

# **BSA Systems Maintenance Update**

**System Maintenance – Saturday, November 5, 2022 – from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM**

The My.Scouting and Scoutbook systems will be down this Saturday beginning at 9:00 AM for a system upgrade. All features will be offline during this time. This includes all My.Scouting tools, the training site, Online Registration, Internet Rechartering and Advancement along with Scoutbook.

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## **Updated Safe Swim Defense Training**

In collaboration with the BSA National Aquatics Subcommittee, ScoutingU has released an updated version of “Safe Swim Defense” online training that is also mobile compatible. Since the inception of Scouting, learning to swim and engaging in aquatics activities have been core to the program. Safe Swim Defense training is required for any BSA unit who will participate in swimming activities. This online training ensures that adult leaders are prepared to facilitate safe swimming programs by reviewing the eight points of Safe Swim Defense. To access the updated training, log onto my.Scouting.org and search the catalog in the BSA Learn Center for “Safe Swim Defense.” For additional information regarding BSA aquatics programs, please refer to the Guide to Safe Scouting and the BSA’s Aquatics Supervision Guide.

## FAQs

Q. Does Safe Swim Defense training have to be renewed?

A. Yes, adults supervising a swimming activity must have completed Safe Swim Defense training within the previous two years.

Q. Do I need to take the new version of Safe Swim Defense training if my current training is not expired?

A. No, you can complete the updated version of Safe Swim Defense when your current certification expires.

Q. Is Safe Swim Defense training available to take in person?

A. No, Safe Swim Defense is only available online. It is also mobile compatible.

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# Changes to Den Leader Training Award Devices

As part of the National Council's ongoing mission to streamline and simplify the Scouting program, Scouting U, in collaboration with National Supply Group, has identified three Cub Scout device pins that will be discontinued from the program effective immediately.

These devices were traditionally worn on the Den Leader Training Award Knot, which recognizes den leaders who have completed training, tenure, and performance requirements. This Den Leader Training Award Knot (SKU 5016) will continue to be offered and is available to earn at any point throughout the den leader's tenure.

Limited inventory of the Cub Scout Device Pins is available in

Scout Shops while supplies last. These items will not be restocked once fully depleted.

The following SKUs have been eliminated:

- 932 / Device WE Pin
- 604950 / Device CS Pin
- 620592 / Device Tiger 2015

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## Scouters: Lots to Learn! Where to Start?

*Sometimes, volunteers feel overwhelmed, but some simple steps can help...*

You've seen it. I've seen it. We all would like to have it.

In many ways, the "Trained" patch symbolizes adult advancement and achievement. Mostly, it simply means you have "a clue."

However, it might be the first step to feeling like your work *outside* of Scout or Cub meetings is paying off.

But even before getting into the training that delivers the patch, volunteers need to take the first step.

Or maybe, once they put on "the shirt," it is the "next" step.

Back in 2013, *Scouting Magazine's* Mark Ray spoke to two Cub Scout leaders and asked how they encouraged training among the volunteers in their units:

*To fill their packs' training gaps, [Andy] Albin and [Todd] Birkhoff took on the role of pack trainer... In the years since,*

*they've more than achieved their goal of getting pack leaders through the basic training sequence of Youth Protection Training and position-specific training.*

Their tips, in short:

- Set a good example.
- Establish expectations.
- Eliminate obstacles.
- Keep good records.

And why is training so important?

“As long as you have a trained leader, the [Scouts] are going to have a better experience,” Birkhoff told *Scouting Magazine*.

The full article is much more comprehensive, and might just be the introduction to your own unit's training manual.

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## **What is a Unit Key 3?**

### **Unit Key 3**

Behind every great Scouting unit is a committed Key 3. These are the three top adult individuals within each pack, troop, crew, or ship. Each member of the Key 3 needs to understand his or her role and feel empowered to serve.

**The Unit Key 3 is a critical**

# **component to the success of the unit. The unit Key 3 consists of:**

- **Committee Chair** – The top volunteer in the unit is the Committee Chair. They are responsible for ensuring enough qualified adult volunteers are in place to provide the program. They lead the unit committee meetings.
- **Unit Leader** – The leader of the unit meeting is the unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, Skipper) and is responsible for developing and delivering the “program.”
- **Chartered Organization Representative (COR)** – This person appoints the unit committee chair and approves all adult leaders. They provide resources from the chartered organization.

