



Counselor Certification Course

▲ *equipping new Cadet counselors to be effective in their ministry to boys* ▲

Name: _____ Council: _____

Introduction

Cadeting is more than a Christian boys' club with uniforms, badges, activities, and Bible study. Cadeting is a *ministry*, built around the relationship that emerges between a Christian man and the small group of boys we call a *cadre*.

As a Cadet counselor, you build that relationship and minister to your boys through utilizing the "tools" that the Cadet program provides. Becoming effective in that ministry begins by learning *what* those tools are and *how* to use them.

This Counselor Certification Course is a vital first step in that learning process. That's why the Cadet Congress has mandated that every new counselor complete this course before they are eligible to wear the **counselor stripe** on their uniform.

The "tool" that will benefit you the most at this point is the *Counselor's Manual* because it is a link to rest of the Cadet program. That's why it is the focus of this course.

Go through this booklet with your *Counselor's Manual* open. Note the page references with each section. By looking up those references and filling in the blanks, you will discover what cadeting is all about. Take it seriously, and it will be a worthwhile and meaningful journey.

A YOUR CADET CORPS

Purpose and Goals

Page A-2

1. The **purpose of cadeting** is to provide you with the means to help boys grow _____

2. The four **areas of development** listed are:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
3. Based on the explanation given, state in your own words how the **advancement program** is a "tool" to help you in your ministry to boys.

The Organization

Page A-4

1. **Congress**, the decision-making body of the Calvinist Cadet Corps, is made up of _____

2. If you felt a **change should be made to the Cadet program**, how could you propose that change and be certain your proposal will be heard?

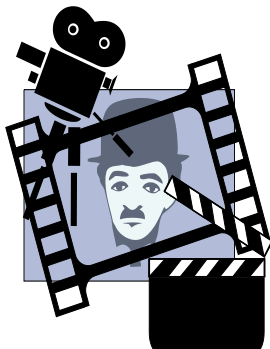
Programs Offered

Page A-5

1. The **total age range** possible for a boy in cadeting is from age _____ to _____.
2. As a Cadet counselor, **your ministry will change with each age group**. Note those changes in the blanks below.
 - Jr. Cadets (Grades 1–3, ages 6–8) _____
 - R•P•B (Grades 4–6, ages 9–11) _____
 - Guide Trails (Grades 7–9, ages 12–14) _____
 - Voyageur (Grades 9–11, ages 14–16) _____
3. Write below the **program level** that will be the focus of your cadeting ministry this year.

I will be ministering to boys age _____

My *approach* will be _____



You will now have an opportunity to see cadeting in action!

Depending on the program levels of the counselors attending this certification workshop, one or more of the following AV programs will be shown.

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • <i>Jr. Cadets (Grades 1–3, ages 6–8)</i> | 5:38 minutes |
| • <i>Recruit•Pathfinder•Builder (Grades 4–6, ages 9–11)</i> | 5:00 minutes |
| • <i>Guide Trails (Grades 7–9, ages 12–14)</i> | 4:46 minutes |
| • <i>Voyageurs (Grades 9–11, ages 14–16)</i> | 3:50 minutes |

- 4. Look ahead at page C-10.
 - a. What else can a **Cadet age 14** become? _____
 - b. What two possible **areas of involvement** does this provide?
 - _____
 - _____

B LEARNING TO LEAD

Preparation

Page B-2

If you are completing this course on your own, be certain to fill out the **Counselor Profile** on pages B-2 and B-3. If a DCE is leading the course, he will remind you to complete the profile before turning in your booklet. We also suggest that you fill out the **Counselor Profile** once again at the end of your first Cadet season. Check to see what progress you have made.

Organizing Your Cadet Club

Page B-3 & 4

- 1. The **cadre is the basic structure** of cadeting. How would you organize a Cadet club using cadres? _____

- 2. There must be a reason for this structure, and there is. After reading pages B-3 & 4, explain in your own words **the ministry purpose behind the cadre structure**.

Your Cadet at Home

Page B-8

- 1. What **items should be sent home to parents** the first week of Cadets?

- 2. You are encouraged to **visit parents at least twice a Cadet season**. What is the purpose?

C REACHING BOYS

A Ministry Approach

Page C-2

1. An important aspect of your ministry to boys through cadeting is **the process of discovery**? What does your *Counselor's Manual* say are the three areas where this discovery occurs?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Before going on, please consider this:

You can't minister to boys you don't know!

Know Your Cadets

Pages C-3 through C-9

1. Go through the **age group (below) of the boys who will be in your cadre** this year. Keep in mind that each boy is unique. These are *general characteristics*, but they will at least point to the types of things you can do with boys your Cadets' ages to build good relationships and minister effectively to them.

