# **SCOUTING IN MEXICO**

### ASOCIACION DE SCOUTS DE MEXICO, AC

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Scouting was officially founded in Mexico in 1920 and was recognized by the World Bureau in 1926. (The Mexican Scout Association was founded in Puerto de Veracruz during 1912. The early growth of the Scout movement in Mexico was hampered by the poverty in rural areas and the Revolution of the 1910s. The Revolution occurred just as the movement was beginning to develop in most countries. The Asociascion was recognized by the World Scout Movement in 1962 after Mexico has entered a more tranquil period of its history.)

The main centers of Scouting are in the cities and towns. Efforts are being made to bring Scouting to the rural areas. The Scouting program was run by volunteers until 1990 when several professionals were hired to help manage the association.

The program is mainly an outdoor program with the usual Scouting themes. In addition, Scouts are very involved with nature conservation and service to the community.

The goals of the Scout movement is to form the character of children and young people, encourage the fulfillment of religious, patriotic, and civil requirements. The Scouts seek to teach the principles of discipline, loyalty, and kindness to neighbours. Scouts seek to promote independence and physical, mental, and spiritual development. These goals are in keeping with found of the world Scout Movement, Lord Baden Powell. The movement is conducted outside of schools by youth volunteers without distinction of creed, race, nationality, origin or economic status. The movement places a great emphasis on family, which is considered to be the integrating root of the community and central to civilization, based on love, truth and justice.

During major disasters such as earth quakes and hurricanes, Scouts provide a variety of services at aid stations and rescue sites. They are often the main source of information about missing and rescued people. After these disasters, Scouts collect and distribute food, clothing and medicine to those in need.

#### **Program Sections:**

- Lobatos /Cub Scouts ages 7 to 11 (boys)
  Uniform Yellow shirt
- Manada de Gacelas/ Brownies ages 6 to 10 (girls)
  Uniform Yellow shirt
- Tropa /Scouts- ages 11 to 14 (for both boys and girls but separate units)
  Uniform Green shirt

Caminantes/ Expedicionarios/ Expedicionarias- / Pioneers Explorers ages 15 to 17 (boys and girls)
Uniform – Blue shirt

Precursora / Clan de Rovers / Rovers- ages 18 to 21 (both male and female)

Uniform - Red Shirt

Dirigente / Scouter – ages 22+ Uniform Grey shirt

Dark blue shorts are worn with knee socks (tassels)

**Necker if call a Promesa** 

Woggles are all different colours because they are handed down from parents.

There are about 800 Scout Groups

#### **Lema Scout / Scout Motto:**

Siempre Listo......Always Prepared

#### La Promesa Scout / Scout Oath:

Yo prometo por mi honor hacer cuanto de mi dependa para cumplir mis deberes para con Dios y la patria, ayudar al progimo en todas circunstancias y cumplir fielmente la ley Scout.

I promise for my honour to do what is on my hand to do my duties to God and my nation, to help one another in all circumstances to loyally carry out the scout law.

#### La Ley Scout / Scout Law:

- © El Scout cifra su honor en ser digno de confianza.
- **Q** El Scout es leal con su patria, sus padres, sus jefes y subordinados.
- El Scout es util y ayuda a los demas sin pensar en recompensa.
- © El Scout es amigo de todos y hermano de todo Scout, sin distincion de credo raza nacionalidad o clase social.

- El Scout es cortes y actua con nobleza.
- El Scout ve en la naturaleza la obra de Dios, protégé a los animales y plantas.
- El Scout obedece con responsablidad y hace las cosas en orden y completas.
- El Scout rie y canta en sus dificultades.
- El Scout es economico, trabajador y cuidadoso del bien ajeno.
- El Scout es limpio, sano y puro de pensamientos, palabras y acciones.
- A Scout relays his honour on being trusted
- A Scout is loyal with its nation, his parent, his bosses and subordinates.
- A Scout is helpful and helps others without thinking on getting anything back.
- A Scout is a friend to everybody and a brother of all Scouts, without distinction of creed, race, nationality.
- A Scout is polite and acts gracious.
- A Scout sees in nature God's Creation, protects animals and plants.
- A Scout obeys with responsibility and does things in order and fully.
- A Scout laughs and sings in bad times.
- A Scout is economical, hard worker and cautious of other well being.
- A Scout is clean, healthy and pure in thoughts words, and actions.

## Largest fleur de lis in the world

A Scout event held each year since 2000, originally organized to promote the 11th World Scout Moot that was held that year in Mexico. More than 10,000 Scouts from all Mexico come to the main square of Mexico City and draw a gigantic fleur de lis, the emblem of the WOSM. It is drawn on a 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> area, and filled up with aluminum cans. [2]

In 2007, the year of the World Scouting Centenary, a dove was incorporated into the original design as a symbol of Scouting as a universal movement of peace. In 2007 the *Flor de Liz mas Grande del Mundo* was one of Mexico's gifts of peace.

## Meztitla Scout Camp School

Main article: Meztitla Scout Camp School

Owned by the *ASMAC* and located in <u>Tepoztlan</u>, <u>Morelos</u>, <u>Meztitla</u> is frequented by Scouts of Mexico and the world, but is also open camping enthusiasts.

*Meztitla* was originally property of Dr. Paul E. Loewe, but in 1956 he donated the first lands for the campsite. The name *Meztitla* is a word derived from Náhuatl, which literally

means "place near the moon" due to ancient Aztec cave painting which decipts the moon, inside a cave on a hill in the surroundings.