

# 2014 & 2015 Program Change Overview

## Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing

411

### GOAL STATEMENT

*We have changed our programs to reflect the results of a thorough program review and assessment that clearly identifies those elements that are appealing, exciting and culturally relevant to today's youth and families.*

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In November of 2009 over seventy-five volunteers and national staff came together to listen to child development experts, authors and youth program operators to discuss “What Today’s Youth Want and Need”. Sponsored by then Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazucca, this meeting set the stage for what would become Goal 411 of the 2011-2015 National Strategic Plan.

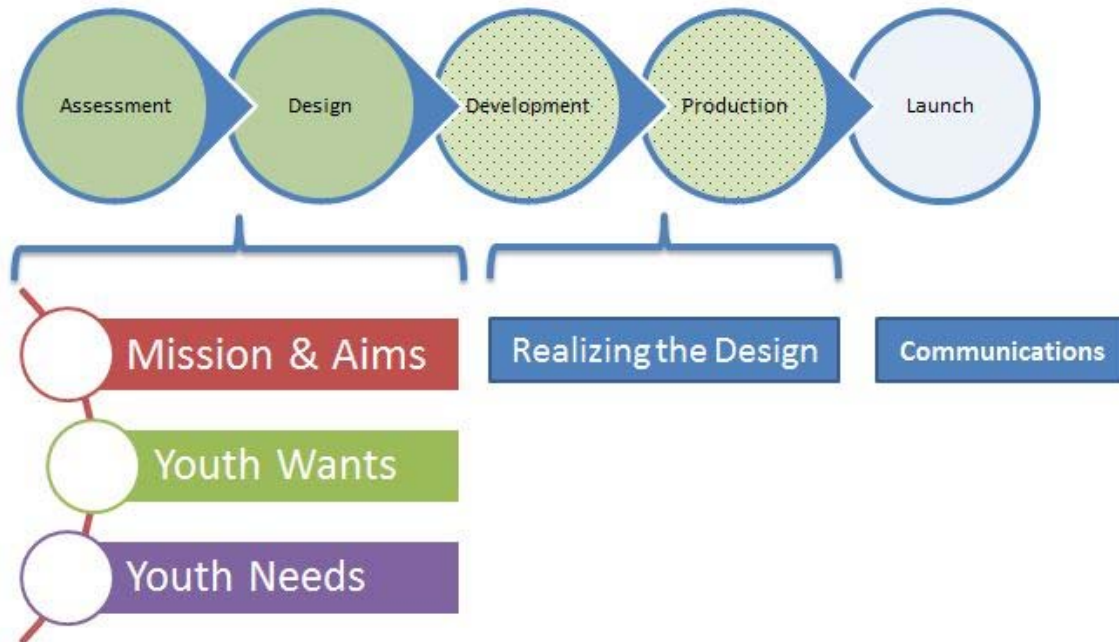
In early 2010 Russ Hunsaker of the Great Salt Lake Council was selected as the chair of the task force to address the goal and he began assembling his team, now over seventy-five volunteers strong, representing all regions of the Boy Scouts of America. Divided into six teams, this group has been at work for over two years leading the assessment of our programs, designing the necessary changes to meet the goal and beginning the development of the support materials.

During the assessment phase, as membership numbers for 2010 became available, it became clear that the membership trend for Venturing, coupled with the low levels of program engagement (as measured by recognition/advancement) suggested that work on the Venturing program needed to proceed more quickly than the work for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. In January 2011, Charles Dahlquist was selected to chair the National Venturing Task Force and his team began its deliberations.

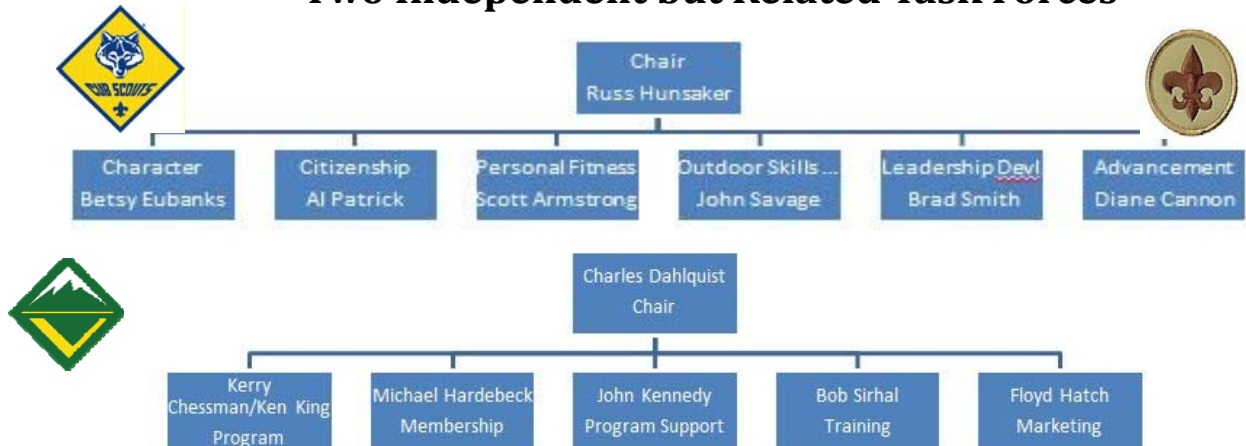
Today we look forward to the introduction of a new adventure in Scouting. In 2014 the Venturing program will be updated and in 2015 Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts will be. [Let the new adventure begin!](#)

