

LDS Scouting Positions

Stake Young Men Counselor Varsity Unit Commissioner

Wherefore, now let every man learn his duty, and to act in the office in which he is appointed, in all diligence. D&C 107:99

The Purposes of Your Calling: Through your stake Scouting Program, assist through delegation of leaders and personal contact all the young men in your stake ages 14 and 15 as part of the Varsity program.

The purposes of LDS Scouting are twofold. Those of the Aaronic Priesthood are:

- (1) Become converted to the gospel of Jesus Christ and live by its teachings.
- (2) Magnify Priesthood callings and fulfill responsibilities of his priesthood office.
- (3) Give meaningful service.
- (4) Prepare to receive the Melchizedek Priesthood and temple ordinances.
- (5) Commit to, prepare for, and serve an honorable full-time mission.
- (6) Prepare to become a worthy husband and father.

Second, it is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people, and other ways to prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on the Scout Oath and Law. The aims of Scouting are to develop in youth (1) a strong ethical character, (2) an active, participating citizenship, including leadership ability, and (3) personal fitness: physical, mental, emotional and moral.

Guidelines of Your Stewardship:

- Register with the Boy Scouts of America.
- Become Fast Start and Basic Trained immediately, and Wood Badge trained as soon as possible.
- Wear a full Scout Leader's uniform.
- Get to know and become closely aware of all leaders and young men in the stake.
- Determine that all Scouting units are planning tentatively one year ahead in their programs and definitely programs three months in advance.
- Read manuals fully, review Scouting videos if available.
- Maintain the standards of a chartered organization and BSA.
- Be responsible that **leaders are trained and operate Quality Unit Awards programs.**
- Actively participate in stake's Scouting activities.
- Correlate and encourage parent involvement.
- See that plans are carried out with a priesthood purpose.
- Become proficient at being a good leader developer, through study, awareness and application.
- Through the adult committees, ensure that wards provide trip permits for all outside the ward activities involving travel.
- Maintain two, or three-deep advisor leadership in all ward activities
- Develop a relationship with District Council, understanding policies and procedures, reference materials, Church and BSA guidelines.
- You are a primary motivator in your unit and responsible for its success.
- Take charge of and report regularly to the Assistant District Commissioner, /High Council member regarding activities through regular Stake Young Men Presidency Meetings.
- Correlate spirituality and priesthood purposes into your program
- Rule One: **Make it fun!**

LDS Scouting Positions

Qualifications You Should Develop

- Ability to work closely with young men.
- Ability to organize time effectively.
- Ability to develop leadership and a team spirit.
- A testimony and good relationship with the Lord

Meetings/Activities to attend

- Young Men Presidency meetings.
- Visit ward meetings, to be aware of their activities and progress
- District Commissioner Meeting monthly.
- District and Council activities.
- General Church meetings.
- Appropriate stake YM and YM/YW activities, i.e., Standards Night, Sports, Stake Dances, etc.

Average amount of time spent in your calling per week: 6-8 hours

Handbooks or supplemental materials available to help you:

- Scouting Handbook (LDS)
- Aaronic Priesthood Leadership Handbook (LDS)
- Duty to God and On My Honor Awards
- For the Strength of Youth (LDS)
- Commissioner Fieldbook For Unit Service #3362 (BSA)
- Boy Scout Handbook #33105
- Varsity Scout Guidebook #34827A
- Varsity-Venturer Program Features, Volume 1, 2, and 3 #'s 34837, 34838, 34839
- Council Calendar and Stake Activity Calendar

LDS Scouting Positions

Responsibilities of the Unit Commissioners from the BSA Commissioners Fieldbook

1. Help each unit earn the Quality Unit Award.
2. Use the annual commissioner service plan, with its scheduled opportunities for commissioner contact with units.
3. Know each phase of the Scouting program and be able to describe what each is and how each works. Review Scouting program literature.
4. Visit unit meetings.
 - A. Observe the unit in action and determine the degree to which the descriptions in the literature are being followed.
 - B. Privately use the commissioners worksheet.
 - C. If called upon, participate or help in some of the regular activities of the unit.
5. Visit regularly with the unit leader.
 - A. Listen to what the unit leader has to say about being a unit leader.
 - B. Offer encouragement and support
 - C. Using literature and profile sheet, help the leader see new opportunities for improvement.
 - D. Maintain the best possible relationship with unit leadership.
 - E. Help the leader with forms and applications
 - F. Encourage unit participation in district and council program events.
6. Work to assure effective and active unit committees.
 - A. Visit with the unit committee periodically.
 - B. Observe the committee in action
 - C. Using the literature, offer suggestions for improvement.
 - D. Work with the committee to solve problems and improve unit operation.
7. Keep in touch with the chartered organizations of the units you serve
 - A. Meet and orient the chartered organization representative.
 - B. Meet the head of the organization and explain your role as helper of units
 - C. Help develop a good relationship between unit leaders and chartered organization leaders.
 - D. In close cooperation with the district executive, give the leaders of the organization a brief progress report and compliment them for using Scouting.
8. Know the neighborhood (ward) in which units are located.
 - A. Help graduating members of one program join the next level of Scouting.
 - B. Identify potential sources for new youth members.
 - C. Cultivate men and women of good moral character who might become Scouting leaders.
 - D. Know chartered organizations and prospective ones.
 - E. Learn about resources and characteristics of the neighborhood (ward) which may affect a unit.
9. Know the district and council.
 - A. Identify resources that can help the unit.
 - B. Know scheduled events that will help the unit.
 - C. Work closely with the professional staff.
 - D. Use members of district operating committees to help meet specialized needs of your units
10. Set the example,
 - A. Adopt an attitude of helpfulness

LDS Scouting Positions

- B. Keep promises.
 - C. Be concerned about proper uniforming.
 - D. Be diplomatic.
 - E. Be a model of Scouting ideals
11. Continue to grow as a commissioner through training experience and consultation with others in the district.
 12. Involve unit personnel in Cub Scout roundtables, Boy Scout roundtables, Varsity, Scout huddles, and Venturing Officers Association meetings.
 13. Make certain that proper techniques are used to select and recruit unit leaders.
 14. Facilitate the on-time annual charter renewal of all assigned units.
 - A. Help the unit conduct a membership inventory of youth and adults.
 - B. Help the unit committee chairman conduct the charter renewal meeting.
 - C. See that a completed charter renewal application is returned to the council service center.
 - D. Present the new charter at an appropriate meeting of the chartered organization
 15. See that unit leadership participates in adequate training.