

**Roundtable Minutes  
March 11, 2021**

**1. Opening /Rus P**

**2. Council Update /John K**

- New COVID Guidance – Newly released NCAC Event Planning Guidelines and NCAC Event Virus Risk Management Plan Checklist provides:
  - Indoor limits: 10 individuals
  - Outdoor limits: 25 individuals
  - Overnight camping: is now allowed
  - Summer and Day Camps: Open

<b>NCAC EVENT PLANNING GUIDELINES</b>		<b>RESOURCES: <a href="http://WWW.NCACBSA.ORG/COVID19">WWW.NCACBSA.ORG/COVID19</a></b>
<small>MARCH 15-JUNE 30TH, 2021 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)</small>		<small><a href="http://WWW.Scouting.org/HEALTH-AND-SAFETY/INCIDENT-REPORT">WWW.Scouting.org/HEALTH-AND-SAFETY/INCIDENT-REPORT</a></small>
<small><a href="http://WWW.Scouting.org/CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19-FAQ">WWW.Scouting.org/CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19-FAQ</a></small>		
<small>In general, most geographic areas within NCAC territory currently permit indoor gatherings of no more than 10 persons and outdoor gatherings of no more than 25 persons. As such, unit, district, and council in person activities and events should adhere to these benchmarks by using smaller cohort groups (dens/patrols/etc...). The chart below provides additional detail on activities and events for spring 2021</small>		
	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>DISTRICT OR COUNCIL</b>
<b>HOW MANY PEOPLE MAY ATTEND?</b>	Refer to local/state guidelines of the jurisdiction where the event is being held	Up to 10 people for indoor activities Up to 25 people for outdoor activities
<b>HOW MAY I HOST MORE PEOPLE?</b>	Utilize activity scheduling with one group in a location at a time	Utilize activity scheduling with one group in a location at a time
<b>WHO MUST APPROVE?</b>	Unit Key 3 (Unit Leader, Committee Chair, Chartered Org Rep)	For district events: district key 3 For council events: event chair and professional staff adviser
<b>MAY WE HAVE AN OVERNIGHT COMPONENT?</b>	Yes, with approval of your Unit Key 3	Yes, but not with multiple units interacting
<b>REQUIRED PRE-EVENT DOCUMENTATION</b>	N/A	Virus Risk Management Plan Checklist [available at: <a href="http://www.ncacbsa.org/covid19">www.ncacbsa.org/covid19</a> ]
<b>REQUIRED POST-EVENT DOCUMENTATION</b>	An incident report via the BSA Riskconnect portal if there is a Covid exposure or other reportable incident [link: <a href="http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report">www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report</a> ]	

**3. Big Rock – Conservation /Jerry D**

- Distinguished Conservation Service Award for Venturers and Scouts
  - The fundamental purpose of the BSA Distinguished Conservation Service Awards program is to encourage learning by the participants and to increase public awareness about natural resource conservation.
  - Truly outstanding efforts undertaken by Scouting units, Scouts and Venturers, adult Scouters, and other individuals, corporations, and institutions

- BSA Distinguished Conservation Service Award Individual awards are granted by the National Council through the local Council's Conservation Committee to a member of a Scouts BSA, Sea Scout, or Venturing unit for exceptional and distinguished service to conservation and environmental improvement
- Requirements:
  - Complete Two Distinguished Conservation Service Projects (One may also be an Eagle project) – each project in a separate category
  - Be a First Class Scout.
  - Earn five mandatory Merit Badges
  - Earn two elective Merit Badges
  - Successfully pass a board of review conducted by the NCAC Council Conservation Committee.
- Conservation Categories:
  - Energy Conservation
  - Soil & Water Conservation
  - Fish & Wildlife Management
  - Forestry and Range Management
  - Air & Water Pollution Control
  - Resource Recovery (Recycling)
  - Hazardous Material Disposal & Management
  - Invasive Species Control
  - Pollinator Management
- Projects must be developed under the guidance and pre-approval of:
  - Award Adviser
  - Conservation Adviser
  - Scout's Unit Leader
  - Council Conservation Committee.
- NCAC Unit Award
  - This is chiefly for participation.
  - Labor force for a Scout's DCSA Project
  - Labor force for a project (or part of a project) organized by Unit or others
  - Expectations: Ages and stages
  - Accomplish as a unit project
    - 60% participation
    - Work can take place in increments
- Earth Day: 22 April 2021
  - Opportunity for all Scouts and Units to participate in a Conservation activity/event.
  - Global event with Local support and outcomes.
  - Earth Day 2021 | Restore Our Earth™ | EARTHDAY.ORG
  - VWEA Scholarships - Virginia Water Environment Association
  - Welcome to Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains ([friendsofblueridge.org](http://friendsofblueridge.org))
  - Trout Unlimited | Trout Unlimited

