



Frontiersman Camping Fraternity

Dear F.C.F. Officer:

By action of the National Royal Rangers Committee, the enclosed booklet will become the standard recommended procedure for membership in the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity. It will supersede any previous information in your notebook or files. This new tool-out procedure was developed by the National Committee at the request of the National F.C.F. Committee and the National Royal Rangers Executive Committee. Both groups strongly felt there was a need for a more unified, practical and effective method of establishing membership in F.C.F.

We want to express special thanks to Paul Johnson, Western Territorial Representative, for the bulk of the revised material in this document, and to the other members of the National F.C.F. Committee -- John Eller, National President; Elton Bell, Midwestern Representative; Ralph Palmer-ton, Southern Representative; and Ollie Dalaba, Eastern Representative -- for their research and evaluation.

We would urge you to put this procedure into operation just as soon as possible. We believe you will discover it has many advantages and will result in an up-grading of your F.C.F. program.

"READY" in His service,

ROYAL RANGERS DIVISION

Johnnie Barnes
National Commander

JHB:lsm
enclosure

FRONTIERSMEN

CAMPING

FRATERNITY



FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FRATERNITY

A Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity chapter can be a real asset to a district. The following information is designed to assist you in developing a chapter in your district. We also strongly recommend that you secure a copy of the F.C.F. Handbook and become thoroughly familiar with its contents.

Purpose of This Organization

1. To give recognition to men and boys who have shown exceptional interest and outstanding achievement in the Royal Rangers program and in Royal Ranger campcraft.
2. To build a brotherhood of "top-notch" men and boys over the years who will continue to be Royal Ranger program and camping enthusiasts.
3. To emphasize the importance of involvement in the advancement program, development of campcraft skills, and completion of the Leadership Training Course.
4. To develop a crop of elite Royal Rangers who will strive to be the very best in Christian example and leadership.

Basic Requirements for Membership

BOYS

1. They must meet the following requirements:
 - A. Earn the Trailblazer First Class rating.
 - B. Earn the Advanced Camping Award.
2. They must be recommended by their outpost for this position. (This is done by submitting an F.C.F. application form to the district office prior to the Pow Wow.)
3. After being selected, they must pass certain tests and participate in an initiation ceremony. This will be referred to as Phase I and Phase II.
4. Upon receipt of application, the candidate will be informed of the date and place for Phase I testing.

LEADERS

1. They must complete the Leadership Training Course and earn the Leader's Medal of Achievement.
2. After completing L.T.C., they must pass certain tests and participate in an initiation ceremony. This will be referred to as Phase I and Phase II.
3. Upon completion of the Leadership Training Course the candidate will be informed of the date and place for the next Phase I testing.

CHAPTER ORGANIZATION

Before any chapter can conduct an effective F.C.F. initiation, it should be organized. Every member should understand the duties and functions of each office within the chapter. The "Suggested Constitution and Bylaws" found in the F.C.F. Handbook, pages 25-30 should be utilized in organizing all chapters.

It is further suggested that an initiation committee be formed to serve the chapter. The committee should be composed of F.C.F. officers and additional qualified men when needed to conduct an efficient initiation. These additional individuals will be selected by the officers and assigned to work with the leader in charge. (For example, they may be placed in charge of a Phase I test in a specific area. For this reason they should be well qualified and carefully selected.)

The responsibilities of the initiation committee, as a group, or as individuals are as follows:

- A. Plan and carry out an OUTSTANDING initiation for the mutual benefit of both the candidates and the Fraternity.
- B. Coordinate ALL initiations with the District or Divisional Commander.
- C. Conduct only AUTHORIZED initiations.
- D. Secure sites for Phase I and Phase II of testing.
- E. Be sure that both tests, Phase I and Phase II, are staffed by QUALIFIED Frontiersmen.
- F. Notify each candidate by mail or sealed envelope of each phase of the testing.
- G. Use only AUTHORIZED subjects and materials during the tests.
- H. Check to see that every person who was tested is notified by mail or sealed envelope of the results of his test.
- I. Forward ALL "Phase I Test Sheets" to the Scribe for his records.
- J. Attend ALL scheduled initiation committee meetings.
- K. Act as a public relations representative primarily within his area of responsibility.

