

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL - For exclusive
information of Pathfinder Headquarters Council

REPORT OF PATHFINDER MEMBERS OF JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Joint Scout-Pathfinder Advisory Committee met on November 22nd and December 9th, 1935 as the result of a communication addressed to the Secretary of the South African Boy Scout Council on August 19th, 1935, by the Chief Pathfinder, calling attention to the proposed changes in the Union Scout Council Constitution, which he held would alter the relations between the Pathfinder Movement and the Scout Movement, and intimating that it was probable that, as the new Scout Constitution would convert the Scout Organisation into a closed European movement, the Pathfinder Movement would probably desire to be recognised as a Non-European parallel movement.

When the Committee met, the Scout representatives stated that they had found it necessary to review the whole position with regard to the Non-Europeans and, in consequence, submitted the following proposals:-

Proposals of Scout Members

1. There shall be four Branches of the Boy Scout Movement within the Union of South Africa and Mandated Territories and Protectorates, which Branches shall be named as under:

- Included in Off. Constitution*
- A. European Boy Scouts
 - B. Pathfinders or Bantu Boy Scouts
 - C. Indian Boy Scouts
 - D. Coloured Scouts (or some name preferable to that to be decided on)

Incl. in Off. Constitution

Note:- Whilst provision is made for the main Branches, it is not proposed that the Pathfinder Branch shall necessarily be limited to the Native races. [Other Non-European races can be admitted if any such wish.]

Each Branch shall be self-governing, with its own Union Council, independent administration and a Constitution based on the general principles of ~~Pathfinder~~ *Pathfinder* Organisation and Rules, Part I. These constitutions shall be subject to the approval of the Union Scout Council, European Branch, and may not be altered except with their approval. *Policy*

2. All resolutions of Non-European Scout Branches, i.e. their respective Union Councils, shall be subject to the approval of the Union Scout Council, European Branch. No Branch shall be represented on the Council of any other Branch.

1(b) Uniform optional to the Branch concerned, but each Branch shall have its own distinctive cloth emblem designating the Branch to which they belong.

Scout badges of rank and merit may be worn by all Branches, subject to due qualification.

The existing Union Scout Council to apply to the International Bureau to register all Branches as forming the Boy Scout Movement in the Union. The representative of the Movement in the Union on the International Committee to be appointed by the Union Scout Council, European Branch, which shall also undertake to collect from each Branch the affiliation fees due.

As a result of the first day's discussion, the Pathfinder representatives circulated among the members of the Committee the following memorandum:-

Reply of Pathfinder Members

1. The Pathfinder Representatives on the Scout-Pathfinder Joint Committee wish to express their appreciation of the spirit of goodwill which prompted the Scout Representatives to present proposals involving important alterations in the relations of the Pathfinder Movement with the Scout Movement, and they have given these proposals their careful consideration.

2. The Pathfinder Representatives recognise that the proposals that

- (a) there should be four branches of the Boy Scout Movement within the Union of South Africa, Mandated Territory and High Commission Territories,
- (b) the Branches should bear the name "Scout",
- (c) the wearing of Scout uniform should be optional,
- (d) Scout badges of rank and merit should be worn in all the Branches, subject to qualification,

represent a very considerable advance on the present position; and of this the Pathfinder Representatives would like to express their warm appreciation.

3. The Pathfinder Representatives, while approving of the proposal that each Branch shall be self-governing with its own Central Council, independent administration, and a constitution based on the general principles of the Policy, Organisation and Rules, Part I, regret that they are unable to agree to the proposal that the resolutions of the Non-European Scout Branches shall be subject to the approval of the Union Council of the European Branch, on which the Non-European Branches would not be represented.

4. The Pathfinder Representatives have strongly urged that the separate Branches, while maintaining their separate identities and autonomy, should be united under a Federal Council, on which all the Branches should be represented. To meet objections raised, they expressed their readiness to support any proposal that would ensure to the European Branch, as the senior body, a majority on the Federal Council. The Scout Representatives on the Committee have, however, definitely rejected such proposals, and the Pathfinder Representatives therefore think it best to agree to submit to the Pathfinder Movement the proposal made at the meeting, that all resolutions in the Non-European Branches be made subject to the approval of a specially created body, consisting of the representatives of all the Branches, with the representatives of the European Branches forming a majority representation.

5. In so far as the Pathfinder Movement in the areas under discussion is concerned, this proposal, while involving the recognition of the existing constitution, would also call for such amendments as might be necessary to bring it into conformity with the arrangements herein set out.

6. It is assumed that, in accordance with the last paragraph of the memorandum presented by the Scout Representatives, the existing Scout Council will undertake to apply to the International Bureau of Boy Scouts to register all four Branches as forming the "Boy Scout Movement in the Union, Mandated Territory and High Commission Territories".

