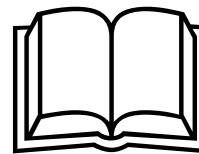


4.7 Support for International Activities



Introduction

There are many ways in which individual members of the Scout Fellowship, and entire Fellowships can support international activities. These may be at one-off events or by providing on-going support to the youth Sections' programmes.

Many of our young people do not have the opportunity to travel abroad and many of our Leaders find it difficult to introduce international experiences into their programme planning. However, this is an important part of the Balanced Programme, helping our young people understand that they live in an increasingly multi-cultural, multi-faith and cosmopolitan world.

Different people in different parts of the world (or even in our own country) often see the world in a different cultural, political or geographical context. The Scout Fellowship can play a role in helping those in Scouting to understand such issues and viewpoints.

International Scout Fellowships

Individual members of the Scout Fellowship may wish to join the International Scout Fellowship, which is a national Scout Fellowship that seeks to help co-ordinate Fellowship support for international initiatives here in the UK.

This is an ideal way for individual members of the Fellowship to act as a liaison between their own local Fellowships and the International Scout Fellowship. This will help local Fellowships to understand the opportunities that exist to support international initiatives and activities, such as World Scout events and various other projects designed to promote international co-operation within Scouting. The World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM) or the International Scout and Guide Fellowship (ISGF) may promote these activities or they may be offered by our own or another Association.

If just one member from every Fellowship joined the International Scout Fellowship, this would ensure complete coverage across the UK and help make more young people in the Movement aware of international opportunities.

For details on joining the International Scout Fellowship, contact the Adult Support Office at Gilwell Park.

Local Programme Support

Areas/ Counties have an AAC/ACC (International) responsible for supporting local Scouting with regards international Scouting opportunities. Some Districts also have a Commissioner or Adviser who works closely with the AAC/ACC.

The Scout Fellowship, working in conjunction with their local AAC/ ACC (International), can provide general support for international opportunities. This would need to be agreed as part of the general remit of the Scout Fellowship, or a specialised Scout Fellowship could be set up to support international Scouting at a local level.

In the case of a Scout Fellowship dedicated to supporting international activities, the Commissioner responsible for the Scout Fellowship may choose to delegate responsibility for agreeing the remit of the Scout Fellowship to the AAC/ACC (International), National Headquarters, local Scout Groups or Sections.

Many Leaders struggle to provide 'international experiences' as part of their Balanced Programming. In some cases this seldom extends beyond a 'make a pizza' night every once in a while!

Many members of the Scout Fellowship will have had the opportunity to travel abroad, for work, on holiday or even as part of their Scouting, and can share their experiences with young people in a variety of ways.

Ideas for local 'International Activities'

The Scout Fellowship can often come up with unusual and exciting programme ideas that can spark an interest in the minds of young people. Working with the local international Commissioner, the Scout Fellowship can become involved in:

- giving talks or presentations about visits or trips abroad to provide an insight into other cultures
- helping local Scouting to host groups from overseas
- providing staff and services to an international camp in the United Kingdom
- organising an 'international' camp cooking competition
- running an international evening (covering a wide number of aspects such as culture, religion, food, language etc.)
- providing a District International Adviser
- supporting Jamboree on the Air, Jamboree on the Internet, and Jamboree on the Trail (JOTA, JOTI and JOTT)
- organising services for, and distribution of, the International Peace Light
- support for Explorer Belt parties from overseas
- preparation (and delivery) of international 'Programmes on a Plate' for use in local Section meetings.

Support for Activities Abroad

It is important that all of our young people have the opportunity to understand our 'global village.' Much of this can be done at local level as part of the Balanced Programme.

It is important that as many young people as possible have a realistic opportunity to travel abroad as part of their Scouting, and the Scout Fellowship can help here as well.

A local AAC/ACC International should again co-ordinate this and ideas here could include the following:

- Applying to be members of Jamboree and Moot service teams
- Help in providing 'pre-training' for Jamboree and Moot contingents and service team members
- Acting as a Home Contact for groups abroad
- Help with planning trips abroad (based on previous experience)

Contact details and other resources

International Commissioner
The Scout Association
Gilwell Park
Chingford
London E4 7QW

International pages on ScoutBaseUK
<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/inter/index.htm>

World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM) website
<http://www.scout.org/>