



**Scouter's Edition**

# Scouting Online

## ***The Crean Award:***

### **Discovery:**

Patrol Activity

### **Endurance:**

Develop Patrol Spirit

Develop Teamwork

Patrol Activity

### **Terra Nova:**

Task/Role in Patrol

Patrol Activity

### **Polar:**

Patrol Activity

## ***The Activity:***

### **Objective:**

To explore how you can use the internet in Scouting

### **Activity Type:**

Patrol Activity

### **Roles:**

Activity Leaders

## ***SPICES***

Social

Character

Emotional

## ***Special Interest Badge***

Skill





## Plan: Setting up Accounts

Firstly, talk with your Scouters about setting up a Group social media account. You might have to bring it up at Group Council to discuss what is involved. Remember, social media is a great way to communicate with people, especially all the scouts and families in the group.

You will have to decide on the purpose of your social media presence and think about what sites you are interested in, such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. Each of these has different ways of communicating. Facebook can reach lots of people and your posts can be visible for a while. Twitter is very quick and good for getting info out there, but people need to check your account. Instagram is good for showing people what you do and all the adventures you have.

When setting up accounts make sure multiple people have access . It is best that a team work on it, this team should involve both scouts and scouters.

For Facebook, you should set up a Page. You do this using your own account (remember some sites have a minimum age at which you can join). For Twitter, you need to set up a new account with an email address that doesn't have a twitter associated with it, so a group email is good for this. You might need a tool like Tweetdeck if you have more than one twitter account. Also, with Instagram you need to set up a separate account. Other platforms have different ways of being set up.





## Do: Using your Accounts

Your Group Council should agree with the idea and a team should be set up. There are a few things to remember when you set up an account like this for your Group.

- Have a clear plan and purpose for the account. Who is your target audience? Is it exclusively for updating families and scouts? Or, also aimed at the general public?
  - When you act as a admin/moderator for an account, you are no longer running a personal account. You are representing your Group and Scouting in general.
  - If you receive any nasty or unwanted messages or responses, notify your Scouter immediately and let them handle it.
  - Post regularly, even when you aren't on activities, send updates about the Group or other scouting news.
- Try to post something daily; this will reach the most amount of people.
  - Don't use scouting jargon or made up words. People won't understand you!
  - Keep it clear and easy to understand, remember who your audience is.
  - Limit the amount of emojis you use - one or two is fine but they can be annoying if overused.
  - You should not post things private to the group or talk about individuals.
  - Above all, when using Social Media remember to follow the Scout Promise and Law, treat everyone with respect and use common sense.





## Do: Talking about Scouts (to non-Scouts)

As a Scout, you might often find yourself explaining Scouting to your friends and family who aren't in Scouts, and who possibly don't 'get' Scouts. Some of you might even have to talk about Scouts in front of an audience. Here are some tips on how best to explain what you do in Scouts, and what Scouting is all about.

- Tell a story! If someone asks you what you learn by being a Scout, don't just say 'In Scouts we learn about leadership'. Follow this up by telling them about a time you led your Patrol, or were the Task Leader. Not only will people find this more interesting and memorable, it is much easier to understand someone if they back up what they're saying with an example. People will also become engaged with and connect with what you are saying if you can make it personal to you.

- Explain yourself! It's important to remember that in Scouts, we have our own sort of language that non-Scouts might not understand. Not everyone knows what a Patrol is, or a square lashing, so make sure to explain what you are talking about.
- Know your audience! Not everybody you talk to will want to hear about the same things. It is important to consider who you're talking to. While your friends might be interested in how many blisters you got, your granny or teacher really doesn't need to know those things!
- Be prepared! If, for example, you are being interviewed about Scouts by the local newspaper, it could be helpful to prepare some rough answers to likely questions- 'What is your favourite thing about Scouts?' or 'What do you do in Scouts?' are common enough questions. Good luck!





## Do: Safety Online

The internet is a great tool for communication. It can be used for lots of good things. But, it has some down sides, as people can be nasty and can try to contact you even though you don't know them. Here are some general pieces of advice to help you with your online activity.

- A common sense approach will be the basis of Scouting Ireland's Social Networking Guidelines
- Avoid images of just one scout and only give first names.
- Always ensure that you have parental permission to use any photos of young people
- Only use appropriate photos, the sort that you would be happy putting on a public notice board - remember that everyone can view them
- If in doubt, use your common sense and don't post it

- Never give out personal information to online .
- If something is published online, anyone can access it, change it or share it with others.
- Keep personal profiles private so only your approved friends can see your information. Only approve friends that you actually know.
- Remember that online friends are just that and if they are not known to you in the real world, they may be lying about who they are.
- You should never meet up with a person they have met online unless they take a parent or trusted adult with them. ?
- Know how to block someone online and report them. You should tell a parent or trusted adult about this as well.

Please consult SI documentation relating to online activity, especially the Code of Good Practice ([goo.gl/Fj6zLN](http://goo.gl/Fj6zLN)) and the Social Networking Guidelines ([goo.gl/5gK2JN](http://goo.gl/5gK2JN)).





## Do: Exploring Safety Online

### Searching for yourself

Everyone in the patrol should spend a few minutes searching for themselves online, but not using your accounts. Give yourself five minutes to learn as much you as can about yourself. Talk after about what this means. Should you be more careful about posting things on social media?

### Cyberbully

This is bullying online. Someone, or a group of people, use technology, like social media, instant messages (Snapchat, FB Messenger, WhatsApp etc), or texts to spread rumours, make threats or harass someone else or another group of people. It can include written messages, photographs, videos or voice messages. It's like physical or verbal bullying, but uses technology instead. We should help to stop it as much as we can.

