# 2021 Silver Beaver Award Nominations

In Scouting, we say “it’s about the youth” and none of our adults are involved for the recognition, but every now and then we need to say thanks especially to those volunteers whose leadership and example has left a lasting positive impact on the program and the broader community. One way we do that is through nominating a Scouter for the Silver Beaver Award, the highest adult recognition a council can bestow. Take a few moments to reflect on volunteers within your unit or district and consider nominating them for the Silver Beaver Award.

**A detailed nomination form is available by clicking here and all nominations must be received by Friday, December 4, 2020.**

Completed nominations should be emailed to: awards@mayflowerbsa.org. The awards will be presented at the Council’s Recognition Dinner to be held sometime in the Spring of 2021.

**Frequently asked questions about the Silver Beaver Award:**

## Overview

To recognize registered Scouters of exceptional character who have provided distinguished service within a council. The award is presented by the National Court of Honor on behalf of councils.

## Who Can Earn This Award?

Anyone may nominate any deserving registered Scouter to the council, which selects recipients for the following year. Each council may process their own annual allotment of Silver

Beaver awards and shall send a list of Silver Beaver awards presented each calendar year to the National Court of Honor no later than January 31 of the following year.

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# Mayflower Council Moves to New Headquarters

Mayflower Council, Inc, Boy Scouts of America, announced that they have acquired an office building in Milford, MA to serve as their new Service Center headquarters. The building, located at 83 Cedar Street, Milford, will provide 8,100 sq. ft. of office and meeting space for the Council's 17 professional and support staff.

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# September Training Newsletter

September Training Newsletter

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MAYFLOWER COUNCIL

# Training News

September 2020

## Pandemic Update

Mayflower Council suspended all in-person training courses in the spring. We'd love to be back out there delivering in-person training sessions all across the council now, but until the pandemic is under control, we're operating in a modified capacity to minimize risk to our participants, our trainers, and their families.

Right now, we offer two main avenues for training:

1. **Online training from the BSA:** It's available 24/7 at https://my.scouting.org. We know it's not as interactive as in-person training, but it's the most convenient option. Right now, it's also the safest.
   - If you need to renew your **Youth Protection Training (YPT)**, this is the way to do it.
   - You can complete **Position-Specific Training** (for the "Trained" patch) for almost every Scouting position through BSA online.

2. **Local webinars:** Our volunteer trainers are continuing to run a series of online training sessions. Please see the calendar at right, and check the weekly Mayflower Council news email for additions to the list. These sessions include:
   - "Live" versions of certain **Position-Specific Training** courses. For example, we'll run basic training for Cub Scout leaders this fall. It's a good way to (virtually) meet fellow leaders, share ideas, and be able to ask questions.
   - Webinars on **other timely topics of interest** (see "Scoutbook" training, for example).

There are a few things we can't do. For example, National does not allow us to create our own "webinar" versions of IOLS, BALOO, or YPT. IOLS and BALOO are outdoor camping skills courses where it's just not possible to achieve the learning objectives without a hands-on outdoor component. As for first aid training, we follow the policies of the American Red Cross, which still requires in-person skill verification to get (re)certified.

We are investigating whether we can run IOLS or BALOO later this fall. Obviously there would be many modifications in terms of numbers, facilities, equipment, and group teaching to be able to do it safely. A team of volunteers is currently reviewing whether it's possible to do this while staying true to the goals and requirements of the training. We're also following news from National (which is testing an IOLS "hybrid" course) and other nearby councils (some have canceled altogether; others are trying to plan limited fall offerings). We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we try to fulfill our mission without putting people at risk.

## Upcoming Online Opportunities



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

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|---|---|
| Sept 3* | New Member Coordinator Workshop |
| Sept 8* | Tips for Success with Scoutbook |
| Sept 27⁺ | Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 1 of 2) |

Dates to be announced:

- Cub Leader Position-Specific (Part 2 of 2)
- "Be A Scout"/Membership Tools
- Den Chief Workshop *(maybe… working on it)*
- Merit Badge Counselor Training

## Changes to My.Scouting Interface… But Records Have Not Been Lost!

In late spring, the BSA rolled out some changes to the way you find training courses on My.Scouting. The point of this reorganization was to group individual training segments into a "learning plan" for each position, make it easier to find segments you still need to take (for example, Hazardous Weather isn't hidden in a different place like it used to be), and have credit carry over so you don't have to take the same segment twice for two different positions.

