

The Friends of Scouting Presentation

The best presentation is the one you are comfortable giving. It should be in your own words, and limited to around 5 minutes. If 10 minutes pass and you are still talking, you have probably lost your audience and worn out your welcome. In other words, Be Brief, Be Direct, and Be Seated!

Here are some basic facts and ideas for your presentation:

- No part of unit dues goes to the council. It pays for unit expenses and national membership
- 100% of your FOS dollars stays in the council.
- Scouting teaches both skills and values. It's the perfect compliment to sports, music, and other youth activities.
- The Cornhusker Council provides programs for over 400 at-risk youth who would not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in Scouting programs. FOS contributions help fund these programs. In addition, the Council is working with UNL to set up internships for students who will assist with this program.
- The Council invested \$271.50 for each registered Scout last year.
- Briefly share your own scouting story. Why are you involved?
- Momentum! For the first time in many years, all three districts met their FOS goal.

Scouting units can be very diverse. The presentation to a Boy Scout Troop should not be the same as a presentation to a Cub Scout Pack. Here are some points to consider for each scenario:

Boy Scout Troop

- The parents will likely have heard the FOS presentation many times. You don't need to spend a lot of time selling them on the general benefits of scouting.
- Talk about the new things going on at the Council that FOS dollars helped pay for..
 - Year round camping cabins at Camp Cornhusker
 - Storm Shelter and meeting/class rooms at CC
 - New camp programs like ATVs and underwater robotics
 - Low cope course at the OEC, High cope at CC
- Mention the importance of Council staff, facilities, and programs in supporting Cub Scout packs. All troops depend on healthy packs to recruit and retain future boy scouts.

Cub Scout Pack

- Packs always have lots of new parents that don't really understand who you are or what you represent. Explain how the Pack, District, and Council work as an organization.

- Talk about the opportunities and services the Council offers
 - Camping facilities at the OEC and Camp Cornhusker
 - Climbing wall, BB gun range
 - Staff support to help packs with their program and administration
 - Supplemental insurance coverage
 - Leader training
 - With new vans and trailers, Cub Scout day camps will no longer be limited to the OEC. They will be held at numerous locations throughout the three districts

It's a good idea to have a conversation with the unit leader prior to the presentation.

- How supportive has the unit been to FOS in the past?
- Are there any particular concerns or issues unique to this unit?
- What council services does this unit utilize? (CC? OEC? Camporees?)

The more you know about the unit the easier it will be to give a presentation that they would be interested in hearing.

You should work out the collection of the cards in advance of your presentation. Scouts or leaders can help collect, or you can position yourself in an area of the room that everyone must pass. Remind the audience:

- No need to pay tonight, you can write down the pledge and you will be sent a letter you can return with payment.
- We accept credit cards
- If someone is eligible for a company match or grants for volunteerism, please share that info
- Recognition gifts
 - Everyone gets a pen
 - \$70 – Fleur De Lis pin
 - \$135 – Pop-up Lantern
 - \$250 – 26oz Double Wall Scouting Tumbler
 - \$500 – An amazing Cooler

Here's how to fill out the card:

- Double check your family information on the mailing label to ensure the address is correct
- Select an investment amount that fits for your family
- Select how you want to be billed (Immediately, Semi-Annually, Quarterly, Monthly)
- Write down who your employer is and if they participate in a matching gift program-Matching gifts double the impact of your investment!

Be sure to thank the unit for their time, and single out the unit leadership for special thanks.