

Commissioner Technology Focus Group (CTFG) Status Report

March 30, 2021

As always, please share this widely with your Commissioners.

Updated Distribution List

Please continue to send updates to the distribution list for this periodic status report to rick hillenbrand@alum.mit.edu.

Extended Access

On March 17 Scout Executives were sent a communication advising that the Internet Rechartering "Access Window" has been extended to four months beyond the charter expiration date so that units that had expired on December 31, but did not previously **SUBMIT** their renewals, could now continue with the online process. Some of the significant advantages of submitting recharters online include: the built-in checks for YPT and CBC (Criminal Background Check), as well as minimum member and leader requirements, plus all the advantages of avoiding hand transcribed errors that accompany paper charters and the avoidance of simple math errors when calculating fees.

During these unusual times, there have been a few BSA IT "access" changes that have caused confusion. The below table should help clarify.

Application / Program / System	Access as a USER expires
Unit Internet Rechartering window	Just extended to 4 months after current charter expires. (Standard access ended 2 months after.) The action taken was announced as an extension and not indicated as permanent change. However, there is no plan to roll back the extension through at least the remainder of the current renewal cycle, that ends with units that expire on August 31, 2021.
Individual access to the my.Scouting suite and functional role-based access to applications	4 months after the registration expires. Permanent.
Scoutbook / Internet Advancement	4 months after the registration expires. Permanent.
The ability to take YPT	Never

Training Validation - Going, going.... Welcome (Training) Quick Search

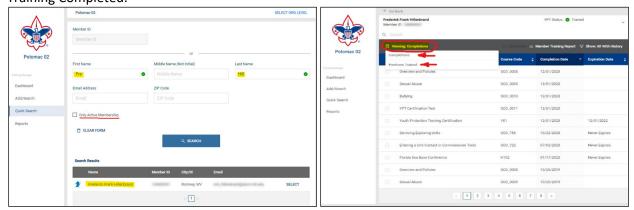
For those who rely upon the **Training Validation** tool, due to security concerns it will soon be permanently removed. However, in its place a new tool was created to easily and quickly view an individual's completed trainings AND MORE! The new tool is called **Quick Search** and is logically a menu choice under **TRAINING MANAGER**. The new tool only works within the council (i.e., you can't search across multiple councils or from a higher level such as the region), but <u>any member registered in the council/district/unit with access to **TRAINING MANAGER** can search for another individual in the</u>

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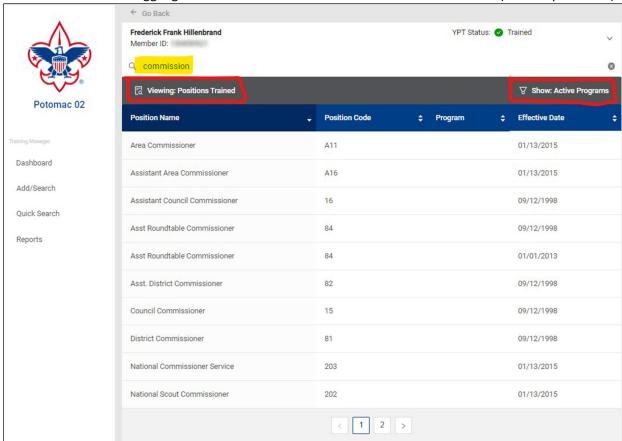
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council, districts and other units – including members who are no longer registered but have been within the past 5 years. You must enter 3 characters in the first and last name data fields to find a person, and then click **SELECT** to see ALL their completed trainings. Of course, there are filters and the ability to export the individual's Member Training Report which provides the report titled "Leader Training Completed."



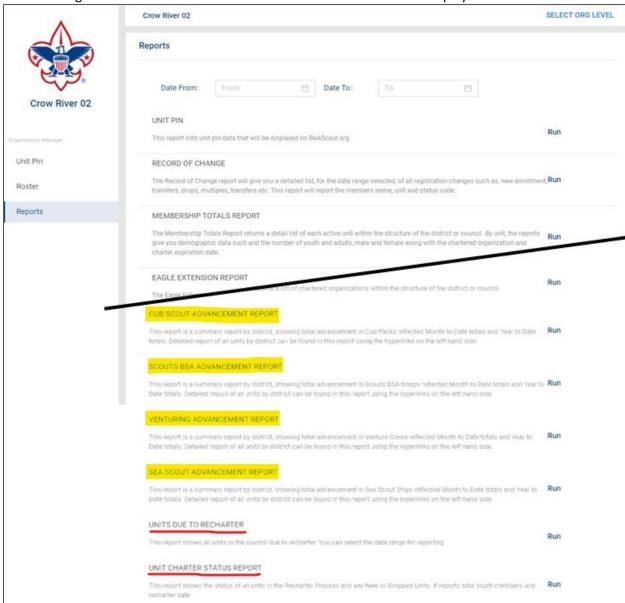
A new feature allows toggling the view from COMPLETIONS to POSITIONS TRAINED (see sample below).