# Development Process

Common Across All Three Programs



## Two Independent but Related Task Forces



- Roughly Seventy-Five (75) Volunteers
- Nationally Representative
- Networked to other functions and discipline
  - Religious Relations Committee
  - Aquatics Task Force
  - Program Impact, etc.
- Governance thru the Program Content Support Committee to the National Board

# 2014 Program Changes



## VENTURING

### Assessment Phase:

- Declining membership trend.
- Low engagement with recognition model, hence no JTE “program quality” measure.
- Current awards system difficult to understand for youth and adults.
- Need for increased support at all organizational levels

### What's NOT Changing:

- Ages of membership
- Ranger/Trust/Quest
- Officer/Advisor relationship

### What IS Changing:

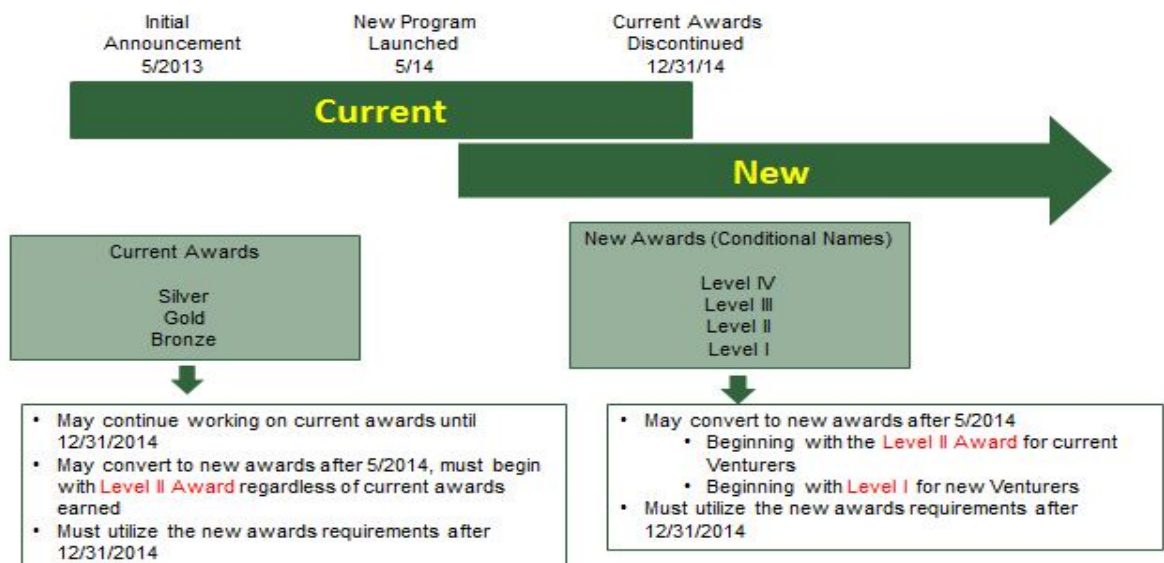
- Oath & Law
- NEW core Venturing program & recognition
- New resources:
  - Youth handbook (core)
  - Ranger/Trust/Quest combined
  - Adult leader handbook
- Enhanced youth training
- Split advisor vs. committee training

### Desired Outcomes:

- Increasing engagement with recognition & advancement
- Improved retention and unit sustainability
- Serve more Venturing age youth



## Awards Transition Plan



# 2015 Program Changes

## CUB SCOUTS



### Assessment Phase:

- Current achievements are overly passive in nature.
- Activities lack connection to mission and aims, where connected leader aids are insufficient for leaders to understand those connections.
- Current perspectives in citizenship and personal fitness not supported.
- Complicated advancement model.

