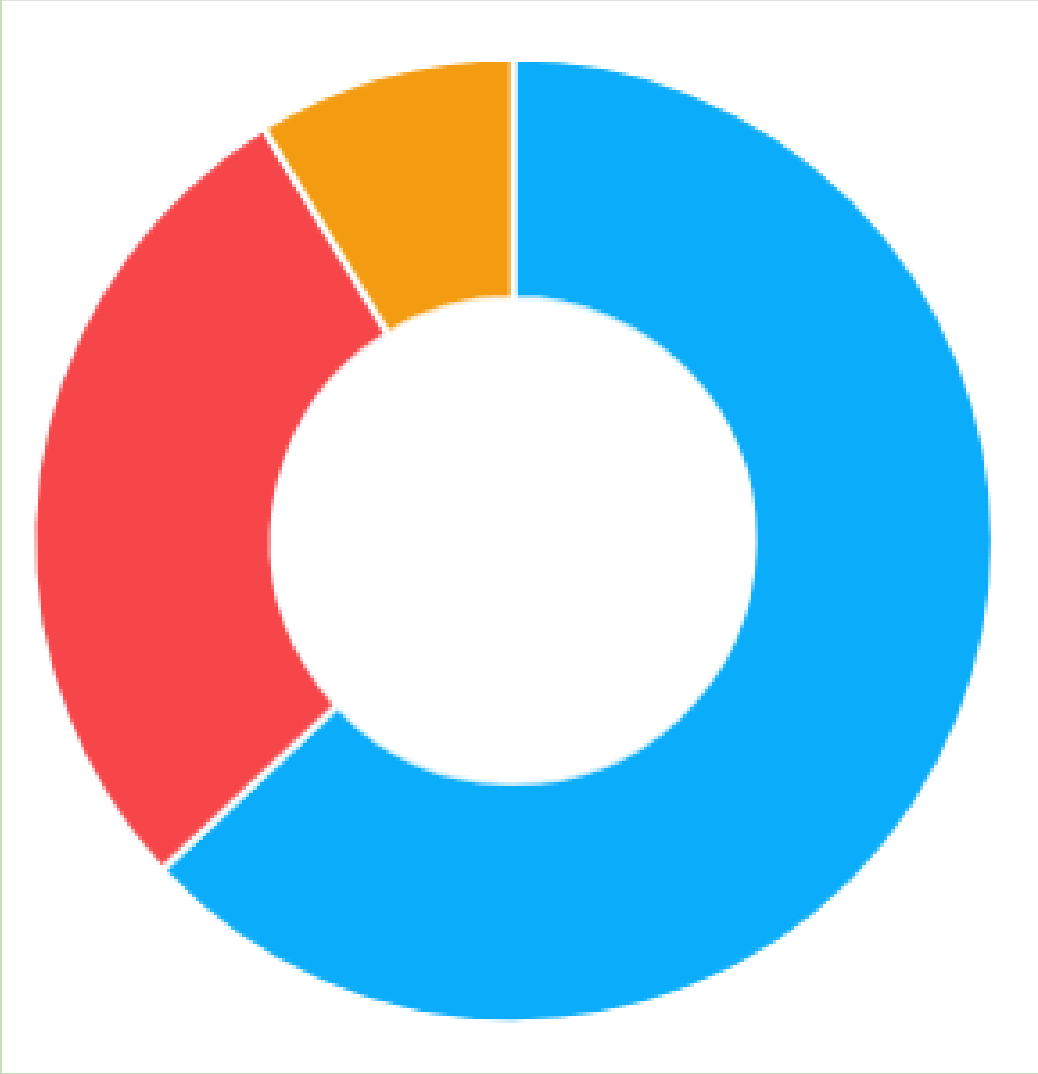
Have you attended a Roundtable?