New (Summary) Advancement Reports

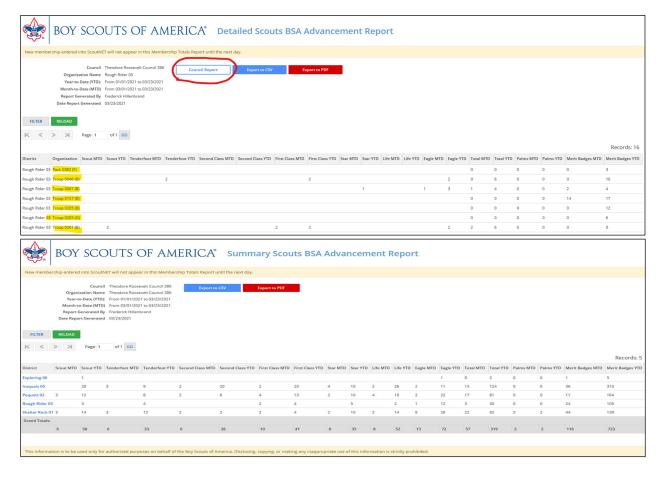
Found in my.Scouting under ROSTER there are four new summary advancement reports: CUB SCOUT ADVANCEMENT REPORT, SCOUTS BSA ADVANCEMENT REPORT, VENTURING ADVANCEMENT REPORT and SEA SCOUT ADVANCEMENT REPORT available for non-unit Scouters. Additionally, there are plans to soon add summary reports for CUB SCOUT ADVENTURES. These reports show total advancement reflected Month to Date totals and Year to Date totals. Detailed reporting of all units by district can be found in this report using the hyperlinks on the left-hand side, plus there is the ability to go to the council level and see a summary by district. To limit the impact on system resources, these are only

district and council level reports. There are some enhancements being developed for these reports to the date range and to make sure even units with no advancements are displayed.



After selecting the date range and running the report you initially get the report for the Organization level you are at. (I.e., council level if you are at the council level, district level if you are at the district level.)

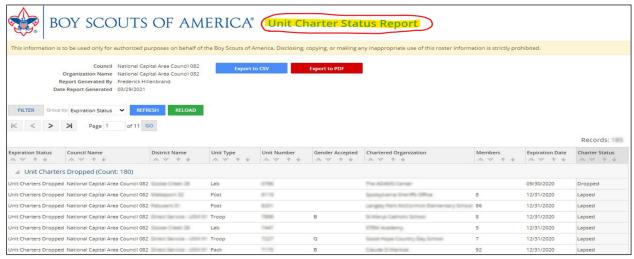




New (Re)Charter Reports

In addition to the many places where you can find a unit's current charter expiration date, you may have noticed that immediately below the Advancement Reports found in **ROSTER** there are two new reports to help with monitoring the unit recharter process.

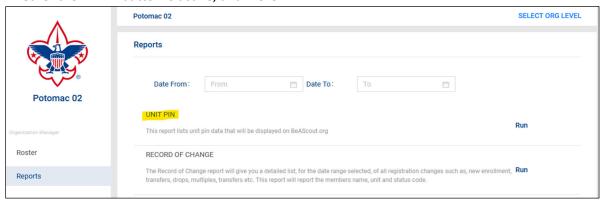
- UNITS DUE TO RECHARTER Shows all units in the council coming up for recharter.
- **UNIT CHARTER STATUS REPORT** Shows the Dropped and Lapsed status of all units in the Recharter Process and any New units. It also reports total youth members and recharter date.
 - NOTE: This is a unit charter report, not an online rechartering report that reports the "Stage Status" of a unit that is in the process of using Internet Rechartering. The "Stage Status" information is only available presently via the Internet Recharter Renewal System (ICRS) report available in ScoutNet. This information remains a high priority for direct access by volunteers as soon as it can be made available.



