



Exploring and the Commissioner

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November 2, 2018

Explanation of Project's worth

This workshop is something that every district will have access to and can be used to introduce Exploring to Commissioners when needed. This will only strengthen the Commissioner Service for Exploring units in the Middle Tennessee Council.

Table of Contents of workshop

For this workshop I have created a:

- a. materials needed list
- b. course outline
- c. teaching notes
- d. PowerPoint presentation
- e. list of MTC Exploring Posts
- f. list of answers of basic questions from existing Exploring Posts

The items that I will be using a reference materials for the workshop include:

- a. 2018 JTE Post Scorecard
- b. 2019 JTE Post Scorecard
- c. 2019 Exploring District Scorecard
- d. Commissioner Service to Exploring FAQ
- e. Video "Exploring Anthem"
- f. Video "2017 WinterFest for Fire Explorers"
- g. Copy of requirements of all awards mentioned in presentation

Project description and purpose

This Continuing Education workshop adds hands on training of understanding and supporting Exploring units. This will help strengthen a weak area in the Commissioner Service in the MTC council.

Recommendations and conclusions

Exploring exists to help youth make a more informed decision about future careers and determine if a particular career is the right one for them. Without Commissioners understanding what Exploring units are, how they are different, and how to help them, they will not be able to serve as an effective Commissioner. While working on this workshop I learned more about Exploring than I had ever heard about. This workshop just brushes the surface of what someone can learn about Exploring.

Appendices

Information for this workshop came from:

- a. www.exploring.org
- b. www.learingforlife.org
- c. Facebook research
- d. Interviews with existing Exploring Units, professional scouters, and scouters
- e. www.my.scouting.org
- f. Commissioner Tools
- g. Exploring FAQ sheet from Tim Acree
- h. A presentation titled "NAM presentation" from Tim Acree
- i. Feedback from:
 - i. Watson Ambruster
 - ii. Tim Acree
 - iii. Karen Bengston
 - iv. Don Hayes
 - v. Kevin Phillips



CED 802

Exploring and the Commissioner

Materials Needed

CED 751 - Course Outline

CED 751 - Teaching Notes

CED 751 - Course Materials

CED 751 - PowerPoint Presentation

Handouts: Commissioner Service to Exploring FAQ's, 2018 & 2019 JTE Scorecards
(enough for all)

Videos: "Exploring Anthem" and "2017 WinterFest for Fire Explorers"

Reference Material: paperwork for each award discussed in presentation

For PowerPoint: laptop, video projector, screen, extension cord, power strip, etc.



CED 802

Exploring and the Commissioner

Course Outline

(Estimate Time: 50 minutes)

- I. **Introduction (2 min)**
- II. **Course Description and Learning Objectives (3 min)**
 - a. **Purpose of course** (A Commissioners introduction to Exploring) In this course, you will learn how Exploring Post and Clubs are different from other Scouting Units and how we as Commissioners can best serve them and play a role in helping youth Discover Their Future.
 - b. **At the end of this training a Commissioner will be able to:**
 - i. Explain how Exploring Units are different from the traditional Scouting Units
 - ii. Understand the goals of an Explorer Post (What they actually do) and why are they beneficial.
 - iii. Describe how to successfully be a Commissioner for an Exploring Unit.
 - iv. Know how to assist Exploring Units fill out JTE scorecards.
- III. **How are Exploring Units different from a traditional Scouting Unit? (10 min)**
 - a. Explain that Exploring is a Learning for Life Program
 - b. *Instructor lead discussion with class participation:*
 - i. Types of Units
 - ii. Meeting locations
 - iii. Uniforms
 - iv. Training / Meeting activities
 - v. Awards
 - vi. Camps and competitions

IV. Options for Supporting LFL Units (4 min)

- a. Service Teams
- b. Commissioner Options

V. What are the goals of an Exploring Unit and how can the Commissioner help? (10 min)

- a. *Instructor lead discussion with class participation:*

Using a white board (of flip chart) collect responses from participants from their knowledge and experience.

- i. Responses should answer:

1. What are Exploring Units goals?
2. How do units get youth into their program?
3. What problems do Exploring Units have?
4. Do they have growth? How is it handled?
5. How to recruit and retain adult leaders.

- ii. Participants answers will be compared to information gathered from actual Exploring Posts.

VI. Exploring's Journey to Excellence (5 min)

- a. Instructor lead discussion with class participation:

Using the JTE form (have copies for each Commissioner) and a large copy on the wall of projector.

- i. Review JTE requirements
- ii. How can Commissioners help units achieve these goals?
- iii. Show District Exploring JTE Scorecards

VII. Commissioner Training (2 min)

- a. Online Training
- b. Visit the Posts in your district

VIII. What else can we do as Commissioners? (6 min)

- a. Instructor Lead Discussion: (Make clear the following points)

- i. Trained leaders
- ii. Safety
- iii. Program goals being met?
- iv. Promote the program and look for new opportunities