Option	Votes	
Yes, both in-person and by Zoom	37%	17
Yes, in-person	30%	14
Yes, by Zoom	9%	4
(Write-in) Scoutmaster and assistants attended	2%	1
(Write-in) Didn't know about them.	2%	1
(Write-in) Others attend	2%	1
(Write-in) New to leadership	2%	1
(Write-in) Conflict	2%	1
(Write-in) Someone else represent our troop	2%	1
(Write-in) Didn't know about it	2%	1
(Write-in) Had a conflict with other engagement	2%	1
(Write-in) Others from my unit attend	2%	1
(Write-in) I have been at college for most of that time and out of the country for 4 months. the senior leadership of my troop always attend.	2%	1
(Write-in) Schedule conflicts	2%	1



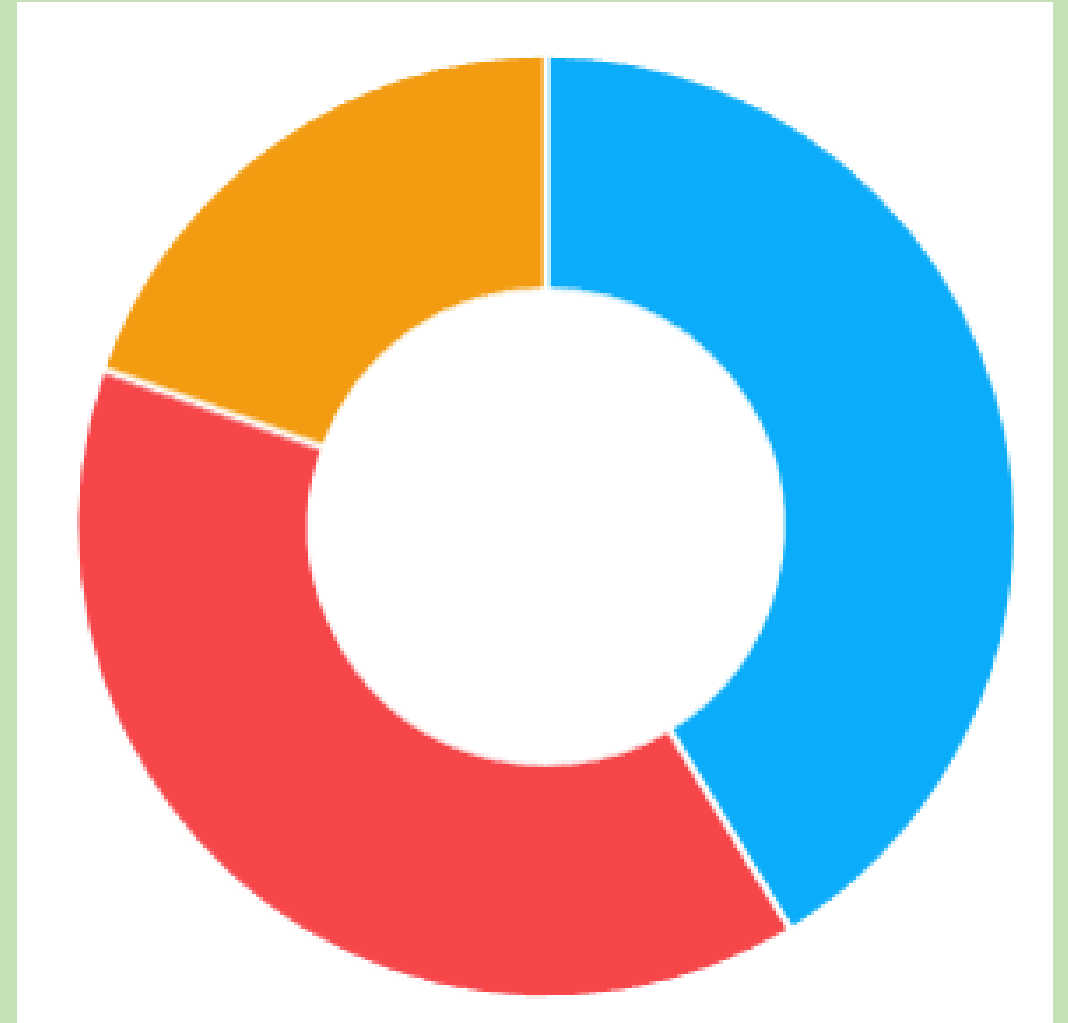
How many Roundtables should we have/year?