#### 4. Program /Matt B

- **Current 2021 George Mason District Calendar**
  - March 14, 2021 – Pi Day
  - March 19-21, 2021 – Western Shore Virtual Camporee

- March 20, 2021 – District Pinewood Derby
  - April 8, 2021 – District Court of Honor (before RT)
  - April 11-24, 2021 – District Merit Badge Event
  - April 30 to May 9, 2021 – District Hike-O-Ree
  - May 8, 2021 – Jamboree on the Trail
  - May 2021 - Memorial Day Flags In
- **2021 George Mason Pinewood Derby (March 20, 2021)**
  - Drop off/pick up instructions sent to Basecamp and the parents of registered Cubs
  - Also sent out Zoom link to Basecamp POCs and parents of registered Cubs so that everyone can watch the race via Zoom.
  - Cost will be \$10.00 per car – same as last year.
  - No parent should attempt to bring an unregistered Cub/car on March 20.
  - For questions, contact Daniel Aronowitz at [aronowitz.daniel@gmail.com](mailto:aronowitz.daniel@gmail.com)
- **District Court of Honor**
    - To recognize adults who served/are serving at the unit level.
    - Two awards:
      - Unit Commissioner’s Unit Scouter Award – 1 per unit
      - Unit Appreciation Award – Maximum 8 per unit.
    - Please provide a sentence or two describing the individual’s service.
    - Submit Unit Commissioner’s Unit Scouter Award to Unit Commissioner.
    - Unit Appreciate Award to [gm.adultrecognition@gmail.com](mailto:gm.adultrecognition@gmail.com)
    - Will confer awards at District COH/April Roundtable.
- **George Mason Hike-O-Ree**
    - GM Hike-O-Ree on weekends of May 1 and May 8 (Jamboree on the Trail (JOTT)) – 4/30 to 5/9/21.
    - Registration for JOTT closes March 31, although it looks like they’ll accept registrations in early April.
    - Any age, any place and any appropriate grouping – just keep track of how far you hiked.
    - Can combine with other unit activities.
    - Challenge – District Scouts, Scouters and families hike 2,021 miles.
    - Total the miles for each unit and post in the GM HikeO-Ree Basecamp. We’ll see how big a total we reach.
- **Scouting for Food Spring 2021 Proposal /Scott W**
    - Completely voluntary
    - Organized through Basecamp
    - Same COVID-safe approach units used in November
    - Food for Others has said it can accept whatever we can give
    - Many other food drives ongoing as well
    - Suggest March 13 and 20 but timing is not fixed.
- **STEM Updates**
    - Pi Day! Sunday, March 14 (3-14)
      - Resources were emailed out to all unit leaders on Sunday

