

MCS 314 – The Commissioner and the Professional Class Exercise

“Fill in the Blanks” Answer Sheet for Instructor - Discuss answers as time allows.

1. Intentionally begin to build your relationship with each commissioner/professional from your very **first visit**.
2. Set up regularly **scheduled visits** and/or phone dates with your commissioner/professional.
3. Create a welcome environment for **new** commissioners/professionals and plan ways to incorporate them into the team.
4. Make efficient use of commissioner's/professional's **time**. Don't waste it.
5. Your district and council commissioners/professionals should know that they can turn to you for **trouble shooting advice**. All must create the kind of non-judgmental relationship in which they are comfortable to **ask for help**.
6. The more commissioner/professional management layers that are superimposed on top of each other, the more the commissioner/professional needs to help facilitate good **communication** and **working relationships** between people in the different layers.
7. There will inevitably be some people who you don't **like** as much as others. That's human nature. However, part of being a commissioner or professional is being objective and impartial.
8. Most commissioners will feel more comfortable working with a professional who is interested in **the rest of their lives** as well as their Scouting responsibilities.
9. Professionals/commissioners should convey a cordial and positive attitude to each other's **family members** and associates.
10. Be sensitive to the individual **differences** of each other. The ability to adapt Scouting methods and your own commissioner/professional style to the uniqueness of each other and situation is what often distinguishes a **great** commissioner/professional from a **mediocre** one.
11. The commissioner role, while filled by a volunteer, is in many ways the point of contact between these two groups. It is the commissioner who acts as a **liaison** between professional staff and volunteers at the unit, district, and council levels. It is necessary for the council commissioner to work on promoting positive working relationships between the multitude of volunteers in each council and the staff of Scouting professionals. In this way, the council commissioner helps everyone accomplish their specific tasks for the betterment of Scouting.”

<https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/manuals/>