



COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION COURSE

Name: _____ Council: _____

The Calvinist Cadet Corps
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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 each new counselor complete this course before he is eligible to wear the counselor stripe on his uniform. He must have completed this course before he can be a counselor at an international camporee, or be eligible to be awarded the Blue or Gold Star.

The tool that will benefit you the most at this point is the *Counselor 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 Manual* open. Note the page references with each section. By looking up those references in your *Counselor Manual* 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.

YOUR CADET CORPS

Goal of Cadeting

Page A-2

1. The **goal 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** helps a boy in his mental development.
 - _____

 - _____

 - _____

The Organization

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

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

Programs Offered

1. The **total range** possible for a boy in cadeting is from grade _____ 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) _____
 - R•P•B (Grades 4-6) _____
 - Guide Trails (Grades 7-9) _____
 - Voyageur (Grades 9-11) _____
3. Write below the **program level** that will be the focus of your cadeting ministry this year.

I will be ministering to boys age _____

The *approach* is _____

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.

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • Junior Cadets (Grades 1-3) | 5:38 minutes |
| • Recruit•Pathfinder•Builder (Grades 4-6) | 5:00 minutes |
| • Guide Trails (Grades 7-9) | 4:46 minutes |
| • Voyageurs (Grades 9-11) | 3:50 minutes |

4. Look ahead at page C-10.
- a. What else can a **Cadet age 14** become? _____
- b. List two of the requirements for working in this position.
- _____
 - _____

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-7 & 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?
- _____
- _____
- _____

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 Manual* say are the three areas where this discovery occurs?

- _____

- _____

- _____

Before going on, please consider this:

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

Know Your Cadets

Pages C-2 through C-9

1. Go through the **age group of the boys who will be in your cadre** this year (*see below*). 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

- 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

- 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 7-9

- 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

- 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 _____

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 four **Target Dates** before the **Date Completed**. What is the purpose for the target dates?

3. Once you’ve identified a boy’s needs, explain how you would use the back page of the Cadet Profile in planning to meet those needs.

COUNSELOR AIDS

1. Go through the four 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. Congress has determined that the *Child Abuse* booklet is to be inserted in the *Counselor 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 **Types of Abuse**, “Abuse Fact vs Fiction” on page 9 talks about the myths surrounding abuse. The following statements are taken from that page. Please check the statements below that are TRUE. If FALSE, write down why they are false.

_____ Children with disabilities won't be abused.

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

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

_____ Children lie about being abused all the time.

_____ 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.

PROGRAM INSERT

The “Program Insert” in this section of your *Counselor Manual* will correspond with the program level of your cadre. You will only have material for one of the following:

<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Page in Booklet</u>
Junior Cadets	Grades 1–3	on this page
Recruit•Pathfinder•Builder	Grades 4–6	page 11
Guide Trails	Grades 7–9	page 12
Voyageurs*	Grades 9–11	done on your own

Go to the section in this course that relates to the program level of your cadre and answer the questions in that section. Ignore the other sections.

Jr. Cadets (Grades 1–3)

Use the index on the cover of the *Junior Cadet Counselor Manual* to help you find the answers you need.

1. After group opening exercises, what activities make up a typical club evening for Junior 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 _____

2. **Bible Lesson** — what is the overriding goal of the Bible lesson for the Junior Cadet program?

3. Where in your *Junior Cadets Counselor Manual* can you find help for craft time?

Pages ____ through ____.

4. What is the basic ministry purpose of craft time in the Junior Cadet program?

5. Where in your *Junior Cadets Counselor Manual* can you find help with game time?

Pages ____ through ____.

6. What is the basic ministry purpose of game time in the Junior Cadet program?

*Voyageurs — There is no counselor manual for the Voyageurs program. Help for Voyageurs is available online at the Cadet website (www.CalvinistCadets.org) under the Programs heading. Please study this on your own.

Recruit•Pathfinder•Builder (Grades 4–6)

Use the index on the cover of the *R•P•B Counselor Manual* to help you find the answers.

1. 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. 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. If a boy starts Cadets as a sixth grader 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. There are probably many merit badges in the R•P•B program about which you know very little, if anything at all. Notice that there are merit badge aids for each of the badges in the program. Based on what is stated in the first pages of this section 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. Select any merit badge from the Merit Badge Index. Go to the reference page and write below the purpose for that badge.

Badge I selected: _____ Purpose: _____

Guide Trails (Grades 7–9)

Use the index on the cover of the *Guide Trails Counselor Manual* to help you find the answers.

1. 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
- Ag-Tech
- Auto-Tech
- Boating
- Craftsman
- Handyman
- Woodsman

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?

WRAP UP

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, to be a counselor at an international camporee, or to be eligible for a Blue Star or Gold Star.

Follow these instructions when you have completed this course:

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

2. 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 certificate. You may also choose to order a counselor stripe. Mail this booklet to:
Calvinist Cadet Corps
1333 Alger St SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

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 to review before awarding your counselor stripe and certificate.

The quality of cadeting's ministry depends on knowledgeable, skilled counselors. May this be just 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!

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: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Church Name: _____

Council: _____ Club Number: _____