The F.C.F. chapter officers will counsel with the other members of the initiation committee in the planning of initiations. There should never be a sectional initiation; only district or divisional initiations should be authorized. Initiations on the smaller levels lose their effectiveness.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMINISTERING TESTS

Only qualified persons should administer F.C.F. tests. A candidate must meet certain requirements before he is selected for initiation. So should those who administer the initiation tests.

It is the responsibility of the initiation committee, as a group, or as an individual, to provide qualified personnel. Listed are some of the necessary requirements for those who administer the tests:

- A. Must be a member of the F.C.F.
- B. Must have above average knowledge on the subject he is testing.
- C. Must be dressed in a FULL Royal Rangers uniform or an F.C.F. uniform when administering the tests.

- D. Must be able to talk with others with ease.
- E. Must NOT project the attitude of "I'm smarter than you, and if you don't do it my way you're wrong!"
- F. Must be able to work with the person in charge of the testing.
- G. Must be able to follow instructions.

When tests are administered by qualified men and boys, both the initiations and the program will be up-graded.

FORMS

Four forms should be used in setting up an initiation and for establishing accurate chapter records. They are: The "Commander's Letter," The "Application for Admission" form, "Phase I Test Sheet," and the "Test Result Letter." (See attached samples.)

These forms can only be obtained from the Territorial Representatives, the chapter officers, or members of the initiation committee.

By using these forms the chapter is kept aware of those who are qualified for testing, and a communication link is established between the Fraternity and the key leaders within the district.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE

Initiation procedures for the members of the initiation committee should be formally adopted. There should be no question as to the proper procedure in conducting F.C.F. initiations. A good suggested procedure is as follows:

- A. Establish the initiation staff under the direction of the member or members of the initiation committee.
- B. Establish tentative dates for Phase I and Phase II testing, keeping in mind:
 - 1. There should be no more than two initiations per year in any one area (district or division).
 - 2. At least one of the initiations should be a part of the annual Pow Wow.
 - 3. Schedule Phase II testing at least four weeks after the Phase I test.
 - 4. Districts with two-day Pow Wows may conduct Phase I the first day and Phase II the second night; however, they should place the test result letter in a sealed envelope and give it to the candidate prior to Phase II.
THIS METHOD DOES HAVE DISADVANTAGES because of the many distractions during a Pow Wow.
- C. Obtain approval from the district to conduct initiation tests on the dates requested.
- D. Select sites for Phase I and Phase II testing.
- E. Assign initiation staff their topics for testing candidates.
- F. Notify each known candidate by mail of the time, date and location of the test, utilizing the "Phase I Test Sheet."
- G. Conduct Phase I test. These tests may be conducted on a sectional or divisional level as long as they are conducted by authorized personnel.
- H. Notify the candidates by mail or sealed envelope of the results of Phase I tests and announce the time and location of the Phase II ordeal, utilizing the "Test Result" letter.

- I. Send all Phase I test sheets to the chapter Scribe for his records.
- J. Visit Phase II initiation site with the initiation committee and prearrange all tests.
- K. Conduct the call-out ceremony.
- L. Conduct the Phase II ordeal, as described in the booklet "F.C.F. Ordeals."
- M. Give public recognition to new members.
- N. Send the chapter Scribe the names of the candidates who have successfully completed the Phase II ordeal.

PHASE I TESTING

Phase I testing is conducted for those who have met the qualifications as described in the F.C.F. Handbook, "Suggested Constitution and Bylaws," Article IV, pages 25-26. Phase I is designed to weed-out those who have not retained the professed knowledge of the Royal Rangers program and basic campcraft skills. The Phase I tests should be done in a "professional" manner and conducted by the initiation staff only. There should be no harassment what-so-ever. Remember, this will be the FIRST impression of F.C.F. for many men and boys. The impression made at this point will have a lasting effect on the attitude of the new candidate and may determine how actively he will support the F.C.F. program.

