

Training Times

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2023 SCOUTING U VOLUNTEER TRAINING CONFERENCE SAVE THE DATE

The upcoming Scouting U Volunteer Training Conference will be held once again in Las Vegas in April of 2023. Date will be April 13,14, and 15th.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us. More details in the next edition of the Training Times.

SUPERNOVA UPDATE

Regarding the Supernova and Nova Training – please refer to <https://www.scouting.org/stem-nova-awards/volunteer-support/> as Programs decided to remove the online training and has made changes to the awards. The training course codes are still valid after completing the training located on the linked page.

WHAT'S NEW?

SCOUTING U RELEASES UPDATED SAFETY AFLOAT TRAINING

In collaboration with the BSA National Aquatics Subcommittee, Scouting U has released an updated version of “Safety Afloat” online training that is also mobile compatible. Since the inception of Scouting, learning to swim and engaging in aquatics activities such as boating and paddle sports have been core to the program. Safe Afloat training is required for any BSA unit who will participate in boating activities. This online training ensures that adult leaders are prepared to facilitate safe use of canoes, kayaks, rowboats, rafts, floating tubes, sailboats, motorboats (including waterskiing), and other small craft. To access the updated training, log onto my.Scouting.org and search the catalog in the BSA Learn Center for “Safety Afloat”. For additional information regarding BSA aquatics programs, please refer to the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) and the BSA’s [Aquatics Supervision Guide](#).

FAQs

Does Safety Afloat training have to be renewed?

Yes, adults supervising boating activities must have completed Safety Afloat training within the previous two years.

Do I need to take the new version of Safety Afloat training if my current training is not expired?

No, you can complete the updated version of Safety Afloat when your current certification expires.

Is Safety Afloat training available to take in person?

No, Safety Afloat is only available online. It is also mobile compatible.

YPT RENEWAL REMINDER

YPT renewal **requires completion of all 4 modules** in the YPT Mandatory Learning Plan in the BSA Learn Center.

The Understand Youth Protection Video at <https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/learning-library/> explains this.

Note - The initial completion requires that you go in order but once that is done the LMS does allow you to re-take any courses individually. This can give the impression that retaking the test only is sufficient, however it is not.

WHAT'S NEW IN WOOD BADGE

This page details changes that have been made to the Wood Badge curriculum in the prior year.

1. Additional Resources

- National Wood Badge Recruitment video - You may find this in the Google Drive.
- Facilitators Development Series videos - [Facilitators Development Series Videos | Boy Scouts of America \(scouting.org\)](#)
- Recruiting Quality Training Staff - [Recruiting Quality Training Staff | Boy Scouts of America \(scouting.org\)](#)
- Fundamentals of Training - [Fundamentals of Training \(scouting.org\)](#)

2. General Edits

The Wood Badge team continues to correct minor spelling and grammar errors and make other necessary edits to the Wood Badge administration manual, curriculum, and appendices. Scouting U is always open to suggestions to improve Wood Badge. These suggestions may be shared via email at NationalWoodBadgeCoordinator@gmail.com and nationaltraining.course@scouting.org.

3. Wood Badge Administration Manual Overview:

Overview: The major updates to the Wood Badge Administration Manual included the replacement of Area/Region Training Chair titles with Territory Training Coordinator title and updates to the job descriptions. Condensed responsibilities of Area/Regional Training Chairs into those of Territory Training Coordinator. Other revisions.

Adult Leadership Growth Opportunities: Added graphic

for adult leadership growth opportunities, updates regarding how local councils request authorization to conduct a course, and a statement that all courses will use the current curriculum.

Course Culture: Servant Leadership: Strengthened the concept that all staff are committed to embrace inclusion and service leadership.

Scouter Accessibility of Wood Badge: Included the term “team-based learning”, one of the central cores of the experience-based learning.

National and Territory Support: Deleted regional and area job descriptions. Added a job description for the National Wood Badge Coordinator and Territory Training Coordinator (TTC).

“The national Wood Badge coordinator collaborates with the territory training coordinator (TTC) on requests for exceptions to the Wood Badge course requirements and/or standards. The TTC does not have any authority to approve any exceptions to the Wood Badge administration policies and procedures, curriculum requirements, and/or standards, except as for course size. The national Wood Badge coordinator is the only position to authorized requests to for exceptions for the Wood Badge course requirements and or standards. The national Wood Badge coordinator collaborates with the TTC concerning course size waivers. Any request for a waiver of course size must be approved in writing by the TTC and submitted to the national Wood Badge coordinator” (p. 7).