Option	Votes	
■ Current Schedule - Monthly (except July)	63%	29
■ Less Frequently - Every other month	28%	13
■ Less frequently - Four times per year	9%	4



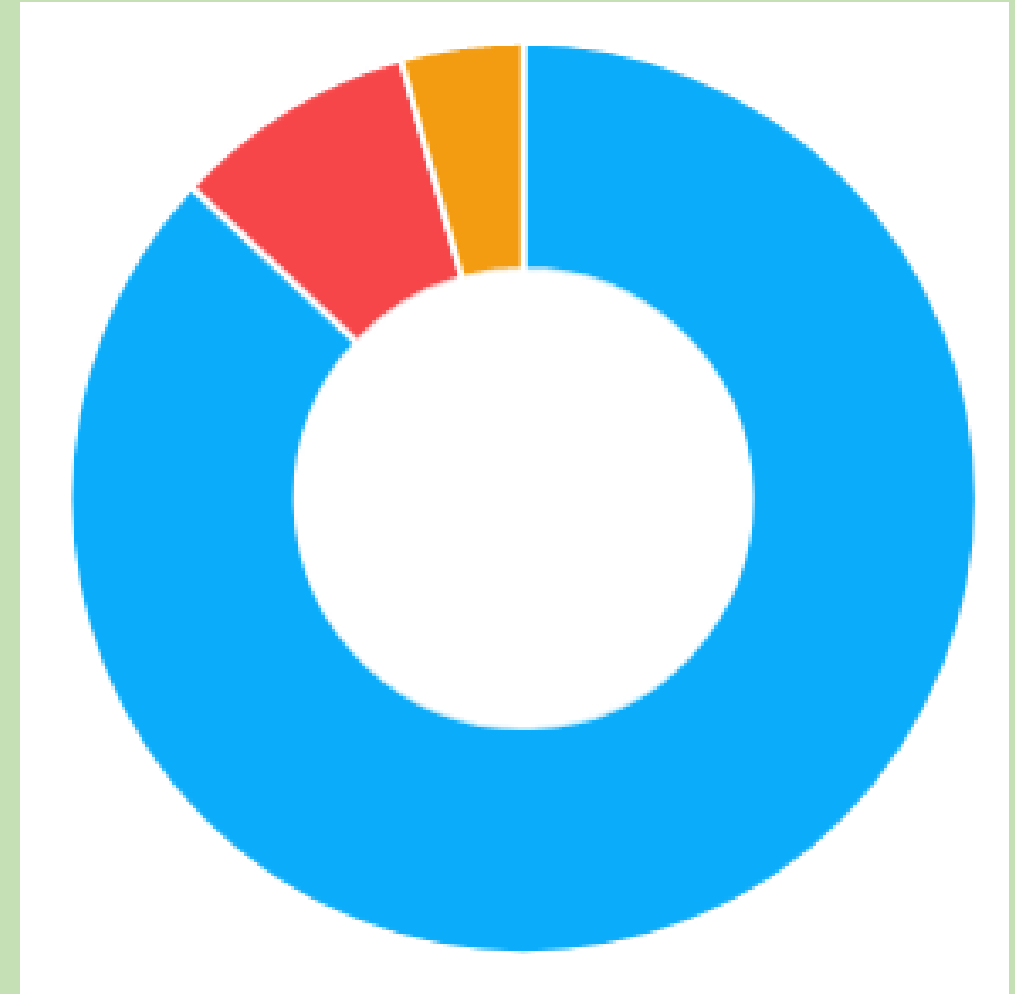
Breakouts for Cubs and Scouts BSA?

Option	Votes	
■ Separate breakout sessions quarterly	41%	19
■ Separate breakout sessions for Cubs and Scouts BSA at each meeting	39%	18
■ Joint session (Cubs and Scouts BSA/Crews together)	20%	9



Should we have panel discussions?

