

Spring 2016

THE COMMISSIONER

A PUBLICATION FOR COMMISSIONERS AND PROFESSIONALS



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Commissioner Training Update

Commissioner Tools and LDS Training Videos Now Available



Commissioners can now access content for learning in the BSA Learn Center. The first content available for commissioners will be Commissioner Tools and LDS unit commissioner orientation training videos.

If you are a unit commissioner in the LDS Church, please make sure that your registration is updated with position code 86 and that you watch the 10-minute video titled **LDS Commissioner Orientation**. While the video will be in the course catalog and may be viewed by anyone, it will have special significance to LDS unit commissioners who are called to service.

The Commissioner Tools videos are the same ones available on YouTube. As we move forward, those on YouTube will be decommissioned and all training will be available through the BSA Learn Center.

Basic Training

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the Commissioner Training team and Scouting U are also working together to create an entirely new model for Basic Training focused on onboarding. This project will make commissioner training available in both formats— instructor-led training and online training. The online training will utilize best practices of the BSA Learn Center and will employ a mentoring/activities progress sheet containing activities that must be completed before a commissioner is considered basic trained.

Phase 1 of this project is to migrate the Commissioner Tools and Unit Service Plan videos to the BSA Learn



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Center. The Commissioner Tools are now available. The Unit Service Plan will be available as soon as the updates are complete.

Phase 2 will be to make some of the content of the current District Operations Basic professional training course available to commissioners in the BSA Learn Center. This means that the professional staff and commissioners will now be taking the same training for certain subjects. The effect should be an increased alignment between the professional and the volunteer.

Phase 3 will be the creation of courses that are not addressed in Phase 1 and Phase 2 but are aligned with the remaining content from the instructor-led Basic Training courses.

A kickoff meeting was held April 3 for those involved in the development of the new Basic Training modules. Thirteen commissioners are part of the process and will be content authors, content reviewers, or content developers. Those participating in the development are:



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Rick TerBorch

Chuck Weber

Dean's Retreat

The 2016 Dean's Retreat will be September 23–25 at the Scouting University Westlake Campus. Click [here](#) for more information. This retreat is for those who assist with commissioner colleges in their council.

If you have any questions about commissioner training, please contact Tim Acree, national commissioner support staff chair for training, at tim.acree@comcast.net.

The goal is to create state-of-the-art learning modules and have all Basic Training available by the 2017 National Annual Meeting.

College Courses

After much discussion, the development team for the master-level roundtable courses has decided to put development on hold until more research can be done. As the team worked on the master-level courses, it became obvious that what was being developed should be part of the bachelor curriculum, and we don't need more bachelor-level courses. So it was decided to update some of the current bachelor roundtable courses and do more work in defining master-level courses. We will reinstate work on this development in the summer.

The Summit Bechtel Reserve

Two commissioner courses are being held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve this summer. Both are the weekend of July 8–10. The cost is \$175.

- Commissioners – Giving the BEST Unit Service! (Rick Hillenbrand, course director)
- Commissioners – Developing Exciting Roundtables (George Costigan, course director)

Randy Corgan is the course coordinator for both courses.

Commissioners Week at Philmont

Commissioners Week will be Week 2: June 12–18, 2016. Please see the [Philmont Training Center brochure](#) and the "Commissioners Week at Philmont" article in this newsletter for more information.



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