



2026-2027

Department of Florida

Sea Cadets Guide

For Post Chairs



U.S. NAVAL
SEA CADET CORPS

CHART YOUR COURSE

CHART YOUR COURSE

FOREWORD

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of the scope and duties of the Post Sea Cadets Chair position. It is not intended to be an encyclopedia on the Sea Cadets Program – those resources can be found by contacting your local Sea Cadet Unit. This guidance for American Legion-sponsored or supported Sea Cadets Units is provided with the newly appointed Post Sea Cadets Chair in mind...a volunteer who has ventured into a job designed to bridge the two cultures of the American Legion and the United States Naval Sea Cadets Corps (USNSCC). This guide should bring clarity to terms, roles and responsibilities, new regulations, and create consistency for those both old and new to this critical juncture of TAL and USNSCC.

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) is a congressionally chartered, Navy sponsored organization. It is the official youth program of both the United States Navy and Coast Guard. It serves 5,600 youth aged 10–18 across 330 facilities nationwide. The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps was founded by the Navy League in 1962. The organization currently provides unique opportunities for over 12,002 youth, aged 10–18, across 330 facilities nationwide. Around 400 can be found in the United States, Guam and Puerto Rico.^[2] As of 2025 the Sea Cadet Corps has a total of one vessel named the USNSCS Grayfox managed by the Navy Reserve. The vessel is undeployable and made its last trip to sea on April 26, 1998. It is still in active service, and sits at Port Huron, Michigan.

The United States Navy Sea Cadet Corps has origins tied to both the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Navy. The organization relies heavily on the military for both uniforms and equipment. The modern United States Navy maintains a sizable global presence, deploying in strength in such areas as the Western Pacific, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean. The USNSCC is chartered by the Navy to increase its outreach across the United States. The USNSCC was established in 1958 by the Navy League of the United States, at the request of the Secretary of the Navy, to foster interest in the Navy among young people. It officially allowed young women to join in 1974. USNSCC consists of hundreds of local units across the United States, Hawaii, Alaska and U.S. Territories. Florida consists of 31 Units in 7 Regions, see appendix A.

During the 103RD Convention, The Department of American Legion voted to accept the USNSCC as a program under the Children and Youth Pillar. This is to build the relationships between our Posts and the Sea Cadets Units in the State of Florida in order to mentor the future leaders of our state and nation.

Mission

The mission of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps is to build leaders of character by imbuing in our cadets the highest ideals of honor, respect, commitment, and service. — Mission statement of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

- The Sea Cadet's three primary areas of responsibility are: The development of leadership skills and character among cadets through structured training and mentorship.
- The provision of hands-on training in various disciplines, including field operations and specialized military techniques.
- The preservation and education of naval history and heritage.

U.S. Sea Cadet training manuals state: "the primary tools to be used to train cadets and develop their character, military bearing, and self-control are leadership (by perfect example, inspiration, and motivation) and mentorship (by instruction and concern for personal development)."

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POST SEA CADETS CHAIR

If you serve your Post as the Sea Cadets Chair, you deserve gratitude from both fine organizations. You have volunteered to take on a uniquely important position in your Post. While most other Chairs are involved in activities supporting the older generations of veterans, you will be guiding and shaping the development of the youngest generation of Americans. Your involvement will impact how they embrace leadership, citizenship, patriotism, and community service.

In this role, you serve as the Sea Cadets advisor to the Post Children and Youth Chair, but ultimately to the Post Commander, on all issues related to the Sea Cadets Unit. Your duties will vary depending on the level of your Post's involvement in the Sea Cadets. While not every Post has the resources to sponsor a Sea Cadets unit, this should not be a deterrent to your Post's and your involvement in supporting the Sea Cadets. There are many Sea Cadets units in Florida that will benefit from the support of the Legion. You may involve your Post in Sea Cadets in many ways, such as:

- Inviting neighboring Sea Cadets units to march in veteran and patriotic parades.
- Providing instruction in flag handling and respect.
- Encouraging Legionnaires to be adult volunteers in the local Sea Cadet Units.
- Allowing Sea Cadets units to use Post facilities for meetings or fundraising events.
- Donating equipment directly to Sea Cadet units. (but not funds)
- Donating funds to the local Sea Cadet Units.
- Presenting Medals and Scholarships to individual Sea Cadets

If your Post does sponsor a Sea Cadet unit, or wishes to start one, your Post Sea Cadet Chair position will evolve into an even more important role. So, what is a Unit Sponsor?