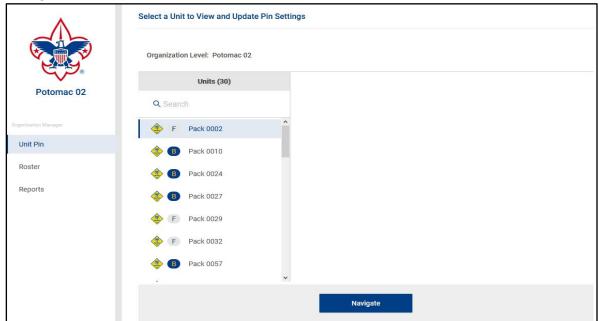
BeAScout

The BeAScout app can be very helpful to unit recruiting, but not all units use it to its fullest capabilities. As a commissioner, here are some ways we can serve our units:

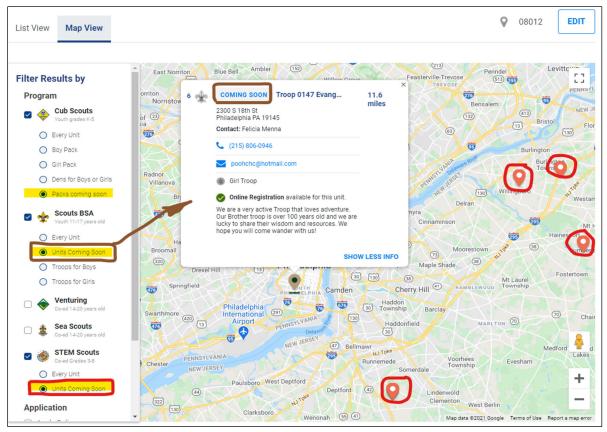
1. Go to the Unit Pin Report in **ROSTER**, and check the settings for your units. The resultant report is quite extensive, so it may be easier to handle as a CSV or PDF export. This report provides important information such as: whether the unit's pin is set to Council or Unit view, contact information, WHERE the pin shows on the map (look for PO boxes without a latitude and longitude), whether the APPLY button is active, and more.



2. As commissioner at the council level or below, you also have the ability edit a unit's BeAScout pin settings!



3. Another feature in **BeAScout** is Coming Soon units. As seen in the below example there are five units about to be formed. Additionally, a new feature will soon be added to BeAScout that will allow interested parties to apply for membership in a 'Coming Soon' unit.



Commissioner Tools

- Training
 - Another reminder, while the ScoutingU team works on updating the training in BSA's Learn Center, the most current Commissioner Tools training in the form of Power Points and videos can be found here predominantly thanks to the efforts of Dave Fornadel:

https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/tools/ (Scroll down the page.)

Phase 1 - Static Training (available via links below)

Static training is presented in PowerPoint and PDF formats and guides the commissioner through the major highlights of commissioner tools. Individual commissioners can use the documents to familiarize themselves with the functionality of Commissioner Tools. These documents also can facilitate instructor lead training for newly recruited commissioners, or as a training element in a monthly commissioners meeting. Each PDF document is the speaker notes for the Powerpoint

The topics are:

- Navigation and Simple Assessments Powerpoint | PDF
- Detailed Assessments and Unit Service Plan Powerpoint | PDF
- Commissioner Tools Reports Powerpoint | PDF
- Commissioner Tools for Administrative Commissioners Powerpoint | PDF
- Commissioner Tools for Roundtable Commissioners Powerpoint | PDF

Phase 2 - Video Training Modules

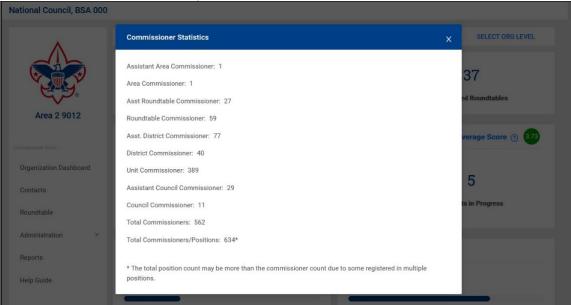
The video training modules are below. They are temporarily being offered on this page until the BSA Learn Center is updated. PLEASE NOTE: If the modules are used from this page, credit is NOT recorded in training records.

Click on the link to view the video.