Option	Votes	
■ Yes, quarterly panels	87%	40
■ No	9%	4
■ Yes, but more frequently	4%	2



Willing to lead/participate in a discussion panel?

Option	Votes	
■ Yes	50%	23
■ No	50%	23



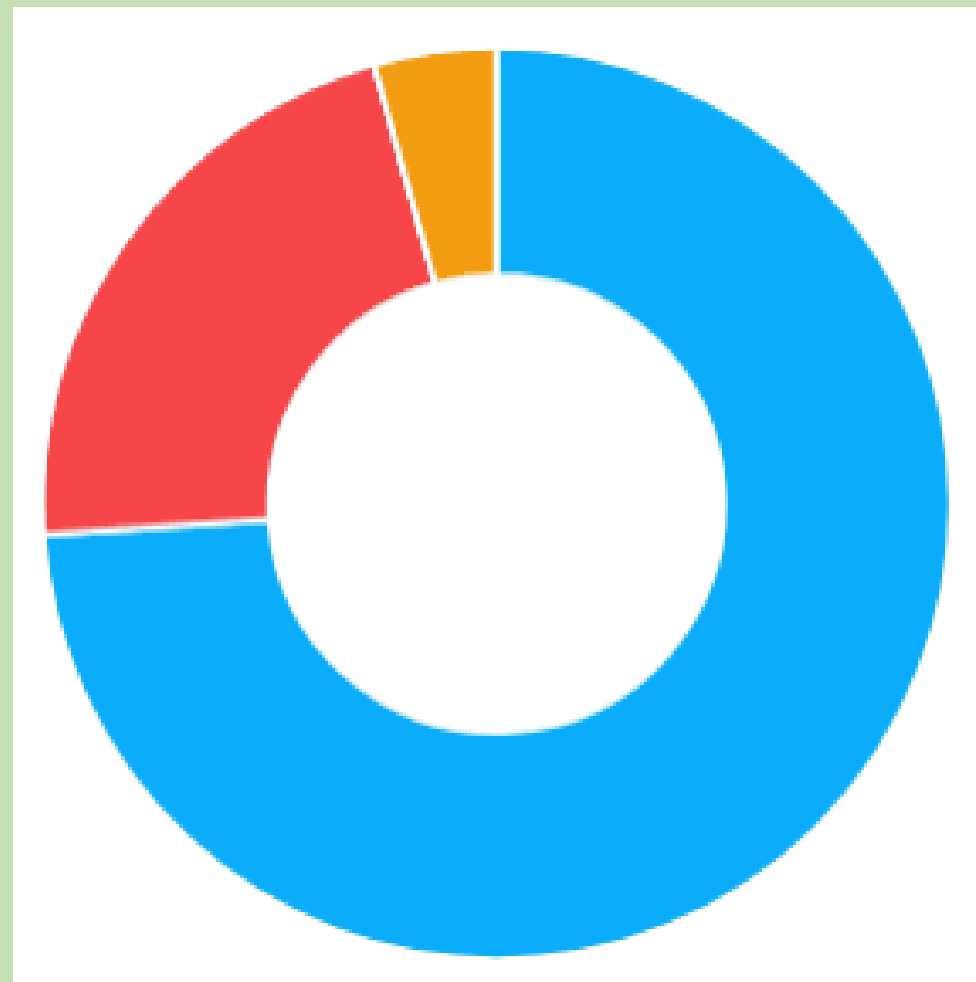
Should we set aside time for unit updates?

