



DATE: December 31, 2013

SUBJECT: National Flagship Competition

FROM: Keith Christopher, National Sea Scout Director
Charles Wurster, National Sea Scout Commodore

TO: Scout Executives and Sea Scout Ship Adult Leadership

Action: Publicize the National Sea Scout Flagship competition and distribute the attached Sea Scout National Flagship Scoresheet immediately to all ships in your council.

In honor of the 90th anniversary of Sea Scouts in 2002, BoatUS, the nation's largest recreational boating organization, instituted the annual Sea Scout National Flagship Award. Since then the award has been presented to ships from Texas, Ohio, Maryland, West Virginia, California, and Oregon.

Now is the time for all ships to take stock of their past year's program and document their accomplishments to apply for the annual National Flagship Competition. You will find attached the Annual Sea Scout Flagship Application, Sea Scout Ship Performance outline and the Ship's Performance Scoresheet for the Journey to Excellence Award.

Make sure the ship meets the entire minimal standard on this scoresheet. If you feel that the ship qualifies, have the Sea Scouts in the ship put together a compelling packet of information that tells the judges why the ship deserves this prestigious honor. The application should include the completed scoresheet and a written narrative supplemented by other materials to support the ship's application. Supporting material can include, but is not limited to, videos, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, meeting minutes, letters, etc. Be comprehensive, yet concise and creative.

A ship must meet the minimal national standards in all areas for a calendar year starting January 1 and ending December 31. The application is due to the National Sea Scout Office by March 31, 2014 to be considered for the National Flagship Award. The address is National Flagship Competition, Boy Scouts of America, National Sea Scout Office, SUM 251, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, Texas 75038. For questions, call (972) 580-2448.

Please note that simply filling out the scoresheet and mailing it without supporting materials will not qualify the ship for this award.

The ship that is awarded the National Flagship honor will be allowed to wear the National Flagship patch with the current year and fly the National Flagship flag with four stars. (There are patches for the uniform and a ship's flag available through the BSA Supply Group, which can be ordered and paid for by the winning ship.)



Annual Sea Scout Flagship Application

Directions:

This application and scoresheet, along with supporting materials, will be used to determine the annual National Flagship Award recipient. It is to be filled out by the ship's quarterdeck and the Skipper. A ship must meet the minimal national standards in all areas for a calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31. The application is due to the National Sea Scout Department by **March 31 of the following year**, to be considered for the National Flagship honor.

Ship No. _____ Ship name _____ Date form submitted _____

Charter organization _____

Skipper _____ Ship Boatswain _____

Council Name _____ Council No. _____

District/Division _____ Charter expiration date _____

Submitted by _____ Print Name _____

Telephone: Office: _____ Address _____

Home: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Cell: _____ Email: _____

COUNCIL APPROVAL: We recommend and approve this Sea Scout Ship's nomination for the National Flagship Award. (A letter of reference can also be submitted with the application if desired.)

Signed _____ Date _____

(Scout executive or Council designee)

Council Name _____ Council No. _____

Contact Telephone: Office: _____ Other: _____

COUNCIL COMMODORE APPROVAL: (If applicable position available in council) I recommend and approve this Sea Scout Ship's nomination for the National Flagship Award. (A letter of reference can also be submitted with the application if desired.)

Signed _____ Date _____

(Council Commodore)

Print Name _____ Email: _____

Contact Telephone: Office: _____ Other: _____

CHARTER ORGANIZATION APPROVAL: We recommend and approve this Sea Scout Ship's nomination for the National Flagship Award. (A letter of reference can also be submitted with the application if desired.)

Signed _____ Date _____

(Charter Organization Representative or Institutional Head)

Print Name _____ Email: _____

Contact Telephone: Office: _____ Other: _____



Sea Scout Ship Performance

Directions: Please describe your Ship's annual performance for each of the following in a separate document. A Ship's Log with photos or video is strongly encouraged.

Special Celebrations, activities, events held in celebration of the Sea Scouts in 2013:

- Events held with dates, programs, activities. Brief description of the program.
- Number of youth members, parents, leaders, and visitors (non-Sea Scouts) who participated.
- Attach a couple of pictures of the events held.
- Description of any key successes from the event being held.

