MyScouting Tools

This summer some new tools were added to MyScouting Tools. One of the tools is very special for trainers - Training Manager!

The Training Manager Tool gives administrators the ability to view training status, print training reports and certificates, and update training records of Scouters in their unit or service area. Individuals can check their training status, including if their Youth Protection Training is up to date.

Two features were added after the initial release that will help you know who is trained and who needs training. The first is a “trained” icon that shows up in the “Search Training” roster so you can quickly see who is, and who is not, considered “trained” in the system. The second is the “Trained Leaders Report” that shows who is “trained” and specifically which courses are missing that would make a leader “trained.” The “Trained Leaders Report” can be printed so that those missing training can be targeted for training or so that their record can be updated with missing courses.

This is a “work in progress” and more features to the Tools are in development:

- As we write this Times only unit, district, and council Key-3s have access to most of the tools. Soon, they will be able to grant administrator rights to others in their unit or service areas.

- Administrators will be able to assign functional positions to members that will give them access to related Tools. For example, the Key-3 can designate a training chair, and that will give the training chair access to the Training Manager.

- The list of “legacy” courses - old BSA training courses that still make a leader “trained” - is often confusing since the names are similar. New codes are being developed that we hope will help. For example, we might create “C101 - Cub Scout Leader Basic Training” that would cover all of the Cub Scout leader basic training courses prior to the introduction of Specifics in 2001. The entry of the new code/course and the date the Scouter completed the course will mark the leader as “trained.” We will know which version of the course the Scouter took by the date entered.

A tutorial of the features in Training Manager and the other new Tools can be found on www.myscouting.org, and you can watch here for updates.
Cub Scout Leader Specifics Training

Earlier this year a new Den Leader Position-Specific Training course syllabus for Tiger Cub, Wolf, and Bear den leaders was released. The content of the course was developed based on the results of extensive surveys of den leaders in 2006 and 2011, Voice of the Scout feedback, and a den leader "competency" study in 2012.

A new specifics course for Webelos den leaders, built on the same research, is in final editing and will be released this fall.

These new courses are intended to provide den leaders with the experience, basic information, and resources they need to conduct successful den meetings. They are also designed to address some of the primary skills that den leaders need.

Both syllabi will be available for download on the "adult" page of www.Scouting.org/training.

The existing Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training course, which includes sections for Cubmasters, Webelos den leaders, committee members, pack trainers, and den leaders, is still a valid course and should continue to be used to train all of the other pack positions. The existing E-learning courses are also still valid.

The training team has new courses for other pack leadership roles under development. We are also currently working on mentored self-study manuals for den leaders in remote locations or for those leaders who have difficulty hearing.

Changes to Advanced Leadership Training

In the last issue we mentioned that there were some changes in the 2013 versions of the Wood Badge and NYLT syllabi.

Here is more detail:

NYLT

• NYLT has returned to the nomenclature of a Boy Scout troop. We found that Venturers had no trouble “translating” terminology back to their crew situation, but many Boy Scouts could not as easily relate what they were learning to their troop.

• References to a “truddy system” have been removed. The buddy system addresses situations involving mixed groups with an odd number of male or female staff or participants.

• A Servant Leadership presentation has been added to Day 3.

• The BSA’s Outdoor Ethics Program has been incorporated into the syllabus as part of Leave No Trace discussions.

• In presentations where Lance Armstrong is mentioned, information is provided on how to handle discussions involving his use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Wood Badge

• The title of the course is now Wood Badge. The “for the 21st Century” portion of the title has been eliminated.

• The description of the role of the Assistant Scoutmaster for Programs in regard to serving as the backup course director has been expanded.

• The title of the Assistant Scoutmaster for Support/Physical Arrangements has been changed to Assistant Scoutmaster for Logistics.

• A Servant Leadership troop presentation has been added to Day 6. It occurs immediately after the Gilwell Field Assembly.

• The Leaving a Legacy troop presentation has been revised to include a description of the big rocks portion of the presentation.

• A sample Troop Guide letter to his/her patrol members was added.

This information is also being shared at each of the Course Director Conferences this fall.

Course Director Conferences

Course director conferences for the course directors of Wood Badge and NYLT courses have been scheduled this fall in each region. Registration links for approved course directors can be found on www.scouting.org/training/Adult under Application for a Council to Conduct Wood Badge, Powder Horn, and NYLT.

In some areas the conferences have been expanded to include other trainers. Take a look at the information on the training page for these area training conferences.

Training Times Archives

You can take a look at older versions of the Training Times by clicking on the word “Archives” on the Training Updates page or on the link on the main training page: www.scouting.org/training
NAYLE is Growing

Built upon the skills learned in NYLT, National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) is the ultimate in hands-on experiential leadership training for our older Scouting youth.

