



The Dulaney District Advancement Committee *Venturing News*

9 June 2017

Venture Crew Leaders of Dulaney District:

Most of the following is excerpted from the National Advancement News, March-June, 2017 issues:

A. Internet Advancement:

If your Crew missed the February Roundtable, and thus the Internet Training session and you need help in getting up-to-speed on Internet Advancement, please contact Christine Hurt, the District Champion for Internet advancement at Hurtc111@gmail.com

B. Venturing Advancement Structure : A Review:

Venturing has an advancement structure that allows Venturers to develop themselves while working to complete a set of challenges. Each advancement in the structure has requirements that focus on the ALPS model: Adventure – Leadership – Personal Growth – Service.

Upon joining and demonstrating his or her intent to be committed to the program, a youth member first will earn the Venturing Award. Each Venturer may then work towards the Discovery Award by completing several requirements that relate to volunteer service hours, crew participation, CPR/First Aid training, Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews, goal setting, and crew officers' orientation.

Next comes the Pathfinder Award, which requires Venturers to continue participating in their crew activities while taking on more leadership responsibility for planning and conducting crew activities, as well as taking part in an ethical controversies discussion, while also completing additional service hours.

Finally, the Venturer works towards earning the aptly named Summit Award by taking on other crew leadership positions, instructing crew trainings, and mentoring a younger member of the crew. The Summit Award requires completion of a service project where the Venturer leads others. Finally, each Venturer also is asked to set and obtain personal goals, and to lead an ethical controversies discussion.

Similar to Boy Scout advancement, in order to complete any of these four advancements, a Venturer must complete an Advisor conference and a crew board of review.

	Adventure and Activities	Leadership	Personal Growth	Service
Summit	Mentoring and participation	Ongoing leadership development	Goal-setting and personal growth	Leading others in service
Pathfinder	Leading and participation	Leading others	Goal-setting and personal growth	Participating in service
Discovery	Participation	Preparing to lead	Goal-setting and personal growth	Participating in service
Venturer	Initial participation, orientation to the crew, Personal Safety Awareness training, induction into the crew			

C. Useful Tips for Conducting Advisor’s Conferences:

While progressing through the Venturing advancement structure, a Venturer will be required to meet with his or her Crew Advisor for an advisor’s conference, which is a meeting, or rather a friendly conversation, between the Venturer and the Advisor. These sessions provide useful opportunities to review the Venturer’s goals in the crew and within his or her personal life. They will review progress from their most recent advisor’s conference, and encourage the Venturer to set future goals (e.g., crew, personal, faith-related, school, professional, etc.). Meanwhile, the goal of the Advisor should be to ensure that the Venturer is ready for the next board of review.

Here are a few helpful hints to keep in mind when conducting an Advisor’s conference:

- Reinforce the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America and Venturing.
- Establish mutual trust. Encourage a mutual discussion where both the youth and adult feel comfortable enough to share and ask questions of one another.
- Keep the meeting environment relaxed, perhaps by being on a crew outing by a lake or outside of your crew meeting location at a bench, while remembering to be in full view of other people in accordance with BSA youth protection guidelines. Avoid conducting a conference at a table or desk. Keep the conversation casual and friendly.
- Give your undivided care and attention to the youth. Take the time to get to know the Venturer personally.
- Invite the Venturer to share by asking open-ended questions, such as:
 - What is the best crew outing memory you have and why?
 - What are your future goals and what will you do to accomplish them?
 - Last time we discussed your goal of xxx . How do you feel you have accomplished this goal? What have you learned from completing this goal?
- Keep the conversations to about 10-15 minutes in length. The Summit Award Advisor’s conference may be a bit longer (perhaps 30 minutes).

Yours in Scouting;
 Rick Shaw
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