

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DEMOLAY 2010 CHAPTER EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

We are proud to present an updated Chapter recognition program that allows Nor Cal to reward the many Chapters which achieve all-around Excellence in their activities while still singling out one Chapter for distinguished achievement. As in years past, certain activities will be awarded point values, but the Chapter Excellence program requires that a Chapter achieve certain minimal expectations in a variety of categories to receive “Excellence” designation. There will also be “caps” in receiving points in certain categories so that Chapters which have unusual opportunities in certain areas cannot receive an advantage over Chapters which do not have the same opportunities. There will, however, NEVER be a cap in any Chapter’s ability to excel in the areas of Membership, Community and Masonic Service, Philanthropic Fundraising and DeMolay Education. We believe that by focusing upon Chapter Excellence rather than merely a Chapter of the Year, we will be able to provide more recognition for distinguished performance and NorCal DeMolay will be stronger overall. While we as a Jurisdiction grow stronger through the Excellence Program, there will also be a singularly distinguished Chapter based on their total points. Join us in this adventure and enjoy!

Eligibility Period

The Chapter Excellence Program year will run from November 1st to October 31, 2010.

Submission of Activity Points

The program year will be split into “thirds” for submission purposes. The first third of the year will be from November through February with point submissions for this period due by March 31st. The second third of the year will be from March through June with point submissions for this period due by July 31st. The final third will be from July through October with all point submissions due by November 10th. The final point submission date, ten days after the end of the program year, is necessary so the overall tally can be accomplished before the NorCal Convention in late November. Each activity shall be reported on a separate form **electronically** on the NorCal website by the submission deadline and must be signed off by a member of the Chapter’s Advisory Council.

Category 1- Chapter Operations, 200 Points Required for Chapter Excellence

Chapter Operations are the core activities each Chapter should be accomplishing on a routine basis. An effective Advisory Council meets regularly, completes their annual registration on time, and submits insurance payments and the annual financial statement on time. An operationally focused Chapter observes each of the Obligatory Days and shows the youth protection video once each term.

Advisory Council Monthly Meetings: 5 points per meeting, maximum of 12.

Advisory Council Registration (ACR): ACR must be completed by December 31, 15 points.

Insurance Payment: Insurance payment due to NorCal by February 15, 10 points.

Annual Financial Statement: Statement due to NorCal by March 15, 10 points.

Observation of Seven Obligatory Days: 15 points per Observance. (Not simply standing up and acknowledging the day, but planning an activity or presentation that exemplifies the purpose behind the day. Examples can be found in your Leadership Resource Guide).

Youth Protection Video: 25 points per showing, one showing per term, maximum of two.

Category 2- Membership, 250 Points Required for Chapter Excellence

Membership is what sustains a Chapter and the Order of DeMolay. A goal of each Chapter should be 12 fully initiated new members (both Degrees) each year. This is a tough goal and that is why membership is richly rewarded for Chapter Excellence. Points can be earned for Prospect Parties or a Chapter putting on a Degree and for each new member fully initiated. If your Chapter is having a tough time putting on a Degree, ASK FOR HELP. Chapters that help another Chapter with Degrees can receive points in the Brotherhood category below.

Prospect Party: 10 points for each prospect party. To qualify, a party must have a minimum of two prospects present as well as two Chapter members and a member of the Advisory Council. No maximum. The activity must be explained in detail.

Initiatory or DeMolay Degree: 25 points per Degree hosted by an individual Chapter. At least one candidate must participate in a Degree. If two Chapters co-host a Degree at a single location, the points may be evenly split between the two Chapters (and only two Chapters). No maximum.

New Members: 25 points per new member fully initiated (both Degrees). No maximum.

Category 3- Brotherhood, 300 Points Required for Chapter Excellence

Supporting *other* Chapters, your Division and NorCal by attending events, making visitations and assisting with Degrees, add to the fun of DeMolay and demonstrate the values of our Order. One key characteristic which sets DeMolay apart from other organizations is our Ritual. This category recognizes the Chapter that participates, helps, and performs our Ritual.

Chapter Meeting Visitations: 15 points per Meeting Visitation to a Chapter on its regular meeting night. A visiting Chapter must have three members and an Advisor present (or two members, a Chapter Sweetheart or Princess, and an Advisor) to obtain points. Maximum of ten meeting visitations. Jurisdictional Officers may not be included in member counts.