With the exception of a handful of regional pilot courses, you had to go to Philmont to participate in this unique training opportunity until now. That's right. We've taken those same leadership tools that are taught so well in the Old West environment of the Rocky Mountains and transferred them to the swashbuckling seas in the heart of the Florida Keys AND the trapping and trading exploits of the Voyageurs in the Great Lakes region.

Our first NAYLE courses offered at the Florida Sea Base will take place in spring 2014 during the time of spring break for many of our youth. Dates are set for Saturday, March 15, to noon on Friday, March 21, 2014, and Saturday, April 12, until noon on Friday, April 18, 2014.

Our first NAYLE courses offered at the Charles L. Sommers Canoe Base at Northern Tier will be during the heart of summer of 2014. Dates are set for Sunday, July 6, to Friday, July 11, 2014, and Sunday, July 13, until Friday, July 18, 2014.

Be looking for links to the registration sites at www.scouting.org/training/youth.

NYLT - Leadership Academy

Looking for a way to make your NYLT staff members even better? NYLT-Leadership Academy can do just that. Having its genesis in the former National Junior Leader Instructor Course (NJLIC), Leadership Academy is the premier train-the-trainer for youth staff for your local NYLT. This course prepares youth to be world-class presenters and instructors in a way that no other course does.

Our goal is to make this course available to more people in more locations, but for now, you’ll need to join us in the Washington, D.C. area to enjoy the benefits of this one-of-a-kind training. Courses are scheduled for July 6-12, 2014 and July 13-19, 2014.

For more details go to www.NYLT-LeadershipAcademy.org

Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC)

If you or an adult leader you know are looking for the ultimate in hands-on training; maybe the Philmont Leadership Challenge is for you. For one week you’ll live with other adults at the NEW Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp at the Philmont Scout Ranch near Cimarron, New Mexico. You’ll spend time in leadership development as well as two days in the Philmont backcountry learning how to better apply those principles you learned in Wood Badge.

We’ve got two sessions scheduled for 2014. The first session runs from July 20-26, while the second session goes from September 14-20. Both sessions are staffed with some of the best trainers and staff members you’ll ever have the opportunity to meet.

Don’t wait. To find out more or to register at the PTC page: www.philmonttrainingcenter.org

CubCast and ScoutCast

Have you listened to the award-winning CubCast lately? How about the new (this year) ScoutCast? These are monthly audio podcasts featuring a variety of how-to and information topics for leaders and parents. They are designed to supplement your training and roundtable programs. You can listen to them online, download it to share, and/or subscribe to it via RSS feed. Archives of past editions are available too!

ScoutCast editions so far this year have included How to Handle Bullying in the Troop, How to Handle Boys in the Troop With ADD, ADD/ADHD, and Special Needs, Economic Diversity in Your Troop, and more!

Check out www.scouting.org/Scoutcast, choose CubCast or ScoutCast, and give them a listen!

Are you on Facebook? If so, have you found the BSA training page? We already have nearly 5,300 “likes,” and it is growing every day. Encourage your Facebook friends to join us. You can find the page at: www.facebook.com/BSAtrainingteam.
Sea Base Training Conferences

The January 2014 Winter Conferences at the Florida Sea Base are now accepting participant registrations! This winter there will be a two-week array of conferences for Scouters seeking to learn from premier subject-matter experts and national committee members from throughout the nation. It is the perfect time to get away from the snow and head to the Keys while learning more about subjects that will help you, your unit, your district, and your council. It is also a perfect way to network with Scouters from all over the nation.

January 12th-17th
- Venturing, The NEW Vision
- BSA’s Formula for Growth
- Overview of Commissioner Service
- Advancement Conference (CEAA)

January 20th-25th
- Bringing Youth to Christ Through a Baptist Scouting Ministry
- Conducting Advanced Leadership Training
- STEM Conference
- Delivering Training to Unit Leaders

To register, go to http://2014fsbconf.kintera.org/ or www.scouting.org/training, and click on the registration link found under the box titled 2014 Florida Sea Base Volunteer Training Conferences. Registration fees are $425 per conference participant and $325 per non-conference attending spouse. Conference fees include dorm housing, meals, bedding & towels, and course materials.

Membership Standards Resources

In May the BSA formed a task force to prepare information to help members, families, supporters, and interested organizations better understand the recent Membership Standards Resolution. Information, FAQs, and resources can be found on the “Membership Standards” page of Scouting.org.

Of course, there is no way the BSA can answer every possible question or provide training for every situation that may arise. Ultimately, people in leadership positions must exercise good judgment and use the Scouting and community resources available, all the time asking the key question they have always asked: “What is in the best interest of the youth we serve?”

Scouting’s greatest strength is its volunteers. Their strong, committed leadership and good judgment in working with youth is the key to our current and future success, as it has been for more than 100 years. With their experience and wisdom, Scouting will continue to be the iconic symbol of strength, character, leadership, and faith.