When the "Phase I Test Sheet" is given or mailed to a candidate, all that is written on the form is the time, date and location of the Phase I test. He is to fill out the upper portion of the form. It is not specified anywhere that a BOY has to be a Christian to become a member of the F.C.F. Therefore, the portion that states "and is, to the best of my knowledge, a born-again Christian" may be deleted in some cases at the discretion of the pastor of the church, after he has talked to the boy's Commander. However, all men applicants must be born-again Christians.

The procedure for conducting Phase I tests are as follows:

1. Candidates are welcomed by the person in charge of the testing.
2. A general explanation as to what Phase I testing is about is made at this time. There is never any mention of Phase II testing.
3. After reviewing the "Phase I Test Sheet" explicit instructions are given to the candidates. They fold their "Phase I Test Sheet" form and it is not to be opened by any candidate during the Phase I testing. Any candidate found looking at his test sheet will be dismissed at that time and rescheduled for the next Phase I test.
4. The candidates are rotated from test to test. They are tested on each of the eight categories. If the candidate answers the question correctly the initials of the person asking the questions are entered opposite the proper category. If he cannot answer the question correctly, a line is drawn through the number of the question he was asked. The "Phase I Test Sheet" is folded by the testor and he rotates to the next test.
5. A supplemental confidential sheet entitled, "Suggested Phase I Test Questions" may be used by the leaders in giving the tests.
6. The person administering the last test questions will collect all of the folded test forms as each candidate finishes his testing.
7. The group of candidates are formally dismissed after being told they will be notified by mail or sealed envelope of the results of their test. NEVER reveal the results of the test to ANY candidate at the test site.
8. The initiation staff reviews each of the test sheets. They are graded accordingly and approved by the person in charge of the testing.

9. The results are then transferred to the "Test Results" letter and mailed or handed later to each of the candidates.
10. The "Phase I Test Sheets" are mailed to the chapter Scribe for his records.

THE CALL-OUT CEREMONY

The following ceremony should take place during a district Pow Wow Council Fire service.

The Royal Rangers are called to the Council Fire by the sound of a hunter's horn. Several men dressed in buckskin and coonskin caps will be standing before the fire. (These men are officers in F.C.F.) The leader of the group will explain what the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity is. He will explain that five things characterize the fraternity. They are COURAGE, ACHIEVEMENT, FRIENDSHIP, LEADERSHIP and WOODSMANSHIP.

One of the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity members will then step forward and state:

"The Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity symbolizes COURAGE. The frontiersmen of early America were known for their courage. To become a member of this group, it is necessary to display the same type of courage by performing the tasks necessary in the proving ceremony which is a requirement for membership."

A second Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity member will step forward and state:

"The Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity symbolizes ACHIEVEMENT. A Ranger demonstrates this by the achievements necessary to meet the basic requirements of membership. He demonstrates this further by meeting the achievements required in the initiation ceremony. To meet all these requirements, he must be a top-notch Royal Ranger."

A third Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity member will step forward and state:

"The Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity symbolizes FRIENDSHIP. A strong bond of friendship is cultivated by members of the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity."

A fourth Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity member will step forward and state:

"The Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity symbolizes LEADERSHIP. Each F.C.F. member must be willing to step out and lead the way by being an example in Christian living and Christian service."

A fifth Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity member will step forward and state:

"The Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity symbolizes WOODSMANSHIP. Each F.C.F. member will continue to develop outdoor skills and use them in camping situations.

The leaders will explain that new members will be called out in a few minutes and that they are waiting for a special messenger who will be carrying these names in a special dispatch case. Suddenly, in the background is the sound of gunfire and Indian war whoops. In a few moments the messenger, usually the District Scout, carrying a torch, stumbles into camp. He gasps, "Through many dangers and

perils I have come to bring this important message."

