

PANAMERICAN SCOUT MOOT

PROGRAMME GUIDELINES

I would urge that (at the Jamboree) we do not let our boys be content with the mere fact of being in camp with those of other nations, but that we should encourage them to utilize every minute of the short time they are there to make acquaintance, and from acquaintance friendship with their brother Scouts, their future fellowmen in the world. Each boy could then go forth from the Jamboree with a new responsibility upon him, namely that of an apostle, to his particular district, of peace and goodwill.

Baden-Powell, Jamboree Magazine, July 1929.

INTRODUCTION

The following guidelines for the programme of a Panamerican Scout Moot have been developed based upon:

- the evaluation of the experience of previous World and Regional Moots.
- the definition and purpose of a Panamerican Scout Moot in the "Basic requirements for the organization of a Panamerican Scout Moot" document adapted from the one approved by the World Scout Committee.
- the purpose of Scouting as stated in article I of the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, which is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.
- the Regional Policy on Youth Programme adopted by the Interamerican Scout Conference.
- the policy on involvement of young members in decision-making, adopted by the World Scout Conference.

In order to respond to the definition of the Moot and reaches its purpose, as it is described in the document "Guidelines and Basic Requirements for the organization of a Panamerican Scout Moot", the programme of this event must offer:

- a contribution to the personal development of all the participants.
- a real practice of the young people on community participation (community service, community development, education for the development, cooperation for the development).
- opportunities for a reflection of the participants exchanging ideas on matters interested by them, in order to share points of view on issues that affect their life's and the societies where they come from.
- opportunities to develop skills for leadership.
- involvement of young adults in the planning, organization and development of the event, including opportunities for the participation in the regular management.
- respect to the diverse cultural origins of participants and attention to the different specific needs in all aspects of the event.
- promotion of a responsible attitude among the participants, motivating the idea that the personal behaviour be consistent with respect and tolerance with others.
- a wider participation as possible from all over the Region, in order to create a real international learning experience.
- and a funny time and entertainment.

MOOT PROGRAMME: DEFINITION

The Moot programme is the whole group of activities in which the young people participate during the event, which helps them achieve the global educational objectives of Scouting and the particular objectives of such a Moot.

MOOT PROGRAMME: EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The general objectives of the Moot programme fall within the scope of the final educational objectives of the Youth Programme and more particularly the section educational objectives of the age range concerned.

They cover in a balanced way the different dimensions of personal development: physical, intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual and character. They strongly emphasise the participation in the community.

Specific objectives will be developed taking into account the particular context in which the event takes place, e.g. the social and cultural situation of the country, the experience and expertise of the host association.

Taking advantage of the international dimension of such an event, special attention will be given to objectives related to intercultural understanding and cooperation.

MOOT PROGRAMME: METHOD

The Moot programme will be implemented using the Scout Method as it is applied to the age range concerned.

Promise and Law

The values reflected in the Scout Law and the principle of voluntary adhesion to these values expressed in the Promise serve as reference points in organizing the whole of the Moot programme.

Learning by doing

Be careful to ensure that the Moot programme offers participants a real opportunity to learn through active participation in the proposed activities.

Life in small groups

Participation in all activities in teams, rather than individually, is encouraged. To develop mutual understanding and cooperation, international teams should be used as often as possible.

Sharing responsibility

The Moot programme will permit the participants to assume as much responsibility as possible. While taking into account their ages, they should be given maximum opportunity to take part in preparing and managing the event.

Personal progress recognition

If some method is used to stimulate and recognize each participant's personal progress, should be linked to the participation in certain kind of activities, selected for their educational value and their contribution to achieving the general and specific educational objectives of the Moot programme.

It would seem appropriate, for example, that participation, in an international team, in at least one activity related to each of the dimensions of personal development would qualify for the recognition.

Role of adults

The Moot programme is conceived for the young participants in the event; some of them are of legal age according to the law in their own country. The leaders of contingent must keep a coordinators and facilitators attitude. The organization of the programme will therefore allow adult leaders to achieve their

mission of supporting the participants and eventually to participate in some of the activities according to their preferences. Ideally, these adult leaders should not be much older than the participants.

MOOT PROGRAMME: ACTIVITIES

Educational activities

All activities included in the Moot programme will be conceived to contribute to the personal development of the participants. They will be selected according to the general and specific educational objectives of the Moot programme.

Activities proposed will relate in a balanced way to the different dimensions of personal development, and participants will be encouraged to choose activities which collectively cover these same dimensions.

Attractive activities

All activities included in the Moot programme will be conceived to be attractive to the participants.

Most Moot participants seem to be particularly attracted by activities that are different from what they can normally do and those that are physically challenging. However, it is equally important to cater for other interests! Find ways to challenge the participants' minds, spirits and emotions as well as their physical selves. Most participants will be interested in discovering things that are new to them, or through which they can make a useful contribution to their community...

The way in which things are learned is also very important. Something that may seem very theoretical can also be very attractive if presented in a concrete way in activities that encourage active participation.

Range of activities

The Moot programme will offer a wide variety of activities corresponding to the preoccupations of young people and the realities of the modern world, such as:

Peace education

Find specific ways in which the traditional Jamboree messages of peace and world brotherhood can be brought home to the participants. Include activities, ceremonies, themes, etc. which are related to the culture, customs and traditions of the host country and perhaps from other countries as a means of promoting human understanding.

Environmental education

Offer activities that cover these three dimensions: education through nature and the environment, learning about nature and the environment, and action for nature and the environment.

Development education

Try to find ways of bringing active community involvement (community service, community development, development education, development co-operation) into the Moot programme and provide opportunities for participants to appreciate the importance of this dimension of Scouting. It is necessary to set up a "Global Development Village" (see below) on the Moot site; and try to find an appropriate need in the community where the event occur, which might be the subject of a community service or community development effort during the Moot.