Option	Votes	
■ Yes	61%	28
■ No Opinion	28%	13
■ No	11%	5



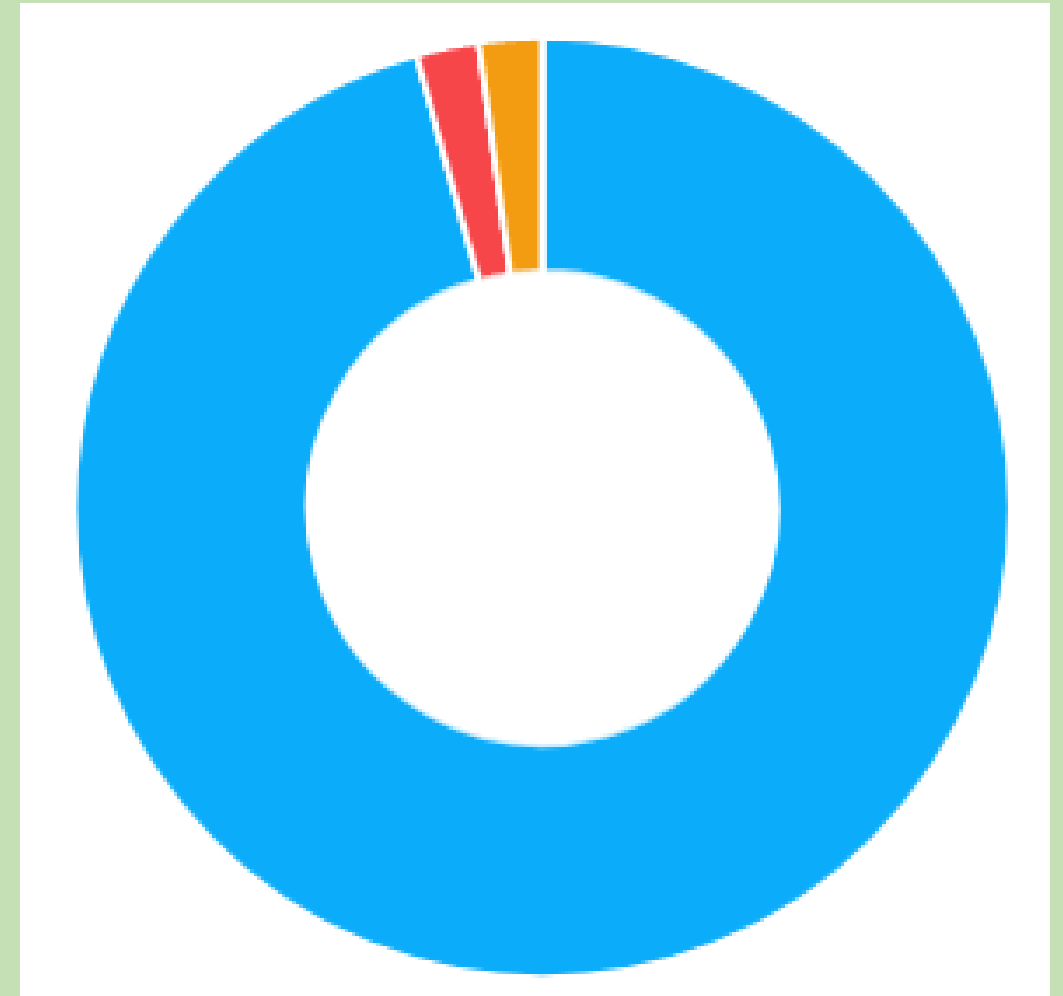
Upcoming community activities slide useful?