## Simplified Advancement Model

### — All Ranks

#### Rank Advancement Thru Adventures

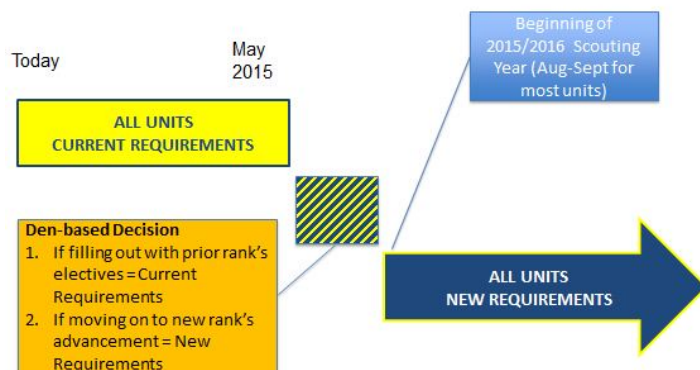
- For each rank, complete seven den-based adventures, including a family-based “Duty to God” adventure, to earn rank



- Adventures = interdisciplinary, theme-based experiences, 3 den meetings
- Immediate recognition after each adventure (TBD)
- Elective adventures available; same recognition approach



### Cub Scout - Transition



### Desired Outcomes:

- More Cub Scouts being active/having fun
- Improved Webelos transition/retention
- Simplified advancement
- Improved connection to mission and aims

### NOT Changing

- Family focus
- Ranks or approach
- Ages (or genders)
- Den/pack meeting structures
- Outdoor program
- Delivery model
- Fun – even more than before

### CHANGING

- Oath & Law
- Tiger Cub becomes Tiger with new image
- Arrow of Light will no longer require earning Webelos
- Activities – more active, more aligned with Aims/Mission
- Advancement – simplified
- Academics & Sports program discontinued (5/15)
- Current immediate/elective recognition devices replaced
- One Den Leader Guide per rank



# 2015 Program Changes



## BOY SCOUTS

### Assessment Phase:

- No perceived need for significant program design changes.
- Insufficient content in some emerging areas of importance.
- More of a requirements tweak than a redesign.

### NOT Changing

- Current ranks or approach (T-1 concurrent; S-E sequential)
- Use of merit badge program



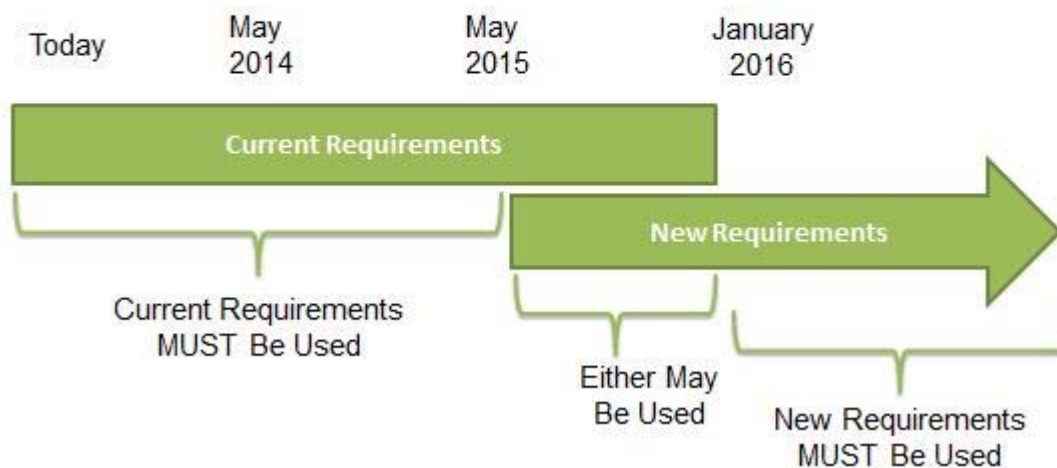
Handbook revision strategy under discussion.

### CHANGING

- Scout becomes a rank
- Additions:
  - Service @ all ranks (conservation related at Life)
  - Health eating/habits
  - Some reordering (T-1)
  - Physical fitness at each rank – T-1
  - Outdoor ethics – LNT & TL
  - Weather safety, risk assessment & mitigation
  - Duty to God incorporated in requirement to show Scout Spirit.