The leader takes the list of names from the messenger. The names of the men and boys who are candidates will be called. The candidates will step forward and respond to the following declaration and pledge:

" _____, you have been selected as a candidate for the historical Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity. This is a great honor. However, before you are fully accepted into this brotherhood, you must engage in a strenuous test to prove your worthiness of membership. This test will give you the opportunity to demonstrate your courage and skills in the out-of-doors. Will you accept this challenge and do your very best to pass each test?" (Candidates should answer, "I will.")

At the beginning of the ceremony each candidate should be given a leather thong with five (5) plastic beads on it to wear around his neck. If he fails a test during the ordeal, a bead is broken. Collect the plain leather thong that each candidate has brought with him to replace the one you give him. Instruct them to remain completely silent and not to speak except by special permission.

A good idea is to secure a large rope and lay it in front of the candidates. At the count of one they squat in unison, on the count of two they grab the rope, on the count of three they stand up. The rope must be straight and taut at all times. They leave the fire carrying the rope. They will continue to carry the rope from point to point throughout the initiation.

The candidates are then led out of the Council Fire area to the place designated for further instruction. (It might be well to warn the other boys in camp not to attempt communication with these candidates until the next morning.)

THE INITIATION CEREMONY (Phase II)

Let it be clear that the Frontiersmen association is not a secret order. However, in order to create more interest and excitement, the leader should keep the actual tests and other activities as confidential as possible. This will make the initiation much more significant to the new boys.

The initiation should be divided into two types of activities: (1) Stunts, to put humor into the ceremony and (2) Tests of courage.

During these proceedings, every member of the Fraternity who is present can take part. It is important that the Phase II ordeal be carried out in the same "professional" manner as was the Phase I test. Again each member of the initiation staff is assigned a specific test or stunt. He must keep in mind that if too much time is spent on any single event it will lose its effectiveness. It is very important that the Phase II ordeal be kept moving at all times. Careful planning is a "must" if this phase of the testing is to be effective. It should be limited to a few select stunts or tests and should not last longer than two hours. (See booklet entitled, "F.C.F. Ordeal" for further information.)

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

After the ordeal, a special ceremony is arranged and each man or boy is presented with the special insignia and officially welcomed into the group. Using the ceremony recommended in the booklet, "F.C.F. Ordeal" explain to them that next year they will assist in the initiation of new men and boys. If there are other activities during the year, brief them on these events.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

The district leader should secure the assistance of a representative of the National Office in setting up these ceremonies and activities for the first time.

Coonskin caps may be obtained from Frontier Supply House, 866 S. Cavalier, Springfield, MO 65802. Sizes: small, medium and large. Price: \$6.95 each. Other F.C.F. supplies are also available from this source. Frontiersmen insignia pins are available from Gospel Publishing House @ \$1.50.

Use the attached Commander's letter and application form as a guide in mailing information to local outposts.

Each local group should be informed several months in advance about the fraternity so they will have sufficient time to select candidates from their outpost.

CHAPTER OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

CHAIRMAN: The chairman will be the senior officer in the Fraternity and will chair all business meetings, such as elections, staff meetings, etc.

PRESIDENT: The president will have the rank of Major and will be responsible for:

1. Encouraging outposts to select candidates for F.C.F.
2. Maintaining contact with members.
3. Developing ways and means for perpetuating the chapter.
4. Arranging for F.C.F. public selection ceremony and initiation. (The chairman may wish to direct these events; however, preparation and arrangements will be the responsibility of the president.)

VICE-PRESIDENT: The vice-president will assist the president in his responsibilities. If the president is not present, he will assume the duties of the president.

SCRIBE: The Scribe will be responsible for keeping F.C.F. chapter records. He will also be responsible for correspondence, as directed by the chairman of staff.