Sea Scout Advancement:

- List number of Sea Scouts who each achieved Apprentice, Ordinary, Able and Quartermaster.
- Number of Sea Scouts who attended specialized training activities, such as First Aid, CPR, Life Guard or a safe boating course.
- Number of Sea Scouts who attended ILSS, SEAL, Quarterdeck training, other youth trainings.
- Number of Sea Scouts who earned the Long Cruise Award in past 12 months.

Sea Scout Recognitions:

- Held Sea Scout Bridge of Honor with Landship to recognize Sea Scout advancement.
- Occasions for presenting awards and recognitions at regular meetings.

On Water Activities:

- Describe all on water activities, and dates from your Ship's Log, of any of the following activities:
 - All Long Cruises, ports of call and time on the water
 - All weekend cruises, destinations and time on the water
 - All underway Drills, including, but not limited to: 1) Man Overboard Recovery, 2) Abandon Ship, 3) Collision, 4) Fire, 5) Anchoring

Sea Scout Activities:

- Describe any and all Council, Regional, or National Sea Scout activities your Ship participated in over the past year. These many include, but are not limited to, Safety @ Sea, Regattas, Rendezvous, Scout-o-Rama, Merit Badge Midway or similar events.

Color Guard Activities:

- List with date any and all Color Guard services provided at any community or Scout event.

Community Service:

- Describe all community service by project and date.

Recruiting Activities:

- Describe all recruiting activities and means of retaining Sea Scouts in your Ship.

Sea Scout Leader Professional Development:

- List all adults who completed all required Scout trainings, such as *Youth Protection* or *This is Scouting*.
- List any adult volunteers who either took or have taken in the past any of the following trainings: Sea Scout Specialized Leader Training, Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic Training, Seabadge, or Seabadge Underway.
- List any adult volunteers, who have taken a boating course from organizations such as the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, United States Power Squadrons, US Sailing, American Sailing Association, National Safe Boating Council, any state approved course or similar organization.

SPECIAL NOTE: National Flagship Fleet Selection – Sea Scout Ships with outstanding programs who are not selected to be the BoatUS National Flagship maybe selected as a member of the National Flagship Fleet by the Selection Committee and will be notified by the committee.

SHIP _____ of _____ District
2013 Scouting's Journey to Excellence

Item Number	Objective	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Bronze Points	Silver Points	Gold Points
1	Activities: The ship has regular activities throughout the year reflecting the interests of the youth members.	Have carried out at least four activities.	Have carried out at least five activities.	Have carried out at least six activities.	100	200	400
2	Building Sea Scouts: Have an increase in membership or be larger than the average size ship.	Have a net gain of one member over last year, or have at least seven members.	Increase youth members by 5% or have at least 10 members.	Increase youth members by 10% or have at least 15 members with an increase over last year.	75	150	300
3	Retention: Improve retention rate.	Retain and re-register 45% of eligible members or have a 2 percentage points increase.	Retain and re-register 60% of members, or retain and re-register 45% and have a 2 percentage points increase.	Retain and re-register 80% of members, or retain and re-register 60% and have a 2 percentage points increase.	75	150	300
4	Youth leadership: The ship has elected youth leaders who are leading the ship activities.	Have an elected boatswain, boatswain's mate, yeoman, and purser, and they are leading the activities of the ship.	Bronze level, plus 50% of the youth participate in Sea Scout quarterdeck training.	Silver level, plus 70% of youth participate in Sea Scout quarterdeck training.	75	150	300
5	Service projects: The ship participates in service projects, with one benefitting your chartering organization. The projects and hours are entered on the Journey to Excellence website.	Participate in two service projects.	Participate in three service projects.	Participate in four service projects.	75	150	300
6	Trained leadership: Have a trained and engaged ship committee.	Have a Skipper, a mate, and a committee with at least three members.	Bronze level, plus Skipper, mates, and 2/3 of other registered adults have completed <u>Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic Training</u> , or if new, complete within three months of joining.	Silver level, plus 50% of youth participate in a youth training course.	75	150	300
7	Super activity/Long Cruise: The ship participates in a super activity/long cruise.	Participates in a super activity/long cruise.	55% of youth attend a super activity/long cruise.	75% of youth attend a super activity/long cruise.	75	150	300
8	Budget: The ship has a budget and follows BSA policies relating to fundraising and fiscal management.	Have a written budget reviewed at committee meetings and that follow BSA policies.	Earn the Bronze level, plus the scouts participate in the budget planning process.	Earn the Silver level, plus have the budget completed before the next program year.	25	50	100
9	Fitness: Ship meetings and activities include physical fitness components	Introduce the SCOUTSStrong program in the ship.	Bronze plus the ship promotes and coordinates group fitness activities.	Silver plus the ship holds an ongoing fitness competition where members can track their performance.	50	100	200
10	Reregister on-time	Complete charter reregistration, obtain all signatures, and submit paperwork to the council office or your commissioner prior to the expiration of your charter.	Meet the Bronze level, plus email addresses are provided for all parents of youth members and registered adults who have one.	Meet the Silver level, plus promote the new Unit Tools software program accessed through your MyScouting account.	25	50	100

