



What's New in Wood Badge

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

September 1, 2022: New for 2022–2023

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: 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.



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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.”



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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 (#).