The Key 3 addresses unit challenges, checks on Journey to Excellence status, and adjusts program and administrative elements to ensure unit progress toward Journey to Excellence.

## **Role of the Unit Key 3**

- **This group meets frequently** to discuss the unit, its challenges, coming events, and progress toward completing their action plan and Journey to Excellence goals.
- **Ensures that a monthly program and unit budget plan are in place and on track.** These items are critical for unit success. Encourage long-range planning for a positive experience for all.
- **Support systems that will ensure a well-organized unit are:** the monthly Unit Key 3 meeting, monthly committee and leader meetings, and regular parent meetings.
- **Encourages a unit-wide communication system.**

Communication takes many forms: newsletter, phone tree, email, website, app. Whatever fits the unit.

- **Encourages training of all registered adults in the unit.** Encourages them to take This Is Scouting and Leader Specific Training for their position prior to their first meeting. Vigorously enforces Youth Protection Training. Makes sure the adult leaders are aware of training opportunities. Through the district commissioner, enlists the help of the training team to bring adult leader training to the unit if necessary.
- **Helps unit leaders get additional training as needed.** Through the unit and district commissioners, requests progressive specialty training as needed. Topics might include recruiting youth members, information on Friends of Scouting, advancement, etc. While it is the responsibility of the district committee, it may be necessary to conduct sections of this training at the unit level.
- **Encourages participation in district activities.** Encourages attendance at roundtable, district activities, and camping opportunities. Keeps the district and council calendars in mind when helping the Unit Key 3 schedule unit meetings and events.

## **My.Scouting.org – Accomplish A Wide Variety of Things**

You can use My.Scouting.org for a wide variety of things. Parents can use it to transfer their Scout from one unit to another (how-to PDF), such as when a Webelos moves from a pack to a troop. Adult leaders can use it to take position-specific training. The Key 3 can use it to accept online applications and must use it to complete the annual rechartering of their unit.

In addition to these functions, this portal provides all

adults access to their personal account data, a place to update contact information, and...yes, the ability to complete YPT. Make sure your My.Scouting.org profile contains your BSA member ID number; that way, your training record will automatically update when you finish an online course. BSA member ID numbers do not transfer from one council to another, but you can include both in your profile if you have IDs from multiple councils.

When setting up a My.Scouting.org account, be sure to link it to your Mayflower Council BSA member ID number. Forgot your ID number, your username or your password? Not sure if you have a member ID number or a My.Scouting.org account? Contact the Membership & Unit Service Team ([membership@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:membership@mayflowerbsa.org)) before you create a new account– we can check to see if you have a member ID number, provide your username, and reset your password.

In the “BSA Web Links” section of My.Scouting.org (under “Menu”), you’ll also find links to Internet Advancement, the National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course, and Service Hours Reporting. Unit leaders have access to their unit roster and other information designed to help in managing the unit.

One last note: depending on the leadership position for which you are registered, you may not see every tool that someone else has available on their dashboard. So, it’s important that when your unit recharter at the end of each year, they accurately record your leadership position.

If you have trouble logging in to My.Scouting.org, contact Office Manager Lisa Olson for assistance.

## **Scoutbook**

Scoutbook is an advancement tracking tool. From the first knot tied to final hours of service performed, the Scouting experience is a journey like none other. And Scoutbook is your

go-to tool to ensures not a moment is missed – tracking advancement, milestone achievements and all the fun along the way. It also has messaging, help forums, service, hiking, camping tracking and calendaring features.

