Unit Program Planning 2023-2024

MID-AMERICA COUNCIL, BSA

Unit Program Planning Playbook

FLOWCODE

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Bookmark this page

Browse through this during the presentation and ask any questions you may have.

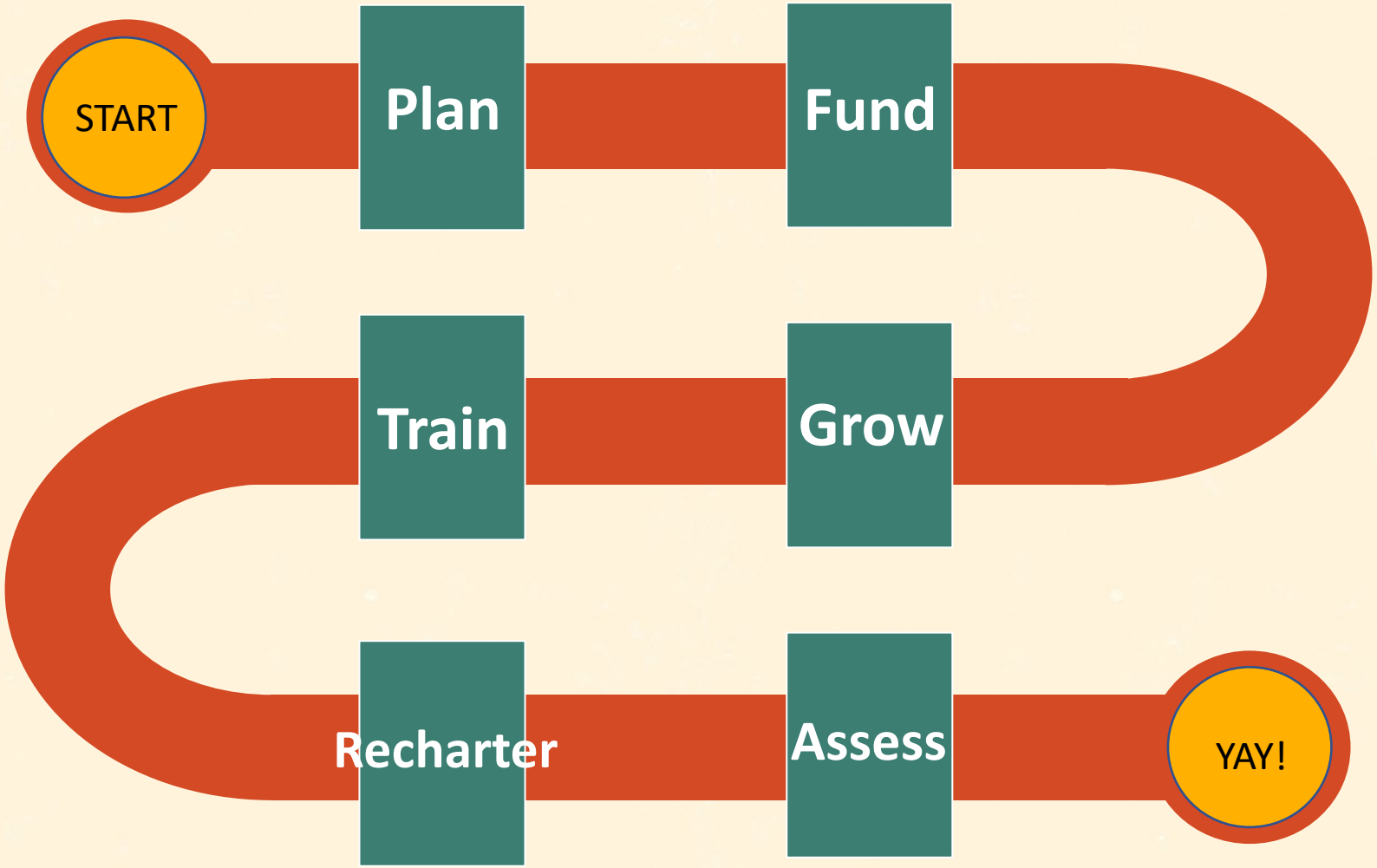
You can also find this link at MAC-BSA.org at any time.

Ideal Year of Scouting (IYOS) VS Unit Program Planning

- Units plan their year and budget to have the most successful program
- A stronger program for Scouts and Families
- More parental involvement
- Scouting is simpler, easier, and more fun
- Eliminate out-of-pocket expenses
- Unparalleled Experiences for Scouts and their family
- Same idea as IYOS, just an easier name

Unit Program Planning guidebook will be updated throughout the year - bookmark the page and stay up to date!

The Steps for Success



Plan Your Year

- What do the Scouts want to do?
- What worked last year? What didn’t?
  - Remember to look at School/Church/Sport calendars during this planning!
- What are activities that have been successful in your unit?
- Set a committee meeting and plan your year
- Fill out dates in the calendar template on MAC-BSA.org

Calendar Tool

August			
Date	Activities	Time	Location

September			
Date	Activities	Time	Location

October			
Date	Activities	Time	Location

November			
Date	Activities	Time	Location

December			
Date	Activities	Time	Location

January			
Date	Activities	Time	Location

BRAINSTORM:

Take 5 minutes as a group or with the unit next to you.

What’s an activity they currently do that you want to try with your unit?

Scouting is Year-Round!

