



# Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



## **Communicator**



**February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

*VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2*

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## Our Mission

***As commissioners, we share the BSA's mission: To prepare youth to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.***

## Our Vision

***Every member of the BSA has a great Scouting experience.***

# *Council Commissioner Corner*

- BSA has a new SAFE (Supervision, Assessment, Fitness & Skills, Equipment & Environment) program - <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe/>. Please ensure your units are aware of it. More detailed info is in the Unit Headlines area
- Commissioners: a reminder that recharter for 2022 includes not only our units, but also YOU! If you're NOT registered with a unit that will be paying your annual registration fee, you need to renew your individual registration! Contact the Council Office M/W/F, from 9am to 5pm, 505-345-8603, x100, to register.
- BSA National has announced that due to problems with the new recharter software, the deadline for completing recharter has been extended from 2/28 to 3/31/22. We still have 40 of our 98 units that need to complete recharter.
  - If you're unsure of the recharter status of your unit(s), log into my.scouting and click on the Commissioner Tools link. There's a recharter summary on the bottom right of the page, and a link there you can click on for a report on the status of each unit.
- The annual Tri-Council College of Commissioner Science will be held on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, in Ruidoso, NM. More detailed information was sent out earlier in February. If you didn't receive it, let me know. There will be tracks for Bachelors, Masters, Doctorate, and Continuing Education courses. Registration has opened, look forward to seeing you there!

The information for units on the **Headlines** pages is being sent directly to Unit Commissioners this month.

*Yours in Scouting,  
Dale*

Dale Balmer  
Council Commissioner

# FEBRUARY 2022 UNIT HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- Recharter Status is the BIG headline for this month!
  - Here's a snapshot of rechartering status, by district, as of 2/28/22

District	Total Units	Units Logged into Recharter Tool	Pct Logged In	Units Submitted to Council	Pct Submitted	Units Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	41	31	96.9%	28	87.5%	22	69%
San Juan Mountains	23	18	90.0%	17	85.0%	9	45%
Sandia	36	29	90.6%	26	81.3%	16	50%
Sangre de Cristo	14	14	100%	13	92.9%	11	79%
Council Total	114	92	93.9%	84	85.7%	58	59%

- **BSA National has announced that the unit charter deadline has been extended from 2/28 to 3/31/2022, due to problems with the new software. A reminder that unit charters need to be posted by 3/31/22, or units 'disappear' from BSA's IT systems. As a result, advancements can't be entered, and units can't register for district or council events. There are currently 40 units with their charter still pending. We do not expect another extension from National from the 3/31 deadline.**
- **More info at:**
  - <https://www.scouting.org/resources/internet-rechartering/>
  - OR, contact the Council Commissioner, Dale Balmer, at [dbalmer8@comcast.net](mailto:dbalmer8@comcast.net);
  - OR, contact the Council Registrar, Kathy Ferdig, at 505-345-8603, x100, M/W/F, 9am-5pm, [kathy.ferdig@scouting.org](mailto:kathy.ferdig@scouting.org)

# MORE FEBRUARY 2022 HEADLINES!!!!

- A reminder that the Council has a Uniform Bank with hundreds of shirts, pants, and an absolute plethora of additional items like belts, hats, neckerchiefs, uniform patches, and a multitude of other items. The Front Desk at the Council Office has an inventory of the shirts and pants; you can call before coming into the Office to see if they have the sizes you're looking for.
- The Journey to Excellence program is still being used at the unit level. However, the 2022 scorecards are still in development, but should be released soon. In the meantime, we suggest using the 2021 scorecards for your program planning efforts. They can be found at: <https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/unit/>
- A Council-wide Spring Camporee is planned for April 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, at Gorham Scout Ranch. Stay tuned for more details
- Gorham Scout Ranch still has openings for staff for the Summer 2022 Camping Season. FMI: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/camp-staff/44308> or you can contact the Council's VP for Outdoor Programs, Greg Kelly, at [gkelly15363@gmail.com](mailto:gkelly15363@gmail.com)
- There's still openings for the Top Golf *fun*-draiser on March 20<sup>th</sup>, if your unit would like to participate in a fun team-building activity. Registration closes on March 11<sup>th</sup>. A flier and registration form is included in with this newsletter.