Grades 1–3/Ages 6–8

- He likes to work with his hands, so we include _____ in our program.
- His attention span is about _____ minutes.
- He tends to be selfish, so we _____
- This is the age where best friends develop, so we use the _____ for activities and recruiting.
- He has a curiosity for the unknown, so we help him _____ the Scriptures.

Grades 4–6/Ages 9–11

- Because his physical talents are developing, we provide a lot of _____
in the Cadet program.
- Since many are good readers at this age, we provide them with _____

- The Flag Knowledge and Citizenship rank requirements help meet his feeling of _____

- He is able to understand salvation and know sin as sin, so we _____

Grades 6–9/Ages 12–14

- Since there is often great differences in physical development at this age, we provide _____
- He likes adventure and discovery, so we provide _____

- He will often seek to cover up his feelings, so we _____

- He wants to be independent of adults, so we provide _____

- He wants a practical Christianity, so we _____

Grades 9–11/Ages 14–16

- He is approaching physical maturity, but we must remember _____

- He is more influenced by suggestions from his own group, so we _____

- His emotions are often intense and will fluctuate, so we _____

- He likes to set his own moral standards, so we _____

- He may feel the content of Bible teaching is childish and boring, so we _____

D CADET PROFILES**Cadet Profiles**

After reading through the **introduction** and glancing through the **sample *Cadet Profile***, please answer the following in your own words.

1. Assume you have interviewed each Cadet in your cadre (about 15 minutes each). As a result, you have completed the information at the top of page 1 of the *Cadet Profile*. What value might specific information in that section be to you as you minister to your boys this year? Write your thoughts below.

2. Throughout the “Advancement” sections of the *Cadet Profile*, each requirement has spaces for five **Target Dates** before the **Date Completed**. What is the purpose for the target dates?

E COUNSELOR AIDS**The Gold Sheet and Other Aids**

1. Read through the Gold Sheet — a gold mine of basic tips for the Cadet counselor — and write below three nuggets you found that will help you this Cadet season.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

2. Go through the Flag Knowledge through Junior Counselor aids in this section. What did you find that might help you this Cadet season? How will it help you?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

Child Abuse

Child abuse is not a pleasant subject, but it is a necessary one. The 1998 Congress decided that the *Child Abuse* booklet is to be inserted in the *Counselors Manual* and included in the *Counselor Certification Course*.

On page 4, the **Purpose** of the booklet is explained. In addition to your Cadet club using the suggestions in this booklet, where, according to the purpose, is it most important to incorporate them?

In the section titled **Definitions And Details**, there are “Separating Fact From Fiction” lists on pages 5–8. The following questions are taken from those lists. Please check the statements below that are TRUE. If FALSE, write down why they are false.

_____ Only children under age 16 can be reported as physically abused.

_____ The majority of parents who abuse their children are mentally ill.

_____ Proof of injury is not necessary to make a report.

_____ Incest offenders molest only children in their own families.

_____ Most sex offenders are known to the child. They may be family members, friends, neighbors, baby-sitters, or even Cadet counselors.

_____ Most poor families neglect their children.

_____ There are well-documented cognitive and neurological deficits in children that result from neglect.

F PROGRAM INSERT

The “Program Insert” (program aids) you will store in this section of your *Counselor Manual* depends on the program level of your cadre.

For	You should have
Jr. Cadets (Grades 1–3, ages 6–8)	• <i>Junior Cadets Counselor’s Manual</i>
Recruit•Pathfinder•Builder (Grades 4–6, ages 9–11)	• <i>R•P•B Merit Badge Aids</i>
Guide Trails (Grades 7–9, ages 12–14)	• <i>Guide Trails Counselor’s Manual</i>
Voyageurs (Grades 9–11, ages 14–16)	• <i>Starting and Organizing a Voyageur Club</i> • <i>Voyageurs Resources</i>

Go to the section that relates to the program level of your cadre and answer the questions in that section.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| • Jr. Cadets on this page | • Recruit•Pathfinder•Builder on page 11 |
| • Guide Trails on page 12 | • Voyageurs on page 13 |

Jr. Cadets (Grades 1–3/Ages 6–8) Page number references are for the *Jr. Cadet Counselor’s Manual*.

- (page 4) After group opening exercises, what activities make up a typical club evening for Jr. Cadets?
 - 6:40 to 7:00 PM _____
 - 7:00 to 7:40 PM _____
 - 7:40 to 7:55 PM _____
 - 7:55 to 8:00 PM _____
- (page 5) **Bible Lesson** — what is the overriding goal of the Bible lesson for the Jr. Cadet program?

- Where in your *Jr. Cadets Counselor’s Manual* can you find help for craft time?
Pages ____ through ____.
- (page 130) What is the basic ministry purpose of craft time in the Jr. Cadet program?

