

# December Training Newsletter

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## Pandemic Update

Our current training offerings continue to be limited as we abide by council limits on group gatherings, council-run activities, and overnight camping. These limits are based on state and local restrictions. They continue to be evaluated as the pandemic situation evolves.

Here are a few key points to know:

1. **We encourage everyone to take as much training as they can get online.** It's available 24/7 at <https://my.scouting.org>.
  - o If you need to renew your **Youth Protection Training (YPT)**, this is the way to do it.
  - o You can complete **Position-Specific Training** (for the "Trained" patch) for almost every Scouting position through BSA online.
2. **We're also running local webinars.** Our volunteer trainers are continuing to run a series of online training sessions on various topics of interest. Please see the calendar at right, and check the weekly Mayflower Council email for additions to the list.
3. **BALOO training continues to be a challenge.** BALOO training (overnight camping skills) is still required if you take Cub Scouts camping. We know of several packs who have been held back by this rule because we haven't been able to run BALOO training since late 2019. We understand and share your frustration. We've looked into various possibilities for waivers and workarounds, but the National office's policies have not changed. Our current plan is to attempt to run BALOO in some form (if it can be allowed) in early spring 2021.
4. **First aid training options may be available soon.** We are evaluating first aid certification options as the American Red Cross (our training partner) continues to update its options for class structure and format. Please stay tuned for more details!

## Renew Youth Protection Training

Time is running out to renew your Youth Protection Training (YPT)! All registered adult leaders must have current YPT status in order to recharter with a pack, troop, or crew for 2021. A large percentage of leaders last took YPT during 2018, which means the 2-year training has expired or is about to expire. The only way to renew this training right now is at <https://my.scouting.org>. You only need to take the "mandatory" version (it says it's a bit more than 1 hour), but you do need to make sure you do all four parts (three modules plus the quiz).

## Upcoming Online Opportunities



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

- Dec 13\*\*\*    Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 1 of 2)
- Dec 19\*\*    Den Chief Training Workshop

## Den Chief Training on December 19

A Den Chief is a Scouts BSA (or Venturing) member who helps lead activities with a Cub Scout den. We call it a "win-win-win-win": the older youth gets a confidence-building leadership experience, the Cub Scouts get a role model who can inspire them to grow in Scouting, the pack gets a valuable helping hand, and the troop gets a recruiter. That's why we encourage every Cub Scout pack to connect with local troops and recruit Den Chiefs!

By popular demand, we'll be running a custom webinar version of **Den Chief Training** on **Saturday morning, December 19, 9:00–11:30 AM**. This training will focus on the roles and responsibilities of a Den Chief, tips and techniques for success, and activity ideas and practice. The BSA already offers online training at [www.scouting.org/training/youth/den-chief-training](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth/den-chief-training), which can be a useful introduction for any Den Chief. Our session will provide the same "basic training" credit, but it also includes the opportunity to interact with other people, ask questions, and discuss practical tips—including ideas for how to be an effective Den Chief during COVID. We wish we could do it in person, but we'll try our best to capture some of the same fun online!

This course is free (no patches, snacks, or materials, so no charge!). Register at [www.mayflowerbsa.org/training](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/training).

## Cub Leaders: Get Trained With Us!

Calling all Den Leaders, Cubmasters, and Pack Committee Members: if you haven't taken your Position-Specific Training on My.Scouting yet, join us on **December 13 at 7 PM** for the first half in a live webinar. It's the same material, but with the chance to ask questions, share ideas, and get useful tips from fellow leaders. Please encourage your fellow leaders to join us!

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration: [www.mayflowerbsa.org/training](http://www.mayflowerbsa.org/training)
- BSA online training: <https://my.scouting.org>
- 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)

**EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!**