## Boy Scouts - Transition



# Coming Attractions

## Rollout — Launch Plans

Timing	Event
May 2014	National Annual Meeting — General Session and Electives
August 2014	Top Hands Meeting — General Session and Electives
Summer 2014	Philmont Training Center Conferences: Week 3, 7, 8, and 10
Fall 2014	Region and Area Meetings
First Quarter 2015	Webinar Schedule What's Changed Training Launched
May 2015	Handbooks in Scout Shops Revised training available

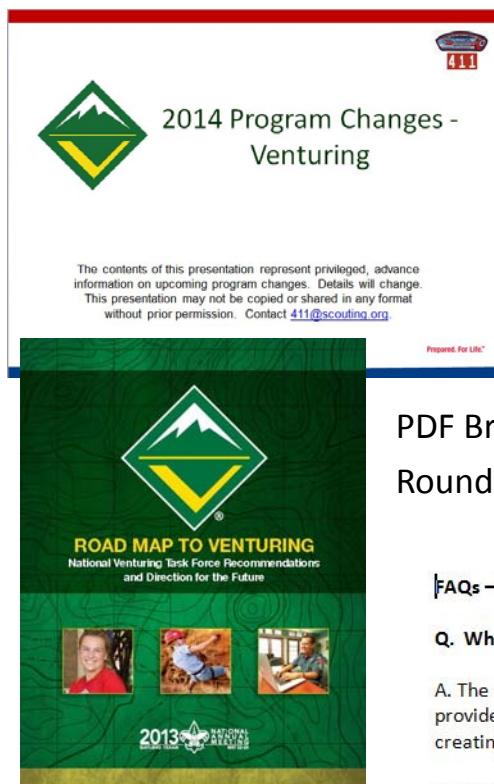
# Materials Available

## USB Drive Contents



High Level Overview—Key Threes, Boards and Executive Committees

OVERVIEW



2014 Program Change Overview—Summary form for Area and Council Committees. Detailed form for Council and District Venturing volunteers and VOAs

PDF Brochure — General Distribution at Roundtables, VOA, website posting.

### FAQs – New Venturing Program

**Q. What is a quick overview of the new vision for the program?**

A. The new vision for Venturing uses youth-led adventures and a simplified program model to provide a means of developing leadership skills, reinforcing the value of service to others, and creating opportunities for personal growth in line with the Scout Oath and Law

**Q. What are “adventures?”**

A. Adventures are any Venturer designed and lead experience that interests Venturers and help carry youth out of their comfort zones. In Venturing, adventures can be based on STEM exploration, outdoor adventure, faith journeys, arts and hobbies, or anything that appeals to the members of a crew.

**Q. Will this still work with existing crews?**

A. Yes. The new program model enhances Venturing’s current strengths while allowing crews flexibility in terms of the program “vehicle” used—outdoor adventure, STEM, faith-based experiences, arts and hobbies, among others. The new vision for Venturing is adaptable to any

Questions and Answers on program implementation.

VENTURING

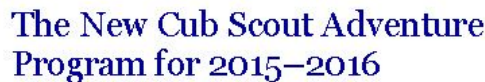
## USB Drive Contents



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Prepared. For Life.

December 2013



**NEW PROGRAM MODEL**  
The general structure of the proposed new Cub Scout program is a series of "adventures," which Cub Scouts (individually and as part of their den) will experience while working on their badge of rank. Once a Cub Scout has completed the six core adventures, including one on

*"Trust should be the basis for all our moral training."*  
—Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the world Scouting movement (1857-1941)

**Special Thanks ...**

To the 471 clubs, Area Associations, the 471 Serving Committees, to our sponsors and exhibitors, BSA Staff, and to Diverse Supporters.

*Special thanks to the following Area Associations: Texas, Ohio, New York, Idaho, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, Nevada, Kansas, Kentucky, New Orleans, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Colorado, Arizona, Alaska, and Hawaii.*

*And thank you to PlayItSafe...it's on every end of every flagpole...for all of our boys.*

**Now, importantly: Thank to every one of the registered Scout Scouts and Scouters who are the backbone of our BSA and the backbone of our country.**

# CUB SCOUTS AND BOY SCOUTS

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## Next Steps—Call for Action

**S**hare this document and USB drive with Area and Council program impact committees and/or training committees.

**E**ngage your area and council volunteers to develop training and communications opportunities to share the future program vision.

**E**ncourage your volunteers to get the latest details via the conferences offered at [Philmont Training Center](#) (Venturing and Cub Scouts) and [Sea Base](#) (Venturing).

## The Future of Scouting.

Philmont Training Center: [Get the 411 on the New Cub Scout Adventure Program](#) Weeks 3, 7, 8 and 10

[Venturing: The New Vision](#) — Week 1

Florida Sea Base: [Venturing: The New Vision](#) — January 12-17, 2014