In your patrol think up of a plan to help stop cyberbullying. In your plan, remember that sometimes people can actually be helping bullying occur by sharing photos or spreading rumours. Everyone has a responsibility to try and stop bullying. Your plan could include tips like:

- Be careful online
- Think about what you are saying about other people, and how it might make them feel
- Who should you report cyberbullying to?
- How can you support a friend who is being bullied?

Check out [spunout.ie/life/article/cyber-and-text-bullying](http://spunout.ie/life/article/cyber-and-text-bullying) and [barnardos.ie/resources-advice/young-people/teen-help/bullying/cyberbullying.html](http://barnardos.ie/resources-advice/young-people/teen-help/bullying/cyberbullying.html) or





## Do: Exploring Safety Online

### Photo Share

Print out a photo from a recent patrol or troop activity, with all the patrol in it. Check out the list on the right; in which of these places would you be willing to have the photo on display for everyone to see? Have the patrol tick off the places you'd be happy with, or have each scout tick them individually using different colour pens.

Afterwards, talk about the common areas where you would definitely be okay to have then put up, and the places you definitely won't. Talk about some of the following questions:

- Why is this the case?
- How is this relevant to post images online?
- Is it the same thing?
- Should you think about these things when posting stuff online?

Bus Stop	<input type="checkbox"/>	School Notice Board	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lampost in your area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our fridge at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scout Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>
Church notice board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Billboard	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Café	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grandparent's House	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sports Club	<input type="checkbox"/>
In another town/city	<input type="checkbox"/>	In another country	<input type="checkbox"/>





## Safety Online

- When setting up new profiles on social media or forums, don't use your whole name.
- Only become friends with or follow people you actually know
- Have privacy settings on your accounts so you can decide who follows you
- Do not give out your personal details online (where you live, go to school etc).
- You do not have to talk or respond to people.
- Be kind to other people online.
- If you are being bullied or harassed tell a parent or trusted adult about it straight away.
- Always have a private password to log in to your devices.
- Make super strong passwords for all your login details.
- Keep any anti-virus programmes up to date as much as possible.
- Avoid dodgy websites or dodgy Wi-Fi connections.

Check out [spunout.ie/onlinesafety](http://spunout.ie/onlinesafety) for more details





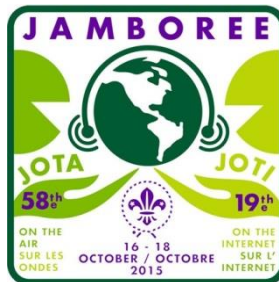


## Do: Online Scouting Activities

### JOTI

*JOTI* or the Jamboree on the Internet is an online activity that allows Scouts from all over the world to 'meet' and communicate. Using internet connect devices, you can participate in this event; however, it is more fun to get involved as a patrol. It runs annually in October.

Your patrol can get involved by chatting with Scouts from across the world, but also be completing challenges and activities and sharing them with others. Check out: [jotajoti.info](http://jotajoti.info)



### POW

POW – Patrol Online Weekend – is a Scouting Ireland event which involves Patrols completing a selection of tasks over a weekend, which are then shared online with other Patrols from across Ireland. Each task will be a fun challenge for each patrol to complete by a certain time; no particular skills or expertise will be needed. Patrols receive a list of tasks that need to be completed during the weekend. You show you have completed a task by posting a photo or video online. It runs in March.





## Review

Is social media important? How should we use in Scouts?

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What are the most important things to remember about online safety?

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*What can we do next?*





# Review "SPICES"

## **Social**

- Relationships
- Communication Skills
- Other Cultures
- Community Involvement
- Promise & Law

## **Physical**

- Eat Well
- Personal Hygiene
- Balanced Lifestyle
- How Body works
- Physical Limitations
- Health Choices
- Access Help

## **Intellectual**

- Achieving Goals
- New Ideas/Creativity
- Learn from Decisions
- Team Member

## **Character**

- Promise & Law
- Friends & Friendships
- Plan before do
- Ensuring Fairness
- Respect
- Differences & Views
- Following Dreams
- Live the Scouting Spirit

## **Emotional**

- Aware of feelings
- Asking/Giving Help
- Responsibility for Emotions
- Controlling Emotions
- Going Further
- Beliefs & Values
- Developing Talents

## **Spiritual**

- Promise & Law
- Impact on Environment
- Reflection
- Changing Beliefs





## Scouter Notes

Any online activity related to Scouts that young people are doing should be planned in coordination with the Scouters. The setting up and running of accounts should be a partnership between the Scouts and Scouters. This also helps you to provide guidance and supervision. Scouters may need to help patrols in their discussions of online activity, internet safety, and cyberbullying. Also, remember that some young people may have been affected by things like cyberbullying, so it could be an emotional trigger.

While, the resource highlights some of the negative aspects of social media, we must remember it can be a tool for communication. In reviewing using social media, it can be seen as an opportunity for scouts to develop skills and learn new things.

The setting up of Group social media, or a blog, could make a good Special Interest Badge for a scout, who could then maintain it over a few months, with other Scouts and Scouters.

From the **SPICES**, parts of the **Social**, **Character**, and **Emotional** area are relevant. From Social, scouts will be developing their communication skills by learning how to post in different platforms, but also how best to decide content, and to think carefully about what they post. Character is important because scouts should always think about what they do (or post) before they do it, considering all the implications, and they should live by the Scouting spirit, and not post, share, or facilitate the negative parts of social media. From Emotional, the patrol will be taking about things like cyberbullying and how they affect people's feelings.

