



A Brief Guide to National Council

National Council: It is the main meeting of Scouting Ireland, or the 'Annual General Meeting' (AGM). At National Council decisions major affecting SI are made, reports are giving, and elections happen.

Standing Orders: These are the set of rules that govern a formal meeting. They are like the rules of a game. They state how the meeting should be run, who people can speak, and how elections happen.

Motions: These are proposals that are suggested by Scout Groups, Scout Counties, National Youth Fora (Scouts, Venture Scouts and Rover Scouts), and the NMC. Sometimes they are about changes to the Constitution or the Rules, while general motions ask for something to be done. Most motions require a simple majority (50% + 1), while others, like a change to the constitution, need a two-thirds majority (66% +1). A member of the proposing body introduces the motion, with a 3 minute speech; during which other delegates can queue to speak either for or against the motion.

Delegates: Scout Groups and other bodies in SI appoint delegates to NC. As a delegate you represent the views of that group. Each scout Group can send four delegates, and at least one of them must be a Youth Member.

Tips on Speaking at National Council:

- Pick one key point you want to make
- Suggested Structure of contribution:
 - Begin by stating your name and group you are representing
 - State your position and explain why
 - Give a practical example if it helps
 - Repeat your position, using different words
- Practice by speaking out loud using a timer; you have 2 minutes to speak
- Speak in the general, do not refer to individuals /specific groups
- Stay positive
- Keep on topic
- Join the queue during the first speech on the motion
- Before you speak, take a breath, gather your thoughts, look up (if it helps pick a spot at the back of the hall to look at), and make your point
- On the podium there are 3 lights: green is for when you start speaking, the orange is lit when you have 30 seconds remaining, and the red is lit when you have run out of time.





The unofficial SI acronym guide

GC - Group Council: The decision making body in the Scout Group.

GL - Group Leader: Keeps the group up and running and watches over all aspects.

CC - County Commissioner: The head of the Scout County Team. Appoints a CPC team and is generally responsible for the running of the Scout County.

CPC - County Programme Coordinator: Appointed by the CC to look after county programme. They are responsible for all County Programme in all sections in all groups

ACPC - Assistant CPC: In some counties where there is a need, ACPCs are appointed for each section (ACPC for Beavers Scouts, Cubs Scouts etc.) They work with the CPC, the other ACPCs and the CC to deliver Programme for their section.

CTC - County Training Coordinator: Coordinates Scouter training in the county.

PMST – Provincial Management Support Team: A group that coordinates how a Scout Province supports the Scout Counties and Groups.

PSO – Provincial Support Officer & GSF- Group Support Facilitators: Paid professional staff of SI who supports Groups and help them develop.

SI – Scouting Ireland: The officially recognised Scouting Organisation of which we are all members.

NMC - National Management Committee: The group of volunteers, with the support of professional staff, who runs SI in between National Councils.

NYPC - National Youth Programme Committee: The group the coordinates the development and implementation of all programme. It includes the Chief Commissioners (Youth Prog.), the Programme Commissioners, Provincial Reps, and some National Youth Reps.

NARC - National Adult Resources Committee: The committee that looks after training and support of adult scouters.

NSRAP - National Spiritual / Religious Advisory Panel: A group of representatives from different religions and denominations who advise SI on relevant matters. The Chair of the panel is a member of the NMC.

NTPIC - National Team for Policy Implementation & Coordination: A group consisting of the Chief Scout, the Chief Commissioners, the National Secretary, National Treasurer, and the Chair of NSRAP, and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) (head of the paid professional staff) attends.

