

BOY SCOUT ROUNDTABLE SPECIAL FEATURE

How to Conduct a Scoutmaster Conference (15 min.)

Learning Objectives	By the end of this session, the Scouter should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain the purpose of the Scoutmaster conference and how it can help Scouts• List the five keys to a successful Scoutmaster conference• Conduct Scoutmaster conferences with members of the troop to help them develop and grow as young men
Materials Needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supplement to <i>The Official Scoutmaster Handbook</i>• <i>The Official Scoutmaster Handbook</i>, No. 6501• <i>Advancement Guidelines</i>, No. 3087A• Chalkboard, chalk, and eraser, or flip chart and marking pens
Introductions	The instructor introduces himself and any faculty members assisting in the presentation.
Scoutmasters Affect Lives	Point out that the Scoutmaster is a positive role model for Scouts.
The Scoutmaster Conference	Using the new supplement to the <i>Scoutmaster Handbook</i> , lead a discussion on the Scoutmaster conference.
Five Keys to Success	Point out the five keys to a successful Scoutmaster conference. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set up conference• Friendly atmosphere• Review personal development• Set specific goals• Build trust level
New Policy for Youth Protection	The Scoutmaster conference should be private in content but not secluded in setting. A Scoutmaster's corner can be set up at a troop meeting where the leader can meet with Scouts in full view of the troop. Scouts are encouraged to use the "buddy system" when working on merit badges. Only approved, registered merit badge counselors and leaders should work with boys in Scouting.

Summary	Remind participants of the adults who were important to them as a youth. They now have the opportunity to be equally important to a new generation of boys as we listen to their concerns and help them with their futures.
Discussion	Allow discussion if time permits.
Adjourn	Thank the group for its participation. Adjourn for the next activity.