Points _____

Bronze: Earn at least 700 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives.

Silver: Earn at least 1,000 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives.

Gold: Earn at least 1,600 points by earning points in at least 8 objectives.

Total points _____

We certify on our honor as Venturers and Venturing leaders that these requirements have been completed.

Ship Boatswain _____ Ship Yeoman _____ **Level achieved** _____

Skipper _____ Committee chair _____ **Did not achieve** _____

Commissioner _____ Chartered Org. Rep. _____ Date _____

This form should be turned in to the Scout service center or your commissioner with your charter renewal paperwork.

Scouting's Journey to Excellence

2013 Ship Performance Recognition Program

Journey to Excellence changes the basic way we measure and recognize success in the Boy Scouts of America by moving away from measuring process and moving to measuring performance. Below provides specific information to help you understand the criteria and exactly what data will be used to determine the three levels of performance. In planning your strategy, use actual numbers from the previous year to guide your performance improvement goal planning. The ship youth leaders should take the lead in making this assessment. In each area, the ship may qualify by meeting a specific standard or by showing measured improvement.

1	The ship has regular activities (not including normal ship meetings).
2	At charter renewal time, have an increase in the number of youth members over the number of youth members on the previous year's charter renewal.
3	Number of youth members on this year's recharter (C) divided by the number of youth members on last year's recharter (D) plus any additional youth members (E) minus any transfer outs or age outs (F). Total = (C) / (D+E-F).
4	The ship has elected youth leaders as boatswain, boatswain's mate, yeoman, and purser who are leading the activities of the ship.
5	The ship participates in at least two service projects during the year and enters them on the Journey to Excellence website. The projects may be completed as joint projects with other organizations. At least one project must benefit the chartered organization.
6	Have a Skipper, a mate and a committee with at least 3 members. Skipper, mates, and 2/3 of members of committee (paid or multiple registration) have completed <u>Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic</u> training, or new leaders complete them within three months of joining. Youth officer election and installation is held annually.
7	The ship participates in at least one super activity/long cruise of at least three days and three nights, divided by the number of Sea Scouts on 6/30/2013.
8	The ship has a written budget that is reviewed at all ship committee meetings, and the ship follows BSA policies relating to fundraising and fiscal management as found on the Unit Money-Earning Application form, the ships purser's book, and any other publication that the council has developed for fundraising and fiscal management.
9	The ship meetings have activities that include a physical fitness component. This is ongoing and members can track their performance. The ship is introduced to the SCOUTstrong PALA award by going to www.scouting.org/SCOUTstrongPALA .
10	Complete the ship's charter renewal paperwork, including all required signatures, and submit completed forms to the council service center or your commissioner before the end of the charter year. Provide all email addresses for parents and registered adults on charter renewal forms and promote the new "Unit Tools" software accessed through your MyScouting account.

Scoring the ship's performance: To determine the ship's performance level, you will use the above information to determine the points earned for each of the 10 individual criteria and then add those individual point scores to determine a composite score. Count only the highest point total achieved in any one criterion. Bronze level requires earning points in at least 8 criteria plus 700 points, Silver level requires earning points in at least 8 criteria and 1,000 points, and Gold level requires earning points in at least 8 criteria and 1,600 points.

For more resources: www.scouting.org/jte

The spreadsheets will be especially helpful to you!

