

SCOUTING HISTORY

The World Scout Emblem

In the Gold Arrow, World Wide Scouting is there to encourage the Cub to research about other cub packs around the world. Knowing another's culture, costumes, uniforms, badges etc. is exciting.

Scouts around the world wear the World Membership Badge but questions are often asked about the origins of this Scout Emblem.

The basic design of the emblem is used by Scouts in all the 216 Scouting countries and territories. The Scout emblem is one of the more widely recognized symbols in the world, because it has been worn by an estimated 300 million former scouts and is currently used by more than 40 million present scouts.

There is evidence that the basic arrowhead design was being used as a direction symbol by the Chinese as early as 2000 B.C. The Larousse Encyclopedia notes that some Etruscan bronzes and Roman ornaments carried the design. Also, it has been found on ancient monuments in Egypt and India.

Marco Polo brought it to Europe when he returned with a compass from Cathay at the end of the 13th century. The Grand Encyclopedia credits an Italian marine pilot named Flavio Giojo of Amalfi for drawing it as the north point of the primitive compass he built.

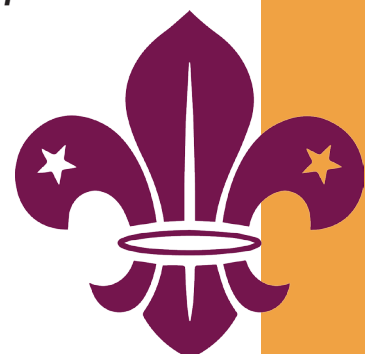
The Encyclopedia Britannica gives another interesting version. It was that the "wind rose", which is much older than the magnetic maritime compass, first appeared on the charts of Mediterranean pilots. The eight main wind directions were shown by Greek Letters. One wind was marked with a 'T' for Tramontana, the north wind.

In time the 'T' for Tramontana was embellished or combined with an arrowhead and the 'T' was no longer recognizable.

Direction-pointing is only one traditional use of the arrowhead design. It has also been used in very ornate versions on the coat of arms of old, wealthy people. Sometimes the design was intended to represent a lance or spear, a lily (fleur-de-lys), and even a bee or toad.

So today, even as the arrowhead continues to point the way for the compass users around the world, the same arrowhead, selected by B-P, points the way to service and unity for Scouts. Extract from the 'Scouting for Boys' which was written by Baden-Powell:

"The Scout Badge is the arrowhead which shows the North on a map or on a compass. It is the Badge of the Scout because it points in the right direction and upwards. It shows the way in doing your duty and helping others. The three points of it remind you of the three points of the Scout Promise"



Its Meaning

The World emblem is white on a royal purple background. In heraldry, white represents purity and royal purple denotes leadership and service.

THE TWO FIVE POINT STARS

stand for truth and knowledge. The ten points represent the ten points of the original Scout Law

SERVICE TO OTHERS

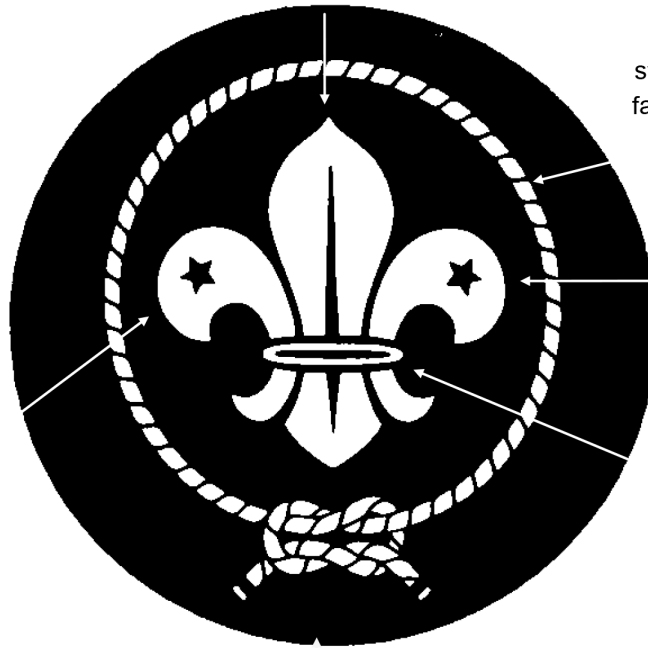
DUTY TO GOD

THE ENCIRCLING ROPE

symbolises the unity and family of the World Scout Movement

OBEDIENCE TO THE SCOUT LAW

THE BOND, showing the family of Scouting



THE REEF KNOT which can't be undone no matter how hard it is pulled, is symbolic of the strength of world scouting's unity and family

Jamboree

A Scout Jamboree is a camp where Scouts from different Groups/Districts/Countries camp together. Once every four years, a World Scout Jamboree is done for members between 14 and 18 years of age, which are attended by members from all over the world. Other experiences exist, such as EuroJam or Roverway in Europe.