# FEBRUARY 2022 HEADLINES!!!

## “SAFE” PROGRAM

- SAFE is the new BSA program to help us focus on safety (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe/>)
  - **S**upervision: Youth are **Supervised** by qualified and trustworthy adults who set the example for safety.
  - **A**ssessment: Activities are **Assessed** for risks.
  - **F**itness & Skills: Pre-requisite **Fitness and Skill** levels are confirmed before participation.
  - **E**quipment & Environment: Appropriate **Equipment** is utilized, and **Environmental** conditions are monitored.
  - This is replacing the Sweet 16 of Safety
  - Focus is on not only YPT, but Injury and illness prevention
  - Strive to develop a safety culture by having “Safety Moments” at the start of all Scouting events and activities, including unit meetings & outings, district and council meetings, roundtables, etc
    - <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/>
  - Safety minute for this month:
    - YPT: 1739 of 1805 (86%) of registered adult Scouters in the Great Southwest Council are current with their YPT
    - Hazardous Weather training is required every two years for all direct-contact leaders (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, den leaders, and assistants for all these positions). Currently 314 of 484 (65%) of direct-contact leaders are current in their Hazardous Weather training
- A reminder about the Guide to Safe Scouting, which covers many of the situations encountered during Scouting activities: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>
- Also, a reminder that accidents, incidents, and near misses need to be reported to the Council. Information on the criteria for reporting, and how to report, can be found at: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/>. Also, the 2019 guidance on incident reporting is being sent with this month’s newsletter

# FEBRUARY 2022 TRAINING HEADLINES!!!!

Key information on **training opportunities** for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- **Adults**

- **Wood Badge**, April 22-24 & April 30-May 1, Gorham, \$250 (\$225 for first 20 registrants who pay in full at time of registration)
- Register here: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2834855&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2022-04-01/45/0/>
- For more information: [woodbadgegswc@gmail.com](mailto:woodbadgegswc@gmail.com)

- **Youth**

- **NYLT**, June 5-10, Gorham, \$365
- Register here: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2873857&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2022-06-01/45/0/>
- For more information: [gswcnylt@gmail.com](mailto:gswcnylt@gmail.com)
- **Brownsea**, June 12-18, Gorham, \$365
- Register here: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2873859&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2022-06-01/45/0/>
- For more information: [brownsea22camp@gmail.com](mailto:brownsea22camp@gmail.com)



# Membership Minute



Questions about recruiting and membership? Contact the Council Vice President for Membership, John Foley, at [john.foley11@gmail.com](mailto:john.foley11@gmail.com)

- A reminder that your unit's "pin" is a key tool for recruiting new members via the BeAScout.org website.
- The "pin" provides information to someone looking for a Scout unit
- Currently:
  - 107 of 114 unit pins are displaying unit information. The other 7 are displaying council information
  - 51 of 114 unit pins refer to a unit website or social media account for more info. The other 63 units direct someone to the generic scouting.org website
  - As we start to plan our Spring recruiting efforts and events, make sure your pin is updated!
  - If you need help updating your unit's pin, contact the Council Commissioner, Dale Balmer, at [dbalmer8@comcast.net](mailto:dbalmer8@comcast.net), or your District Executive.







# TOPGOLF



## *Great Southwest Council's Let's Go Golfing Fun-draiser!!!*

TopGolf is an indoor driving range type environment that offers a wide selection of games that utilize micro-chipped golf balls to keep track of every shot. Player's shots will be relayed back to their bay screen showing the accuracy and distance of each ball –we're talking the potential for some **SERIOUS** bragging rights!

