WHY - THE CAMPMASTER PLAN

The Campmaster idea is of added importance at this time due to the increased volume of Troops, Posts, and Packs now using Scout Camps and reservations year-round and, also, the desire to maintain a high standard of camping, picnicking, etc., in the Council. The Campmaster idea is the extension of the commissioner service of the Council into the outdoor phase of the program.

A quality program of fun, adventure, and purpose for our youth is more ensured when such support is given to unit leadership in the outdoor program. Camping units are successful outdoor units. Thus, Campmasters are virtually the key people to help all units succeed in their hikes, picnics and camp-outs when they take place at Council camps and reservations.

WHAT IS THE CAMPMASTER CORPS?

Campmasters comprise a group of selected registered Scouters who volunteer to serve at a council short-term camp whenever Troops, Posts or Packs are using any part of the camp property. They usually serve between August and June. Campmasters select their own time and frequency of service. They usually serve a minimum of two or four times a year on specific pre-arranged dated. The group is usually organized under the leadership of a member of the sub-committee on program and personnel, a part of the Council Camping Committee. The entire project and its personnel are responsible to the Scout Executive or a staff man assigned to him.

The corps generally meets twice a year to regroup and reschedule and to arrange for the training of any new members.

Campmasters are selected on the basis of their ability in several areas; for example: outdoor skills, specialized knowledge of nature, conservation, field sports, etc. All Campmasters must have a record of demonstrated ability to get along with people, to lead, to act in an emergency. All Campmasters should have a working knowledge of Scouting, of Troop operation, and Scout advancement.
HOW CAMPMASTERS ARE SELECTED

After a member of the sub-committee on program and personnel is appointed by the Scout Executive to head the Campmaster group, he requests names of possible candidates for the corps. He may get suggestions from the following; Council Executive Board, District Committee Chairman, District Commissioners, District Scout Executives, Advancement Committee personnel, etc. A careful appraisal should be made of these names before the candidates are notified of selection. The District Scout Executive or District Commissioner may assist in this.

The number of Campmasters selected will depend upon the number of short-term camps to be served, the frequency of service by individual, and the number of Troops in camp at one time. Each two Campmasters generally serve three to four Troops. For example; if 34 short-term camping sessions are to be covered (August through June) and two Campmasters are on duty at each campout and each two Campmasters serve an average of two times in this period, 30 Campmasters would be needed. It is assumed there would be three to four Troops in camp.

Campmasters should, if possible, agree to serve a minimum of twice a year.
GENERAL DUTIES OF CAMPMASTERS

These principles will serve to guide the work of Campmasters.

1. Each two Campmasters serve one to four Units per weekend.
2. They render commissioner-type service to the Units in camp, working with and through the Unit leaders.
3. An annual or semi-annual schedule is made up with Campmasters assigned for each short-term (weekend) camp.
4. In case of conflict the Campmaster arranges his/her substitute with the Head Campmaster, who will notify Council Service Center of change.
5. Campmasters supply their own transportation, bedding, and food.
6. Campmasters serve two to four times a year. (This, of course, depends on the number of Campmasters in the Corps.)
7. The Corps is a select group and may be limited to a fixed number.
8. The Campmasters must be trained in the Scout method of camping, purposes of Scout camping, and the patrol method in camping. They should have completed basic outdoor training and, when possible, Wood Badge Training.
9. The Campmasters coordinate the work of any specialists or merit badge counselors present so the Units receive maximum benefit from these skilled people.
10. Each Campmaster submits a report on their experience with each Unit and an appraisal of its effectiveness.
11. Campmasters are responsible to the Scout Executive or other Council staff designated by him or the Camp Ranger. The Campmaster Corps should not be an organization. They do not become members of the Camping Committee because of this service.
12. Campmasters must attend yearly training and orientation sessions called Campmaster Training.
THE CAMPMASTER CORPS
AND THE CAMP RANGER

At the very outset a most cooperative and close relationship must exist between all Campmasters and the Camp Ranger. The Camp Ranger is responsible for the upkeep, maintenance, and proper use of all camp facilities; and any support he can receive in this endeavor is most welcome. Campmasters are usually in the position of being aids, helpers, and assistants to the Camp Ranger, however, the precise relationships should be specifically defined and stated in writing by the Scout Executive.

Campmasters usually report to the Camp Ranger and through him to the Scout Executive. It should be specifically understood that the Camp Ranger as a full-time employee is responsible to the Scout Executive, hence no other person should give them directives.