DISTRICT SCOUT: He is the Royal Rangers boy-representative on the F.C.F. chapter staff. He should endeavor to express the viewpoint of the other boys in F.C.F. in regard to plans for events and activities. He also has the responsibility of cultivating friendship and understanding among other members by personal example and other means.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT SCOUT: He is to sit with the District Scout as a member of the chapter staff. He is also responsible for assisting the District Scout in carrying out his duties in F.C.F.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN: The District Commander is chairman by virtue of his office and is not elected by the Fraternity.

PRESIDENT: He is elected by the F.C.F. from among the adult leaders in the Fraternity. His term of office shall be for two years. He may be reelected, but not for more than three consecutive terms.

VICE-PRESIDENT: He is elected by the F.C.F. from among the adult leaders in the Fraternity. His term of office shall be the same as the president's.

DISTRICT SCOUT: He is elected by the F.C.F. from among the Royal Ranger-age boys in the Fraternity. He must be a member of F.C.F. for at least one year. His term of office shall be for two years. He may be reelected, but not for more than two consecutive terms.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT SCOUT: He is elected by the F.C.F. from among the Royal Ranger-age boys in the Fraternity. He must be a member of F.C.F. for at least one year. His term of office shall be the same as the District Scout's.

PLEASE NOTE: When the Fraternity is small, the chapter may wish to wait and add some of these officers as the group grows.

FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

1. The group may wish to establish an entrance fee for new members to cover the cost of F.C.F. pins and other items.
2. Plan a special event for F.C.F. members sometime during the year -- perhaps some type of rugged outdoor adventure. This would also be an ideal time for business sessions, because of the full schedule during district Pow Wows.
3. Have extra copies of the F.C.F. Handbook available for new members to purchase.

RELATIONSHIP TO OVERALL ROYAL RANGERS PROGRAM

The Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity does not have definite responsibilities for implementing any particular phase of the overall Royal Rangers program. Its main purpose is for recognition and promotions rather than functional. The members are encouraged to become absorbed in the Royal Rangers program on the level where they are most needed. They can contribute a great deal to the program by being an example in enthusiasm and involvement. However, because of the caliber of membership, many members will no doubt be asked to assist in various outreaches of the Royal Rangers program on a sectional and district level. We would encourage the districts to utilize these individuals.

Some districts may also request the F.C.F. chapter to spearhead certain district projects or activities. However, such functions must always initiate from or with the approval of the district. (However, the F.C.F. chapter may develop its own activities and projects that are designed for F.C.F. members only.)

SUGGESTED LETTER TO OUTPOST COMMANDERS

Dear Commander:

Our district is developing a chapter in the Royal Rangers Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity. There may be boys in your outpost who are eligible for membership in this organization, so please read this letter carefully.

Purpose Of This Organization

1. To give recognition to men and boys who have shown exceptional interest and achievement in the Royal Rangers program and in Royal Rangers camp-craft.
2. To build an organization of men over the years who will continue to be Royal Ranger program and camping enthusiasts.

Basic Requirements For Membership

1. They must meet the following requirements:
 - a. Earn First Class rating in Trailblazers.
 - b. Earn the Advanced Camping Award.
2. They must be recommended by their outpost for this position. (This is done by submitting an F.C.F. application to the district office.
3. After being selected, they must pass certain tests and participate in an initiation. These tests are referred to as Phase I and Phase II.
4. Upon receipt of the application, each candidate will be informed of the date and location of the Phase I testing.
5. Men who have completed the Leadership Training Course may also apply for membership.

Selecting A Candidate From The Local Outpost

Only a few boys from throughout the district will be selected each year for F.C.F. Therefore, outposts should use extreme care in choosing a boy or boys to represent their group. May we suggest that only boys with proven experience and interest in outpost activities and personal camping be recommended from your church. Only one application blank is enclosed as it is a rare group which will have more than one qualified boy each year. However, if additional forms are needed, contact the District Commander or duplicates may be made by the outpost.

Carefully fill out the application form and send it to the District Commander. All applications must be mailed by (date) to be considered.