UNIT SPONSOR

Any business or not-for-profit service organization may sponsor a Sea Cadet Unit and can assist in forming a unit. This is done by submitting a formal letter to the Sea Cadet National Chairman via the local Regional Director. The local Regional Director can assist with all the requirements for the request letter.

A Sea Cadet Unit can have more than one sponsor but must designate a primary sponsor and all sponsors should work together to benefit the Sea Cadet Unit. In performing this duty, you as the Chair should be familiar with Sea Cadet regulations and instructions. You can get these from your local Sea Cadet Unit.

As a sponsor your Post's mission is to help the Sea Cadet unit fulfill its mission while leaving direct supervisory authority and daily operations to the Unit staff. The Post's duties include but not limited to (the limit is up to the Post and the Unit you sponsor)

- Provide financial assistance.
- Facilitate contact with military, veteran, and community organizations.
- Assist in identifying training locations, materials, and storage facilities.
- Recommend volunteer leadership for the Unit.
- Serve as a neutral reviewer for Unit finances.

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UNIT SUPPORTER

Supporting is the less formal support of a Sea Cadets unit. It often involves donating money, providing opportunities to earn money, allowing Post property to be used for activities, service projects or meetings without that formal agreement that a sponsor agreement codifies. Posts can provide this type of support to as many Sea Cadets units as it can reasonably handle. There is no formal written agreement required by the Sea Cadets for this type of support.

SEA CADET UNITS

There are four types of Sea Cadet units, each one tailored to a different training program the unit will focus on and the youth age group. They are:

Sea Cadets Unit Types		
PROGRAM TYPE	YOUTH INVOLVEMENT	TRAINING FOCUS
1. Division (NSCC)	Ages 13 to 18	Sea Services
2. Squadron (NSCC)	Ages 13 to 18	USN/USCG Aviation
3. Battalion (NSCC)	Ages 13 to 18	USN Construction
4. Training Ship (NLCC)	Ages 10 to 13	League Cadets

(NOTE – You must have either a Division, Squadron or Battalion to have a Training Ship.)

The Sea Cadet program opened its membership to all children ages 10 to 18 regardless of gender or race. Adult leaders can be ages 18 and older. USNSCC does follow ADA laws with disabilities of its cadets and adult volunteers.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE POST AND ITS SEA CADETS UNITS

The relationship between the Post and its Sea Cadets units is only limited by the willingness of the two organizations to work together and grow. Below is some guidance in how to adopt the Sea Cadets into your Post operations.

- The Sea Cadets Unit wholly owns all their assets. This includes all uniforms, gear, training aids and any funds that the unit has raised or collected. Sea Cadets units are on as equal a program level within the Post as the SAL, Auxiliary, and ALR.
- Place the Sea Cadets Chair Reports on the same level of importance as your other committees.
- The Sea Cadets are motivated to learn and help. Have your members interface with the Sea Cadets.
- As the Sea Cadets Chair gets involved with the unit/units your post is involved with. The unit will appreciate it.

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SEA CADETS UNIT LEADERSHIP

The overall operation of a Sea Cadets unit is trusted to the Unit's Commanding Officer. This is an instructor that is appointed by the Regional Director for 3 years. That commanding officer then will appoint his required staff to effectively run the unit, including the executive officer, operations officer, administrative officer, finance officer and any other position needed. These adult leaders will then appoint Cadets into leadership roles to serve as Cadet leaders in that unit.

As the Sea Cadets Chair you will be working with leadership in the unit that have been appointed into those roles for some time. The relationship you develop with them will be key in the success of the Post's sponsorship or support of that Unit. Don't hesitate to invite the Commanding Officer to some meetings so the Post learns who that individual is, especially if the unit is asking the post for a donation or assistance.

CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING ADULT LEADERS

For the Screening of Leaders, know that,

- As part of the adult membership registration process, the Sea Cadets will screen each adult applicant for legal background issues, driving records, credit checks and run their names against lists of barred individuals.

For the Selection of Leaders, consider,

- An interview of each adult by the unit commanding officer and staff.
- That each adult's skills and attitudes match their position.
- That not everyone is always selected for the position they want.
- That enthusiasm does not always equate to competence...ensure that prospective leaders meet your expectations regarding communication, attendance, and organizational skills.