Corrected titles of the National Leadership Development chair and volunteer development specialist at Scouting U. Throughout, corrected or added as necessary both the council training chair and council Wood Badge coordinator.

Multi-council Courses: Changed text to replace “For councils that cannot alone field a course...” with “For councils that cannot recruit the minimum number of participants for a course...”.

BSA High Adventure Base Courses: Stated that these courses may add a day to the schedule to allow participants to experience the high adventure base. These courses may not alter the curriculum schedule. For a 5 x 1 format, the additional day can be scheduled the day before a course begins, the day after a course concludes, or between Day Three and Day Four of the schedule.

Youth Protection and Required Adult Supervision: Updated to match the language of National Youth Protection Guidelines and NCAP Standard AO-808.

Course Size and Patrol Names: Noted that four-member patrols shall never be used and that any request for a waiver of course size must be approved in writing by the TTC and submitted to the national Wood Badge coordinator.

Course Approval Process: Clarified that a course director must be approved by the local council Scout executive and the council training chair for a specific Wood Badge course. However, before approval, any exceptions from the requirements stated in the Administration section must be granted by both the territory training coordinator (TTC) and the national Wood Badge coordinator.

Updated the requirement that the course director must attend a course directors conference within **18 months** of the beginning of the course (instead of 24 months) to ensure they are familiar with the updated content.

Course Location: Included verbiage that if your members will be camping, verify that the most current BSA policies are being adhered to.

Staff Qualifications: Clarified requirement that a Scouter “shall have not served on staff for more than five Wood Badge courses.”

Course Director: Clarified that on questions of course policy or curriculum, the course director consults with the national Wood Badge coordinator and TTC. The national Wood Badge coordinator is the only position to authorize requests for exceptions for the Wood Badge course requirements and or standards.

For course size waivers, the course director consults with the council Scout executive and council training chair and or council Wood Badge coordinator, and obtains approval, in writing, from the TTC.

Noted that the course director may grant time extensions to ticket completions for valid reasons. Extensions shall be given in two-month increments and may not exceed a total of six months of extensions.

Troop Guide (den chief): Clarified that if assigned as a ticket counselor, a troop guide updates the course director monthly on participants’ progress.

Optional Positions: Clarified that Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Instructor are optional positions.

Involvement of Youth Staff in Wood Badge: Added a note to ensure safety of youth staff as a top priority during the course and staff development.

Course Directors Conference: Updated the requirement that the course director must attend a course directors conference within 18 months of the beginning of the course (instead of 24 months) to ensure they are familiar with the updated content.

Amendments to the Tickets: Clarified that the ticket counselor approves any changes to the ticket and must notify the course director of the changes.

4. Curriculum

Day Two Troop Meeting, (2_03_01_LP_Troop Meeting_02112022), page 11: Slight revision to language introducing the Interpatrol Activity to give ASPL a line consistent with other parts of the meeting. Minor typo corrections throughout.

Staff Development Schedule (A17_Admin_Staff Development Schedule), page 5: Corrected session name to Apply Interpersonal Savvy.

5. Appendices

Appendix A-4 Schedule of Course Reports and Transmittals: Replaced Area/Region Training Chair titles with Territory Training Coordinator title; added a –60-day report (PDF and Excel files)

Appendix A-13 Staff Roster: Made reporting gender not optional. Changed First Time on Staff (Y/N) to Prior Staff Experiences (#).

A1-Admin 1—3 © Boy Scouts of America. For use in approved BSA Wood Badge courses only. 2020 Edition

WHAT’S NEW IN NYLT FOR 2023 COURSES? (August 19, 2022)

1. The “NYLT 2021 Edition (with 2022 updates) 7-2022” PDF is now available in the National NYLT Google Drive. Updated fillable PDFs of the “NYLT Course Closeout Report,” “NYLT Recognition Request” and “Course Director’s Pledge” have also been posted. Here is specific

information for each section of the course guide:

Administration of the NYLT Course Section

All of the information that was shared through the administrative updates since September 2021 was added. This includes items related to the linked troop model, staff organizational structure, patrol makeup, the buddy system, camping requirements for youth and adults, and adult supervision. All staff roles and responsibilities for both youth and adults have been updated to align with the new staff organizational structure.