On the second day the Committee discussed the two memoranda, with the following results:-

1. (a) It was agreed that the reference to the recognition of four Branches of the Scout Movement as extended to the Protectorates should be modified by the omission of the Protectorates (or High Commission Territory) and the addition of "Any of these branches may be extended to include the Protectorates if desired by such Protectorates".
2. The Pathfinder Representatives stated that they were not prepared to recommend their constituent body to agree that all the Non-European Branches of the Scout Movement in the Union and Mandated Territory be subject to the direct control of the Union Council, on which the Non-European Branches should not be represented.
3. The Scout Representatives on their part stated that they were not prepared to recommend to their constituent bodies that the separate Branches be united under a Federal Council on which all the Branches should be represented, even though the European Branch were given a majority representation on the Federal Council.
- 2 4. The Pathfinder Representatives then put forward the proposal contained in the latter part of Paragraph 4 of their memorandum, namely, that a new Council be formed consisting of the representatives of the four Branches, with the European Branch having a majority representation, to the approval of which Council all resolutions of the Non-European Union Councils would be subject. The majority of the South African European Scout Council to be in the proportion of three to two.
- 2 5. The Scout Representatives stated that they were prepared to accept the suggestion in principle, but suggested that it be put in the following form:-
 "All resolutions of Non-European Scout Branches, i.e. their respective Union Councils, shall be subject to the approval of a body to be formed, consisting of representatives from each Branch. On this body there shall be a two-thirds majority of representatives from the European Branch over those representing Non-European Branches. The quorum of any meeting shall be in the same ratio. This body to have no jurisdiction over the European Branch."
6. The Pathfinder Representatives considered that the proposed European Scout majority was excessive, but both sides agreed to submit the alternative proposals to their respective constituent bodies.

7. The Pathfinder Representatives suggested that the title of the new Council be the "South African Non-European Boy Scout Council". This was accepted by the Scout Representatives.
8. It was agreed that, while the representatives of the South African Boy Scout Movement on the Committee of the International Bureau should be appointed by the South African European Boy Scout Council, he should be the representative of all the Branches of the South African Boy Scout Movement.
9. A number of points were raised, including:
- (a) The Pathfinder Constitution
 The Scout Representatives insisted that a new Constitution would have to be provided for the Pathfinder Branch, limiting its jurisdiction to the areas indicated above.
 The Pathfinder Representatives strongly urged that the Pathfinder Council would regard such action as a calamity, since it would destroy the unity of the Movement as it now exists, and then urged that the present Pathfinder Policy, Organisation and Rules be accepted with the necessary amendments made to bring it into line with the above, and stated that they would submit such a revised constitution to the present South African Scout Council.
- (b) Pathfinders and the Scout Promise
 In reply to a question of the Pathfinder Representatives as to whether the existing Pathfinder Movement in the Union and Mandated Territories, would as a whole be accepted as part of the Scout Movement, or whether each member would have to be newly enrolled as a Scout, the Scout Representatives said that they were inclined to think that a proper enrolment of all Non-Europeans as Scouts would have to take place.
10. The Report of the Joint Committee will be circulated as soon as it has been prepared and approved by the several members of the Committee.

(Signed) J.D. Rheinallt Jones
CHIEF PATHFINDER

(Signed) S.P. Woodfield
DIVISIONAL PATHFINDER COMMISSIONER
 (Transvaal)

(Signed) J.R. Rathebe
ASSISTANT DISTRICT PATHFINDER
COMMISSIONER (WITWATERSRAND)

PATHFINDER HEADQUARTERS COUNCIL

93/35.

P.O. Box 1176,
JOHANNESBURG.
31st October, 1935.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

TO DIVISIONAL PATHFINDER COMMISSIONERS:

Dear Divisional Pathfinder Commissioner,

SCOUT - PATHFINDER RELATIONS

At a meeting of the Transvaal Pathfinder Council held recently, there was expressed a strong desire that the Headquarters Council should meet in December in Bloemfontein or Johannesburg.

Apart from a number of matters of internal organisation requiring attention, it seems desirable that the Council should meet to discuss the situation which has arisen as a result of the decision of the South African Scout Council at its meeting in East London in May last to adopt a new constitution which specifically and definitely limits membership of the Scout Movement in the Union of South Africa to Europeans. Although this constitution is not valid at the moment owing to a technical difficulty, there seems to be no doubt that it will be adopted in due course. I have asked that a meeting of the Scout Pathfinder Joint Committee be called to discuss the matter, and this Committee will meet in Johannesburg on November 22nd. The Pathfinder Representatives on this Committee are Divisional Pathfinder Commissioner S.P. Woodfield, Assistant District Pathfinder Commissioner J.R. Rathebe and myself.