IX. Commissioner Tools (1 min)

- a. Commissioner Tools - You can log contacts now

X. Summary (Review) of Learning Objectives (4 min)

XI. **Any Questions?** (2 min)

XII. **Closing / Commissioner Minute** (1 min)



CED 802

Exploring and the Commissioner

Teaching Notes

- I. **Introduction (2 min)**
 - a. Introduce myself and the reason I chose this topic. Tell about my experience in preparing for this course and ask about others experience with Exploring Units.
 - b. Tell about my experience with Explorer Posts
 - c. Ask about others experience with Exploring.
- II. **Course Description and Learning Objectives (3 min)**
 - a. Tell the purpose of the course.
 - i. The purpose of the course is to introduce Exploring to Commissioners.
 - ii. Explain differences between Exploring Units and other Scouting Units.
 - iii. Show ways that Commissioners can best serve Exploring Units.
 - b. Tell what each Commissioner should be able to do at the end of the course
 - i. Explain how Exploring Units are different from traditional Scouting Units
 - ii. Understand the goals of an Explorer Post (what they do) and why are they beneficial.
 - iii. Describe how to successfully be a Commissioner for an Exploring Unit
 - iv. Know how to assist Exploring Units fill out JTE scorecard
- III. **How are Exploring Units different from a traditional Scouting Unit? (10 min)**
 - a. Play "Exploring Anthem" <https://youtu.be/1UtPFB0BH0A> 1:30
 - b. Exploring is a *Learning for Life Program* launched in 1991
 - c. Explain Learning for Life Program
 - i. -LFL is a work-site based youth program that is an affiliate of the BSA. It utilizes programs designed for schools and community-based organizations that are designed to prepare youth for the complexities of contemporary society and to enhance their self-confidence, motivation, and self-esteem, and for careers.
 - Other LFL programs are school-based groups.
 - One of their programs is Exploring

- ii. Exploring is NOT a traditional Scouting Program. Does not use the Scout Promise, Law, or uniforms of traditional Scouting.
 - iii. Requires separate registrations from other BSA programs
 - iv. Differences between LFL and traditional Units
- d. Types of Units (*biggest in MTC)

Why Exploring?

Exploring exists to teach important life and career skills through immersive career experiences and mentorship provided by community and business leaders. Exploring provides hands-on career activities for youth looking to discover their future.

Differences between LFL and traditional Units

So we all know about traditional Units, lets learn about LFL exploring

First off there are Exploring Posts and Clubs both coed

Post – Older youth, 14 – 20 years old

Club – Middle Schoolers, aged 10 -14, in the sixth through eighth grades

In all areas of focus you discuss Career Opportunities and how you achieve them

- i. **Arts & Humanities** (drafting, Theater, creating art, etc.)
- ii. **Aviation** (learn about planes, flight plans, map reading, mechanical, part of a ground crew, FAA, drones, etc.)
- iii. **Business** (learn about stock market, advertising, marketing, sales, accounting, reports, etc.)
- iv. **Communications** (introduce speakers, presentations, news release, public service announcements, resumes, magazine articles, etc.)
- v. **Engineering & Technology** (build things, soldering techniques, tour plants, design something, etc.)
- vi. **Fire & EMS*** (basics of fire, communications center, fire extinguishers and smoke alarms, Red Cross course, forensics, mock disaster, etc.)
- vii. **Health Care** (differences in Health Care systems, Hippocratic Oath, Red Cross courses, dentistry, types of specialist, etc.)
- viii. **Law & Government** (learn the roles and jobs of judges and lawyers, different types of court, mock trial, etc.)
- ix. **Law Enforcement*** (law enforcement training, shooting, arresting techniques, forensics, etc.)
- x. **Science** (build an electroscope or reactor, focus on chemistry, focus on plants of the ocean, coral bleaching, etc.)
- xi. **Skilled Trades** (woodworking, carpenters, drafting, mechanical engineering, mechanic, etc.)

xii. **Social Service** (teachers, guidance counselor, school administrators, etc.)

e. Meeting locations?endless possibilities

- i. Airport
- ii. City Hall
- iii. University
- iv. Fire Station
- v. Hospital
- vi. Police Station
- vii. Etc.

f. Uniforms

- i. Depends on the unit. Show examples.

g. Training / Meeting activities

- i. Meeting are not your typical Scout meeting. They typically involve a speaker teaching and new skill or idea and then the practicing of that skill.
- ii. Some of the Fire / EMS post do the same training as a recruit into the fire department or ambulance service. Posts and Clubs should provide interactive activities during meeting times. Ask class for examples. This is important because this is one of the items that Commissioners can see happening.
- iii. If the sponsoring programs participates in community service, the Post typically does too. For example: haunted woods, 5Ks, parades, flag ceremonies, etc.

h. Awards – briefly touch upon some awards

Compare awards to Scout and Venture awards that are not about rank advancement.

- i. Career Achievement Award (Post)
- ii. Career Awareness Award (Club)
- iii. Young American Award
- iv. Congressional Awards
- v. Law Enforcement Proficiency Awards
- vi. Learning for Life Leadership Awards for Youth and Adults
- vii. National Exploring Excellence Award
- viii. William H. Spurgeon Award**

i. Camp and competitions

- i. In Tennessee there is WinterFest for Explorers in Fire, EMS, and law enforcement posts. Show “2017 WinterFest for Fire Explorers”
<https://youtu.be/VUnGrbiZ0k8> 1:44
- ii. Can they attend Scouting Jamborees? Yes.

IV. Options for Supporting LFL Units (4 min)

a. Service Teams

The first and most preferred model is to recruit and grow Exploring at the council level by enlisting an Exploring Service Team to provide the necessary resources to grow and support Exploring Units.

- i. What are they? The “commissioner service” branch of Exploring

The purpose and type of service between an Exploring Service Team and an Exploring Unit Commissioner are no different. The only difference is the Exploring Unit Commissioners can also service Scouting units, and Exploring Service Team members do not service traditional Scouting Units.

If there is no Exploring Service Team, the alternate model is to include Exploring into the commissioner structure.

b. Commissioner Options

- i. Without Service Teams Commissioners are covering units.
- ii. For the time being ANY attention given to posts is being provided by Unit Commissioners.

V. What are the goals of an Exploring Unit and how can the Commissioner help? (10 min)

Start a discussing on the following topics and using a white board or flip chart white down participants’ answers. Compare the classes answers to those of actual posts that have answered these questions.

