

A Patrol Mentor is an Assistant Scoutmaster assigned to a patrol to help develop the patrol leader's skill and help the patrol learn and grow.

The patrol mentor coaches and mentors the patrol leader. The Patrol Mentor only overrides the Patrol Leader's authority in cases of safety or propriety.

The patrol mentor allows the patrol leader and members plenty of opportunities to try leading on their own and failing in a safe environment.

The patrol mentor encourages the patrol to develop patrol spirit - by helping them purchase a suitable patrol-selected patrol patch and materials for the patrol to make a patrol flag if needed.

The patrol mentor encourages the patrol to create and use other elements of patrol spirit such as a patrol totem, patrol yell or cheer, and patrol jokes or traditions.

The patrol mentor encourages the patrol and patrol leader to think about a vision and goals for the patrol.

The patrol mentor helps the patrol leader understand the advancement needs of their patrol and encourages the scouts in the patrol to advance and take on responsibility in the troop.

The patrol mentor helps the patrol leader learn how to organize and lead a patrol meeting.

The patrol mentor works mostly "behind the scenes". During a patrol meeting, they set the example of a model patrol member, participating if requested by the patrol leader and not taking over the meeting. The best patrol mentors are the ones where they observe only and the patrol meeting is 100% scout interactions.

The patrol mentor should say "Ask your patrol leader" a LOT.

If it's the patrol leader asking, the patrol mentor should say "Ask your SPL" a LOT.

If the patrol needs a skill taught, the patrol mentor encourages the patrol leader to seek out youth instructors or troop guides to teach the skill if available. If there is no scout-level resource, the patrol mentor helps the troop develop a scout-level resource at the same time as providing adult guidance and instruction.

The patrol mentor can also be a "first point of contact" for parents of scouts in the patrol.