- Commissioner Tools Supports Commissioner Objectives
- Navigation and Simple Assessments
- Detailed Assessment and Unit Service Plan
- Commissioner Tools Reports
- Commissioner Tools for Administrative Commissioners
- Commissioner Tools for Roundtable Commissioners
- · Advancement, Activity Summary and Unit Charter

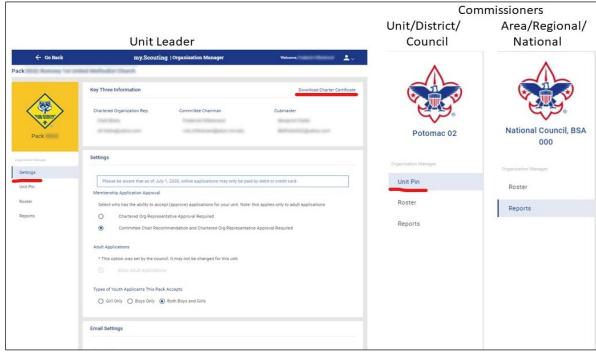
Enhancements

 Added Commissioner count details via hyperlink on the word Commissioner on COMMISSIONER TOOLS non-unit dashboards. A report will follow later.



Worth Repeating

- Membership Rosters. You may have noticed that regardless of whether you click on ROSTER or ORGANIZATION MANAGER it takes you to the same place: ORGANIZATION MANAGER. This is in part because the BSA IT group is renaming and reorganizing these functions, but this is where you go to get organizational rosters. Like many my. Scouting applications, the differences on what type of functionality that you see in ORGANIZATION MANAGER are based on your role.
 - o Area, Regional and National level commissioners see Rosters and Reports.
 - Council Commissioners and below also have a tab, AND THE ABILITY, to make changes to Unit BeAScout Pin settings. (For use when the unit needs a helping hand.)
 - Unit Key 3 leaders additionally have a tab for changing the settings for Membership Applications, and the emails sent to applicants and online registrants. Note too, that from SETTINGS tab, Unit Key 3 can print their charter.



2021 Unit JTE Worksheets

After literally months of work with the JTE Team, the commissioner technology team is on the cusp of finalizing the 2021 Unit JTE worksheets. Watch this website for when they get posted: https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/tracking-workbooks/.

Scoutbook

- Training Environments Thanks to new team member Ron Fedele for creating the attached two
 documents that explain how to use the Scoutbook and Scoutbook Den Leader Experience
 "sandboxes."
- On April 12, persons on unit Leader Rosters that are not registered as a BSA member will be removed. For more information you may go to Scoutbook Help: https://discussions.scouting.org/t/adult-leader-change-in-scoutbook-march-15/219827

Hails and Farewells

It's been a while since we recognized some of the transitions on the Commissioner Technology Team; the great work done by those departing, and the knowledge and enthusiasm the new members bring.

Those who have or are about to depart the team are: Ray Ezell, Bill Cameron and Larry Tuell. As the District Commissioner of the Monticello District in what was then the Stonewall Jackson Area Council, on August 12, 2014 Ray's district was the very first district to implement Commissioner Tools. Ray's early user inputs were instrumental in our successful deployment of Commissioner Tools across the BSA. Although not on the team long, Bill helped us significantly when as commissioners we first started learning the intricacies of virtual video meetings. One of the original members of the Technology Team, in addition to being a Commissioner Tools "tester" Larry made sure the team remained focused on our constituency's needs by looking at our modifications – both proposed and implemented – through the lens of the 'typical' commissioner user.

New to the team are Ron Fedele from the Golden Gate Area Council with expertise in **Scoutbook**, Adam John hails from the recently created Greater Hudson Valley Council who, in addition to his Scouting avocation, is the Chief Technology Officer for Civicom, Inc. with significant technology management and operational experience, and Mike Weber who is the incumbent Regional Commissioner for the Central Region.

Coming Down the Pike

- my.Scouting
 - o Ability for members to transfer between councils (ECD 2021Q2)
 - Replace Organizational Security Manager with Position Manager (ECD 2021Q2)
 - o Rebuild the structure to meet the new BSA territories (by June 1)
 - BeaScout "Coming soon" units will be able to accept applications (ECD late 2021Q2)
 - o Improved/Streamlined Online Registration flow (ECD late Summer 2021)
 - Continued tweaks to Membership Manager
- Get off of ScoutNet (ECD late 2021, early 2022). Requires finalization and deployment of Registrar Tools

The Commissioner Technology Focus Group