

How can your Venturers have an effective Company Leadership Team?

The Company Leadership Team, formerly known as the Company Executive, is a forum for Venturer Scouts to make decisions regarding their program and Adventures. In Scouting, youth are led by youth and supported by Scouters.

How can your Company have an effective Company Leadership Team?

The Company Leadership Team is made up of elected members (such as Secretary, Treasurer, Quartermaster, as determined by the Company), Expedition Leaders and Scouters, and is led by a Company Leader. The size will vary depending on the size of the Company and the number of Expedition Teams the Company has, but Companies in an Area are encouraged to be made up of at least 12 Venturers. If your Company is much smaller than this, encourage your Venturers to contact your Area to learn about how Companies can unite to offer greater opportunities to create new friendships and pursue Adventures.

The Company Leader, formerly known as the Company President, is a youth, and should not be confused with adult Company Scouters. The Company Leader should be an experienced and accomplished Venturer Scout, but not necessarily the oldest member of the Company. Ideally, a Company Leader will have served as an Expedition Leader for more than one Expedition, so he or she should be well prepared for the role of Company Leader. He or she can also prepare for the role by taking part in Scouts Canada's **FOCUS leadership training** for Venturer Scouts. The Company Leader is selected early in the Scouting Year (that is, in the fall) by all of the Venturer Scouts in the Company. It is his or her responsibility to chair Company Basecamp meetings, ensuring there are opportunities for every member of the Company to contribute.

As a Scouter, it is important to support the Company Leadership Team so that the Company is effectively Youth-led. Be patient, and let the team members grow into their roles. Give the

Company Leadership Team plenty of time to make reports to the Company and pose questions to one another, and offer good advice and coaching as necessary to help make the youths' goals a reality.

The Company Leadership Team uses the Plan-Do-Review process to lead the Company in making program decisions, such as Company goals and Adventures.

The Company Leader and the Company Scouters should support Expedition Leaders to be effective coordinators of Expedition Teams. Expedition Leaders report to the Company Leadership Team on the progress of planned Adventures, and these reports should be viewed as opportunities to get good advice from the Team. Encourage Company Leaders to be supportive of Expedition Leaders. They should keep in mind that being Expedition Leaders will be a first for many Venturers. The role can be a significant challenge, but the experience represents an excellent opportunity to grow as strong leaders within the Company—perhaps even growing into the role of Company Leader.

The Company Leadership Team should ultimately serve as a resource to Expedition Teams, ensuring successful Adventures for the entire Company.