- a. What are Exploring Units goals?
- b. How do Exploring Units get youth into their program?
- c. What problems do Exploring Units have?
- d. Do they have growth? How is it handled?
- e. How to recruit and retain leaders

VI. Exploring’s Journey to Excellence (5 min)

- a. Review the JTE requirements for 2018. Point out the differences between this JTE Scorecard and the one for troop. IE: have an open house, interactive activities during the meetings, and super activity
- b. Ask the class, “How can Commissioners help these goals be achieved?”
- c. Show the District Exploring 2019 Scorecards just for knowledge that they exist.

VII. **Commissioner Training** (2 min)

- a. So, you are going to be a Unit Commissioner for an Explorer Post what should you do now?
 - i. Online training
 - ii. Visit the Posts in your district

VIII. **What else can we do as Commissioners?** (6 min)

The best choose for a Commissioner of an Exploring Unit is someone that has experience in the focus of the unit, this will rarely if ever happen.

Even though we as commissioners may not be experts in the field of the Exploring Unit we are working with we can still do what? Ask Class for answers.

- a. Help all leaders of the post become trained BSA leaders
 - i. Promote online training
- b. Safety – We know what the BSA expects
 - i. Again, promote online training
- c. Goals of the program being met? Are they providing interactive activities, etc.?
- d. Always be on the lookout for not only ways to promote the existing Exploring Units but also look for opportunities that could arise to create a new unit with a new focus.

Question for group discussion: Should a Commissioner wear their Commissioner uniform to the post meeting?

IX. **Commissioner Tools** (1 min)

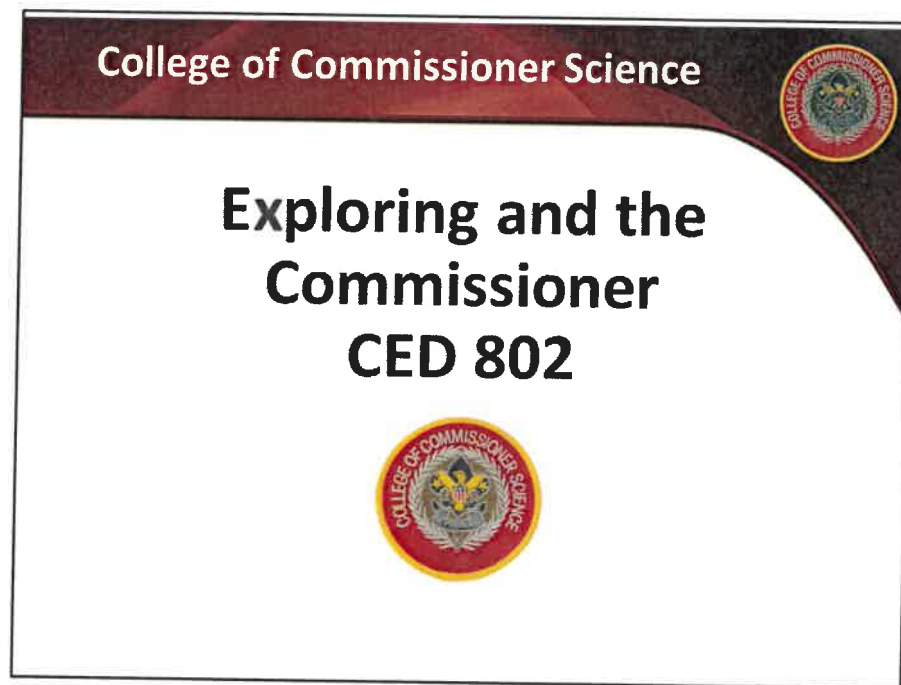
- a. Commissioner Tools has been updated to support Commissioners covering Exploring units. LOG CONTACTS

X. **Summary** (4 min)

- a. Review handout of *Commissioner Service to Exploring FAQ's*
Ask participants these questions and help them answer.
- b. Exploring, is it different? How?
- c. What would goals be of an Explorer Post?
- d. How can we be successful Commissioners to Exploring Units?

XI. **Questions?** (2 min)

XII. **Closing** (1 min)



Introduction (2 min)

Introduce myself and the reason I chose this topic. Tell about my experience in preparing for this course and ask about others experience with Exploring Units.

Tell about my experience with Explorer Posts

Ask about others experience with Exploring.

Exploring



Introduction

- Course Description
- Learning Objectives
- Purpose of Course



Course Description and Learning Objectives (3 min)

Tell the purpose of the course.

The purpose of the course is to introduce Exploring to Commissioners.

Explain differences between Exploring Units and other Scouting Units.

Show ways that Commissioners can best serve Exploring Units.

Exploring

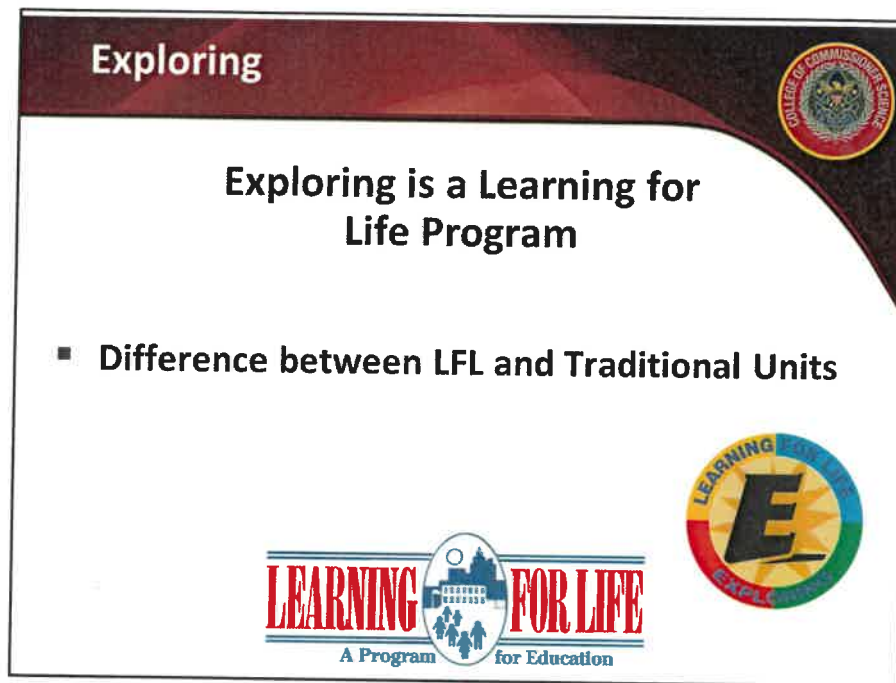


At the end of this training a Commissioner will be able to...

