Unit Leader Award of Merit

Background

Quality unit leadership is the key to a quality unit program—and it leads to better Scout retention. Statistics show that if young people stay engaged in the program for at least five years, the BSA's influence likely will stay with them for the rest of their lives. A quality Scouting experience will help keep Scouts in the program, and the Boy Scouts of America created the Unit Leader Award of Merit to recognize the quality unit leaders who make that happen.

The Unit Leader Award of Merit replaces the Scoutmaster, Varsity Team Coach, and Venturing Crew Advisor award of merit programs. This new recognition has revised requirements, and Cubmasters are also eligible for this recognition.

Requirements

The nominee must

- 1. Be a currently registered Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Coach, or Advisor who has served in that position at least 18 continuous months.
- 2. Meet the training requirements for the registered position.
- 3. Distribute a printed or electronic annual unit program plan and calendar to each family in the unit.
- 4. Have a leader succession plan in place.
- 5. Effectively use the advancement method so that at least 60 percent of the unit's youth have advanced at least once during the last 12 months.
- 6. Cultivate a positive relationship with the chartered organization.
- 7. Project a positive image of Scouting in the community.

Nomination Procedure

- 1. The unit committee chair completes the Unit Leader Award of Merit Nomination Form on behalf of the unit committee. For Boy Scout troops, Varsity Scout teams, and Venturer crews, the nomination must include endorsement by the senior patrol leader, team captain, or crew president, respectively.
- 2. The unit or district commissioner certifies that the form is complete.
- 3. The unit submits the nomination form to the council for approval by the Scout executive and council commissioner or president. **The council is resposible for processing the award.**

The Award

Upon receipt of the approved nomination form, the council may present the Unit Leader Award of Merit, which includes a certificate, square knot with the appropriate device, and a special unit leader emblem. Recognition of this achievement may be presented at appropriate district or council events, such as district or council leader recognition dinners, training events, and board meetings.

The award may be presented for each program, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity, and Venturing, if the individual meets the requirements in each program. Only one knot is worn with the devices of each program that the award was earned in.

Unit Leader Award of Merit certificate, No. 512004

Unit Leader Award of Merit square knot, No. 610091

Varsity coach emblem, No. 610092





Scoutmaster emblem, No. 610093

Cubmaster emblem, No. 610094

Venturing Advisor emblem, No. 610095





Unit Leader Award of Merit Nomination Form

Submit to your local council service center.

Address City	Nor	ninee's name as it i	is to appear on the cert	ificate:				
Select one: Cubmaster Pack No. Chartered organization Cubmaster Troop No. Chartered organization Coach Team No. Chartered organization Cach Team No. Chartered organization Advisor Crew No. Chartered organization Service Inclusive dates for the service in the above-selected position (include month and year; must be at least 18 continuous months of service in this position). From to Number months of service Training Date nominee completed training requirements for this position (month and year) Date nominee's unit has an annual unit program plan and calendar, and it is shared with all families in the unit. Unit committee chair initial	Add	tress						
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