

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

To: The National Scout Council

### **MOTION NO: 05/2010**

#### **Title: Cub Camping age**

#### **PROPOSAL**

Propose that the camping age of 9 years be lowered to 8 years of age.

#### **Current requirements:**

A cub who is at least 9 year of age may attend in one calendar year, one of the following: Rule 916.4,

- 1 Cub camp and 1 Pack holiday
- 2 Cub Camps
- 2 Pack Holidays

Each camp or Pack Holiday must be limited to a maximum of 3 nights each and in each case travelling time must be included within the maximum of 3 nights permitted. A cub who has attained the age of 9<sub>1/2</sub> years may in addition to the above, attend 2 further camps of 1 night each in a given calendar year, Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Provincial Commissioner and on the recommendation of the Assistant Provincial commissioner, Cub Programme, to allow and 8 year-old to attend such a camp or Pack holiday where this is considered to be of benefit to the individual concerned.

#### **Proposed requirements:**

A cub who is at least 8 year of age may attend in one calendar year, one of the following: Rule 916.4,

- 1 Cub camp and 1 Pack holiday
- 2 Cub Camps
- 2 Pack Holidays

Each camp or Pack Holiday must be limited to a maximum of 3 nights each and in each case travelling time must be included within the maximum of 3 nights permitted. A cub who has attained the age of 8<sub>1/2</sub> years may in addition to the above, attend 2 further camps of 1 night each in a given calendar year, Exceptions may be made at the discretion

of the Provincial Commissioner and on the recommendation of the Assistant Provincial commissioner, Cub Programme, to allow and 8 year-old to attend such a camp or Pack holiday where this is considered to be of benefit to the individual concerned.

## **MOTIVATION**

In the Western Cape the camp site are now charging a minimum fee for 50 persons at a venue. This limits the packs in two ways,

- The packs are much younger due to the entry level been at 7 years. Therefore there are not enough cubs to take on a camp. Some packs don't always want to camp with other groups.
- If they have less than 50 in camp then the camp fees for the cubs are much higher and not all the cubs can afford this. Making camping unattainable for some groups.

The cubs now have to wait at least 2 years if not more before they are allowed to camp. The Scouting image is camping and the cubs often join with the idea that they will be camping. What a letdown for them and their parents when they are told that they can't until the cub is 9 years old. Especially as some Churches, schools and other organizations allow children to camp at an even younger age.

The excuse that the young cubs will get homesick at this age has no substance as Cubs these days are home sick at 10 and 11, something almost unheard of 10 – 15 years ago. If this is a reason not to lower the age, then we need to raise the age to 12 or more.

Some Cubs at 8 may not be ready to camp at 8, but that should be the Pack Scouters decision in conjunction with the parents, that the cub be allowed to go or not, the same as it should be if the Cub was 10 year old.

### **Proposed by:**

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