- **Explain how Exploring units are different**
- **Understand the goals of an exploring post**
- **Describe how to successfully be a Commissioner for an Exploring Unit**
- **Know how to assist Exploring Units with filling out JTE scorecards**

Tell what each Commissioner should be able to do at the end of the course

- Explain how Exploring Units are different from traditional Scouting Units
- Understand the goals of an Explorer Post (what they do) and why are they beneficial.
- Describe how to successfully be a Commissioner for an Exploring Unit
- Know how to assist Exploring Units fill out JTE scorecard



How are Exploring Units different from a traditional Scouting Unit? (10 min)

Play "Exploring Anthem" <https://youtu.be/1UtPFB0BH0A> 1:30

Exploring is a *Learning for Life Program* launched in 1991

Explain Learning for Life Program

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Differences between LFL and traditional Units

Types of Units (*biggest in MTC)

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Exploring



Meeting Locations



Meeting locations?endless possibilities

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- University
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Depends on the unit. Show examples.

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Exploring



Awards

- Career Achievement Award
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Commissioner Options

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Exploring



What are the goals of an Exploring Unit and how can the Commissioner help?

- Unit goals
- Recruitment
- What problems do Exploring Units have
- Do they have growth and how is it handled
- How to recruit and retain adult leaders

What are the goals of an Exploring Unit and how can the Commissioner help? (10 min)

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How do Exploring Units get youth into their program?

What problems do Exploring Units have?

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Commissioner Training (2 min)

So, you are going to be a Unit Commissioner for an Explorer Post what should you do now?

Online training

Visit the Posts in your district

Exploring



What else can we do as Commissioners?

- Trained Leaders
- Safety
- Promotion



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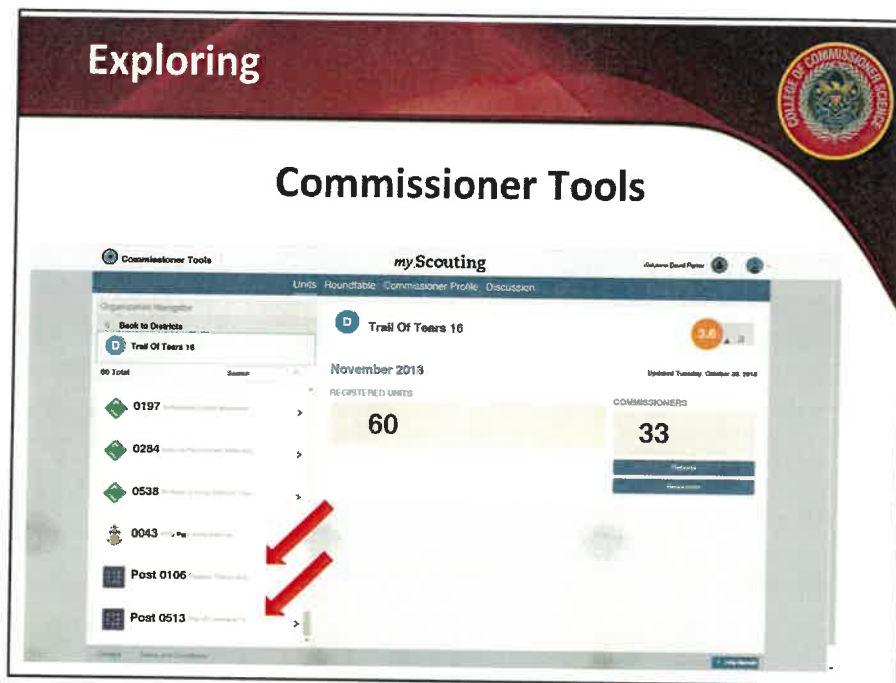
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Commissioner Tools (1 min)

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Exploring



Summary of Learning Objectives



Summary (4 min)

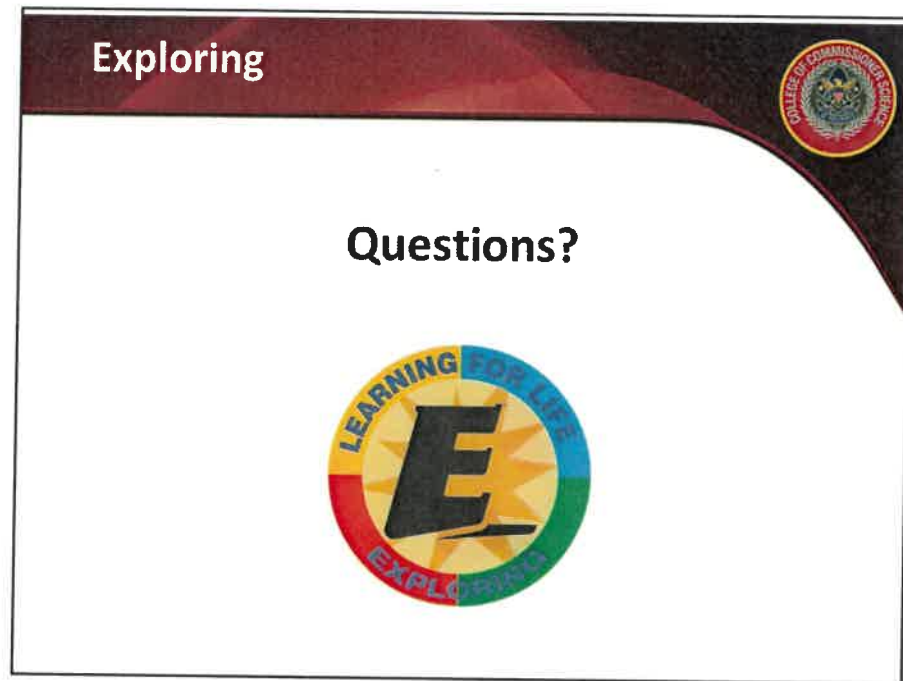
Review handout of *Commissioner Service to Exploring FAQ's*

Ask participants these questions and help them answer.