TRAIN THE TRAINER SERIES

This year the BSA’s training committee has completed work on an updated “Train the Trainer” series to help provide for even more quality training experiences for our leaders; as well as to greatly increase the “pool” of trainers in units, districts, and councils. We call the series T3 or T-cubed.

Most of the BSA’s instructor-led training is designed around a variation of what educators are calling the “team-based learning model.” Using small groups, team-based learning promotes learning and team development through frequent and immediate feedback by a facilitator/instructor. It helps members learn from each other during and after the course. The team-based learning approach is similar to the patrol method Scouting has used for more than a century all over the world. The patrol method has proven effective in operating a den, patrol, squad, and crew, as well as in learning in Scouting and education circles. At Harvard they call them “cohort groups.”

The first part of the T3 continuum, The Fundamentals of Training, is designed to help Scouters, regardless of their experience, present effective training. The course will help those who might have trained for other organizations learn the BSA’s training techniques, and it will help freshen up the skills of current BSA trainers.

Trainer’s EDGE is the second part of the continuum. As trainers develop their training skills, Trainer’s EDGE provides an additional opportunity for trainers to enhance their abilities. Trainer’s EDGE also supplements the training development sessions offered during faculty development for advanced leadership training courses and increased familiarity with the EDGE model that is used throughout the training.

The third part of the continuum is the Master Trainer course. After two years of testing at PTC, the syllabus has been completed and approved for use. The course will be taught on a regional “cluster council” course or at one of the BSA’s national training centers. The Master Trainer course does not create a designation for the participants; it teaches the skills and techniques used to address council and district training objectives. Using the analyze-plan-manage-evaluate process, participants are ideally suited to create and implement training improvement plans that achieve Journey to Excellence goals.

The syllabi for Fundamentals and EDGE can be found on the “adult” tab of the training page.

The training committee is working with selected local councils whose Scouters who were part of the course development process to offer courses in 2014. Watch the training page for updates and course announcements.
Philmont Training Center

We want to invite you to participate in one of the conferences conducted by the committee for trainers that we will be offering at the Philmont Training Center in Cimarron, New Mexico in the summer and fall of 2014!

We also hope you will encourage other trainers in your area to attend and hope you will share this information with them. Your trainers play a very important role in the success of Scouting in the lives of youth, and we want them to be a part of the discussion.

At these conferences you will have the opportunity to meet and share ideas with Scouters and trainers from across America. The conference faculty, selected by our regions and national committees, consists of some of the most talented and skilled men and women in Scouting.

While trainers are involved in a conference, their spouse and their family members will be able to enjoy a range of activities led by the PTC staff. There will also be plenty of time and activities for you to enjoy with them.

Philmont's unique blend of Scouting, history, family activities, and the magic of the northern New Mexico Mountains will make the conferences a memorable family experience.

2014 Training Committee Conferences at PTC:

June 8-14
Delivering Training to Unit Leaders
T-Cubed (T3) - Train The Trainer

July 20-26
Building Youth-Led Units-Training Youth and Adult Leaders
Philmont Leadership Challenge

July 27-August 2
Delivering Training to Unit Leaders

August 3-9
Training Your Troop Leaders
Training Your Venturing Crew Leaders

September 14-20
Philmont Leadership Challenge

You can find more information about these and all PTC conferences at www.philmonttrainingcenter.org. You can register for a PTC conference at www.myscouting.org on the "Event Registration" page.

We hope that you will promote these conferences and that you will accept our invitation to join us at Philmont in 2014! We urge trainers to register soon as the conferences have limited attendance.

“Fully Trained”

We often fall into the trap of calling a Scouter “fully trained” when they complete “basic” training. It leads some to think that they have done all of the training they can.

Of course, no person is ever "fully trained." Even the most tenured Scouter can learn something by attending, or instructing, a course.

The Five Levels of the BSA Training Continuum discussed in the Guide to Leader Training provide a wealth of opportunities for a progression of learning for all of us to learn more about program, leadership, and other important skills. Don’t fall into the trap of using the term “fully trained!”

Vision and Mission Statements

Volunteer Training

Vision

We enable a learning culture that supports regions, areas, and councils to deliver effective, fun, and accessible training to all adult and youth leaders.

Mission

It is the mission of the Volunteer Training Team to support the mission of the Boy Scouts of America by:

Working cross-functionally with stakeholders, producing training resources, products, and strategies which enable councils to deliver effective, fun, and accessible training to all adult and youth leaders.

Creating opportunities to enhance leadership skills in youth and adults through advanced training.

Continually assessing our training and delivery model to ensure relevant and effective training for both the current and future states of an evolving Boy Scouts of America.