For the Training of Leaders, remember,

- Youth Protection Training is completed upon registration and again annually.
- Position-specific training is completed within 1 year of registration.
- Advanced leadership training of your leaders should be encouraged (Officer Development Courses)
- Recognize training and tenure accomplishments.

WHERE DO I GET HELP?

Appendix A has a list of all the Sea Cadets Units in Florida and the Regional Directors they report to. It also has emails for those individuals to assist in making contact. If you are unable to make contact with any of these individuals, you can also reach out to your Department of Florida Sea Cadets Program Chair for assistance.

DETAILS THAT CAN KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE

Remember that Sea Cadets units are NOT part of the military. While the training is focused and derived from the US Navy and US Coast Guard and military driven the cadets are still children.

Two Deep Leadership...a key tenet of the Sea Cadets policy...dictates that neither you nor any other adult should ever have contact with a Sea Cadet unless another adult over 21 is present. This includes

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meetings, counseling, emails, texts, phone conversations, social media etc. Sea Cadets Organization has explicit rules for all of this.

Remember that the Sea Cadets Unit, and not the Post, maintains possession of the unit's financial and material assets. When the unit raises money, it does so for the unit's needs and not the individual cadets.

Each Sea Cadets unit may have its own policies specific to how it operates. These are similar to the Post Bylaws. These policies are recognized by the Sea Cadets Chain of command as long as they do not violate higher level policy.

As a Post Sea Cadets Chair, you should not wear any Sea Cadets uniform unless you are an active member of the Sea Cadets adult volunteer organization. Then you must follow the Uniform regulations of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

Legion caps MAY NOT be worn with any Sea Cadets Uniform.

IN CLOSING

Again, the objective of this guidance is to give new Sea Cadet Chairs a head start in understanding and performing in their positions. Any recommendations for additions, deletions or clarifications are welcome and appreciated. Please forward them to the Sea Cadet Chair at the address below.

Your commitment to this very important Family and Youth program of TAL's Children and Youth pillar is noteworthy. Very few programs provide more goodwill to the community than our Sea Cadet programs. And none contribute as profoundly to the moral, ethical, character and leadership development of our youth than a well-run and safe Sea Cadet program.

For God and Country,

NEEDS SIGNATURE

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State of Florida Sea Cadet Units and Contact Info

Area Commander

Southeast Area Commander		Ed Callahan CAPT, USN Ret	ecallahan@seacadets.org			
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Training Group Staff

Training Group Southeast Commander		Cassandra Peck MAJ, USA Ret	co.062may@seacadets.org			
Training Group Southeast Executive Officer		Jeff Hawk SGT, USA Ret	jhawk@seacadets.org			
Training Group Southeast Senior Advisor		LT. Kevin Grams	kgrams@seacadets.org			

Units

UNIT NAME	UNIT TYPE	COMMANDING OFFICER	EMAIL	CITY	STATE	REGION
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Region 6-1

Regional Director		LCDR Zane Lance	zlance@seacadets.org			Region 6-1
AMERICAN VICTORY DIVISION	Division	LT Cory Stewart	cstewart@seacadets.org	Tampa	FL	Region 6-1
MARITIME EAGLES DIV	Division	LCDR Dennis Turner	iturnerdennis@gmail.com	Bradenton	FL	Region 6-1
SUNCOAST SQUADRON	Squadron	LT Kelly Ann May	kmay@seacadets.org	Clearwater	FL	Region 6-1
TAMPA BAY DIV	Division	LCDR Zane Lance	zlance@seacadets.org	Tampa	FL	Region 6-1

Region 6-2

Regional Director		LTJG William Price	rd.062reg@seacadets.org			Region 6-2
FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT SQUADRON	Squadron	ENS Jodona Brown	co.062fdr@seacadets.org	Jacksonville	FL	Region 6-2
JOHN PAUL JONES DIV	Division	INST Keith Sandell	keith.m.sandell@gmail.com	Tallahassee	FL	Region 6-2
LIBERTY DIV	Division	INST Frederick Patterson	info@libertyseacadetdivision.org	Lake City	FL	Region 6-2
MAYPORT DIV	Division	INST Patrick Henderson	patrickhenderson77@gmail.com	Mayport	FL	Region 6-2
ST AUGUSTINE BATTALION	Battalion	LT Larry Mull	lmullstaugseacadets@gmail.com	St Augustine	FL	Region 6-2
TS ROOSEVELT (F D ROOSEVELT SQ)	TS	ENS Jodona Brown	co.062fdr@seacadets.org	Jacksonville	FL	Region 6-2