Many Scouters noticed that after this change, their "learning plans" did not list all their previous completions. We heard a lot of questions and concerns about this. Our contacts at National confirmed that this is a known problem, and they were not able to transfer all those completions when they made the switch. **But there's good news!** The training you took in the past **will** still show up on your official record—which is what really counts. Here's how to check your official record:

1. Go to https://my.scouting.org.
2. From the menu, choose "My Training."
3. Click "Completions."

We checked this for everyone who asked, and the official records still looked complete. The main case where this won't work is if you have two different My.Scouting accounts or member IDs that still need to be merged.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- *Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration:* www.mayflowerbsa.org/training
- *BSA online training:* https://my.scouting.org
- *Council training chair:* Chris Lamie: chris.lamie@gmail.com
- *Staff contact:* Kat Nussbaumer: kat@mayflowerbsa.org

**EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!**

# Swim Tests

Do you need your BSA Swim test? Join us at Camp Resolute or Camp Squanto. We have three dates available. Space is limited.

September 5th – 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm

September 8th – 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

September 9th – 5:30 – 7:00 pm

- Each registrant will be given a time slot in 15 min increments and must adhere to COVID restrictions.
- Please arrive on time and in your bathing suit, there are no changing areas.
- Be prepared to do you your swim test and immediately exit the water, there is no free swim time.
- Please wear a mask at all times when not in the water and maintain social distancing.
- Upon arrival there will be a pre-screening of COVID related questions.

The various components of each test evaluate the several skills essential to the minimum level of swimming ability. Each step of the test is important and must be followed as listed below:

SWIMMER'S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the individual's head in depth, level off, and begin swimming. Swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting backstroke (elementary backstroke). The 100 yards must be swum continuously and

include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

BEGINNER’S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the individual’s head in depth, level off, swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming as before, and return to the starting place.

NON-SWIMMER TEST:

This is reserved for anyone that attempts one of the swim tests above and does not complete it to a satisfactory degree, subject to the test’s administrator (Lifeguard or Scout Leader). Anyone who does not attend swim tests is automatically assigned a “Non-Swimmer” classification. Please do not sign up for these swim tests if you are planning to attempt a non-swimmer test, you will be sent home.

Guide to Safe Scouting; what do Swimmers vs Beginners vs Non-Swimmers do?

Guide to Safe Scouting online version

Age appropriate Guidelines for Scouting activities

Sign Up For Camp Resolute
Sign Up For Camp Squanto

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# The Scout Shop Uniform Sale Is Back

This uniform sale helps you save on essential elements of the Scouting experience as a new Scouting year begins.

# New Video Resources Can Help Den Leaders

With the pandemic limiting some in-person activities, these videos offer an easy-to-deliver virtual alternative for leaders.Your Content Goes Here

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# Member Care Transitioning Support to Council

On Sept. 1, Member Care Contact Center will shift to serve council employees so they can address local volunteer needs.

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# Mayflower Council August Roundtable

Thank you everyone that attended the Council-wide roundtable held on Thursday, August 20.

Below are the slide presentations from each of the sessions that you can now download.

Opening Announcements

**Cub Scouts**

How to Meet: Den Leader Outdoor COVID Meeting Guide

Keep Your Pack Sound: Fundraising with COVID Restrictions

**Scouts BSA**

Rank Advancement in the Virtual World: Scout to First Class

Rank Advancement in the Virtual World: Star to Eagle

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# Council-wide Art Contest

## Show off your inner Norman Rockwell!

Do you have an eye for artwork? Do you want to have your work recognized by the council for a whole year? Get creative and use your favorite style of art, whether it is pop art, expressionism, cartoon, black and white, color, whatever you like.

We will pick 5 ultimate winners, one from each of the divisions (Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venture, Explorers, and Ship). Winners will have their submission framed and displayed at the Council Service Center for a whole year, featured on the Council website, and will receive a special shout out in Mayflower Today and facebook!

Entries due by September 30, 2020.

For detailed contest rules and to submit your artwork please

visit the link below!

Submit Your Artwork

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# Virtual Merit Badge Offerings – August-Round 2

The Mayflower Council has secured merit badge counselors to teach a few merit badges virtually.  Scouts can now sign up for the following virtual merit badge offerings.

Space is limited, please sign up as soon as possible.  Each course is only $10.00.

Click on the merit badge you are interested in to sign up.

**Communication** – Have you ever thought about how to improve your skills of holding a conversation? Can you teach a skill and give a speech about a topic you like? This Eagle Required Merit Badge is for you to think about how we communicate with others! You must attend all sessions. Tuesday's,  August 18, August 25, September 1 and September 8 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

**Citizenship In The Nation –** Now is an important time to take Citizenship in the Nation. Join us to have conversations about the founding principles of the United States, how our local representatives work with others around the Country, and how our Scouts can do their best to do their duty to their country! This course runs for 2 consecutive weeks. You must attend all sessions. Wednesday's – August 19 and 26 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.

**Citizenship In The World** – What does it mean to be a Citizen in the World? How well do you know governments around the

world and how they work together? Do you know what an Ambassador does? How about World Wide Scouting? Join us for this Eagle Required Merit Badge and learn all about it! This course runs for 5 consecutive days.  You must attend all sessions. Monday thru Friday, August 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 from 10:00 -11:00 am.