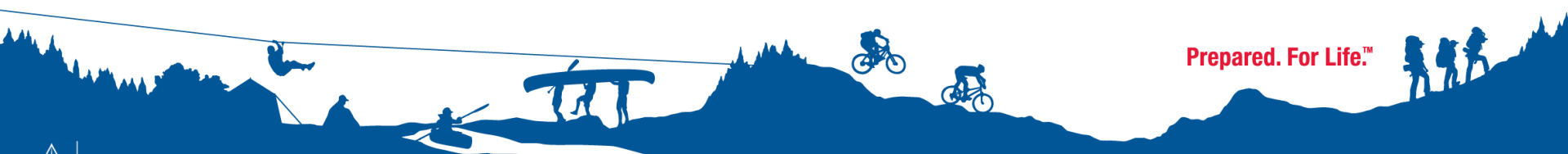




Best Practices

Effective Pack Meetings



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Scouting's Organizing Principle #1

Scouting is a volunteer driven membership movement

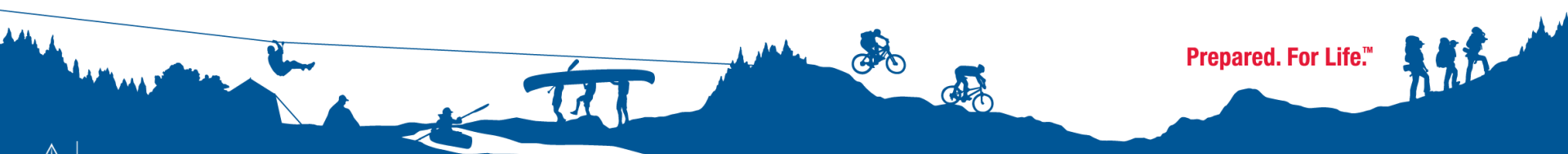
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Movement

**A group of people joining together
for a common cause**



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Scouting's Organizing Principle #2

Partnership with Community Organizations

(Refer to Annual Charter Agreement)

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Call to Service

If you or someone else in your unit have unique skills in;

- Leadership
- Fundraising
- Training
- Event planning

and have an interest at another level beyond the unit, please let this presenter know or contact your local district executive.

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State of the Unit

Talk about how your unit is doing (2 minutes)

- **Is it growing**
- **Share some calendar highlights**
- **Is it financially sound**

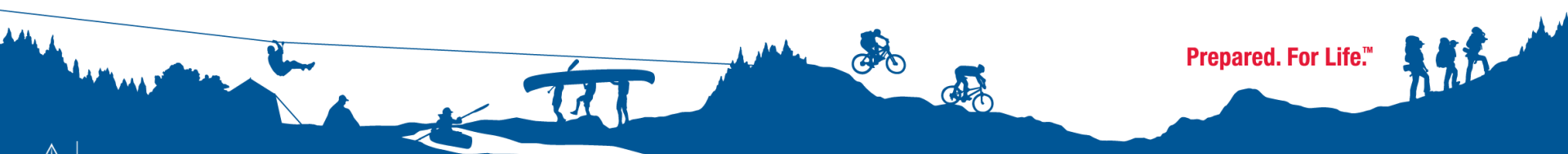
What do you do best (5 minutes)

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Time to begin your module

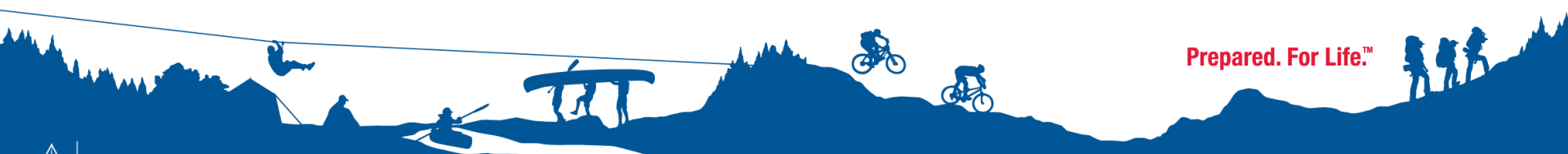


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Effective Pack Meetings



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Who will benefit from this?

- **Cubmasters**
- **Assistant Cubmasters**
- **Committee Chair**
- **Committee Members**
- **Den Leaders**
- **Parents**
- **More importantly SCOUTS!**

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What makes a successful pack meeting?

