

## Using *Scoutcast* as a Program Resource

- CubCasts, ScoutCasts and ExploringCasts are monthly recorded interviews with knowledgeable Scouters—both volunteers and professionals. It can be accessed at: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutcast.aspx>
  - Each month, the presenters discuss a specific topic that should enable unit leaders to better deliver the promise of Scouting to the youth in their units.
  - CubCasts involve subjects of interest to pack leaders, while ScoutCasts address troop leaders.
  - CubCasts began in 2007. There are now more than 100 archived CubCasts available for download from the website listed above.
  - ScoutCasts began in 2013. About 40 archived ScoutCasts are available on the same website. The recordings are archived at the URL listed above.
  - Beginning in 2014, the site added PDF transcripts of each CubCast and each ScoutCast.
  - ExploringCasts began in May 2016. About 6 archived ExploringCasts are available on the same website. The recordings are archived at the URL listed above.
- Select and download a ScoutCast that fits the Troop's topic of the month. Use a portable device and a set of exterior speakers to play the entire ScoutCast, or choose a significant portion that should interest the audience.
- Recap the key points of the ScoutCast as a short summary, and open the floor for questions or comments.
- Ask the attendees by show of hands how many thought the ScoutCast they heard shows promise as a source of advice they can use to enhance the unit's program or performance.
- Encourage the leaders to review the entire list of ScoutCasts and then listen to the ones that interest them the most or that cover topics relatively unfamiliar to them.
- Full-length ScoutCast recordings may also serve as starting points for roundtable discussions.
  - This is especially true for topics that might make the speaker feel uncomfortable as presenter, but which need to be addressed.
  - Topics that reflect new or revised BSA policy with which the presenter may not be fully acquainted are also good candidates for roundtable use.
- Ask the attendees by show of hands how many think that an occasional ScoutCast, when coupled with a discussion and Q&A session, would be a good roundtable format.
  - If the participants respond favorably, consider using select ScoutCast recordings for future roundtable content.
  - As with all delivery methods, variety is a key in avoiding participant boredom. So use full-length ScoutCast recordings sparingly.
  - And be sure to couple the ScoutCast recordings with a directed discussion and Q&A session, so the leaders feel they are an integral part of the roundtable program.
- Transcripts of recent ScoutCasts can serve as roundtable content resources even when a ScoutCast is not played for participants.