

PLANNING, ORGANIZING, AND CONDUCTING A BLUE AND GOLD CEREMONY





Be sure to back plan

Timelines

Conduct follow-up on tasks

Have meetings with organizers often

Inspect what you expect



Volunteers

Tasks and Goals

Communication

Do it in the SMART method

EXAMPLE OF LEADING A BLUE AND GOLD VOLUNTEER

- Having a committee member or volunteer in charge of refreshments
 - Giving them a budget
 - A date that is expected of finalization
 - What is expected as refreshments
 - At the meeting prior to the blue and gold they know their key point of their responsibilities
 - Who else is helping them
 - What is being brought or bought
 - When they will be there for set up
 - Ensuring that if they have to make purchases, they return a receipt to the committee or they have another key volunteer to check all purchases (Not going overboard).

THE PROGRAM

- Having a theme!
 - How do you want the celebration to be handled?
 - Reach out to potential organizations for ideas or assistance (OA/Troops)
 - Use your resources (Pack Ceremonies PDF, Den Chiefs)
- Be sure to change it up
 - Don't always have the same routine theme
 - Make it memorable
- Rehearse
 - Ensure that participating adults are aware of their roles
 - Pass out materials for speaking parts

WHAT IS THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL BLUE AND GOLD?

- Attendance
- Uniforms
 - Try to have the previous Den meetings either non-Class-A or uniform inspections
 - See if there are volunteers that can sew to update uniforms
- Charisma
- Activities
 - Skits and Songs
- Showcases
 - Have a Den meeting where the Scouts make a poster of what they did in the last year
 - With stuff they have created
- Handouts
- Refreshments/Snacks

HOW DO WE MAKE IT MEMORABLE

- Crossover Gifts
 - If your pack has a budget for Transitioning Cub Scouts leave them with a gift
- Bring the Troops to the Whole meeting
 - Have them involved
 - Encourage max participation
- Videos, Photos, and Presentations

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

- This is a vital part of fundraising
- Blue and Gold ceremonies provide a larger audience to reach
- Make sure that this is not the main point of the Ceremony either do it at the beginning or at the end.

WHAT IS THE FOCUS?

- The Scouts either advancing or crossing over
- Make that the main piece either towards the end to finish off the night, or the whole purpose
- The Scouts are always the focus

WHAT IS BROOKINGS PACK 24 DOING?

- Our advancement progression is that our February Blue and Gold is tailored to our cross over, with another one in May the rest of the Dens' Rank advancement.
- We are giving each scout going to a Troop a walking stick with their name burned into it
- Normally we have cake. We are going to try to have some more filling snacks and drinks
- I am reshuffling our ceremony with a different theme that involves more activity
- Having the Dens perform skits after their awards.
- Having the Dens make posters of what they have done
- Trying to get the Troops to do a little bit more
- Pamphlets
- Having the Charter Organization start and finish with a prayer

PROGRAMS AND NEWSLETTERS

- This has been a vital method of communication with families
- It needs to be tailored to the event
- What is going on
- What has happened
- Needs of the Pack
- Future events
- Always have the calendar
- Make it meaningful

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Is there a point of friction that can be ironed out?
- Is there something missing?
- Are there ideas from others that might make it fun?

OPEN FORUM

- What help might you need?
- How are you planning?
- What do you plan on doing?
- Do you need help?