I have already had an informal conversation with two senior officials of the Scout Movement, and I enclose a copy of the notes of the conversation. Please regard this as strictly confidential. I shall be very grateful, however, for your views on the documents in time to assist the Pathfinder Delegates at the meeting of the Joint Committee.

Kindly also let me know whether you think it would be convenient for you and your Division to have the Headquarters Council called for December 18th, 19th or 20th. If the Council is to meet at Bloemfontein, it seems undesirable that it should be held on the 16th or 17th, for there is to be held there on the 16th and possibly 17th a great Native Convention on the Native Bills.

With Pathfinder greetings,

Yours sincerely,

J.D. Rheinallt Jones.

CHIEF PATHFINDER

JDRJ/ML.

Enclosure.

SCOUT - PATHFINDER RELATIONS

Points made by Mr. Rheinallt Jones (Chief Pathfinder) in a conversation with Mr. F. Raleigh and Mr. P. Whiteley on Tuesday, September 10th, 1935.

1. Hitherto there has been no colour bar definitely expressed in the South African Scout Constitution.
2. The proposed wording of the new Scout Constitution now introduces a colour bar, which will be objected to by the Pathfinders who have always hoped that some day they would be admitted on equal terms.
3. The fact that the Pathfinder Movement, which extends as one movement from the Cape to Northern Rhodesia, is subject to the veto of the Union Boy Scout Council constitutes an anomaly.
4. A move to dissociate the Pathfinder Movement from the Union Scout Council is threatened in the extra-Union territories, and will be supported in influential quarters on political grounds. It will not take the form of an African movement separate from the Scout Movement because
 1. The African Native is extraordinarily keen on being associated with the Scout Movement because
 - (a) It is identified in his mind with the British Empire, and everything is done (outside the Union), to inculcate loyalty to the Empire and to cultivate a pride in its citizenship. These feelings are intense among Natives, even in the Union.
 - (b) It is, like education, a means whereby he can take advantage of the benefits of civilisation, of which he is most eager to avail himself.
 - (c) He is increasingly aware of the world-wide significance of the Scout Movement.
 - (d) It is not in conflict with the principles underlying the African age-grade groups (e.g. the Swazi "ibutho" system.)
 2. European and Non-European officers cannot see how any better organisation than the Scout Movement can be evolved. A great many of the European officers (missionaries, etc.) are themselves Scouters and proud of the Movement, which they consider well suited for adaptation to Africa.

3. The Governments in the extra-Union territories will insist upon the proposed connection with the Scout Movement as the minimum (some want no colour bar at all.)
5. The Pathfinder representatives on the Joint Committee consider that the effect of the new Union Scout Constitution is to turn the Scout Association into a closed European branch of the Scout Movement.
6. The Pathfinder Movement will probably press, for the recognition of the Pathfinder Movement as a parallel Scout movement for Non-Europeans under its own warrant from the World Bureau. By this arrangement, the present Scout organisations in the Union and the Rhodesias and the Pathfinder Movement would be members of the World Movement on equal terms, but not members of each other in Africa.
7. The Chief Pathfinder thinks that the Pathfinder Movement would be keen to retain the name Pathfinder (with or without the word Scout as a prefix or suffix) and the existing badges and uniform.
8. The Chief Pathfinder urges that the Scout Council and the Pathfinder Movement co-operate to bring about this proposal, and to approach the World Bureau to urge that the areas of jurisdiction be recognised on an ethnic rather than a territorial basis. He believes that the World Bureau would agree to the proposal if the Scout Councils supported it.
9. The Chief Pathfinder urged that every effort should now be made to secure friendly agreement on this matter to avoid racial feeling which might gravely injure both Movements. He believes the proposal will relieve both Movements from an embarrassing position, and yet give the Non-European groups reason for satisfaction in the equal status of the Pathfinder Movement with the other Scout organisations.
10. Mr. Rheinallt Jones does not consider that the admission of Non-European Troops into the Union Scout organisation to form closed Non-European branches would be satisfactory because
 - (a) It would destroy the happy unity of the Pathfinder Movement from the Cape to the Great Lakes.
 - (b) It would tend to emphasise the separateness and even inferiority of the Non-Europeans.
 - (c) It would make less possible the adaptations which are necessary.

He believes that the status of the Pathfinder Movement as a parallel Scout organisation would more easily overcome the sense of inferiority, and help to cultivate self-respect and proper pride in their own movement - feelings which the Pathfinder Movement, even under present conditions, has managed to develop.

