

# The Role of the Unit Key 3

The unit Key 3 is a new concept to the BSA and is a critical component to the success of the unit. The unit Key 3 consists of the unit committee chair, the unit leader, and the chartered organization representative. The new-unit commissioner serves as an adviser to the unit Key 3. This group meets once a month to discuss the unit, its challenges, coming events, and progress toward completing their action plan and Journey to Excellence goals, just like any other Scouting Key 3. It is a time for the unit Key 3 to learn how to spot early warning signs and work together toward continued unit success. The new-unit commissioner meets with them to support their efforts, to help with problem solving, and to keep the unit moving in sync with the district and council calendars.

The following are some items the new-unit commissioner should urge the unit Key 3 to review on a regular basis.

**Ensure that a monthly program and unit budget plan are in place and on track.** These items are critical for unit success. Encourage long-range planning for a positive experience for all. This may need to involve the district finance committee.

**Support systems that will ensure a well-organized unit** are the monthly unit Key 3 meeting, monthly committee and leader's meetings, and regular parent meetings.

**Encourage a unitwide communication system.** Communication takes many forms: newsletter, phone tree, email, website, Yahoo group. Whatever fits the unit.

**Encourage unit Key 3 training.** Encourage them to take This Is Scouting and Leader Specific Training for their position prior to their first meeting. Be sure the unit Key 3 is aware of training opportunities. Through the district commissioner, enlist the help of the training team to bring training to the unit if necessary.

**Help unit leaders get additional training as needed.** Through the district commissioner, request progressive specialty training as needed. Topics might include recruiting youth members, information on Friends of Scouting, advancement, etc. While it is the responsibility of the district committee, it may be necessary to conduct sections of this training yourself at a unit committee meeting.

**Encourage participation in district activities.** Encourage attendance at roundtable, district activities, and camping opportunities. Keep the district/council calendar in mind when helping the unit Key 3 schedule unit meetings and events.

## New-Unit Service Plan

### PRE-CHARTER UNIT ORGANIZATION

Assist the new-unit organizer in the unit organization process. Focus on things that will ensure long-term success for the unit: recruiting enough youth (at least 10) and adults (at least five), Youth Protection training and appropriate leader training, a leadership succession plan, familiarity with Journey to Excellence and Voice of the Scout, and an annual program plan. Help unit leaders set a vision for unit success, goal planning, and program planning consistent with the Journey to Excellence requirements. Encourage the key leadership to visit a well-run unit to capture the vision of success.

With the new-unit organizer, present the charter at a meeting of the chartered organization.

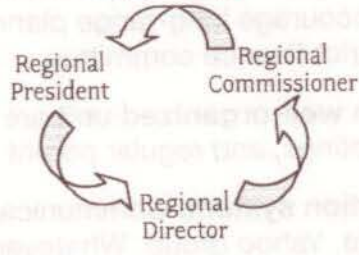
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What is the Key 3 concept in Scouting and where do commissioners fit?

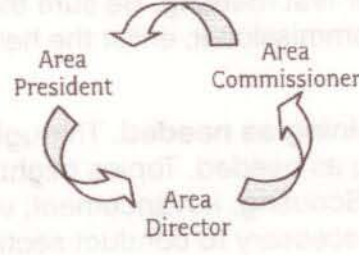
**National Key 3**



**Regional Key 3**



**Area Key 3**



**Council Key 3**



**District Key 3**

