

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD DISTRICT SCOUTS

SCOUT SECTION MEETING – 3rd January 2017

In attendance: Jane Harding – 1st Kings Langley (Chair)
Gavin Howard – 1st Kings Langley
Mick Donley – 1st Bovingdon
Justin Stratton – 2nd Hemel Hempstead
Clive Borgeat – 1st Hemel Hempstead
Nick Hilson – 1st Hemel Hempstead
Pete West – 4th Boxmoor
Ducky Willmore – 1st Apsley

1. **District Cub and Scout Swimming Gala - 4th February.** An e-mail has been sent out by Andy Glass with details. You are entered unless you withdraw!
2. **Pinewood Derby - 25th February.** Kits are £5 from John Larkin. Please encourage your Scouts to enter this event. A Scout night can be spent working on the kits ready for the 25th which will cover badge work as well.
3. **Adult Recruitment Day - 17th June 2017.** More information from District team coming – this worked well elsewhere in the County and resulted in an influx of adult volunteers. There will also be other events leading up to the day.
4. **St George's Day - 23rd April.** No District event has been arranged for this year but Groups are encouraged to run their own celebration or join up with other Groups if they wish. A District event is planned for next year. The Snowdome was suggested but probably not big enough to cope! A march to the event, whatever it is, was suggested as a way of raising the Scout profile – not with lengthy speeches but just a march to.
5. **District Archery Competition – Summer Term** – A number of volunteers have come forward to gain their archery permits and so a District competition will be run through the Summer term at Phasels and/or Two Waters. Allocated dates will be sent out which can be swapped with other Troops if unsuitable. It will work in the same way as the District Shooting Competition held in 2015.
6. **Nimrod – 1st/2nd July** – This will be on the usual first weekend in July. Extra teams are encouraged this year particularly from Scouts going to Kandersteg as all Scouts on that trip will be hiking. It was suggested that 'Kandersteg' teams could be entered containing Scouts from different Troops who may not either enter Nimrod or who have incomplete teams.
7. **Hovercraft Programme** – Please contact Pete West if you are interested in joining the team in any way from, driving, mechanics or support.
8. **Coxwains Badge** – Pete confirmed that there will be two more dates put out for this badge during the Summer which will go out onto Facebook so that everyone had an equal chance of getting a place as they are very oversubscribed!
9. **Any Other Business:**
 - 9.1 **Green Beret** – This had gone very well and it was hoped it could run to the same format in 2017. Green Beret will be held at Phasels this year as Gilwell is unavailable.

9.2 Programme Planning - It was asked if things like Nimrod and at least the date range for the Archery programme could be put on the District Website calendar as soon as possible for programme planning. Jane to confirm Nimrod date to Frank so that the Explorers are given plenty of notice for their support.

9.2 District Peg Challenge – It was suggested that this informal challenge is started again which hasn't run for a number of years. The Peg is held by a Troop until another Troop challenges them to an activity and whoever wins, holds the Peg. This can be anything from tiddlywinks to football! It is thought that Bennetts End have the Peg. Nick to speak to Jason and then an e-mail to go out to all Troops to start the challenge again. It was thought this is a good way for Troops to meet each-other and build new friendships ready for District trips and moving up to Explorers.

9.3 Kandersteg – The e-mail was discussed that contained activity options and a suggested kit list. It was thought that a parent meeting should be held quite quickly to discuss kit and arrangements and to confirm the dates and activities in the lead up to the trip. It was felt that the leaders should also meet again to begin work on more detail and also to form specific sub-groups to work on their projects they had volunteered for. Jane to feed back to Russ Dyble.