

Scouting Facts: Norway



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Scouting began in Norway in 1910 and was recognised by the World Scout Conference in 1922.

Norway. New logo from 2003. Membership in 2007: 13000)

In 1975 Norway was one of the 5 Nordic hosts to the 14th World Jamboree, which was known as

"Nordjamb 75".



**NORGES
SPEIDERFORBUND**

In April 1978 the Norwegian Boy Scout Association and the Norwegian Girl Guide Association merged to form Norges speiderforbund (the Norwegian Guide and Scout Association). The YWCA Girl Guides of Norway and the YMCA Scouts of Norway did not merge into this new Association, and until 2003 there were three Scouting Associations in Norway. The Norwegian Guide and Scout Association were members of WOSM, the YWCA Girl Guides were members of WAGGGS, and the YMCA-Scouts became active in European YMCA Scouting.

(The Norwegian Guide and Scout Association. New logo from 2007. Membership in 2007: 20000)

In 2003 the YWCA Girl Guides and the YMCA Scouts merged to the YWCA-YMCA Guides and Scouts of Norway, and a Federation, the Guides and Scouts of Norway (Speidernes fellesorganisasjon) was established as a SAGNO with male members in WOSM and female members in WAGGGS. Both Associations are doing co-educational work, but the YWCA-YMCA Guides and Scouts still also holds memberships in YWCA and YMCA.

Scouting in Norway

Local Norwegian Scout units are quite free to find their own ways of doing Scouting, and both structure, programme and activities may vary from unit to unit.

In general, most units have weekly meetings of 90 minutes duration all year around. Also, they have about four weekend events a year, and one week long camp in the summer. Different trainings come on top of this.

There is a strong focus on out-door activities, i.e. mountain climbing, canoeing, hiking, skiing, and glacier walking. Pioneering is considered an important Scouting activity at all camps.

Scouts with special needs are integrated into local groups whenever possible and there is extensive training programme for Leaders who work with those with disabilities.

(The YWCA-YMCA Guides and Scouts of



**KFUK-KFUM
speiderne**

As governmental public services are well developed, the need for Scout initiative is small, but Scouts do community projects from time to time.

The Scout Association

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Motto:

"Vær Beredt"

(Be Prepared)

Promise:

(*The Y-Scouts*)

I tro på Guds hjelp, lover jeg:

- å tjene Gud,
- hjelpe andre,
- og leve etter speiderloven

Believing in help of God, I promise

- to serve God,
- help others,
- and live according to the Scout Law.

Promise:

(*The Norwegian Guide and Scout Association*)

Jeg lover etter beste evne å:

- være åpen for Gud
- hjelpe andre
- og leve etter speiderloven

I promise to do the best of my ability:

- to be open minded to God,
- help others
- and live according to the Scout Law.

Scout Law

(*Federation*)

1. A Guide/Scout is open to God and His word.
2. A Guide/Scout accepts responsibility for herself/himself and others.
3. A Guide/Scout is helpful and considerate.
4. A Guide/Scout is a good friend.
5. A Guide/Scout is honest and trustworthy.
6. A Guide/Scout understands nature and protects it.
7. A Guide/Scout thinks and acts independently.

8. A Guide/Scout does her/his best in adversities and difficulties.

9. A Guide/Scout is thrifty and tries to manage on her/his own.

10. A Guide/Scout works for peace and understanding.

The Guide and Scout prayer:

(*Federation – a song*)

Dearest Father, high in heaven,
Hear the prayer of my heart:
In every corner of this world
Let me travel as your son;
Let me live life to your glory,
Honour Norway, and my parents,
Be of help to other people
And obey the Scouts' law's words.

Further sources of information:

WEB:

www.kfuk-kfum-speiderne.no (Y-scouts)

www.speiding.no (NSF)

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