- Plan for all 12 months – some will be busier than others
- **Include:**
  - Pack and Den Meetings, Troop and Crew Meetings
  - Advancement Opportunities
  - Service Projects
  - Scouting for Food
  - Popcorn Sale/Camp Cards
  - Membership Recruitment
  - Day Camp and Resident Camp
  - Unit weekend camping
  - District/Council Activities
  - Blue and Gold or Court of Honors

Communicate your calendar and plans to families.
They will participate if they know what's coming up!

Fund Your Program

- Use the unit program planner sheet on the MAC webpage
- Plan your budget based on your calendar
  - Include Unit Expenses (recharter, advancement, etc) and activity costs
- Use this to help find your Popcorn Goal
- Throughout the year, use this to track actual expenses

ONLY ENTER DATA IN HIGHLIGHTED SPACES

1. Enter Information in the Green to Submit, and Yellow for future budgeting reference.
2. Enter your number of scouts & adults, and unit commission.

District *(select for dropdown)*	
Unit Type	
Unit #	
Number of Youth	
Unit Commission %	35%
# Adults	

August			Attendance		Unit Budget Review		
Date	Activities	Cost	Estimate	Actual	Difference	Date	Notes
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
	Monthly Program Totals:	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		

September			Attendance		Unit Budget Review		
Date	Activities	Cost	Estimate	Actual	Difference	Date	Notes
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
			$ -	$ -			
	Monthly Program Totals:	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		

Tip: Set your number of youth at 1 while you plan, this helps you figure cost per Scout!

Fundraising Opportunities

- Utilize fundraising to help your families pay for Scouting –
  - **Camp Card Sale:**
    - Currently happening, one more month!
    - Plan for 2024 sale in your calendar
  - **Popcorn Campaign:**
    - 2023 sale will start September 8th
    - 50% commission traditional sales and 40% online
    - Commit to the sale today!
  - **Unit Fundraisers:**
    - Allowed as needed
    - MUST fill out a Unit Money Earning Application

Boy Scouts of America Fees

YOUTH

	Current	Nat'l Proposed (8/1/2023)	MAC Fee (7/1/2023)
National Fee	$75	$99	--
Council Fee	$60	$60	$150
Total	$135	$159	$150

ADULT

	Current	Nat'l Proposed (8/1/2023)	MAC Fee (7/1/2023)
National Fee	$45	$99	--
Council Fee	$14	$14	$50
Total	$59	$113	$50

Mid-America Council Unit Fees

EFFECTIVE 7/1/2023

YOUTH

$25 JOINING FEE

*For New Scouts ONLY

Includes: Handbook, Welcome Packet, & Scout Life

MAC Annual Membership
$150 per year

$150 per year prorated monthly based on joining.
Add $15 a year for Scout Life January 1st.

Monthly Subscription
$16 per month

$16 charged on or around the 15th of each month.
Scout life included during subscription period.

ADULT

$5/Month or $50 when paid at recharter

Fees based on recharter processed by November 30

Grow Your Program

- Recruit all year long!
  - Not too late to plan a Spring Recruitment
- Plan Fall Recruitment now, Be Prepared
  - Get Creative, what's a new way to get in front of families?
  - Do you know your important fall dates yet? (Open House, 1st Day, etc)
- Recruit new adults at the same time
- Unit succession plan for all leaders

Order membership supplies at any time:
www.tinyurl.com/MACMembershipSupplies

Den Leader In a Box

- Great tool to support Den Leaders
- May help you find more leadership
- All adventure materials are included with purchase of the box
- Easily ties into adventure requirements found in the scout book
- Direct access to supplies not all dens may have readily available
- Saves leadership time!

Complete the survey here
www.tinyurl.com/DenBoxSurvey or at the QR Code

Train Your Leaders

- Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader
- Training in-person and online throughout the year
  - Online training is available at my.scouting.org
- **Updated MAC YPT Policy as of 1/1/2023** – If your YPT is not updated by the last day of the month in which it expires, your membership with the BSA, MAC will be expired. You will need to cease involvement in all scouting activities as a registered adult leader. Please note that there are no refunds of national and council membership dues.
  - Notification Schedule (in addition to notifications from National BSA)
    - 15th for any that expire the following month
      - Email to leader
    - 1st of the expiration month
      - Email to Leader AND Email to Key 3 of Unit
    - 15th of the expiration month
      - Email and text to leader AND email to Key 3 of unit

Recharter & Assess

Recharter

- Each year units must recharter in November
- Make sure it’s submitted with all current members – youth and adult!
- If your unit does not recharter, you’re expired and CANNOT continue meeting
- Attending recharter training in October should be on your Calendar

Assess

- Use Promise to Parents tool
- Have after action review of the year
  - Include Scouts, Families, and Unit Leadership

Calendar and budgets are due June 30th to your District Executives.

One on One meetings with your DE should happen by June 30th as well

Next Steps

- ❑ Bookmark the Unit Planning Playbook
- ❑ Attend Unit Program Planning Workshop
- ❑ Review the materials, including this powerpoint
- ❑ Schedule a brainstorming session with your Scouts
- ❑ Schedule unit committee meeting to plan your year
- ❑ Figure out your cost per Scout
- ❑ Set your Popcorn goal accordingly
- ❑ Visit with District Executive about your plans before June 30th
- ❑ What is missing to make your plan happen?
- ❑ Turn in your Calendar and Budget to your District Executive before June 30th
- ❑ Get leaders trained as needed
- ❑ Communicate out your Unit Calendar
- ❑ Review your calendar and budget throughout the year
- ❑ Have a fantastic year of Scouting!

If you get stuck, reach out to another unit and pick their brain, look at the Unit Program Planning Playbook, or reach out to your District Team.

QUESTIONS?