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Region 6-4						
Regional Director		LTJG Matt Wood	m.wood@seacadets.org			Region 6-4
CENTURION BATTALION	Battalion	LT Douglas Evans	co@centurionbattalion.org	Winter Park	FL	Region 6-4
CLERMONT BATTALION	Battalion	ENS Calicia Landry	ca.landry@seacadets.org	Clermont	FL	Region 6-4
DAYTONA DIV	Division	LT Juan Lewis	jl.daytonadivision@att.net	New Smyrna Beach	FL	Region 6-4
DELAND EXCELLENCE SQUADRON	Division	Inactive		DeLand	FL	Region 6-4
Region 6-5						
Regional Director		LT Kevin Grams	kgrams@seacadets.org			Region 6-5
AMERICAN VETERANS DIV	Division	LT Larry Saulog	lsaulog@seacadets.org	West Palm Beach	FL	Region 6-5
BOCA DELRAY DIV	Division	LTJG Krista Jawdy Quevedo	co@bocadelrayseacadets.com	Boca Raton	FL	Region 6-5
ENTERPRISE DIVISION - FLORIDA	Division	LTJG Alejandro Duran	a.duran@seacadets.org	Opa Locka	FL	Region 6-5
FLORIDA KEYS DIVISION	Division	LTJG Jennifer Bardoni	co.065flk@seacadets.org	Key West	FL	Region 6-5
FT LAUDERDALE DIVISION	Division	LTJG Rosa Ryan	co.065spr@seacadets.org	Fort Lauderdale	FL	Region 6-5
GULF EAGLE DIVISION	Division	WO Joey Alonso	co@gulfeagledivision.org	Cape Coral	FL	Region 6-5
NAS Richmond Division	Division	LT Maria Miranda	nasrichmonddiv@gmail.com	MIAMI	FL	Region 6-5
Region 6-7						
Regional Director		LT Donald F Potenziani	d.potenziani@seacadets.org			Region 6-7
COURAGEOUS DIVISION	Division	ENS Heather Owen	howen@seacadets.org	Merritt Island	FL	Region 6-7
DAVID MCCAMPBELL BATTALION	Battalion	Inactive		Melbourne	FL	Region 6-7
Jupiter/Langley (AC-3/CV-1) Squadron	Squadron	ENS Sean Hart	co.067jpt@seacadets.org	Jupiter	FL	Region 6-7
NEPTUNE SPEAR DIVISION	Division	INST Paula Fisher	p.fisher@seacadets.org	Port St. Lucie	FL	Region 6-7
Region 6-8						
Regional Director		LT Keith Quiles	kquiles@seacadets.org			Region 6-8
AMERICAN PRIDE SQUADRON	Squadron	LTJG Jim Carvajal	jcarvajal@american-pride.org	Orlando	FL	Region 6-8
CHRIS KYLE BATTALION	Battalion	LT Richard Troche	isleno2001@msn.com	Kissimmee	FL	Region 6-8
FREEDOM BATTALION	Battalion	LCDR Harold Johnson	hjohnson115@cfl.rr.com	Orlando	FL	Region 6-8
LONE SAILOR DIVISION	Division	LTJG Jeff Hawk	jhawk@seacadets.org	Windermere	FL	Region 6-8

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Region 6-9						
Regional Director		LCDR William Novack	rd.087reg@seacadets.org			
Golden Warriors Division	Division	ENS Perry Williams	ppwilliams104@yahoo.com	Panama City	FL	Region 6-9
INDEPENDENCE SQ	Squadron	INST Frederic Smith	co@pcolaseacadets.org	NAS Pensacola	FL	Region 6-9
SEA WOLF DIV	Division	LTJG Jon Graydon	graydonjm@aol.com	Panama City Beach	FL	Region 6-9
WHITING DIV	Division	LTJG Darrell Zofcin	naswhitingfieldco@yahoo.com	Milton	FL	Region 6-9