- Where in your *Jr. Cadets Counselor’s Manual* can you find help with game time?
Pages ____ through ____.
- (page 171) What is the basic ministry purpose of game time in the Jr. Cadet program?

Recruit•Pathfinder•Builder (Grades 4–6/Ages 9–11) Page number references are for the *R•P•B Merit Badge Aids*.

1. (page F-2) What is the stated approach of the R•P•B program?

2. What do you think that approach has to do with your ministry to your Cadets?

3. (page F-3) What are the three categories of merit badges in the R•P•B program?
• _____ • _____ • _____
4. How do these categories relate to your ministry to your Cadets as you explained in #2?

5. (page F-3) If a boy starts Cadets as a sixth grader (age 11) for the first time, how much of the Recruit and Pathfinder requirements does he have to complete before he can start on the Builder merit badge requirements?

6. (page F-4) There are probably many merit badges in the R•P•B program about which you know very little, if anything at all. Notice that beginning on page F-5 there are merit badge aids for each of the badges in the program. Based on what is stated on page F-4 and what you discover looking through the aids, which of the following is *true* about merit badge testing? (Check one.)
 I am required to find my own references for testing every merit badge.
 There’s a lot of help in the *Merit Badge Aids*, but I will still have to use a lot of outside references for testing most merit badges.
 With just a few exceptions, the *Merit Badge Aids* include everything I need to test the merit badges without having to go to outside references.
7. (page F-5) Select any merit badge from the Merit Badge Index. Go to the reference page and write below the “ministry purpose” for that badge.
Badge I selected: _____ Purpose: _____

Guide Trails (Grades 7–9/Ages 12–14) Page number references are for the *Guide Trails Counselor's Manual*.

1. (page 4) The following statement is made, “Our Guide Trail program has a ministry approach which is truly unique in the area of youth ministry.” In your own words, explain that ministry approach.

2. From the list below, select the guide trail about which you know the *least*. Look it up in the Guide Trail Aids section of the manual.

• Aero-Tech	page 9
• Ag-Tech	page 15
• Auto-Tech	page 27
• Craftsman	page 39
• Craft-Tech	page 46
• Seamanship	page 96
• Woodsman	page 108

Answer the following questions.

- a. Read through the “Preview: A Christian Understanding of....” Summarize in your own words what the Cadet will gain from completing this trail.
- b. Read through the “Counselor Skills” section. You know very little (if anything) about this trail area, but you have Cadets who want to work on it. What can you do to make that possible?

Voyageurs (Grades 9–11/Ages 14–16) Page number references refer to the *Starting and Organizing a Voyageur Club* booklet.

- 1. (page 5) Voyageur has a unique “fit” in the ministry of cadeting. Explain in your own words what that “fit” is, and what a boy this age needs from you, his counselor.

Fit: _____

What he needs from me: _____

- 2. (page 6) Since there are no guidebooks, etc., how do you organize a Voyageur group?

The following page references are from the *Voyageurs Resources* booklet:

- 3. (page 9) You have a group of boys interested in aviation and aerospace. Answer the following.
 - a. What is available in the Cadet advancement program to help you?

- b. Beyond that, you really know nothing about the subject. What can you do?

Back to *Starting and Organizing a Voyageur Club* booklet:

- 4. (page 14) Read through the steps of “Planning Your Program.” In addition to (or instead of) what you decided in item 3, what should you do?



The Calvinist Cadet Corps Congress requires that each counselor successfully complete this Counselor Certification Course to become eligible to wear the counselor stripe on his uniform.

If your club is a **member of a Cadet council with DCEs**, this booklet should be turned in to your council's DCE Team who will:

1. Check it over and, if successfully completed, award you with the counselor stripe.
2. Forward your name to the Corps office who will mail a *Certificate of Completion* to you at your home.

If your club is an **independent club**, or if your **council has no DCEs**, you may send your completed booklet directly to the Corps office who will then send you a counselor stripe and certificate.

If your council does have a DCE Team and you send your completed booklet to Corps, the completed booklet will be forwarded to your council's DCE Team.

The quality of cadeting's ministry depends on knowledgeable, skilled counselors. May this be but the first of many counselor education workshops you attend in your effort to be all God intends you to be as you seek to serve Him through cadeting.

CONGRATULATIONS!

If you are in an independent club or are in a council without DCEs, please mail this booklet to
 Calvinist Cadet Corps
 PO Box 7259
 Grand Rapids, MI 49510-7259

To be sure you are listed correctly on our counselor list, complete this information before you turn in your completed booklet. Please print clearly.

Name: _____ Club Number: _____

Church Name: _____ Council: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: () _____

E-mail address: _____

FROM

CLUB NUMBER _____

CLUB NAME _____

COUNCIL NAME _____

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

CALVINIST CADET CORPS
BOX 7259
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49510
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