

Connecticut Yankee Council Adopts Program of Required Training

Training of our Adult Leaders gives us the ability to effectively "Deliver the Promise" of providing the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training. We are also proud of our commitment that: "...every youth deserves a trained leader..."

After considerable discussion, over a period of nearly two years, the Executive Board of the Connecticut Yankee Council adopted a resolution at its September 28, 2006 meeting requiring that **all Registered Leaders be trained in order to remain registered with their respective Units. Leaders who do not meet the training requirements will not be permitted re-register nor remain on their Unit's charter.**

Experience has shown that participation in training programs permits Adult Leaders to be better at what they do, in forming and managing our Scout Units, recruiting new Youth and Adult members, leading Scouts, and running effective Advancement and Outdoor Programs. Training also helps ensure the health and safety of the Youth and Adults in the Scouting program. Parents expect that their children will be safe when participating in a Boy Scout program. Adult Leaders expect the same thing as it applies to their participation.

We've established a series of milestones towards the Council goal of having 100% of Adult Leaders Trained:

Phase I

a. Youth Protection Training (YPT) must be completed by Registered Leaders at least once every two years. In this regard, every Registered Leader in Connecticut Yankee Council must complete YPT between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2007. New Leaders who join Scouting after November 15, 2007 must complete YPT within 45 days of their initial registration. YPT must then be completed at least once every two years thereafter.

b. Every Registered Leader must complete Fast Start Training (program specific) by December 31, 2007. This is a one-time requirement for all Leaders. New Leaders who join Scouting after November 15, 2007 must complete Fast Start Training within 45 days of their initial registration.

c. Merit Badge Counselors (who serve in no other position) must meet the YPT requirement, but are exempt from meeting the Fast Start Training requirement.

Registered Leaders who fail to complete both Fast Start Training and YPT by December 31, 2007 will not be permitted to reregister for 2008.

Phase II

"Direct Contact" Leaders must also complete Phase II Training Requirements, listed below, in addition to Phase I

Training Requirements. "Direct Contact" Leaders are Leaders directly involved with Youth, and include Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Assistant Den Leaders, Venture Crew Advisors and Venture Crew Assistant Advisors. For purposes of this program, Merit Badge Counselors are not considered "Direct Contact" leaders

a. Basic Leader Training must be completed by December 31, 2008. This is a one-time requirement. New Leaders who join Scouting after June 30, 2008 must complete Basic Leader Training within 180 days of their initial registration.

b. Basic Leader Training consists of New Leader Essential Training plus Leader Specific Training. For Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters, Basic Leader Training also includes Introduction to Outdoor Skills Training.

c. Commissioners must complete Commissioner Basic Training by December 31, 2008.

"Direct Contact" Leaders who fail to complete Basic Leader Training by December 31, 2008 will not be permitted to reregister for 2009.

General:

a. Completion of either Wood Badge or Sea Badge (or having served as a full-time staff member of either Course) will deem a Registered Leader as having met the requirements of both Phase I and Phase II.

b. Serving as a full-time staff member of a Basic Leader Training Course will deem a Registered Leader as having met the requirements of both Phase I and Phase II.

c. Both Youth Protection Training and Fast Start Training are available on-line via the BSA On-Line E-Learning Center.

d. Each Leader's official Training Record, maintained by the Council, will document all Training completed by the Leader. Leaders should contact the Council Registrar for any questions regarding Training Records.

Questions on this Program should be directed to District Training Chairs.

A list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) is available on the Council Training Web Site, that describes this program more completely.

For the past 96 years, Scouting has been an integral part of our communities, making a positive impact on countless young lives. This innovative program of Required Training will help the Adult Leaders of Connecticut Yankee Council continue to offer high quality programs to our Youth members and "Deliver the Promise".

Remember: "...every youth deserves a Trained Leader..."