



VENTURING ROUNDTABLES



Purpose

1. To help ensure the programs of crews/ships are successful.
2. To motivate adult leaders and youth officers.
3. To provide training information.
4. To provide information about District and Council events.

Who Is Roundtable For?

Several successful models might include any combination of:

1. Advisors, Associate Advisors, Skippers, Mates
2. Committee Members
3. Youth Officers
4. Parents
5. Commissioners
6. Consultants, Business Leaders
7. Chartered Organization Representatives
8. Scoutmasters, Troop Committee Members

Types of Venturing Units

We need to understand the types of units we service in order to prepare effective roundtables.

1. *Traditional Crews/Ships* - Leaders come from a strong Scouting background, generally are familiar with roundtables in Scouting, and may not need the 'basics' of the program. Uniforming is expected. Youth participation in Roundtable may or may not occur.
2. *Church Groups* - Leaders often have no Scouting background & often not interested in training. The advancement program is often of little interest, as is uniforming. Youth participation is often quite important.

3. *Special Interest Crews* - This includes units such as a drum and bugle corps, Native American /OA unit, etc. A real mixed bag, which may or may not have a Scouting background. Interest in training varies.

Signs of a Successful Venturing Roundtable

1. People want to come.
2. A genuine sense of fellowship is noted.
3. Learning is largely achieved through doing.
4. Leaders get specific help that they can use.
5. A dependable schedule is maintained.
6. Programs are thoroughly planned, prepared, and executed efficiently.

To Ensure a Good Program

1. Plan and assign parts well in advance.
2. Include practical items that crews/ships can use.
3. Use some activities that involve participation by everyone.
4. Make it the place to get up-to-date materials.
5. Keep it positive and feature success stories.
6. Plan time for fellowship and morale building.

What Resources Are Available

1. Crew Leaders
2. Scouters
3. Merit Badge Counselors
4. Professional/Business Consultants
5. Youth Officers

Planning the Programs

1. Have each Venturer and adult fill a program features and how-to section survey.
2. Conduct a Venturing Roundtable Conference.
3. Select monthly/quarterly themes and use the Roundtable Planning Work Sheet. Get input/needs from current crews.
4. DO NOT be afraid to change your program as Venturing in your area evolves.