NOAC 2024

CU Boulder

Why be a Leader?

Learning Objectives

1. How do we become leaders?
2. Where do we find leadership opportunities?
3. What are some of the challenges we will encounter as leaders?
4. What traits do we need to develop as servant leaders?
5. How are we going to raise new leaders?

Seek New Heights

Taking on a leadership role is an opportunity for personal growth. We strive to do our best, and to serve others.

1. You can evolve into becoming a leader; we don't start out at the top

Discuss your start in leadership and how it went

- Most of us were runny-nosed young scouts at some point and were recruited or voluntold to run a task or project.

Was there clear communication about responsibilities and expectations for the role?

Was there any training – or was it on the job/sink or swim?

How did this affect how you handled the role?

2. Becoming a Leader

It is ok to seek leadership opportunities; someone needs to step up.

Have you been active in the activity where you want to lead?

A good follower – helps a Leader lead.

Opportunities for leadership are all around you. Don’t be afraid to take on something new.

1. <<>>
2. <<>>
3. <<>>

Do you have a leader that you look up to and who could be a mentor?

Most of the roles and responsibilities are not new – others have done these things ahead of us with various degrees of success.

Find someone you respect who has done this or a similar job successfully and is willing to spend some time talking to & gently guiding you.

3. There will be challenges (irksome tasks, volunteers & youth), but you will grow through the experience

It is easy to lead when everything works right,
it is a bit more challenging when things go wrong.

Leaders solve problems.

Reflect on what you learned

The what went right, what went wrong, and how might I do this differently in the future.

4. What traits do we need to develop as servant leaders?

Empathy for others.
Being courteous, kind,
helpful, friendly, and brave.

A question of balance

At its core, being a good leader is a balancing act.

On one side of the scale is the task or goal to accomplish, and on the other is the team.

The needs of the group and the needs of the task.

A leader focusing only on the task/goal will eventually find themselves with no one to lead; they will lose the team.

On the other hand, a leader who only focuses on the team will not accomplish the needed results.

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Listen, listen, listen.

Who do we have that wants to help?

What are the critical goals to achieve the needed outcome?

Have we communicated this to our group?

Where do they fit?

Does someone else see a different path/solution to the problem?

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5. How do we help others become leaders?

Who were our mentors and how do we become mentors?

Delegating tasks – giving others opportunities for success.

Training your replacement.

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Coaching vs. Counseling

Praise in public and give direct feedback privately.

Encourage what went well, guide discussion on what went wrong, and what to do differently.

Challenge them to step up and become leaders themselves.

Takeaway Challenge

I will seek an opportunity to lead if I am not in a leadership role.

If I am already a leader, I will proactively look for new candidates for leadership and mentor them.