“Was the old year a dud? What did you do during the past year that you can look back to and mark down in your record as a good step in your life? If you’ve nothing to put down, then that year was a dud. If you let a few years pass in this way, your life will be a dud.

Ever since I was a boy I kept a diary, and every year, on New Year’s Eve, I have run over it to find any steps of importance that I took during the twelve months and I can tell you it gives some satisfaction when you can honestly feel that that year, at any rate, has not been wasted.

Most of time that is wasted is time that we have not prepared for, for which we have made no plans. So look ahead – think what you want to do or ought to do and plan out how to do it. In this way you will Be Prepared.”

The World Scout Jamboree in Poland is our dream. But it is not something unreal. For twenty-five years, Poland and the ZHP have constantly been changing. 25 years of freedom have been a time for hard work for us. Today, a generation of young people who were raised in the first years of independence is ready to take responsibility for the future. People, for whom the legend of Solidarność became an inspiration, entered into adulthood and are now changing the world. We are dreaming of a jamboree that will fill the scouting world with imagination. A jamboree that in a natural way will show the phenomenon of a global movement that can – and actually does – change the world. Be the spark! That is the motto of our application. A spark starts a fire. A spark releases energy. We want every scout in the world – no matter what his sex, skin colour and religion is – to be that spark. The upcoming three years will be a great adventure for us. An adventure during which we will develop our organization and gain your trust. We will be working very hard for that. We will be learning from more experienced organizations. We will be asking. We will not stop dreaming and our dream will be transformed into real actions. This is the way we are. We believe that the spark from our dreams will also inspire you.
The Singapore Scout Association (SSA), formerly known as the Boy Scouts Association, was constituted under the powers granted by the Royal Charter issued under the hand of King George V dated 4th January 1912. Scouting in Singapore got started on July 2, 1910 by Mr. Frank Cooper Sands. He was a warranted Scoutmaster from the United Kingdom and formed the First Sands Troop with 30 boys under the sponsorship of the YMCA, whose building also served as the Scout Headquarters.

In 1915, Scouts rendered service to the Government and the people during the Sepoy Mutiny by taking over from the Army and Police Force duties of telephone operators, dispatch riders and clerks. Recognizing the extensive role of Scouting in the lives of young people by 1922, the schools in Singapore adopted the Scout Program as an extra-circular activity resulting in the formation of school-sponsored troops being registered.

The effects of World War 2 were being felt in Singapore and Scouts took up positions of responsibilities by qualifying as Air Raid Wardens, Fire Watchers, First Aid Men and Police Officers, serving bravely in their respective units until disbanded with the fall of Singapore to the occupational forces of the Japanese Army. Under fear of Japanese Military action, Scouts clandestinely met to keep the Scout Movement alive.

The President of the Republic of Singapore is the Chief Scout and the President's Scout Award is the highest rank in the Singapore Scout Association.

Today, it is possible to have a compass, map, GPS device, flashlight, radio, high definition camera plus camping recipes and reference books – all in your pocket! With this little wonder called “smartphone”, we can have almost everything we need for a camping or hiking trip. To equip Scouts with smart devices is parallel with the Scout motto – Be Prepared - getting ready for the future while acquiring Scouting best practices from the past and present. Some free apps worth downloading are: Scouting Radio, First Aid by the American Red Cross, AccuWeather, Project Noah (involves wildlife), Walk with Map My Walk, and of course SCOUTS App – the latest News, Publications, Pictures and Videos from World Scouting.