Exploring, is it different? How?

What would goals be of an Explorer Post?

How can we be successful Commissioners to Exploring Units?



Questions? (2 min)



Commissioner's Minute



Exploring



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SERVICE TO
EXPLORING™**

MTC Exploring

District	Post	Sponsoring Org		END 2017	BEG 2018
Black Fox	1969	Sparta White County Rescue		6	6
Cherokee	112	Hendersonville Police Dept		12	9
Cherokee	343	Hendersonville Fire		7	0
Cogioba	600	Montgomery County Sherrif's Office		25	14
Cogioba	3880	Houston County Fire		5	7
Cogioba	540	Clarksville Police Dept		7	
Dan Beard	911	Metro Police Dept		12	11
David Crockett	52	Collinwood Fire Dept		12	12
David Crockett	840	Fayetteville Police Dept	dropped	8	0
Duck River	786	Columbia Police Dept		11	13
Duck River	1868	Columbia Fire Dept	dropped	6	8
Duck River	595	Maury Regional Medical Center	dropped	7	
Elk River	None				
Hermitage	465	Mt. Juliet Police Dept		10	9
Hermitage	246	Mt. Juliet Fire Dept		23	
Highland Rim	14	East Hickman Vol Fore		4	4
James E. West	320	Vanderbilt Univ Medical Center		52	22
James E. West	417	Nashville Fire Dept	dropped	5	0
James E. West	2	JFK MS	dropped	32	0
James E. West	16	Vanderbilt Univ Engineering	dropped	23	0
James E. West	1	Dupont - Hadley MS	dropped	21	0
James E. West	3	Gra-Mar MS	dropped	8	0
James E. West	57	Hillsboro Animal Clinic		10	
James E. West	163	VUMC Laboratory Sciences	dropped	6	0
James E. West	847	Tennessee Highway Patrol		10	
James E. West	1891	Lipscomb Engineering		5	
Nashboro	11	Metro Nashville Airport		5	5
Natchez Trace	151	Williamson County Sherriff		9	6
Natchez Trace	4628	Spring Hill Fire Dept	dropped	6	0
Natchez Trace	1900	Arrington Fire Dept	dropped	5	0
Natchez Trace	219	Franklin Police Dept		6	
Natchez Trace	365	Williamson County Medical		47	
Trail of Tears	106	Citizens Police Academy		37	25
Trail of Tears	456	Rutherford Co Office of Info Tech	dropped	13	0
Upper Cumberland	325	Cookefille Regional Medical	dropped	103	0
Upper Cumberland	382	John's Family & Implant Dentistry	dropped	6	0
Upper Cumberland	480	Putnam County Animal Shelter		17	
Walton Trail	328	Wilson County Sheriff's Dept		6	
Warioto	406	White House Police Dept	dropped	5	
Warioto	438	City of White House		8	8
Warioto	183	Springfield Police Dept	dropped	7	0

Exploring and the Commissioner

Questions & Answers to Current Posts

What are Exploring Units goals?

- Post 106 - To train Explorers on law enforcement situations, how to be a better person, public speaking and how to be a leader to name a few.
- Post 513 - Learns the trade of firefighting (fire engineering, leadership, and skills). Once a certain level of training is achieved the Explorers can ride along with full time personnel to emergency calls and assist with limited items.
- Post 276 - We teach career specific items, preparing our youth for a career in the field. We serve the community by providing assistance with events.
- Post 710 - Our Explorers attend monthly meeting (usually twice a month) which have Law Enforcement specific topics. We have an adult council that create presentations and hands on demonstrations from topics chosen by the Explorers.
- Post 790 – Train weekly in the field of law enforcement. Senior Explorers are able to do ride with officers.
- Post 7200 – Ages 14-15 only help with administrative work, classroom training, and cleanup due to Child Labor Law. Once 16, they can ride on any apparatus 1000 gal or less capacity. At the scenes, they are allowed to do any duty except live fire inside a structure that is no under control, and no ladders over 35 feet.

How do Exploring Units get youth into their program?

- Post 106 - We recruit by word of mouth through the schools and a yearly open house.
- Post 513 - One open house a year. Partner with local schools who allow us to speak with their students. They also have an interest form online.
- Post 276 - We use work of mouth to recruit but also have our Facebook page and flyers/business cards/pamphlets that can be handed out.
- Post 710 - We do an open house. That event is advertised by distributing a flyer to the local schools. We are very active in the Community and are seen by others.
- Post 790 – Mainly by word of mouth. We also set up booths at career days in schools and give information about the post.
- Post 7200 – We have a Fire Science program in the high school, where we certify students as Certified Volunteer Firefighters. Those students are not required to join Explorers, but we have about 25% who do. Word of mouth and social medial are our best means of advertising and recruiting.

What problems do Exploring Units have?

- Post 106 - School functions going on at the same time usually drops attendance but not a huge issue.
- Post 513 - No issues yet.
- Post 276 - Our biggest problem is participation, especially with all the hate speech against police these days. This also prohibits growth.
- Post 710 - No problems. The advisors and youth chose this because it is something they love to do.
- Post 790 – We do not have many problems due to the discipline we instill in our Explorers. Trouble is not tolerated.
- Post 7200 – As with any teenager, our biggest problems are childish and immature behavior.