- Date: Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Time: 1-4pm
- Location: 1600 Desert Surf Circle NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107 (I-25 & Montano)
- Attendance in groups of six per bay, 10 bays available
- Cost: \$600 for six-person team OR \$125 per individual
- Includes two hours of golfing, all equipment provided, advice from a TopGolf pro, & buffet-style meal with chicken tenders, pulled pork sliders, cole slaw, fresh fruit, kettle chips, chocolate chip cookie, and unlimited drink (soda, iced tea, coffee, water)
- Register using the attached form





# Golfing for the Great Southwest Council



## FUNDRAISER

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA | GREAT SOUTHWEST COUNCIL

Sunday, March 20th, 2022 | TopGolf @ Montgomery & I-25

### REGISTER

Please fill out this registration form and mail it to the Great Southwest Council, 5841 Office Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109 or email to Stephanie Balmer [stephanie.balmer@scouting.org](mailto:stephanie.balmer@scouting.org)

Registration deadline is March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### PAYMENT

Check enclosed

Bill me at my address

### PARTICIPANT TYPE

Individual golfer \$125

Team of 6 \$600

### GOLFER INFORMATION

*Individual golfer:*

*Team of 6 golfers:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
First & Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Team Captain First & Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

*\*If you would like to be in the same bay as other individual golfers, please indicate their name(s) in the space below:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Golfer 2 Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Golfer 3 Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Golfer 4 Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Golfer 5 Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Golfer 6 Name

# Commissioner-Related Strategic Plan Goals

This page summarizes the commissioner-focus areas outlined in Section 4, *Unit Service*, of the Council's 2021 Strategic Plan, dated March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. With the pandemic and other challenges facing the council, and the elimination of District and Council JTE goals, the Strategic Plan for this year has been streamlined to focus on key components of the Council's operations, so there are fewer goal areas than in previous years. Subsequent pages in the newsletter look at each of these areas. All data is as of **February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022**, unless otherwise noted. Results are shown for last month and the current month.

2021 Council Strat Plan Area	Goal	Last Month	Current Snapshot	Page
<b>Strategic Plan Goals</b>				
4.1.1	80% of unit recharter to Council by 12/31/21	79.6%	85.7%	12
4.1.2	80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/22	35%	59%	13
4.2.1	50% of units have six contacts, including one Detailed Assessment	0%	0.9%	14
4.3.1	50% of units achieve Partner status by 1/31/22, under the Partnership for Scouting (PFS) program	25%	25%	15-17
<b>Other Commissioner Metrics</b>				
N/A	Commissioner Training	87.2%	87.2%	18
N/A	Units without Commissioners	25%	24%	19
N/A	Units per Commissioner Ratio	3.0	3.0	20

# Strat Plan Area: 4.1.1

## Recharterers to Council

(Goal is to have 80% of recharterers submitted to the Council by 12/31/2021)

**The online recharter tool opened on October 15<sup>th</sup>, for the 2022 recharter season. This is the fifth look at 2022 recharter data.**

District	Total Units	Units Dropping / Out of Cycle Recharter	Units Rechartering	Units logged into online tool	Pct logged online	Units Submitted to Council online	Pct submitted to Council online
Rio Grande	41	8/1	32	31	96.9%	28	87.5%
San Juan Mountains	23	3/0	20	18	90.0%	17	85.0%
Sandia	36	4/0	32	29	90.6%	26	81.3%
Sangre de Cristo	14	0/0	14	14	100%	13	92.9%
Council Total	114	15/1	98	92	93.9%	84	85.7%

**This is the fifth look at recharter data for the 2022 recharter season. Over the last five months, we've gone from 10% of the units having submitted to the council in October, to 36% in November, 49% in December, 80% in January and the current 85%, which meets our council goal of 80%, albeit a month later than desired.**

**("Submitted" includes units pending council review, and those that are posted)**

# Strat Plan Area 4.1.2

## Rechartering Process-Charters Posted

(Goal is to have 100% of recharterers posted by 1/31/2022)

**Units have been working recharter since the tool opened October 15<sup>th</sup>, so we've had about 4-1/2 months to work the process.**

District	Units Rechartering	Charters Submitted	Pct Submitted	Charters Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	32	28	87.5%	22	69%
San Juan Mountains	20	17	85.0%	9	45%
Sandia	32	26	81.3%	16	50%
Sangre de Cristo	14	13	92.9%	11	79%
Council Total	98	84	85.7%	58	59%

**86% of units have submitted their charters to the Council, for Registrar review. However, problems are being identified with the new recharter tool, which are requiring tickets being submitted to BSA National for resolution so that units can be posted. This is impacting the pace at which charters can be reviewed and posted.**