Option	Votes	
■ Useful	74%	34
■ No opinion	22%	10
■ Not Useful	4%	2



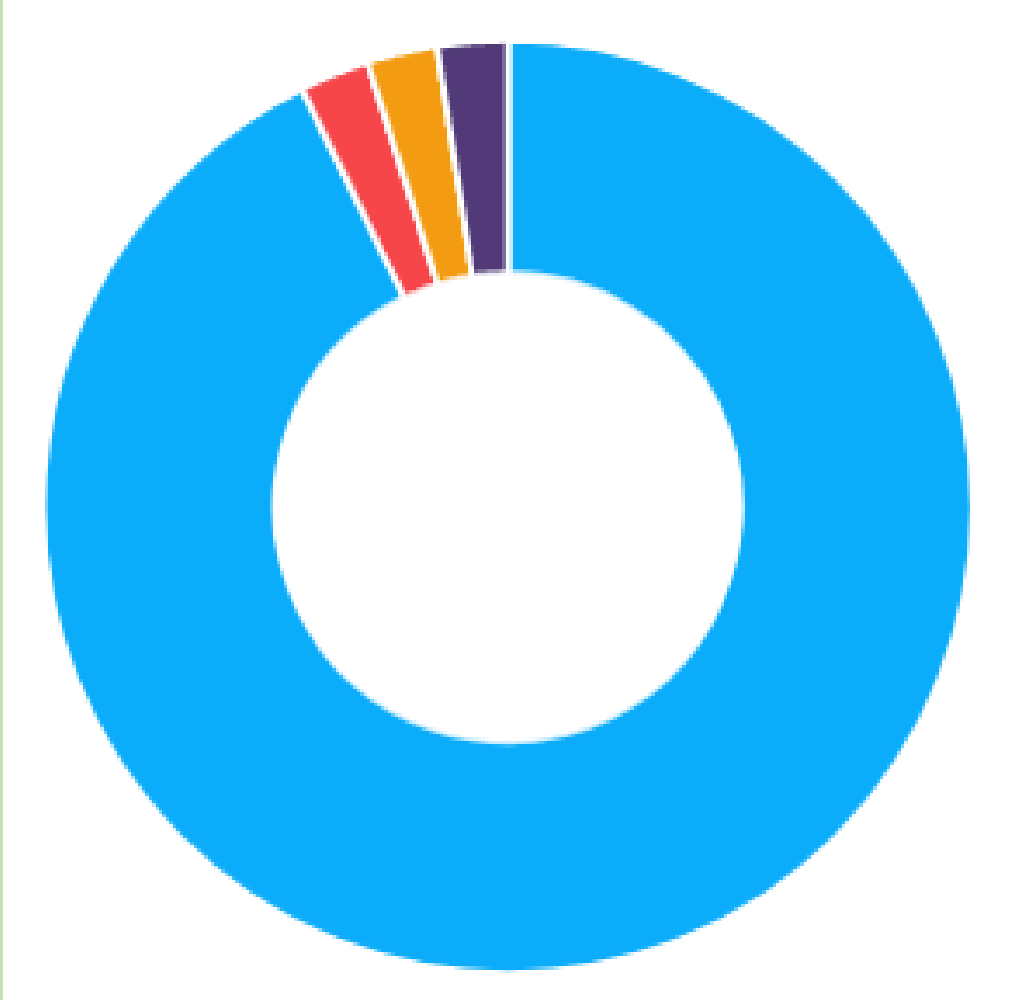
Having minutes/slides available useful?

Option	Votes	
■ Useful; please continue	96%	44
■ (Write-in) Paynedc@gmail.com	2%	1
■ (Write-in) Allenpg@hotmail.com	2%	1
■ Not useful; no need to provide these	0%	0