- Daylight Saving Time also begins this Pi Day
- **STEM Speaker Series with Astronaut Charlie Duke – rescheduled to March 18, 7PM. Will be streamed on NCAC STEM Facebook Live page**
- STEM Scouts Info Session – March 30, 7PM - Go to [NCACBSA.org/STEM](https://www.ncacbsa.org/STEM) for the link
- For high school-aged Scouts interested in aerospace!
  - The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), the aerospace engineering professional society, is offering free memberships for high school students
  - Includes mentorship, webinars, access to community engagement platform, Aerospace America online subscription
  - Go to [aiaa.org/hs](https://www.aiaa.org/hs)
- **Civic and Related Activities of Interest to Scouts**
  - Dyke Marsh Sunday Morning Bird Walks – 8:00 a.m. on Sundays. Hikes led by experienced birders. See website.
  - Vienna Fishing Rodeo (March 20). Wildwood Park. Pre-Reg required with cost of \$5.00.
  - Fairfax City Fitness Challenge (3 April to 29 May). Register any time.
  - Fairfax City Fishing Derby (April 3) 9:30, 10:15 and 11:00). Ashby Pond. Pre-Reg required with cost of \$5.00.
  - Great Falls Park – FREE Admission (April 17) Kick-Off to National Park Week/National Junior Ranger Day. See website.
  - Lakeside Explorers (April 22) – Burke Lake hosts newest nature club for youth (7 to 11 years old). Cost is \$32 per child for four weeks. See website.
  - Huntley Meadows Monday Morning Bird Walks (start May 3) 7:00 a.m. on Mondays, rain or shine. Good activity for the summer vacation that could count for Cub Outdoor Activity Award.
  - Viva Vienna (May 29-31) - Possible Scout Info Booth. Rotary Club sponsor? Interested units should talk with Sam McGrath, GM DE, ASAP.
  - Fairfax City Fido Fest (June 12) activities and demonstrations. See website.
  - Fairfax City Independence Day – Daytime parade popular with Cubs. Other daytime events and evening fireworks
- **2021 District Merit Badge Event**
  - April 11 to the 24<sup>th</sup> using Zoom. Classes meet twice a week for two weeks (four sessions).
  - Each class will consist of MB Counselor, second registered adult and 15 Scouts. Corsizio registration will be available on February 22, 2021.
  - Merit badges offered will include:
    - Public speaking
    - Electricity
    - Emergency Preparation
    - Citizenship in the World
    - Family Life
  - Feedback to John Drisco at [gmasonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com](mailto:gmasonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com)
- **Spring 2021 District Virtual Camporee**
  - Insufficient interest in a virtual Camporee.

- District will hold its next Camporee on October 15-17, 2021.
  - Location – 4H in Front Royal
  - Theme - STEM
  - Patches – Will be provided as part of Camporee.
  - Plan to open registration in early August.
- **Camporee Activities**
    - Activities will include:
      - Pop Bottle Rickets
      - Egg Launch
      - Paper Airplane golf
      - ..... And More
- **Western Shore Virtual Camporee/Cuboree**
    - March 19 to 21st
    - All Scouts (Troop/Crew/Ship/Den) are invited to attend and register individually. Cost is \$5.00 for Scouts/Scouters which includes a patch.
    - This is a Patrol/Crew event that includes fire building skills, knot tying, shelter building, trail cooking with a twist, and other activities
    - Den Minute to Win It Cuboree!!
      - Registration is now open at: [https://scoutingevent.com/082-wsd\\_springcamporee2021](https://scoutingevent.com/082-wsd_springcamporee2021)
      - Camporee Leader Guide: Available for download
      - Cuboree Guide: Available for download
      - COVID Notes: Available for download
    - If you have any questions please Contact Winnie Niemi [oa.wscadviser@gmail.com](mailto:oa.wscadviser@gmail.com)
- **Future Camporees**
    - Save the Dates!!!
    - George Mason Fall 2021 Camporee – October 15 – 17, 2021
    - Theme and Site TBD
    - George Mason Spring 2022 Camporee – April 29 – May 1
- **GM High Adventure (Feb 2021) /Joe K**
    - The NCAC High Adventure Committee (HAC) provides regular updates and announcements at: <https://www.ncacbsa.org/high-adventure/>
      - 2021 NCAC High Adventure vacancy info: [ragollhofer@acm.org](mailto:ragollhofer@acm.org)
      - Local day hikes, overnight, and multi-day treks: <https://3.basecamp.com/3958009/buckets/16000091/uploads/3272427444>
      - Wilderness First Aid vendors: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/6cocPGgDnFSAY5nWMnTfPMzu>
    - For those units conducting (or considering) summer HA trips:
      - Keep up the day hikes; schedule mandatory training as soon as it becomes available; schedule mandatory physicals; keep ahead of training checklists.
      - Be prepared to conduct full-crew, full-weight overnight shakedown trips as COVID guidance evolves in coming weeks.
      - T1887 has three empty Philmont slots in June 2022.