Do they have growth? How is it handled?

- Post 106 - No growth problems.
- Post 513 - Capped at 40 Explorers for now.
- Post 710 - We set our ages at 14-18 and this was done for a reason. Our plan is to have them as Explorers, when they turn 18 hire them as a cadet, and with they turn 21, hire them to be a police officer. I also set the cap at 20 Explores. Any more than that would be too much.
- Post 790 – Always looking for something new and different to do. Age requirements affects our size because of Explorers getting to old to participate.
- Post 7200 – The only way we will continue to grow is to provide a fun and positive atmosphere for the current Explores. They are our best recruitment tool.

Funding?

- Post 106 - Fund raisers through different events like parking details. The money goes towards equipment, going to competitions, and yearly dues.
- Post 513 - City of LaVergne provides funds for our program. Additional funds need with be raised through fund raising events if needed.
- Post 276 - We do a major fundraiser every year. Funds covers uniforms, training, and recruiting materials. Also trips and food.
- Post 710 - We have great community partners and fund our post by donations. This covers the cost of the uniform shirts, patches, and registration.
- Post 790 – Funded by the local departments, city, and county. We also raise money through fundraisers and local businesses are very supportive. Our money provides uniforms, duty gear, lodging at competitions, competition entry fees, transportation, food, and whatever else we need.
- Post 7200 – We are funded directly though the Fire Department budget. Any money we receive goes toward certifications and dues. Any shirts or uniforms is paid out of pocket.

How to recruit and retain leaders

- Post 106 - Sometimes they ask for volunteer and sometimes they come looking to volunteer.
- Post 513 - We do not recruit adult volunteers. All of our registered adult advisors are employees of the Fire Department in LaVergne. Each advisor had to apply for the position.
- Post 276 - Most volunteers are from with the department.
- Post 710 - This is the hard for us as not many people want to volunteer. I sent a departmental email to all 100+ employees and all I got was crickets. So, I leaned on those who actually participate in community affair events. So, we help them with their community events and they help with Explorers.
- Post 7200 – Word of mouth and social media.

Post / Club _____ of _____ District
2019 Exploring's Journey to Excellence
"Exploring's method for annual planning and continuous improvement"

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Committee and Planning					Total Points: 300		
#1	Committee and planning: Have an active post or club committee.	Post or club committee adopts an annual plan and meets at least twice a year.	The post or club committee meets at least four times a year.	The post or club committee meets at least six times a year.	100	200	300
Participants and Growth					Total Points: 500		
#2	Open house: Conduct an open house or recruitment event.	Conduct an open house or recruitment event.	Conduct an open house or recruitment event in November.	Conduct an open house or recruitment event in September or October.	100	200	300
#3	Growth: Recruit and retain youth in the post or club in order to grow membership.	Maintain or grow number of youth participating in post or club programs as compared to the prior year.	Achieve Bronze, plus at least half of the youth remain involved throughout the year.	Achieve Bronze, plus at least two-thirds of the youth remain involved throughout the year.	50	100	200
Program					Total Points: 700		
#4	Post or club program: Include interactive activities in the post or club program/meetings.	40% of meetings include interactive activities.	70% of meetings include interactive activities.	85% of meetings include interactive activities.	50	100	200
#5	Youth leadership: Have trained youth leadership.	Have active youth officers.	Achieve Bronze, plus post or club Officers' Seminar is conducted for all youth officers.	Achieve Silver, plus at least 3 Explorers complete the requirements as outlined in the Officers' Seminar.	50	100	200
#6	Super activity: The post or club plans and/or participates in a super activity.	Explorers participate in an activity, either nationally, regionally, or locally.	The post or club will plan and conduct its own super activity.	Achieve Silver with at least 50% Explorers in attendance.	50	100	150
#7	Service projects: The post or club participates in one or more community service projects.	Explorers performed one or more community service projects averaging three hours per registered Explorer.	Explorers performed one or more community service projects averaging four hours per registered Explorer.	Explorers performed one or more community service projects averaging six hours per registered Explorer.	50	100	150
Volunteer Leadership					Total Points: 800		
#8A	Post adult leadership: Have registered and engaged adult leaders.	Have five registered adult leaders including: Advisor, associate Advisor, committee chair, and two committee members.	Have six registered adult leaders including: Advisor, associate Advisor, committee chair, and two committee members.	Have eight or more registered adult leaders including: Advisor, associate Advisor, committee chair, and two committee members.	100	200	300
#8B	Club adult leadership: Have registered and engaged adult leaders.	Have three registered adult leaders including: Sponsor, a co-sponsor, and a committee member.	Have four registered adult leaders including: Sponsor, co-sponsor, and two committee members.	Have five registered adult leaders including: Sponsor, co-sponsor, and three committee members.	100	200	300
#9	Trained adults: Have trained adult leaders. All adult volunteers have current youth protection training.	Advisor, an associate advisor, sponsor, or a co-sponsor has completed position-specific training.	Achieve Bronze, plus 50% of registered adults have completed Adult Explorer Leader Training.	Achieve Silver, plus 75% of registered adults have completed Adult Explorer Leader Training.	50	100	200

- ☐ **Bronze:** Earn at least 600 points by earning points in at least 6 objectives.
- ☐ **Silver:** Earn at least 900 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.
- ☐ **Gold:** Earn at least 1,200 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.

Total points earned: _____

No. of objectives with points: _____

- ☐ *Post/Club leaders have met with the executive officer of the participating organization.*
- ☐ *Our post/club has submitted our renewal forms with the necessary signatures and fees prior to the deadline.*
- ☐ *We certify that these requirements have been completed:*

Advisor/Sponsor _____ Date _____

President _____ Date _____

LFL Representative _____ Date _____

This form should be submitted to the local Learning for Life office.