### **Important Reminders for Scoutbook:**

- Adding or transferring a scout or adult to your unit's Scoutbook account does not register them with your unit and doesn't mean they have a valid membership. All Scouts and adult leaders must complete an application, either online or submit a paper (or PDF version) of the application. This is true whether a person is new to Scouting, changing from one pack, troop or crew to another, or even changing adult leader positions.
- Once an application is processed, the individual should appear in your unit's Scoutbook in approximately 24-48 hours. Wait for this sync to occur, instead of manually adding anyone.
- Scoutbook doesn't allow duplicate emails, so the same email address can't be used for two accounts.
- Your Scoutbook login is the same as your My.Scouting.org login. If you aren't sure if you have a login, you can't remember your login, need a password reset or you're getting an error, contact Office Manager Lisa Olson.
- Scoutbook Guide: [help.scoutbook.scouting.org](http://help.scoutbook.scouting.org)
- Scouting Forums: [discussions.scouting.org](http://discussions.scouting.org)

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## **Recording Youth Training**

The unit key 3 has the ability to access the Training Manager in my.scouting to record face to face training that youth have



completed. This would include Den Chief Training, Introduction to Leadership Skills, NYLT, NAYLE and the NYLT Leadership Academy and others. Youth training records are a part of the training manager and can be very useful in reviewing the training a youth has completed, eligibility for NYLT, potential NYLT staff selection and other roles of continuing youth leadership.

To add youth training, go to the Training Manager in the my.scouting website. Choose the "add/search" function. From there, select "Optional Youth Training". Most courses will be in this drop down box although additional training is in the "Other" drop down box or the program specific drop down. You can then select the appropriate course and the course dates. From there, add members and submit.

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## **BSA Incident Reporting Requirements**

Incident Reporting will be a highly monitored reporting area in the Scout post-bankrupt operating environment. We need to ensure that all Scout leaders understand what Incident Reporting is and why it is important that all incidents are accurately and timely reported. Scouting strongly encourages units to report any incident so risk management can ensure any unsafe conditions are addressed and safety measures are put in place. We may also recommend training that may need to be created or enhanced to ensure safety and for insurance purposes. The Incident Report landing page link below, will explain why reporting is so important and the links to the appropriate report.

Incident Reporting Landing Page

Incident Reporting Requirements

Near Miss Reporting Tool

Incident Reporting Tool

Youth Protection/Membership Infraction Reporting Tool

Please share this information with other unit leaders and assistants so they are aware of the reporting requirements.

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## **New Event Registration & Calendar Platform**

Our council has begun transitioning to a new online event registration platform named Black Pug, which is used by almost half of all Boy Scout councils nationwide. The previous system, Doubleknot, was a major step forward when we adopted it nearly 16 years ago. After careful, thoughtful and detailed evaluation we believe the Black Pug platform will be an improvement, addressing multiple issues brought up by our members and volunteers and improving your experience when signing up for camps and other activities and accessing the council calendar.

The transition to Black Pug has already begun. Many of our recent events and summer camp sign-ups have been utilizing the new platform. Black Pug will soon become the new platform for the council calendar providing many of the most requested features including calendar subscription links and RSS feeds. We anticipate the full integration of Black Pug into the council website to be completed by June 1.

Individuals and units will have until July 31 to archive any data on the Doubleknot system they wish to retain and we will be sunsetting Doubleknot in Mayflower Council in early August.

We are excited to be sharing this new event registration system with you and we thank you for your patience as we make this transition. We look forward to serving you better. If you have any questions or need assistance with Black Pug please contact Lisa Olson our Black Pug subject matter expert.

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## **Virtual Little Philmont 2021**

### **Join Hundreds of Other Scouters at the Virtual Little Philmont 2021 Event and Get a Taste of the Philmont Experience**

Friday, May 21 from 9pm-10:30pm EDT

Saturday, May 22 from 10:30-2pm EDT

Virtual Little Philmont 2021 provides a unique opportunity to hear from leading Scouters who continue to deliver high-quality programs for our youth. Several topics will be addressed with a variety of focused break-out sessions on subjects like recruiting, involving parents, leading a troop, helping Scouts stay engaged “after Eagle,” utilizing digital tools to reach your Scouting audience, and more. This exciting event can be a catalyst for increased knowledge and energy within the Latter-day Saint Scouting community.

We'll open the event on Friday evening (May 21st) with a fireside chat with Rex Tillerson, former BSA National President, former U.S. Secretary of State and former Chairman/CEO of ExxonMobil.