The 8-hour Trainer's EDGE course is no longer required for NYLT staff, however, the 4-hour Fundamentals of Training course continues to be required and should be part of your staff development program.

The optional Wood Badge training recognition for adults has been updated to align with the new staff organizational structure. The 4th bead recognition is only available to NYLT course directors and the 3rd bead recognition is available to those serving as NYLT Scoutmaster or assistant Scoutmaster. The Trainer's EDGE requirement has been removed from both. Updated information can be found in this section as well as on the "NYLT Recognition Request" form.

NYLT courses **must** have a minimum of 30 and no more than 48 paid participants as of 30 days before the course start date. Courses with larger or smaller participant populations must discuss the situation with their territory training coordinator. A council training chair **must** contact the territory training coordinator to seek permission to hold a course with more than 48 or fewer than 30 participants. A territory training coordinator may approve an NYLT course with as many as 56 or as few as 24 participants upon the receipt of the "Request for Waiver to Conduct a National Training Course" form. A course will not be allowed to run with fewer than 24 participants and four patrols; the syllabus is not effective in smaller groups.

Syllabus Section

There were no major updates to this section. We appreciate the feedback received from courses about the syllabus that led to numerous inconsistencies, grammatical, or inaccurate items being corrected.

The only change to the course outline (schedule) was a name change. The word "model" was added before

Scouts Own Worship Service.

Participant Notebook Section

There were no major updates to this section. Several inconsistencies, grammatical, or inaccurate items were corrected.

2. NYLT course directors **shall** attend an NYLT course directors conference within 24 months prior to the start of their course. The individual who is listed as NYLT backup course director on the "Request for Authorization to Conduct a National Training Course" form **shall** also attend an NYLT course directors conference within 24 months prior to the start of the approved course for which they are the backup course director.

3. A team of volunteers recently completed a major overhaul of the "NYLT Course Directors Conference Facilitation Guide." Thanks to Floyd Self for serving as leader for this project as well as team members Michael Allen, Rebecca Lester, and Cheri McCurdy. The updated facilitation guide has been provided to all territory training coordinators for distribution to those leading a course director conference. In-person courses will be held each fall and spring. Scouting U will also offer a virtual course twice per year. The agenda will be the same regardless of delivery format. The NYLT CDC Learning Plan (Phase 1) online modules are no longer required and have been removed from the BSA Learn Center. Find a list of course offerings here: <https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/>

4. The "NYLT Course Closeout Report" **must** be filed with the territory training coordinator within 30 days from the end of the course. A copy should be sent to the council training chair, Scout executive, and Scouting U at nationaltraining.course@scouting.org

5. As of February 7, 2022, the "Understanding and Preventing Youth on Youth Abuse for Camp Staff and NYLT Staff" course has been updated. The facilitator's guide and slideshow have been posted in the "Other - Staff Development Training Syllabi" folder in the National NYLT Google Drive. This training is a required part of staff development and is critical as we continue to deliver a safe program through NYLT. All NYLT course directors must download the updated files and ensure that it is delivered during staff development.

6. All youth and adult staff members **must** have a valid registration with the Boy Scouts of America at the time

of the course. Individuals without a valid Boy Scouts of America registration may not serve on staff. If a staff member is from another council than your own, their home council must be contacted to validate their membership.

7. A “Quartermaster List for NYLT Courses” has been created and posted in the National NYLT Google Drive. It is available in MS Word and PDF format. This document will be embedded into the syllabus section in a future update.

8. Several other improvement initiatives are in the works. There is a team of volunteers who are working to update the course planning calendar and staff development portion of the administration section. The plan is to share this information in the National NYLT Google Drive by early November. We are working on developing a Facebook group for those who have attended an NYLT course directors conference that will serve as a place to collaborate, share best practices, and ask questions. The plan is to launch this resource in September.

9. Scouting U is always open to suggestions to approve NYLT. These may be shared using the electronic form in the National NYLT Google Drive or via email at national-training.course@scouting.org.



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