



New Association – Macaoimh Sections

How will the creation of a new Scout Association affect the Macaoimh Sections?

Concerns expressed at a discussion on the topic at the Regional Macaoimh Leaders Meeting – October 4th 2000

On a Regional Level

Assuming that the creation of a new association is sanctioned at both the national councils of CSI & SAI then it is likely that this year will be this regions last full year of activities as the new association is proposing to change the existing structure to a District & Country structure. It was previously mentioned that new districts would follow political boundaries, so the city is likely to be one district.

On a Programme Level

The macaoimh sections of our associations are by far the strongest in terms of numbers and to an extent we have been ignored. It is likely that the programme that we run will change very little, however a new badge scheme will be implemented. No details of this are available at present and no leaders from our region have been contacted regarding the new badge work system.

On a more serious note, no discussion has taken place in the steering committee or any of the sub-committees regarding the Fianníocht system that is currently used in a considerable number of macaoimh packs in the country. In particular our own region exclusively uses the Fianníocht system.

Troop Numbers

Included in the report of the steering committee was the proposal to eliminate unit numbers and rename them as follows: 38th/40th Cork to Ballinlough Unit 6th/47th Cork to Douglas Unit.

The macaoimh sections are in most cases the only section in a unit which carry on a units number and renaming a unit will to an extent eliminate the history, but also cause an identity crisis as units with more than one macaoimh section will have say two sections called Blackrock Macaoimh or Douglas Macaoimh for example.