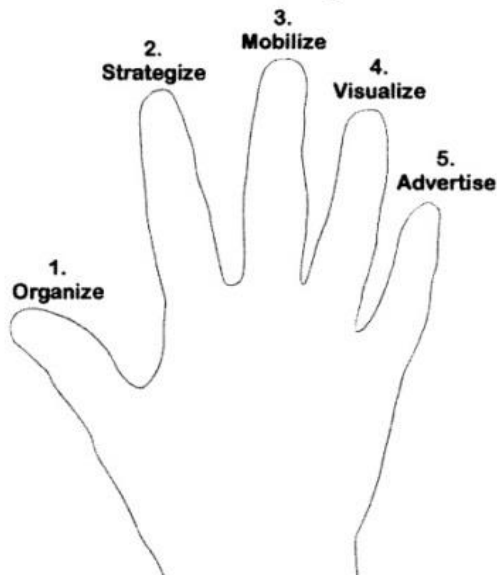


Achieving Success in Growing Religious Emblems Usage



Reaching council religious emblems usage growth goals is a simple process, but it requires intentional action. Here are five steps:

1. Organize

- If not already accomplished, immediately enlist a **Council Religious Emblems Coordinator** who understands the value of religious emblems and is committed to increasing religious emblems usage. Present the Council REC position patch to the selected individual.
- As a committee member, the **Council REC** works with the Council Advancement Committee to recognize, promote, and track religious emblems progress as a form of advancement.
- Enlist a **District Religious Emblems Coordinator** for **every district** in the council. Present these individuals with District REC position patches.
- As a committee member, the **District REC** works with the District Advancement Committee and individual units to recognize, promote, and track religious emblems progress as a form of advancement.
- **District Religious Emblems Coordinators** encourage **every unit** to select a **Unit Religious Emblems Coordinator**.
- **Unit Religious Emblems Coordinators** work with the unit committee and leaders to educate and involve Scouts, parents and clergy in religious emblems studies.

2. Strategize

- Work with the appropriate individuals and committees to set religious emblems completion goals for the council and district.
- Discover, promote, and support existing opportunities for Scouts to complete religious emblems studies. These may currently be offered by council religious relationships committees, specific faith groups, individual congregations, and others.
- Collaborate with faith group partners and Scout committees to create additional avenues for Scouts of all ages to complete religious emblems, such as council and district religious emblems retreats, Ten Commandment Hikes, and religious emblems classes taught in local congregations. (While encouraging ongoing opportunities for Scouts to earn their religious emblems, recognize that certain seasons lend themselves to these studies, such as in the fall or winter so that all requirements may be completed in time for presentations on Scout Sunday in February.)

3. Mobilize

- Provide opportunities for equipping and energizing religious emblems coordinators. Conduct training as needed. Be aware of online training and many other resources at www.praypub.org/rec.
- Find updates and share success stories at "Religious Emblems Coordinator" on Facebook.

4. Visualize

- Use creative tools to visualize progress toward religious emblems completion goals at council, district, and unit levels. For example, some councils have used a large religious emblems medal replica, coloring in the appropriate percentage of the ribbon as progress is made toward the goal. The medal is displayed at council and district events throughout the year and in or near the Scout Shop at other times.

5. Advertise

- Lack of knowledge about the existence of religious emblems programs is a commonly-cited reason for lack of involvement by Scouts, Scouters, and clergy. Don't miss opportunities to educate potential users and supporters, such as: council / district newsletters and websites, roundtables, camporees, banquets, committee meetings, OA functions, clergy events, congregational activities, and many more.
- Place articles in available community, Boy Scout, and faith-based media.
- Upon study completion, plan presentations in the Scout's house of worship and in the unit court of honor.
- Nominate active supporters of religious emblems for the adult religious recognition of their faith.