Post / Club _____ of _____ District
2018 Exploring's Journey to Excellence
"Exploring's method for annual planning and continuous improvement"

Item	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Committee and Planning					Total Points: 300		
#1	Committee and Planning: Have an active post or club committee.	Post or club committee adopts an annual plan and meets at least twice a year.	The post or club committee meets at least four times a year.	The post or club committee meets at least six times a year.	100	200	300
Participants and Growth					Total Points: 500		
#2	Open house: Conduct an open house or recruitment event.	Conduct an open house or recruitment event.	Conduct an open house or recruitment event in November.	Conduct an open house or recruitment event in September or October.	100	200	300
#3	Growth: Recruit and retain youth in the post in order to grow membership.	Maintain or grow number of youth participating in post or club programs as compared to the prior year.	Achieve Bronze, plus at least half of the youth remain involved throughout the year.	Achieve Bronze, plus at least two-thirds of the youth remain involved throughout the year.	50	100	200
Program					Total Points: 700		
#4	Post or club program: Include interactive activities in the post or club program/meetings.	40% of meetings include interactive activities.	70% of meetings include interactive activities.	85% of meetings include interactive activities.	50	100	200
#5	Youth leadership: Have trained youth leadership.	Have active youth officers.	Achieve Bronze, plus post or club Officers' Seminar is conducted for all youth officers.	Achieve Silver, plus Youth Leadership Workshop is conducted or 3 Explorers complete the Exploring Leadership Experience.	50	100	200
#6	Super activity: The post or club plans and/or participates in a super activity.	Explorers participate in an activity, either nationally, regionally, or locally.	The post or club will plan and conduct it's own super activity.	Achieve Silver with at least 50% Explorers in attendance.	50	100	150
#7	Service projects: The post or club participates in one or more community service projects.	Explorers performed one or more community service projects averaging three hours per registered Explorer.	Explorers performed one or more community service projects averaging four hours per registered Explorer.	Explorers performed one or more community service projects averaging six hours per registered Explorer.	50	100	150
Volunteer Leadership					Total Points: 800		
#8A	Post adult leadership: Have registered and engaged adult leaders.	Have five registered adult leaders including: Advisor, associate Advisor, committee chair, and two committee members.	Have six registered adult leaders including: Advisor, associate Advisor, committee chair, and two committee members.	Have eight or more registered adult leaders including: Advisor, associate Advisor, committee chair, and two committee members.	100	200	300
#8B	Club adult leadership: Have registered and engaged adult leaders.	Have three registered adult leaders including: Sponsor, an associate sponsor, and a committee member.	Have four registered adult leaders including: Sponsor, co-sponsor, and two committee members.	Have five registered adult leaders including: Sponsor, co-sponsor, and three committee members.	100	200	300
#9	Trained adults: Have trained adult leaders. All adult volunteers have current youth protection training.	Advisor, an associate advisor, sponsor, or an associate sponsor has completed position-specific training.	Achieve Bronze, plus 50% of registered adults have completed Adult Explorer Leader Training.	Achieve Silver, plus 75% of registered adults have completed Adult Explorer Leader Training.	50	100	200

- ☐ **Bronze:** Earn at least 600 points by earning points in at least 6 objectives.
- ☐ **Silver:** Earn at least 900 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.
- ☐ **Gold:** Earn at least 1,200 points by earning points in at least 7 objectives.

Total points earned: _____

No. of objectives with points: _____

- ☐ *Post/Club leaders have met with the executive officer of the participating organization.*
- ☐ *Our post/club has submitted our renewal forms with the necessary signatures and fees prior to the deadline.*
- ☐ *We certify that these requirements have been completed:*

Advisor/Sponsor _____ Date _____

President _____ Date _____

LFL Representative _____ Date _____

This form should be submitted to the local Learning for Life office.

Exploring's Journey to Excellence

2019 District Planning, Performance, and Recognition

	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
Finance		Category Total Needed for Overall Gold: 225			Max Points:		600
#1	Fundraising performance: Achieve district Exploring goals as defined by the council.	Meet/exceed goal established for bronze. \$ _____	Meet or exceed goal established for silver. \$ _____	Meet or exceed goal established for gold. \$ _____	150	200	400
#2	Fundraising manpower: Achieve district goals as defined by the council.	Meet or exceed goal established for bronze. Total of _____	Meet or exceed goal established for silver. Total of _____	Meet or exceed goal established for gold. Total of _____	75	100	200
Participation		Category Total Needed for Overall Gold: 325			Max Points:		900
#3	Community impact: Increase market share.	0.25% density or 2% growth (i.e. .200% to .204%)	0.60% density or 5% growth	1.75% density or 8% growth	100	200	300
#4	Youth participation growth: Increase number of Explorers.	Greater than last year	3% over prior year	5% over prior year	75	100	200
#5	Post/Club growth: Increase over prior year.	3%	7%	10%	75	100	200
#6	Student interest data: Collect data on specific student career interests.	50% of high schools surveyed	70% of high schools surveyed	90% of high schools surveyed	75	100	200
Program		Category Total Needed for Overall Gold: 125			Max Points:		500
#7	Post/Club program: Posts and clubs hold annual All-in-One Program Planning Meetings.	40% of posts or clubs hold meeting	70% of posts or clubs hold meeting	85% of posts or clubs hold meeting	25	50	100
#8	Super activity: Posts conduct super activities.	30% of posts participate in a super activity	50% of posts participate in a super activity	60% of posts participate in a super activity	25	50	100
#9	Community service: Increase community service provided by Explorers.	Average 3 hours per Explorer or 0.25 hour increase	Average 4 hours per Explorer, or 3 hours and 0.25 hour increase	Average 6 hours per Explorer, or 4 hours and 0.25 hour increase	25	50	100
#10	Youth leadership: Have an active Explorer Officers' Association (EOA).	40% of posts are represented in the EOA	60% of posts are represented in the EOA	80% of posts are represented in the EOA	25	50	100
#11	Open house recruiting: Posts and clubs conduct a recruitment event annually during September - November.	65% of all posts and clubs based on 12/31 registration	75% of all posts and clubs based on 12/31 registration	85% of all posts and clubs based on 12/31 registration	25	50	100
Service Team		Category Total Needed for Overall Gold: 200			Max Points:		600
#12	Service team members: Increase the number of registered service team members over prior year.	Ratio of 1:8, or 5% increase in number of registered team members	1:6, or 1:8 ratio and 5% increase in total number of registered team members	1:4, or 1:6 ratio and 5% increase in total number of registered team members	100	200	300
#13	Post/Club performance: Improve the performance ratings using National Exploring Journey to Excellence Award metrics.	40% of the posts and clubs in the district achieve the Bronze award or above	60% of the posts and clubs in the district achieve the Bronze award or above	70% of the posts and clubs in the district achieve the Bronze award or above	100	200	300
Leadership & Governance		Category Total Needed for Overall Gold: 150			Max Points:		400
#14	District leadership: Increase number of registered volunteers on Exploring district committee.	At least 6 members or increase of one person	At least 12, or at least 6 and increase of two people	At least 19, or at least 12 and increase of three people	75	100	200
#15	Trained adults: Post advisors and club sponsors have completed Youth Protection Training and Exploring online training modules.	30% of advisors and sponsors have completed training	55% of advisors and sponsors have completed training	75% of advisors and sponsors have completed training	75	100	200

