

Talakto District Roundtable



www.talakto.org

[Boy Scouts of America](#)

[Greater Alabama Council](#)

TALAKTO DISTRICT ROUNDTABLE **7:00 pm First Thrusday of Every Month**

Roundtable Does Not Convey During the Summer Months of June & July

May of each year is Program Preview Conference Month This is where you get information for the year for planning your Scout Year

ROUNDTABLE Begins at 7:00 pm

Order of The Arrow at 6:30 pm

Included in the program the start will be a general session Highlighting any coming changes or special activities to the Cub, Boy Scout and Venturing Programs, and a review of the calendar for the present month and those events out approximately 90 days

***First United Methodist Church
120 Greene Street
Huntsville Alabama***

- Get the most recent news about Talakto District events, activities and training
- Share and get new ideas for your Scouting position in Boy Scout and Cub Scout - specific sessions
- Get the support you need from fellow Scouters who are also dedicated to the BSA program



Roundtable is a great opportunity to network with other leaders, learn more about your leader function and to keep abreast of what's going on in our district. Attendance is important for Unit Awards and for leaders working on their Leader Awards (knots)

Break Out Sessions begin at 7:15

Each week's Roundtable features something special that adds to our scouting.

Roundtable Units need to review their Journey to Excellence Requirements

Why Should You Come? The first question you need to ask is "Why wouldn't I WANT to come?" People have busy lives, and there needs to be a compelling reason to take time to attend a meeting.

There are a couple of common reasons for going to a meeting. The first is that the meeting is a prosperous good time. It is always lots of activity built into the meeting and not just an evening-long presentation. But do folks think the meeting is FUN? Don't ask the people who attend. Ask the ones who don't attend.

Another common reason for attending is that it helps you do your job and all of those that attend do their job better. You may be handing out worksheets, but are they what the leaders need? Do you know what there three biggest issues/problems are? Have you asked the folks not attending? If by finding out what they really need and providing it, you might have trouble keeping them away.

The last issue to consider is logistics. Do you have the roundtable scheduled and located such that it allows maximum attendance or does it conflict with other activities common to the unit leaders? Ask the non-attendees. It may or may not

be an issue. Finally, check awareness. It was once asked to a three-year veteran den leader why he was never at round table. His reply: "what's roundtable?" **Make Your Unit Adults Aware Bring Them to Roundtable!!**

Cub Scout Breakout

Cub breakouts will be centered on implementing the monthly themes into the den meetings. Breakouts offer a great opportunity to get more den leaders help in planning their Den Meetings. Roundtable and the breakouts give the Den Leader a chance to get ahead of their Den Meetings. A little pre-planning keeps the Cubs coming back for more.

Boy Scout Breakout

Boy Scout Breakout gives the Scoutmaster's, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Committee members the opportunity to share their own Troop experiences with each other. This gives you the opportunity for new places to go camping, services projects, court of honor ideas, back packing locations & logistics, high adventure, summer camp opportunities, and much, much more.

Roundtable is where training continues, new friends are made, new ideas are formed, and it gives you the opportunity to help plan ahead because you are in it for the boys.

Roundtable Agenda what to expect

Pre-opening: This is the period in which you arrive, sign in (make sure you do this) receive materials, and find your friends and make new ones. Proceed to the main church sanctuary.

Opening: This is the use of an appropriate "ceremony" This could be the responsive repeating of the Scout Oath or Law or the Pledge to the Flag, or something else tied into if it's a special date or event is presented. The Order of the Arrow most often will present the colors for posting & the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administrative words: Welcome to the Roundtable, the bathrooms are down the hallway and to the left for the guys, to the right just as you enter the church for the gals. The handouts are usually as you come in, and if you haven't received them already, you should pick up a set before seating (or you're outta luck and will have to find someone to share with you!). Now we will review the Calendar...be prepared to write and take some quick notes, make sure you are sitting next to someone because you will probably asked them..."what was that date again". Followed by this will be the announcements...announcements...generally short

Program: What we come for. This is the part in which is varied every time you come to a Roundtable. You should expect something different each month, tied to their roles as Scouters but not necessarily having to do with the "theme of the month" nor Scouting about the topic or issue. "It gives those attending Roundtable

some idea of what Scouters are talking about in other places!"

Games and Songs: We don't do 'em all of the time, but they serve a purpose: to keep the group together and to provide some diversion from the serious aspects of the monthly TRAINING Roundtables are SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING AND COACHING program.

Resource Time / Breakout This is the time in the evening in which the Roundtable Commissioners serve as primary instructor and "coaches us" ...There will be the Cub Scout Commissioner and the Boy Scout Commissioner and they will present to us the aspects of what we're doing as Scouters, based upon questions and previous experience as a unit Scouter. This isn't the "Scoutmasters' Minute" part of the program...this part is designed to coach a specific skills or interest area besides that of the general program.

District Executive's time: You should ALWAYS expect your District professional a few minutes (usually this is short and sweet, positive and informative) to provide all of you with the latest information from your Council and from National. This too, is part of the training aspect of Roundtables.

Final Words of Wisdom: HERE is where the Commissioner does a "Scoutmasters' Minute" -- something inspirational that the Scouters attending can emulate (and with the right handout, can do so!) in the closing minutes of one of their Troop meetings.

Closing: The closing should match up with the opening, and doesn't have to be so elaborate that people are waiting for everything to be "set up".

Parking Lot: Don't forget that an important part of ANY meeting is the "real meeting" that goes on before and afterwards. This is a time for explaining things in more detail, or offering a shoulder or arm, or a pair of hands; or those simply saying "thanks" to a fellow Scouter.

What can you do to keep your own comments and announcements brief?

- First when possible contact the roundtable commissioner beforehand. E-mail seems to work the best, this is so you can get on the agenda. They like it when you get on the agenda ahead of time.
- Use handouts to present most of the information, make enough copies split them in half for each side let them pass them to each other.
- Use an index card to note key information - if it isn't on the card then it doesn't need to be said.
- Face your audience and a clock - when you get half-way through the time you've allotted start wrapping up and wind down. If providing more than just a quick announcement, pre-plan your presentation if possible, time yourself. Your commissioner will probably ask how long do you plan on.
- When your time is up, quit talking, move to your seat and sit down.
- **STAND UP -- SPEAK UP -- SHUT UP --- SIT DOWN**

For more information about contacting members of the District go to the main menu click onto District Leadership.