Health education

Find ways to include activities related to health education, including AIDS prevention, family life education, immunization, ORT, etc., taking into account cultural and religious sensitivities.

Spiritual education

Take advantage of the unique atmosphere of friendship and peace to provide opportunities for the expression of a wide range of religious and spiritual beliefs and obligations; and for the sharing of these with other participants of different faiths.

Moreover, try to help participants recognize that the friendship, cooperation, tolerance of different cultures and other similar aspects of the Moot experience in themselves, as well as their presence in the out-of-doors and Nature, provide a spiritual experience of the relationship between Man and his Creator, between the person and the spiritual dimension.

Specific activities

Global Development Village

The Moot programme must include a Global Development Village (GDV).

The purpose of the GDV is to help participants to better understand the global issues facing today's world, to discover how Scouts can help make a difference in tackling these issues, and to learn concrete techniques they can use in their own community for that purpose.

The GDV will comprise workshops, presentations and walk-in activities that encourage participants to achieve these objectives in an active and participative manner.

A World Scout Bureau publication gives more details on the organization of a GDV.

The host National Scout Organization is responsible for and organizes the GDV, with the support of the World Scout Bureau – Interamerican Region.

The Host Organization and the World Scout Bureau – Interamerican Region, who will provide technical support for its design and implementation, will mutually agree the overall concept of the GDV, as well as its role in the Moot programme.

The Host Organization will invite other National Scout Organizations participating in the Jamboree to contribute to the realization of the GDV.

In addition, specialized national and international organizations will be invited to provide their support. The World Scout Bureau – Interamerican Region will provide special support regarding the participation of international organizations with which it has partnership relationships.

The GDV must include an Interamerican Scout Centre.

Interamerican Scout Centre

The Interamerican Scout Centre is a place where the Moot participants may discover the worldwide dimension of Scouting and the involvement of Scouting in today's world, and to better feel part of a worldwide Movement.

It is a mixture of educational and attractive exhibitions, audiovisual presentations, activities such as quizzes and expression workshops, and interactive computer software, all designed to help participants to discover and better understand contemporary international dimension of Scouting.

It is the place for World Scouting to show what it is and how it works. It is also a place for other international organizations to show how they work in partnership with Scouting.

The Centre is an integral part of the GDV. A specific theme may be chosen for the Interamerican Scout Centre in keeping with the theme developed in the context of the GDV.

The Centre will be organized with the human, material and financial support of the Host Organization, under the guidelines set by the World Scout Bureau – Interamerican Region, which defines its content.

Fora and debates

Provide opportunities for participants to meet and discuss or debate issues of interest to them, in small or large groups, formally or informally. Take advantage of the expertise and skills of international staff from various countries to animate these fora and debates. (See also GDV)

Ceremonies

Ensure these are simple and not too long! The first priority of a ceremony is to provide a memorable experience for the participating Scouts.

Free time

Try to ensure that participants have an ample amount of free time during the Moot, during which they can meet other participants informally.

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOOT PROGRAMME

Moot programme development requires:

- Evaluation of the practical experience of at least the two or three latest Moots.
- Review of the definition, purpose, principles and method of Scouting.
- Review of the Youth Programme documents for the Senior Sections, published at regional and world level.
- Review of the definition and objectives of the Panamerican Scout Moot.
- Review of the programme guidelines for a Panamerican Scout Moot.
- Analysis of the needs and aspirations of young people in today's world. This analysis will take into account:
 - The vast majority of the Region's National Scout Organizations are open to boys and girls. In addition, girls who are members of national Girl Guide/Girl Scout organizations that are members of WAGGGS may also attend the Moot under certain conditions. This means that, currently, more than one third of Moot participants could be girls.
 - Jamboree participants come from countries in all parts of the Region, and there are often participants from other Regions. They have different backgrounds, different sensitivities. Social norms and standards of the host country, and the behaviour that results may cause offence to participants from other countries, so it is important to be sensitive to the views and opinions of guests from abroad.
 - All programme activities must be accessible to participants with disabilities.
 - Participation of young people, including those in the age range served by the Panamerican Scout Moot (15-21 years), in the design, validation and implementation of the Moot programme is probably one of the best ways to ensure that the Moot programme will be adequate to the needs and aspirations of the participants.

Complementary criteria

Health and safety

Remember, always, that the health and safety of the participants is of paramount importance. This applies to Moot programme activities but also to all other aspects of the event, including hygiene standards (food handling, sanitation, etc.). Consult closely with contingent leaders on any questions related to health and safety, and involve them in resolving problems.

Environment

Ensure that no Moot programme activities result in damage to the environment of the event site.

Try to ensure that the Moot as a whole reflects the environmental principles that are promoted in the event programme, by planning, organizing and running the entire Moot according to the same principles and practices. Thus, consider reducing and recycling waste material and other ways of minimizing the impact of the Moot on the environment.

Simplicity

“Keep it simple” should be a motto for all aspects of the Moot programme. Not only will this ensure a true Scout spirit in the activities but it will also have a desirable impact on the cost of the event –and thus its accessibility- and on its impact on the environment.

Languages

Remember that the official languages of Scouting in the Interamerican Region (English and Spanish) should be accorded equal status and importance in providing the entire Moot programme. This includes, for example, the ability to explain procedures during all activities.

CANDIDATURE TO HOST PANAMERICAN SCOUT JAMBOREES

As stated in World Scout Conference resolution 20/93, National Scout Organizations wishing to host a Panamerican Scout Moot are requested to include in their invitation information concerning the educational objectives of the event and how the activities proposed will relate to these objectives.