

Duties of a Unit Commissioner

1. Report on their Troop or Pack through the UVTS (Unit Visit Tracking System)
2. Help Units achieve Journey to Excellence
3. Help Units Recharter on time
4. Make sure Unit is following BSA policies (trained leaders, tour plans, etc.)
5. Help Unit Committees run an effective meeting and help problem solve
6. Assist Unit with contact information for Community or Council
7. Assist Unit with finding resources (places to go, things to do, things of interest)

The commissioner is a **friend** of the unit. Of all their roles, this one is the most important. It springs from the attitude, "I care, I am here to help, what can I do for you?" Caring is the ingredient that makes commissioner service successful. He or she is an advocate of unit needs. A commissioner who makes him/her self-known and accepted now will be called on in future times of trouble.

The commissioner is a **representative**. The average unit leader is totally occupied in working with kids. Some have little if any contact with the Boy Scouts of America other than a commissioner's visit to their meeting. To them, the commissioner may be the BSA. The commissioner helps represent the ideals, the principles, and the policies of the Scouting movement.

The commissioner is a **teacher**. As a commissioner, they will have a wonderful opportunity to participate in the growth of unit leaders by sharing knowledge with them. They teach not just in an academic environment, but where it counts most—as an immediate response to a need to know. That is the best adult learning situation since the lesson is instantly reinforced by practical application of the new knowledge.

The commissioner is a **counselor**. As a Scouting counselor, they will help units solve their own problems. Counseling is the best role when unit leaders don't recognize a problem and where solutions are not clear-cut. Everyone needs counseling from time to time, even experienced leaders.

Questions about a Unit Commissioner or interested in being a Unit Commissioner, contact the Scenic District Commissioner: Sven Larsen evenings (320) 252-2594 or email svenandjudi@gmail.com