- Contact Joe Knecht at [knechtjoe@yahoo.com](mailto:knechtjoe@yahoo.com) if there are any issues accessing documents or you have questions regarding high adventure planning.
- **Training / Roy D**
  - Unit Training – For position-specific training at your unit, contact Roy De Lauder at [EagleScout.Roy@cox.net](mailto:EagleScout.Roy@cox.net) or go to Training Opportunities page on GM Web Site
  - Den Chief Conference – virtual on Saturday Mar. 13. <https://scoutingevent.com/082-42799>
- **2021 Spring Woodbadge (30 April - 2 May & 5 - 6 June)** - Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America's ultimate leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA, whether unit, district, or council level – from assistant den leaders to Scoutmasters, from Cubmasters to Venturing Advisors, from committee members to commissioners. It is a fun, energetic, and inspiring course guaranteed to infuse your unit with fun and meaning – all designed to fulfill the mission of the BSA, and ensure our youth is getting everything they are promised from the program.
  - **2021 Spring Course** (30 April - 2 May; & 5 - 6 June)
    - Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-42945>
    - Course Director: Mr. Chris Geiger ([geigercj@gmail.com](mailto:geigercj@gmail.com))
  - **2021 Fall Course** (10-12 September & 9-10 October)
    - Registration Open 1 May, 2021
    - Course Director: Mrs. Alexandria Keenan ([ADLKeenan@gmail.com](mailto:ADLKeenan@gmail.com))
- **Shooting Sports /Brian S**
  - Requests for Shooting Events – Lead Time!
    - 50+ scouts - 6mos
    - Less than 50 scouts - 3mos
  - Shooting on private land:
    - Requirements – need evaluation by the SSC
    - Permissions/protocols – Need trained leaders
  - Shooting Sports [web page](#)
  - Shooting Sports Instructor Classes:
    - [Rifle/Shotgun](#)
    - [Archery](#) (Virtual classes available)
- **Merit Badges**
  - Every merit badge counselor needs to be on the District Charter. The time for action is NOW!
  - The [online Merit Badge Counselor registration](#) works for all Scouters who do not already hold another District position.
  - Be sure the counselor uses his/her legal name – no nicknames.
  - Merit Badge Counselors, or the unit Dean/Leader, also need to scan and send Margee the Merit Badge application form listing the badges the counselor is applying to teach and providing a justification of his/her qualifications.

- Youth Protection Training is the essential first step. Don't hit "send" on the application without it!
- Contact Margee if you have questions at [GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com](mailto:GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com)
- Potential MB Opportunities:
  - [Online Merit Badge Courses](#) – Watch video, fill out workbook, contact Counselor
  - [Virtual Merit Badge Opportunities \(Nation-wide\)](#)
  - [Parktakes](#) (select "Scouts" from the Category of Activity)
  - [MeritBadge.Info](#) – Various MB Days throughout the country
  - [Fly Fishing Merit Badge Program](#), Northern Virginia
  - [Merit Badges Scouts can complete at Home](#)

**5. Order of the Arrow** – No announcements

**6. District Executive /Sam M**

- Raisy – This program will replace Camp Cards. The online fundraiser is \$20 to purchase the discount program. After the purchase is made, the Unit will receive \$6.50 and NCAC will receive \$6.50. More information is available [here](#).
- FOS – Most units have scheduled their Friends of Scouting presentations. Please let Sam know if the date/time changes.

**7. District Commissioner's Minute /John K**

- Thank you all for making the program as vibrant as possible. We have had rough times during COVID-19, but think about the future and be optimistic. Think about the actions you will take to recruit new scouts to join our units when we fully open. Have conversations with your leaders and plan accordingly.

**8. Next Meeting** - April 8, 2021 @ 7:30pm (Virtual)