



ADELAIDES VILNIAUS TUNTAS

ADELAIDE LITHUANIAN SCOUTS

This manual has been specially prepared for the Adelaide Lithuanian Scout Group and is primarily for the use for the non-Lithuanian Speaking Scouts.

This manual has been prepared and endorsed by the Vilnius Tunto Štabas 2004.

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SCOUTING IN LITHUANIA

LIETUVOS SKAUTIJA

LITHUANIAN SCOUTING

Scouting first came to Lithuania in 1909, as part of Tsarist Russia. It started again as Lithuanian Scouting in 1918. Scouting prospered until 1940, when occupation forces banned Scouting. In November of 1989, after the fall of communism, Scouting re-emerged in the democratic Lithuania. Lithuania was readmitted into WOSM in 1997.

The Scout movement in Lithuania began in 1918, when the first Scout troop was founded in Vilnius by Scouter Kostas Jurgela. In 1922, the first Scout General Assembly united the Lithuanian Scout Movement into the Scout Association of Lithuania. In 1924, the Scout Association of Lithuania was registered as a member of the World Bureau.

In 1940, the Soviet occupation of Lithuania resulted in Scouting being banned. In the years to 1945, an exile Scouting movement started in the camps for displaced persons. Many of these people moved to the USA and Australia. The organization was able to continue its work abroad.

On April 29, 1989, on the eve of Lithuanian independence, the Scout Movement in Lithuania was re-established and Scouting activity restarted. Regular contacts were established and maintained with WOSM.

In 1992, Scouting in Lithuania applied for membership in WOSM. Their constitution was approved by the World Committee. However, serious conflicts with the organization of Lithuanian Scouting, especially former Scots, resulted in the postal vote being suspended. From 1992 to 1995, attempts were made to insure democratic decision making processes and to simplify structure, with little progress made.

A new association was formed by the majority of young leaders in all regions of Lithuania as well as by key members of the former National Council, was created in the spring of 1995 under the name, "LIETUVOS SKAUTIJA". It was registered by the Ministry Of Justice in September 1995. A meeting of the General Assembly was called in November 1996, which was open to all active leaders registered in any of the several Scout Associations existing in Lithuania. A new constitution, conforming to WOSM requirements was adopted and a new National Council was elected. Members of "Lietuvos Skautija", "Lietuvos Skautu Sajunga" and the Lithuanian Sea Scout Association attended as delegates. The Lietuvos Lenka Kkautu Sajunga (the Polish Scout Association in Lithuania) attended as observers. Representatives of all the above mentioned associations were involved in the drafting of the constitution and planning the meeting. It was confirmed by the General Assembly that the name of the organization would henceforth be, "Lietuvos Skautija", Lithuanian Scouting.

Lithuanian Scouting has a membership of 1,500 (1/98) spread throughout the country. They have sent contingents to European and World events. Lithuania was represented at the 1995 and 1998 World Jamborees.

SCOUT MOTTO:

Budek.....Be Prepared

SCOUT OATH:

Do not expect anything from others, always give them what you can. Live for your Motherland and mankind; be a friend of nature and animals. Be a gentleman and a protector of the poor and weak, and always take the right road. Strengthen your body and soul and educate yourself. May your will be as a bowstring resiliently drawn. Follow St. George, the patron of Scouts: exterminate the evil in the world but first of all, in yourself. First think of others and only then yourself. Grow up as a mighty oak tree and do not bow down as a weeping willow. Be better tomorrow than you are today or than you were yesterday. Keep God in your heart and remember your motto "Be Prepared".

SCOUT LAW:

1-A Scout is straight forward and keeps his or her word.

2-A Scout is faithful to God and his or her Motherland.

3-A Scout is useful and helps his or her neighbors.

4-A Scout is a friend to his or her neighbors and is a brother to another Scout.

5-A Scout is polite and gentleman like.

6-A Scout is a friend of nature.

7-A Scout obeys his or her parents and the authorities.

8-A Scout is lively, does not lose both self-control and hope.

9-A Scout is thrifty.

10-A Scout is sober and chaste in his or her own mind, words and actions.