**Units with any questions about their recharter status should contact the Council Registrar, Kathy Ferdig, at 505-345-8603, x100, M/W/F, from 9am to 5pm, or [kathy.ferdig@scouting.org](mailto:kathy.ferdig@scouting.org)**

# Strat Plan Area: 4.2.1

## Unit Contacts

(Goal: 50% of units have 6 or more contacts, including one DA)

This page looks at the critical unit-service area of unit contacts. The National goal is for at least six contacts per year for each unit, with one a Detailed Assessment. The Council goal is for 50% of the units to achieve the National goal, with a sub-goal that all units receive at least one contact. This chart helps determine how a district is doing on both contacts, detailed assessments, and the combination of the two which determines the success in meeting the National goal, as well as the sub-goal. Data is from a Council-level "District\_Contact\_Stats" report.

District	# Units	Total Contacts	# of Units with any contacts	Pct of units with any contacts	# of Units w/6 or more contacts	Pct of units with 6 or more contacts	# of Units with a DA	Pct of Units with a DA	# with 6 or more visits AND a DA	2021 Pct w/6 or more AND a DA
Rio Grande	41	104	41	100%	1	2.4%	8	19.5%	1	2.4%
San Juan Mountains	23	61	23	100%	0	0%	4	17.4%	0	0%
Sandia	36	51	36	100%	0	0%	9	25.0%	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	14	41	14	100%	0	0%	2	14.3%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
<b>Council Goal (50%)</b>									<b>57</b>	
<b>Needed to reach Council goal</b>									<b>56</b>	

**With the start of the new year, tracking of this metric was re-set. We're off to a good start with every unit in the council having had at least one contact, and a number of detailed assessments entered as JTE forms have been received during recharter.**

# Strat Plan Areas 4.3

## Partnership for Scouting (PFS)

The Council's Scouting Partnership initiative, started in 2017, is an effort to recognize those units that meet certain goals for program, camping, and financial support of the Council.

*The final report on the 2021 Partnership program, including identifying the units that achieved Partner status, has been posted to the Council's Partnership website at <http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>.*

### **2021 Partnership Status Criteria**

- \$175 per registered youth, via FOS contributions, popcorn or other product sales, Gondola Patrol, or other donations to the Council
- Attend a Council-sponsored day camp (packs) or attend Gorham for scout camp (troops) at least once every three years; Crews need to achieve Bronze or higher for Crew JTE Criteria #4, Adventure
  - **Note: Summer camp and day camps were cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic, so that year won't be counted, unless a Troop attended a virtual Gorham sessions. In that case, they'll be given credit for camp attendance, but otherwise 2020 data in this area wasn't 'counted.'**
- Earn overall JTE Bronze or higher
  - **Note: BSA National released revised unit-level JTE criteria to reflect the impact of the pandemic on unit operations and increased virtual Scouting**
- Partner units must complete all recharter actions by Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### **Partnership Status Recognition**

- Rebate of Council program fee
- 10% rebate for day camps and Gorham Scout Ranch fees
- Free Eagle Scout/Summit Award presentation kits
- Free cloth and card for rank advancement
- Free use of Gorham Scout Ranch in the off-season
- 10% off camping gear at High Desert Scout Shop
- Free basic training for all adult leaders
- 10% off Wood Badge, Brownsea and NYLT training
- 5% bonus commission for take order popcorn sales
- Free Journey to Excellence patches
- Free Pinewood Derby Cars for packs

# Strat Plan Area: 4.3.1

## PFS Unit Percentage

(Goal: 50% of units qualify as Partner units)

The goal for this measure is to have 50% of our units qualify as Partner units.

<b>District</b>	<b># Units</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Pct Partners</b>
Rio Grande	41	14	34%
San Juan Mtns	23	5	22%
Sandia	36	7	19%
Sangre de Cristo	14	3	21%
Total	114	29	25%

**This is an final look at 2021 Partnership data, pending identification of any errors or oversights. Specific units that achieved Partner status are listed on the next page.**

**For perspective, in 2019, 54 of 171 units made Partner (32%); and in 2020, 23 of 143 units made Partner (16%).**

**Partner status files can be viewed at:**

**<http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>**



# GSWC Partner Units-2021

(Benefits received in 2022)

