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*

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!