Final selections will be based upon the results of the Phase I and Phase II tests. Applicants who do not qualify this year are eligible to apply again in future years.

For further information about this Fraternity, we suggest that you secure a copy of the F.C.F. Handbook from Gospel Publishing House and read it carefully!

Sincerely,



Frontiersman Camping Fraternity

Application for Admission

Ranger's Name _____ CHECK ONE
 Address _____ Air Ranger _____
 City, State, Zip _____ Sea Ranger _____
 Age ____ Birthdate _____ Date Joined R.R. _____ Trail Ranger _____
 Present Rating _____ Date Passed _____ Trailblazer _____
 Date Passed Advanced Camping Award _____

IMPORTANT: List outpost and personal camping on reverse side of application blank. Include camp location, length of trip, skills learned, and any information which will explain how you developed as a camper on that trip.

Commander's comments on candidate's camping ability, cooperation, and initiative:

Outpost # _____, of _____ in _____
 (Church) (City)

_____ recommends that Ranger _____
 (State) (Name)

be considered for admission into the National Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity.

Signed _____ and _____
 (Pastor) (Outpost Commander)

-- FOR DISTRICT OFFICE USE --

RECEIVED	REVIEWED	PASSED PHASE I	FAILED PHASE I	PASSED PHASE II	FAILED PHASE II
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Date: _____



Frontiersman Camping Fraternity

PHASE I TEST SHEET

NAME _____ AGE _____ PHONE () _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

OUTPOST NO. _____ NAME OF CHURCH _____ CITY _____

DATE RECEIVED MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT _____ WHERE _____

DATE COMPLETED REQUIREMENTS (Boys) _____ PRESENT RATE _____

POSITION IN ROYAL RANGERS _____

IMPORTANT

Please Be Present For Phase I Testing On Date Shown Below

DATE _____ LOCATION _____ TIME _____

"The above named applicant attends my church on a regular basis and is, to the best of my knowledge, a born-again Christian and is active in the Royal Rangers program."

PASTOR'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

* DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE *

TESTING: PHASE I

TOOLCRAFT LASHING BIBLE ORGANIZATION

1. 1. 1. 1.

2. 2. 2. 2.

COMPASS ROPECRAFT FIRST AID MISCELLANEOUS

1. 1. 1. 1.

2. 2. 2. 2.

3. 3. 3. 3.

Note -- If applicant fails any 3 tests he is disqualified and must be rescheduled for testing.

F.C.F. MEMBER TESTING _____ DATE _____ PASSED FAILED

APPROVED BY _____ TITLE _____



Frontiersman Camping Fraternity

TO: All F.C.F. Candidates

Greetings!

I want, first of all, to express my appreciation to you for your dedication to the Royal Rangers program. You have shown outstanding qualities as a Royal Ranger by completing the requirements that enabled you to apply for membership in the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity. As you know, the standards for acceptance as a member of the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity require that you pass a series of tests. You have taken the first of these tests and the results are as follows:

You DID NOT successfully pass Phase I of your testing. Your name is now on the list for the next test. You will be notified by mail the date and location of the next Phase I test.

You HAVE successfully passed Phase I of your testing. You are now scheduled for Phase II. You will be expected to be present for this ceremony as follows:

DATE _____ EXACT TIME _____ AM
PM

EXACT LOCATION _____

In order for you to be properly initiated, you are requested to bring with you the following items:

1. Compass
2. Three (3) Waterproof matches
3. One (1) Strip of rawhide, 30" long (leather thong)
4. Three (3) Smooth stones, 2" in diameter
5. One (1) Sleeping bag
6. One (1) Candle, white, 4" long
7. One (1) Paper cup, 8 oz.
8. One (1) Pocket knife
9. Two (2) Plain chocolate candy bars
10. One (1) Plastic spoon

Note -- You will be expected to bring ALL of the above listed items to the Phase II site, and be ON TIME.

It makes no difference, if you passed or if you failed, you are appreciated and sought as a member of the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity.

"READY" in His service,

Signature