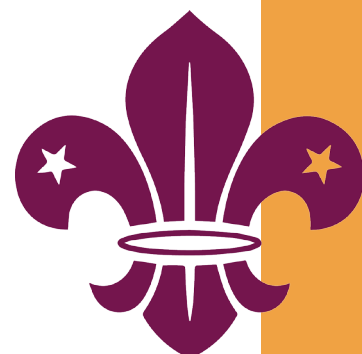
Jamboree on the Air

The JOTA is an annual event where Scouts meet up over the air, i.e., using amateur radio. The first JOTA was held in 1957, with the 50th anniversary of Scouting, and it has been held annually since.

Jamboree on the Internet

The JOTI is similar. Scouts meet in designated chatrooms on the internet, where they can speak to each other and share experiences.

The JOTI and JOTA are held in the same weekend in October of every year.



ACTIVITY FACT SHEET



Activity: The World Scout Emblem



Objective: To learn Scouting History through flashcard activity



Time: 15 Minutes



Outline: The Cubs need to place the flash cards on the correct part of the Scout Emblem. When they think they are ready, you can discuss their answer, and correct them where needed. Point out that the Emblem has many meanings behind it, and we should try to remember this and wear it with pride.



Equipment: Flash Cards



Place: Group HQ



Group Size: Arrow Group









3rd Parties: N/A



ACTIVITY FACT SHEET



During the Activity:

-  – Cubs can in sixes discussing what they think the different aspects of the Emblem mean.
-  – A treasure hunt game in which the cubs are encouraged to first search for the flash cards and then place them in the correct place of the Emblem can be organised by the leader.
-  – The Cubs must observe the Emblem properly to make sense of it. By the end of the activity, they will have learnt the meaning.
-  – The cubs can be asked to create their own flash cards.
-  – How do the Cubs feel after learning in detail what the Emblem means? Some might be proud, others indifferent.
-  – The World Scout Emblem is a symbol of Siblinghood. Wearing it makes you part of this large family which aims to create a better world. This connectedness can be made clearer by communicating with Scouts around the world, either during a JOTA/JOTI, or by setting up a pen friend project with another Pack.

GOLD ARROW

After the Activity:

After this activity the cubs have gained some more knowledge about the World Scout Emblem. As leaders we should always give example and remind the cubs how proud we should be of wearing our uniform. The scouting uniform which is worn with pride worldwide. It is nice to have a lot of badges on the uniform but what matters most is what the cub as an individual learnt.



ACTIVITY FACT SHEET



Activity: JOTA/JOTI or Pen friends



Objective: Scouting History – Connect with other Cubs from around the world



Time: N/A



Outline: **Communicating with other cubs through scouting**

Find a foreign Pack, maybe through the help of International Department, which is willing to carry out a pen friends project with you. Help the Cubs start off by suggesting questions and things they can comment about, such as their favourite activities with Scouts, a description of their town, or a description of where they are in their Arrow Work. You can plan some badge swaps as well. Similar conversations can be made during JOTA/JOTI, but real-time this time.



Equipment: For JOTA/JOTI, you need to have an appropriate setup such as radio system and laptop. A map to mark the places you communicated with.



Place: Group HQ



Group Size: Arrow Group / Pack



3rd Parties: Another Pack



ACTIVITY FACT SHEET



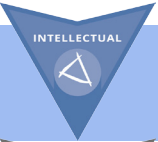
During the Activity:



– Cubs will be communicating with their foreign peers.



– A game which encourages the cubs to move should be organised in order to meet this concept.



– The Cubs will be practicing their writing and academic skills in a different and more practical way than in schools. The cubs will also get to know other places.



– The Cubs can be creative in what they include with the letters they send. Further down the line of a pen friend project, you can suggest they make a craft to send to their pen friend.



– It is a very proud moment when the cubs realise that their letter will be sent to another country to other cubs. Furthermore, it is also a very exciting moment when you receive a response to a letter you sent.



– The World Scout Emblem is a symbol of Siblinghood. Wearing it makes you part of this large family which aims to create a better world. This connectedness can be made clearer by communicating with Scouts around the world, either during a JOTA/JOTI, or by setting up a pen friend project with another Pack.

GOLD ARROW

After the Activity:

After the activity, the cubs should be made clear about what will happen to their letter and what the process involves such as time needed to receive back letters from their pen friends. The cubs should also be reminded about the diversity among our Scouting family and that a lot of other children from around the world are cubs and enjoying scouting.