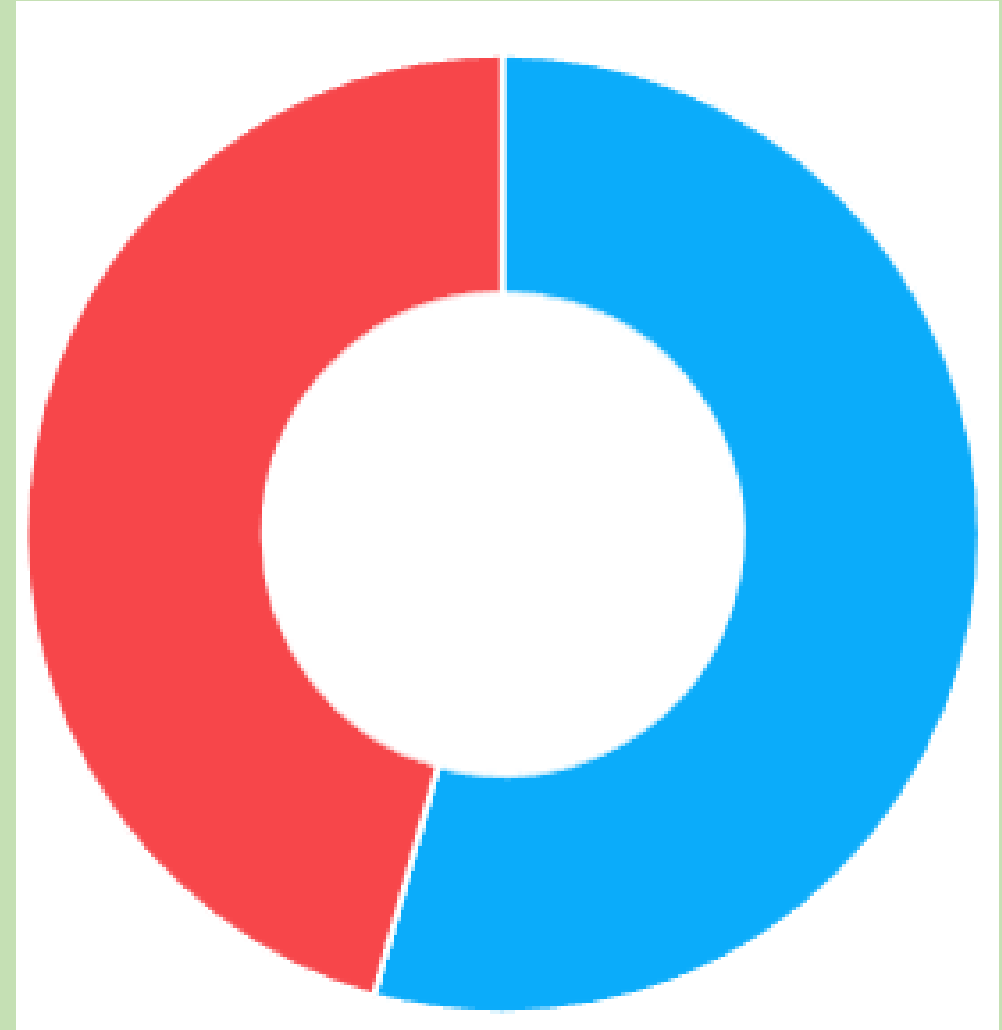
Become a Roundtable Commissioner?

Option	Votes	
■ No	93%	38
■ (Write-in) Possibly. i would need to know the time commitment	2%	1



