



Roadmap to a Strong Troop
- Journey to Excellence
(JTF)











### **Scouting's Organizing Principle #1**

### Scouting is a volunteer driven membership movement







### A group of people joining together for a common cause





### **Scouting's Organizing Principle #2**

### Partnership with Community Organizations

(Refer to Annual Charter Agreement)









If you or someone else in your unit have unique skills in;

- Leadership
- Fundraising
- Training
- Event planning

and have an interest at another level beyond the unit, please let this presenter know or contact your local district executive.





#### **State of the Unit**

#### Talk about how your unit is doing (2 minutes)

- Is it growing
- Share some calendar highlights
- Is it financially sound

What do you do best (5 minutes)









# Time to begin your module









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### What is Scouting's Journey to **Excellence?**

Journey to Excellence is a summary of what makes a troop successful. Strong troops that do a good job in these areas tend to be the most successful.

By using the Journey to Excellence (JTE) your troop has the ability to celebrate your strengths and target areas to improve so you can provide great experiences for Scouts. It will make supporting your youth leaders easier and makes the troop more fun, which will keep your Scouts growing from their Scouting experiences.





### What do your Scouts want from your Troop?

- Fun
- Adventure
- Excitement
- New Opportunities
- Chance to be a leader
- Get to be with and know adults









### What do <u>you</u> probably want from your Troop?

- Fun
- Rewarding
- Chance to help youth
- Chance for service
- Efficient
- Help from others
- Not take too much of your time
- Be and feel successful









#### What do your Scout's parents want from your Troop?

opportunity for youth to do service

- Growth
- Improved character
- Scout has fun and is happy
- Safe
- Well organized
- Not too expensive doesn't take too much time
- Opportunity for youth to do service





### What does Scouting want from your Troop?

- Serve youth
- Use BSA methods and policies
- Be strong healthy and growing







### Journey to Excellence helps you get there. It brings:

- A framework for planning for your unit
- A method for evaluating your troop
- Assessment of how you're doing in the key areas found in great Units
- Guidance in areas where you might do better
- Specific guidelines and standards of what is good performance
- Early warning of potential problem areas
- Recognition for your good performance
- Benchmarking to get ideas and tips from other good





### You assess your performance in key areas including

- Advancement
- Outdoor
- Service Projects
- Training

- Membership
- Retention
- Leadership
- Budget

In each area, you rate your performance against specific standards Gold, Silver, Bronze or did not meet minimum standard

And did you show improvement?

You make your rating as part of your charter renewal





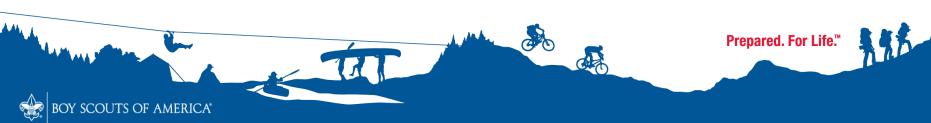


#### **Emphasis of Journey to Excellence**

#### **Continuous Improvement is a Goal**

- Did your unit do measurably better in key areas than last year
- OR are you already performing at a high level in those areas

Either way, you can qualify for the standard





#### **Emphasis of Journey to Excellence**

- Program and Participation in Unit (Membership) are most important factors
- Administrative factors are considered
- Factors which are early indicators of unit strength and health are identified and assessed







**Short Term Camping** – The troop conducts short term or weekend campouts throughout the year.

**Bronze – Conduct 4 short term campouts - 50 points** 

Silver - Conduct 8 short term campouts - 100 points

**Gold – Conduct 10 short term campouts – 200 points** 









### How is your overall rating determined?

- You receive points in each of the categories
   Gold, Silver, Bronze or no rating (no points)
- Your total points are added to give your total score
- Requirements are weighted as they correlate most with success receiving the most points
- No one requirement is mandatory
- Your total score determines your overall rating
   For 2011 troops: Gold is 1600, Silver is 1000, Bronze is 700
- Journey to Excellence assessment is made at the time of your rechartering





- Units with a satisfactory performance receive the "Bronze" level of recognition
- On a voluntary basis, units which do better than satisfactory receive higher recognition
  - "Silver" level Effective Performance
  - "Gold" level Excellent Performance
- Recognition items will include a ribbon, plaque and patches for the uniform





#### You get Early Warning of Potential **Problems**

- The form has several requirements shown to be leading indicators of performance
- The more important the requirement, the higher point value it has
- You can be alerted if these requirements become negative and take early action to head off more severe problems





### Requirement Standards Change Each Year

- Each year, the requirements will be reconsidered to reflect the improved performance by units
- New standards for 2012 will likely be announced in early 2012
  - Performance for 2011 will determine the 2012 standards, so 2011 data will need to be collected and analyzed
- A Silver performance for 2011 might only rate Bronze in 2012





#### **Journey to Excellence Summary**

- Measuring our Continuous Improvement
- Recognizing and Publicizing Outstanding Performance
- Identifying Potential Problems so they can be addressed and corrected
- Encouraging Mutual Assistance and Support
- Building Better Scouting for More Scouts
- Contact the National Office at <u>JTE@Scouting.org</u>
- All material can be found at <u>www.scouting.org/Volunteer</u> and click on Scouting's Journey to Excellence found under Quicklinks





#### **Online Resources**

- http://www.crossroadsbsa.org/
  - Crossroads of America Council Website
  - Links to District sites
  - Council & District Calendars
- http://www.scouting.org/
  - BSA National Website
  - Visit and explore often
- http://www.usscouts.org/
  - By Volunteers for Volunteers
  - Covers topic A-Z









- First contact should always be your Unit Commissioner
- District Commissioner and staff
- District Executives
- Council Support Staff
- Other leaders in your unit
- Parents!!
- Community leaders and organizations





#### What does success look like.....

- Have we taken the Journey to Excellence. Use this tool to measure how successful the Troop truly is.
- Are you keeping the boys that have registered into the next year?
- Are parents becoming engaged with the program and their own boys?
- Are you having fun too?