- **Recognize your scouts!!!**
- **Be organized**
- **Understand why boys come to the pack meeting**
- **Most important Have fun!!!!**

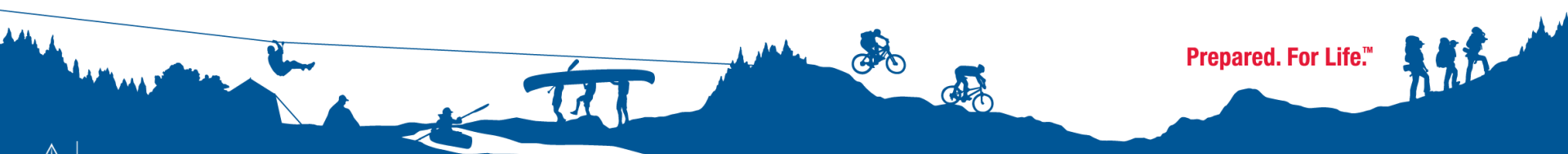
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Why do boys come to Pack meetings?

- To get awards
- To see their friends
- To have a sense of belonging to a group
- To have fun!!!

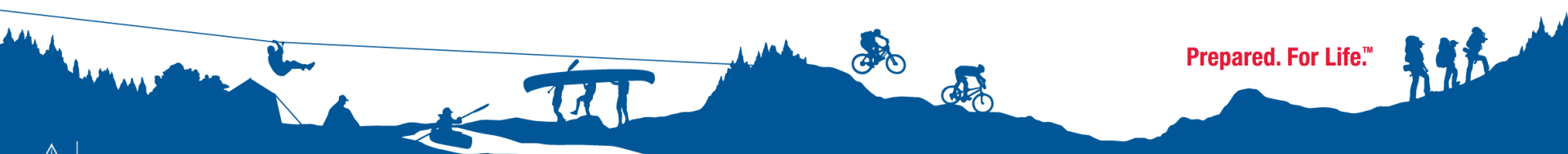


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Scout Recognition



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Recognizing your Scouts in front of entire Pack

- **Why is this important?**
- **Resources for ideas**
- **Not the same way every time**
- **Make it Fun!!!!**

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Importance of recognition

- **Allows scouts to see progress to a goal**
- **Give the opportunity for shy scouts to be in front of peers building self confidence**
- **Shows the parents that the scouts learning /doing something**
- **Gives the boys a reward for their achievements**

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Make it fun and exciting to get awards

- No one like to be handed a baggie with just awards and told to go sit down
- You should announce what award each scout is receiving
- Try to make every scout a little different i.e. scout do push up if he got his physical fitness belt loop
- Try to follow a monthly theme for awards. If you had fire fighters there have them help out.

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Resources for recognition

- **Cub Scout Den and Pack meeting Resource Guide available at the scout shop**
- **BSA/CAC websites**
- **Google**
- **Other Cub Masters**
- **Roundtable**

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Be Prepared

- Plan ahead
- Have an outline
- Keep meeting shorter than 1.5 hours

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Planning

- **Starts when you set the date make sure it doesn't conflict with big community/school events**
- **Use the monthly theme**
- **Have activities that correspond to the theme**
- **Have parents help you plan and put on the meeting (gives them a purpose to be there)**

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Sample pack meeting outline

PACK MEETING OUTLINE

GATHERING ACTIVITY 6:30-6:40

FLAG CEREMONEY **DEN 2**

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE

CUB SCOUT PROMISE

ANNOUNCEMENTS KEEP IT SHORT!!

Camp Reminder/Blue and Gold

SKITS/ JOKES **Den 5/11**

MONTHLY THEME SPEECH

Talk about respect-Knights of the Round Table

ACTIVITIES

A- Teeter board Jousting

B- Tug O war

C- Sword skills(walk the plank with a cotton ball on a paint stick)

FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

ADVANCEMENTS

CLOSING

FLAG RETREAT/DISMISSAL END BY 8PM

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Keep your meetings on time



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Remember

- **Keep pack meeting to 1.5 hours or less**
- **Boys have a short attention span**
- **Some boys go to bed early**
- **Long meeting are usually boring**

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Having Fun



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Plan Fun into your pack meeting by using some of the following things

- Skits
- Jokes
- Magic
- Stories
- Run Ons
- Games

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Remember This

- If you are not having fun, neither are your Scouts
- You cannot have fun if you are doing everything at the meeting
- Don't be afraid to act like a boy!!
- Pack meetings should be controlled chaos

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Things to Avoid

- Announcements should be minimum or not at all (**BORING**)
- Find alternate ways to communicate important things to parents
- Use email/ handouts
- If the boys are doing activities gather the parents together and do announcements then

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One last thing

- **There are lots of resources for you if you have questions or need help**
 - District round tables
 - District training Pow Wow, University of Scouting
 - Internet Council and BSA websites
 - Other cubmasters
 - District commissioners

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