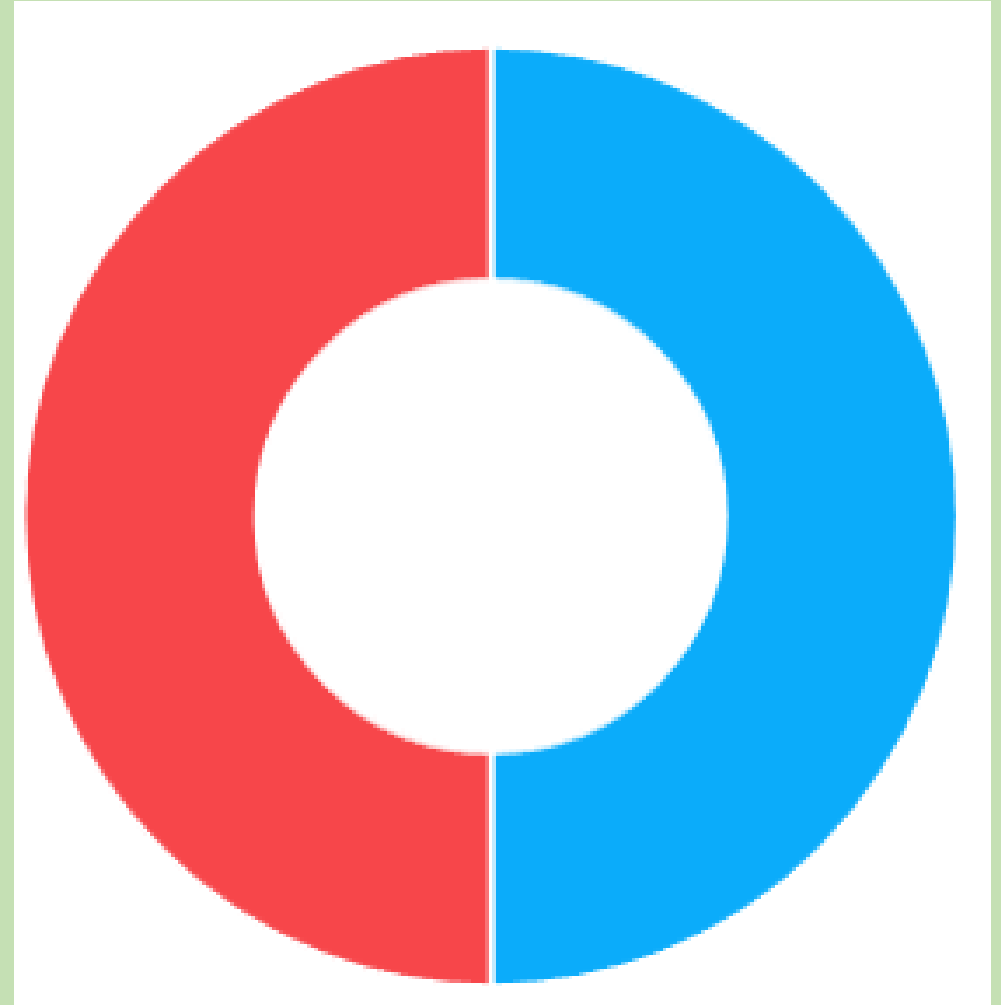
Willing to develop/present topic?

Option	Votes	
■ No	54%	25
■ Yes	46%	21



Bring someone from your unit and introduce?

Option	Votes	
■ Yes	50%	23
■ No	50%	23



Bring in outside speaker (quarterly)?

- Developing Leadership/leadership stories
- Success stories – fund raising, recruitment, volunteers, cub program
- Effective communication and team building
- In-unit youth training – we are all rebuilding after the pandemic
- High adventure options
- Unique opportunities for scouts, recruiting, fund raising, and training
- Kids development
- Outdoor/Camping activities and great sites/unique HA activities
- Cub camping places and getting approval
- Youth Mental Health courses available locally
- Local organizations that have activities/programs/opportunities for scouts
- Local experts in topics pertinent to scouting program (e.g., Conservation)
- Adventures/inspiring service projects
- Specific options to expand the scouting experience beyond NCAC
- Programming that is not currently part of the unit planning
- Discussions related to transition from Cubs to Scouts BSA
- Discussions related to issues as scouts age through the program
- Recruiting, membership and how to reach non-traditional youth
- How to better publicize activities
- STEM opportunities
- Backpacking, paddle, climbing and biking locations; program support
- Eagle Scout project opportunities and fund raising alternatives

Other Comments?

- Make the Calendar items a pre-read or handout.
- De-emphasize information transmission and focus on comradery
- Periodic social event in lieu of standard meeting - Foster more networking
- Panels on specific topics – clearly identify if Cubs, Scouts or both
- Get more people involved with themes – e.g., advancement coordinator night
- Move Scout Expo to a community location for exposure – e.g., Vienna Community Center on Saturday
- Roundtable topics planned out for whole year – announce the schedule, type (e.g., panel)
- Share best practices
- Be more interactive
- Stay on time
- Thanks (several)
- None

Other Topics

- General Announcements
- District Executive Minute
- District Chair Minute
- District Commissioner Minute

- *Minutes and slides available on the [GMD web site](#) (District Resources, Roundtable). Password is “GMDRT”*
- *No meeting in July!*
- *Next meeting – August 10, 2023, at Thoreau MS 7:30pm*
 - *Join Scouting Night - Invite your Den Leaders and ASMs*