We'll continue the event on Saturday morning (May 22nd), addressing various topics necessary to continue Scouting with energy, increased knowledge, and enthusiasm. Come join us!

[Register Now](#)  
[Facebook Page](#)  
[Website Link](#)

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## **March Training Newsletter**

[Click image to download](#)



## Spring Training Priorities

Our current training offerings continue to be limited as we abide by restrictions on group gatherings, council-run activities, and overnight camping. The state's recent relaxing of restrictions gives us more options, but we still need to proceed wisely and safely to protect our volunteers. We appreciate everyone's understanding!

Here's where we're focusing planning efforts this spring:

**1. BALOO.** BALOO training is still required if you take Cub Scouts camping. We know several packs who've been stuck because of this BSA rule. That's why the first overnight training we run will be BALOO. **Please save the date—May 1-2!** We don't know yet if we'll be able to run a full in-person BALOO with modifications (smaller groups, less shared equipment, changes to cooking, etc.) or if it'll be a hybrid approach. But we commit to running a course that covers all the BALOO requirements on that weekend. Registration opens soon!

**2. Wilderness First Aid.** Philmont recently announced that at least one adult leader on every trek this summer must have current WFA certification. So we're working to make sure there's a way to take WFA this spring. We've found a newly available BSA-approved course that combines online learning with a modified hands-on skill session. **March/April/May dates to be announced.** Spots will be limited, so we'll give preference to people who need it for treks this summer.

**3. CPR.** CPR is a pre-requisite for WFA. We know there's also a lot of demand for recertification. We've been developing a plan to run CPR training with partial online learning and physically distanced manikin practice. **March/April/May dates to be announced.**

## Upcoming Training



° = pre-registration required   \* = online registration open  
\* = counts toward basic  requirements for adults

Mar 30	Scoutbook Software Basics and Q+A
May 1-2°	BALOO (camping skills for Cub leaders)
TBA°	CPR
TBA°	Wilderness First Aid
Sept 25-26°	Leave No Trace Trainer
TBA°	Wood Badge (fall 2021 options)

## In the Meantime...

- We encourage everyone to take as much training as they can get online. It's available 24/7 at <https://my.scouting.org>.
- If you're looking for official position-specific training, almost all of it can be done online. We hope to be able to offer in-person versions when it's safer to do so—hopefully by the fall!
- If you're looking for IOLS training (outdoor skills for Scouts BSA leaders) or Leave No Trace trainer training, we're aiming to run these overnight courses in the fall.
- Keep an eye on the weekly council newsletter for announcements about additional online sessions.

## Find Your Local Training Contact

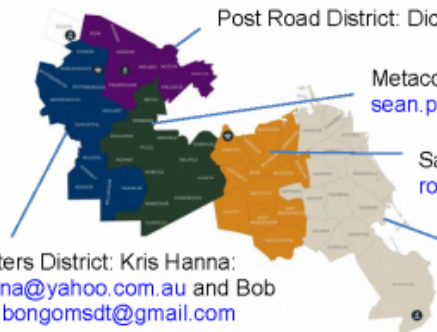
Council training chair: Chris Lamie:  
[chris.lamie@gmail.com](mailto:chris.lamie@gmail.com)

Staff contact: Kat Nussbaumer:  
[kat@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:kat@mayflowerbsa.org)

Mayflower Council training website:  
[www.mayflowerbsa.org/training](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/training)

BSA online training:  
<https://my.scouting.org>

Headwaters District: Kris Hanna:  
[kris\\_hanna@yahoo.com.au](mailto:kris_hanna@yahoo.com.au) and Bob  
Luongo: [bongomsdt@gmail.com](mailto:bongomsdt@gmail.com)



Post Road District: Dick Clarke: [rclarke1@rcn.com](mailto:rclarke1@rcn.com)

Metacomet District: Sean Keaney:  
[sean.p.keaney@gmail.com](mailto:sean.p.keaney@gmail.com)

Sachem District: Rob Lyons:  
[robs89wag@yahoo.com](mailto:robs89wag@yahoo.com)

Cranberry Harbors  
District: Kevin Radford:  
[evertonfc@comcast.net](mailto:evertonfc@comcast.net)