

TRAPPERS BRIGADE PROGRAM FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP

I. INTRODUCTION TO THE TRAPPERS BRIGADE

In keeping with the Royal Ranger Pledge which states, “With God’s help I will do my best to serve God, my church, and my fellow man,” the Trappers Brigade, a special auxiliary group within the Frontiersman Camping Fellowship, was established during the 1978 National Royal Ranger Council.

The purpose of the Trappers Brigade is to promote Christian service among the FCF members by encouraging their involvement and participation in service to their church and fellowman. The Trappers Brigade encourages involvement of FCF members not only in their local church but also in their community (e.g., needs, projects, organizations) and outside its boundaries, in this way extending their influence and testimony.

II. QUALIFYING FOR RECOGNITION

To participate in the program and FCF member must do the following:

1. Must be in good standing with his FCF chapter.
2. Must have paid his current and previous year’s dues.
3. Must have participated in one-half of the district FCF activities in the current and previous year.
4. Must be actively involved in his local church and Royal Rangers outpost.

Note: It is not necessary for the FCF member to have received his Buckskin or Wilderness status to qualify.

III. LEVELS OF RECOGNITION

The program has three (3) levels of recognition; the Company Trapper, the Bourgeois Trapper (pronounced boohz-wah’), and the Free Trapper.

1. Company Trapper requires twenty (20) points.
2. Bourgeois Trapper requires an additional forty (40) points.
3. Free Trapper requires an additional (60) points above the Bourgeois Trapper recognition.
4. For each additional thirty (30) points above the Free Trapper, the member receives a numeral to be placed on his Free Trapper medal.

IV. SERVICE POINTS

Service points are accumulated when an FCF member volunteers his time with no consideration for wages or travel time in the church, in community projects, special needs organizations, or in humanitarian acts. Points are earned by the amount of time you work on a service project. At times, the FCF District President may assign Trappers Brigade points to FCF members for working on special service projects relating to FCF and Royal Rangers activities such as Pow Wow, traces and rendezvous.

There are two types of points given for projects:

1. Local Service Points are calculated at 1/2 point per hour of service done (see explanation of local projects).
2. Non-Local Service Points are calculated at 1 point per hour of service done (see explanation of non-local projects).

V. WHO CAN APPLY FOR TRAPPERS BRIGADE

All FCF Young Bucks and Old Timers who meet the participation requirements may begin accumulating service points.

Young Bucks: FCF members under 18 years of age must complete the service under the supervision of an adult leader. This leader may be a Pastor, Commander, youth leader, community leader, missionary, district official, project coordinator, coach, parent or any adult who signs the application verifying what was done by the applicant.

Old Timers: FCF members 18 years of age or older may earn points in two ways:

- a. The First is the traditional method of points per hours of service for local and non-local projects.
- b. An additional Second method is by supervising young bucks through their Trappers Brigade service projects. Since Royal Rangers is a boy's ministry, there is a built in emphasis on boy participation. This second method gives five (5) points for the Old Timer for each step of Trappers Brigade recognition completed by a boy that he has supervised. To qualify as a supervisor, the Old Timer must sign the Young Buck's application, participate, organize and be a major influence in the motivation of the Young Buck's participation and completion of the service project; and see that the project is completed while the Young Buck is under eighteen (18) years old.

VI. DEFINITION OF LOCAL AND NON-LOCAL PROJECTS

1. LOCAL PROJECT EXAMPLES

a. Local Church:

Within the local church, service projects may include mowing the church lawn; visiting the sick; serving as an usher; teaching or helping in the Sunday School; preaching; participating in youth, bus, tape, sound, or music ministry; doing office work, printing or copying; participating in missions emphasis, fund raising, clothing or food drives, etc.

b. Local Community:

Within the local community, projects may include helping families that have lost their homes due to a disaster (such as fire, tornado, or flood); assisting needy people or children's groups, widows, the homeless, disadvantaged families; other churches in the community; or working at a hospital, library, service center, teen center, care home, voter registration drive, city recreational facilities, juvenile detention center, Big Brothers Organization, Boys Club, etc.

2. NON-LOCAL PROJECT EXAMPLES

a. Non-Local Setting:

Outside the local setting the member may accumulate points, without considering travel time, for service projects similar to local projects but must be outside of the community in which the FCF member resides, Church Care Network projects, Project Hope food assistance, for missionary trips, trips with MAPS (Missions Abroad Placement Service), FCF Pathfinder missions projects, AIM (Ambassadors in Mission), Care Corp., U.S.O. (United Service Organizations), disaster assistance, search-and-rescue missions, etc.

VII. APPLICATION PROCESS

FCF members must apply to receive points and recognition advancement.

1. To receive the application and supporting paperwork contact the FCF Chapter Trappers Brigade Committee Chairman or the Chapter Scribe.
2. Fill out the Trappers Brigade Application Form, Hours of Service Accumulation Form, and the Service Project Description Form. (Young Bucks make sure the Supervisor signs the Application Form.
3. Mail or give the completed paper work to the FCF Chapter Trappers Brigade Committee Chairman.
4. You will be notified of your recognition status after the application is reviewed by the committee.

VIII. DISTRICT FCF TRAPPERS BRIGADE COMMITTEE

1. A District FCF Trappers Brigade Committee will meet regularly to review the applicants of the Trappers Brigade service program.
2. The Trappers Brigade Committee membership will be appointed by the District FCF President and approved by the District Commander. In most cases this committee will consist of two (2) District FCF officers and two (2) FCF chapter members.
3. The application is submitted through the Chapter Trappers Brigade Committee Chairman. If necessary, the FCF member making application will attend a Trappers Brigade Committee interview when scheduled for him.
4. The Committee interview is not to be a “test.” The Committee’s sole purpose is to determine and authorize the recipients of the Trappers Brigade recognition pins, within it’s own chapter membership. If an interview is scheduled the FCF member has the opportunity to share details of his service project. Pictures, letters, artifacts, items of interest, and things learned, enjoyed, and experienced should be shared when meeting with the committee.
5. If it appears that:
 - a. Sufficient service has been performed to receive the recognition applied for, the Committee authorizes the receipt of that recognition pin and makes the pin available to the applicant and informs the District FCF President so an appropriate public presentation can be made at the next District function.
 - b. If the applicant’s performed service does not sufficiently qualify for the step of recognition applied for, the application should not be approved. But, the applicant should be instructed and encouraged in how to complete the service necessary for recognition and rescheduled to meet the Committee to determine sufficient completion before authorization.

Trappers Brigade Pins (To be worn behind FCF Membership Pin)