11. The Chief Pathfinder described the variations in the methods of dealing with the various racial groups necessitated by the differences in racial feeling, and vicissitudes. For example, the Cape Coloured in the Western Province, Kimberley, Johannesburg and other centres, where they are in considerable numbers, are a definitely separate race-conscious group, and must be recognised as such by the provision of closed Cape Coloured Troops. Elsewhere the same section is subordinate to the Native group and is in consequence found inter-mixed with Natives. Again, there are Euro-Bantu groups which do not easily fall into the Cape Coloured group. In some places, Indians are found in Cape Coloured or Bantu Troops, but for the most part they must be dealt with separately. Lastly, the Cape Malays have to be dealt with as a separate group. The Pathfinder Movement has been increasingly successful in dealing with these difficulties which call for special care and treatment.

/ML.

The Pathfinder Movement
of the
SOUTH AFRICAN BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION



Die Padvindersbeweging
van die
SUID-AFRIKAANSE-VERKENNERSEUNSVREINIGING

**PATHFINDER HEADQUARTERS COUNCIL.
PADVINDER-HOOFKWARTIER-RAAD.**

PATRON—UNION OF S.A. :
BESKERMHEER—UNIE VAN S.A. :
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.
SY EXSELLENSIE DIE GOEWERNEUR-GENERAAL.

PATRON—HIGH COMMISSION TERRITORIES :
BESKERMHEER—PROTEKTORATE :
HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR SOUTH AFRICA.
SY EXSELLENSIE DIE HOE KOMMISSARIS VIR SUID-AFRIKA.

CHIEF PATHFINDER AND CHAIRMAN, H. Q. COUNCIL :
HOOF-PADVINDER EN VOORSITTER, H.-K.-RAAD :
J. D. RHEINALLT JONES, M.A.

P.O. Box } 1176, Johannesburg,
Posbus }

January 11th, 1935.

REFERENCE }
VERWYSING }

Will the Pathfinder representatives on the Scout Council kindly note that since the attached notice was prepared, the Scout Council meeting convened for January 24th in Bloemfontein has been postponed until February 25th in Durban, owing to the Chief Scout's recent attack of malaria, and his inability in his present condition to proceed to Bloemfontein.

COUNCIL OF THE SOUTH AFRICA BRANCH OF THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 631,
Johannesburg.

18th December, 1935.

TO ALL DIVISIONS:

Notice of Next Meeting of the S.A. Scout Council

In terms of Rule 6 (A) of the present Constitution of the South Africa Scout Council, viz:

MEETINGS - Meetings of the Council shall be held at least once a year at such times and at such places as the Chief Scout for South Africa may designate, or shall be called by the Secretary upon the petition of not less than two constituent Divisions presented to him in writing -

I now desire to inform you that the Acting Chief Scout, South Africa, has instructed me to give you notice that the next meeting of the South Africa Scout Council will be held on January 24th 1936 at Bloemfontein.

At that meeting the following business will be transacted:-

- (a)..... To receive a report from the Council's members of the Scout / Pathfinder Joint Co-Ordinating Committee which will be circulated.
- (b)..... To consider the adoption of a new Constitution for the Boy Scouts Association of the Union of South Africa as submitted, amended and adopted at the last meeting of the Council held in East London on the 16th and 17th May 1935, and subsequently found to be invalid because the necessary quorum provided for in the Constitution was not present, and as altered by any further amendment to be submitted. For particulars hereof please see the Council's Minutes of its aforesaid meeting which were circulated to all Divisions in June 1935.

The present Constitution provides that amendments may be made thereto as follows:

"Amendments: This Constitution or any part thereof shall not be altered or amended except at a meeting of the Council at which there are present at least two-thirds of the total membership, and no motion altering or amending this Constitution shall be deemed passed unless it shall have received the approval of the Chief Scout, South Africa.

"Thirty days' notice of any proposed alteration or amendment must be given in writing to the Secretary and all members of the Council."

(To comply, therefore, with this provision, formal notice as above is given you.)

In connection with the proposed new Constitution which is to come before the Council, will you please note that Divisional representatives should be vested with power/

to agree at the meeting to a new Constitution, Bye-Laws, Policy, Organisation & Rules; also Divisions should vest their representatives with discretionary powers in regard to agreeing to any amendment or addition to the draft which was circulated.

(c).....Any further business which may be submitted to South African Headquarters in accordance with the following resolution passed by the Council:-

"In connection with South Africa Scout Council meetings, full details of all resolutions, proposals etc. from Divisions must be submitted 21 (twenty one) days prior to the meeting - the Divisional Headquarters to forward ten copies of such resolution, proposal etc. with their views on the subject to the Secretary of the South Africa Scout Council for distribution to all Divisions."

(d).....Any further business which the Council may decide to consider.

KENNETH FLEISCHER
-Secretary-