

# Module 4: Council Board Roles in National and Regional Operations

## *Council Board Roles in National and Regional Operations*

**Video time allowed**

3:46 minutes

**Facilitator**

Council president or other key council officer with assistance from the Scout executive

**Learning objectives**

This module gives participants an understanding of how a council is supported by the regional and national organization.

- It discusses how the council's national representatives attend and represent the needs of their council at the National Annual Meeting by voting on key issues.
- It details the support the council receives from the area, the region, and the National Council.

### **After completing this module, board members should**

- Understand the purpose of—and their role in—the National Annual Meeting.
- Understand how the national BSA is funded and how these funds benefit the council through literature, program development, ScoutNET, national visits, etc.
- Have a basic knowledge and visual of the high-adventure bases and national and world jamborees.
- Have a basic knowledge of all BSA membership programs.
- Understand the various programs, resources, audiovisual support, interactive training, and magazines available through the National Council, and how these positively impact their local programs.
- Gain a working knowledge of areas and regions and how these entities work to support them at the council level.

### **Materials needed**

- Laptop, projector, and screen
- Council executive board handouts or binders—one for each participant—that can be printed in advance locally from the [online appendix](#)
- Whiteboard, flip chart, or overhead projector to facilitate discussion and presentation
- *The Council*, No. 33071

## ***Introduction of Module 4***

- Explain to participants that, in addition to understanding their individual board role and how that impacts the local programs, it's imperative that they understand how they fit into the regional and national organization.
  - Tell them that they'll take a look at a module that explains how they impact the National Council and details the type of support available from the area, region, and National Council.
  - Explain that the video module will provide a better understanding.
  - Continue the discussion.
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Show [Module 4](#).

### **Any questions?**

- Ask if there are any questions and address them.
- Reference *The Council* manual.

(Estimated discussion time will vary, based on the board level of experience and participation.)

### **Represent the Needs of Local Youth**

- Explain that the goal of Scouting is to serve **all** eligible youth in the local council territory areas.
- By participating at the National Annual Meeting, a council-approved representative can help guide national policies based on the needs of the local communities supported by the council.
- Much like state officials represent the interests of their constituents, they represent the interests of their local community. Give some examples of the type of things voted on at the National Annual Meeting.

### **Support From the National Council**

- Ask how many in the room were surprised to learn the different ways national supports the local councils.
- Re-emphasize some of these areas of support.
- Point out examples.
- Discuss your region and area, and name your regional director and area director.
- Feel free to give a little background on these individuals or relay a story where they helped the council achieve something in the past.
- End by reiterating that there are multiple levels of support designed to ensure the council succeeds.