As of 2/1/2022

- Rio Grande
  - Packs: 12, 110, 116, 174
  - Troops: 17G, 24G, 116, 174, 702, 703, 708, 831, 1919, 1974
- San Juan Mountains
  - Packs: 225, 508
  - Troops: 501, 538
  - Crews: 612
- Sandia
  - Packs: 166, 442, 640, 990
  - Troops: 166, 285, 640
- Sangre de Cristo
  - Packs: (68-pending JTE)
  - Troops: 2, 57G

# Strat Plan Area: N/A

## UCs are Trained!

(Goal: 80% or more of UCs have completed basic training)

A key component of providing quality unit service is having UCs that are trained in their role. This table looks at commissioner training data. Data is compiled from a Council-level Trained Leaders Report (“TrainedLeader\_Great\_Southwest\_Council\_412”) produced from Training Manager in my.scouting.

District	# DCs	# Trained DCs	# ADCs	# Trained ADCs	# UCs	# Trained UCs	# RTCs	# Trained RTCs	Total Comm	Trained	Pct Trained
RG	0	0	2	2	13	12	3	3	18	17	94.4%
SJM	1	1	0	0	9	6	0	0	10	7	70.0%
SA	1	1	2	2	9	8	2	2	14	13	92.9%
SDC	0	0	1	1	4	3	0	0	5	4	80.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>87.2%</b>
<b>Pct Trained</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>82.9%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>			

To Goal	-0.6	-0.8	-1.0	-1.0	-3.4
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**The percentage of trained commissioners remained at 87.2%, for the third consecutive month.**

# Strat Plan Area: N/A

## Units without Commissioners

(Goal: minimize the number of units without a UC assigned)

To have effective unit-level commissioner service, there needs to be 'ownership' of a unit (or units) by a UC. While not a Strategic Plan goal, tracking units without a commissioner assigned provides feedback on either making sure a commissioner has been assigned administratively, or show the need to recruit additional commissioners. Data is from the Assigned\_Unassigned\_Units report in Commissioner Tools.

District	# Units	# Not Assigned a UC	Pct Unassigned
Rio Grande	41	9	22%
San Juan Mountains	23	110	43%
Sandia	36	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	14	8	57%
Total	114	27	24%

**For the fourth month in a row, the percent of un-assigned units dropped due to new commissioners being assigned to units. We've dropped from 28% to 27% to 25% , to this month's 24% over that time frame. This month, one unit was assigned to a new unit commissioner in San Juan Mountains district.**

# Strat Plan Area: N/A

## Ratio of Units per UC

(Goal: 3.0 or less)

Having enough UCs to cover all units, without overburdening the UC with too many units to provide effective service, requires that we look at that ratio. This metric does just that! The data on number of units for the report is from looking at the number of units in the District\_Contact\_Stats report, and commissioner assignments from those shown as registered as UCs in the “TrainedLeader\_Great\_Southwest\_Council\_412” training report.

<b>District</b>	<b># Units</b>	<b>Goal # UCs</b>	<b>Actual # UCs</b>	<b>Ratio</b>	<b># UCs to Meet Goal</b>
Rio Grande	41	13.7	13	3.2	0.7
San Juan Mountains	23	7.7	9	2.6	-1.3
Sandia	36	12.0	9	4.0	3.0
Sangre de Cristo	14	4.7	4	3.5	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.0</b>

**There was no change from December and January’s ratio of 3.0**

# ***GSWC District and Council Commissioners***

as of 2/28/2022

<b>District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Rio Grande	Vacant		
Sandia	Jerry Brenden	<a href="mailto:jabrenden@gmail.com">jabrenden@gmail.com</a>	505-239-7656-c
Sangre de Cristo	Vacant		
San Juan Mountains	Matthew Griffis	<a href="mailto:matthewgriffis@gmail.com">matthewgriffis@gmail.com</a>	510-427-3843-c
Assistant Council Commissioner for Older Youth Programs	Brian Tolson	<a href="mailto:briantolson99@yahoo.com">briantolson99@yahoo.com</a>	505-967-6139
Council Commissioner	Dale Balmer	<a href="mailto:dbalmer8@comcast.net">dbalmer8@comcast.net</a>	505-898-9076-h 505-554-8545-c