Scoring: Gold- Total of 1,650 total points plus minimums in every category, Silver- Total of 1,350 points, Bronze- Total of 1,000 points

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Commissioner Service to Exploring FAQ's



TRAINING

Is there an in-person training available? No. All Exploring Unit Commissioners and Service Team members must complete training online at my.scouting.org.

What training is available to UC's serving Exploring units? A new *supplemental* training module will be available in my.scouting.org by the end of April 2017. This is the "Servicing Explorer Units" module. However, unless the Unit Commissioner is familiar with Exploring, it is strongly recommended that he/she also complete the Service Team position training within the Exploring LMS (through my.scouting.org).

Is there a guidebook for an Exploring Unit Commissioner? Information that Exploring Unit Commissioners need to know is shared within the online training modules. For this reason, a guidebook will not be created. Additional Exploring information and program resources are available at www.exploring.org including the Exploring Guidebook for Youth and Adult Leaders.

Is there a PowerPoint available? Yes. The PowerPoint (Introduction to Exploring for Commissioners) is meant to be used as an introduction to this new initiative and does not suffice as a training. You can download the PowerPoint from www.exploring.org/training-safety in the "Training Resources" box at the bottom of the web page.

COMMISSIONER TOOLS

Does the Exploring Unit Commissioner get the same access as a Unit Commissioner? Yes.

Can Unit Commissioners log contacts for all unit types? Yes, both Exploring and traditional unit contacts can be entered.

Does Commissioner Tools show Exploring data? While Exploring unit contacts can now be logged, other data like trainings and membership are coming soon.

Are the unit contact questions different for an Exploring unit as compared to a Scouting unit? Yes. The questions are based on the Post/Club JTE scorecard available at www.scouting.org/ite.

Do Exploring Service Team Members have access to Commissioner Tools? Yes.

REGISTRATION

Is there a special position code for Unit Commissioners that are serving Exploring units? No.

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

Are Explorer posts and clubs now calculated into overall unit totals when it comes the contact percentages? Yes.

Which 2017 Unit Service JTE objectives are impacted by Exploring on the council scorecard? #'s 13,14, & 15 What about the district scorecard? #'s 12,13, & 14. Note: Exploring also contributes to a total of 8 measurements in the council scorecard and a total of 10 measurements in the District scorecard.

Is there a JTE scorecard for Explorer posts and clubs? Yes. For Exploring-only districts? Yes.
Download them both from www.scouting.org/jte.

OTHER

When did this change to Commissioner Tools occur? Exploring units were made available in Commissioner Tools on March 1, 2017. Unit Commissioners and Service Team members may begin serving Exploring units at any time.

How is this change being announced to the field? In March, this announcement and list of FAQ's was included in the Exploring newsletter, Commissioner Tools Status memo, Area Director newsletter, Scout Executive Council packet, BSA Employee Newsletter, and announced on Scoutingwire.org. In addition, the same announcement was shared in the following Facebook groups: Exploring Success, The Firm, Central Region Unit Serving Executive and the various Commissioner social media outlets. An article will be included in the spring issue of **The Commissioner** newsletter which normally is published just before the National Annual Meeting in May. Lastly, an email was sent directly from the National Exploring Office to the Exploring Executives, LFL Executives and registrar's email distribution lists in Outlook on March 31, 2017.

The announcement is also addressed at all of the Exploring Certification training courses for professionals and volunteers starting April 2017.

Are Exploring Unit Commissioners responsible for starting new Exploring units? No. While starting new units is certainly important, and we encourage everyone to play a part, the primary responsibility for starting new units remains with the professional staff and the volunteer structure that was created for their service area.

Does a Unit Commissioner have to be experienced with the Career Field of the Post in which he/she is servicing? You may find that current Unit Commissioners already represent a very large number of careers within your community. In servicing Posts/Clubs, it may be helpful to allow Unit Commissioners to service those units in which they presently work or have worked in the Career Field in which the Post/Club is specializing. This would give the Unit Commissioner a distinct advantage in being able to build relationships, credibility, and instantly relate to the leadership within the unit. Remember, the Post advisors