Chapter Installation Visitations: 10 points per Installation Visitation to a Chapter at its public Installation ceremony. A visiting Chapter must have three members and an Advisor present (or two members, a Chapter Sweetheart or Princess, and an Advisor) to obtain points. Maximum of ten Installation visitations. Jurisdictional Officers may not be included in member counts.

Degree Assistance: 1 point per member helping *another* Chapter (or a Division) put on a Degree. Points are per member actively assisting in a Degree, not per part performed at the Degree(s) or based upon the difficulty of the part. When two Chapters are co-hosting a Degree (see Membership category above), no member from either Chapter may claim Degree Assistance points for their participation. Participation at Grand Masters Class or NorCal Convention Degrees is **not** an eligible activity. No maximum. Jurisdictional Officers may not count for assistance points.

Attendance at a NorCal Event: 15 points per Chapter per event that attends an official NorCal event (Bowling, P.R.I.D.E., Devo Day, Sports Weekend, Paintball, Grand Masters Class, Senior Ball). To receive points a Chapter must have three members and an Advisor present (or two members, a Chapter Sweetheart or Princess, and an Advisor). Maximum is the number of official NorCal events excluding Convention). Jurisdictional Officers may not be included in member counts.

Participation in a Team Event at PRIDE: 50 points per team event entered at the annual P.R.I.D.E. competition. Points awarded only for Chapter Proficiency, Initiatory Degree and DeMolay Degree (1st and 3rd Sections) competitions. DeMolay Degree (4th Section) and Installing Team competitions are not eligible, nor are individual competitions.

Category 4- DeMolay Education, 100 Points Required for Chapter Excellence

A Chapter achieves Excellence through Education and Learning; learning about the Order of DeMolay, learning about yourself as an individual, and learning how to lead. Obtaining the Lamp of Knowledge (completion of all five lessons of the Leadership Correspondence Course), successfully completing the Representative DeMolay survey, attending DeMolay Leadership Camp and striving for the Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award (PMC-MSA) are significant ways to strengthen a DeMolay Chapter.

Lamp of Knowledge: 15 points per Chapter member, advisor or family member who successfully attains the Lamp of Knowledge during the program year. Also eligible for point attainment are members and advisors of other Masonic orders who are affiliated with a Chapter. No maximum.

Representative DeMolay: 25 points per Chapter member or Senior DeMolay affiliated with a Chapter, who successfully completes the Representative DeMolay survey during the program year.

Attendance at DeMolay Leadership Camp (DLC): 25 points per Chapter member attending DLC. Points awarded for a maximum of two attendees per program year.

PMC-MSA: 15 points for each initial application (“first letter”) for the PMC-MSA and 50 points for successfully attaining the PMC-MSA during the program year. Points will be awarded for a maximum of two initial applications and the awarding of two PMC-MSAs.

Category 5- Community, Masonic and Philanthropic Service, 150

Points Required for Chapter Excellence

In addition to Brotherhood and Ritual, the one aspect of DeMolay that Dad Frank S. Land attempted to teach to our original Brethren and all DeMolays was the concept of Service: In thought, in word and certainly in deed. By giving back to the Community, by supporting our other Masonic organizations and by supporting worthy causes, the members of DeMolay and those we touch by our actions, understand the uniqueness of our organization. For a Chapter to be considered “excellent” there must be a demonstration of Service.

Community Service: 15 points for a community service project that is performed by a minimum of three members for no less than two hours. Examples could be working at a Food Closet, cleaning a park or cemetery, assisting at a community event. No maximum.

Masonic Service: 5 points for each activity. Examples could be as simple as performing a Flag Escort at an Installation or serving at a dinner; it could be as complex as a renovation project at a Masonic Lodge or staffing a booth for several days at a fair. No maximum.

Philanthropic Project: 15 points for the Chapter engaging in a significant activity that raises money for either the DeMolay International project or the NorCal project. The initial points are awarded for an event that raises no less than \$200.00 net for either project. An addition 5 points are awarded for raising no less than \$500.00 net for the activity and another 5 points for raising no less than \$800.00 net for the activity. If more money is raised above this amount, no addition points are awarded for that activity. There is no maximum to the number of activities that can be awarded points.

Category 6- International DeMolay Month Outstanding Chapter Award

An integral part of our Order is to serve and become involved in our region. Every year DeMolay International designates the week which contains March 18th DeMolay Week in order to recognize our founding in 1919. During this week all chapters of DeMolay are encouraged to become involved in their community as well as raise awareness of DeMolay in their local area.

Submission of the DeMolay Month “Outstanding Chapter” entry form: 50 points will be awarded to Chapters who submit the entry form for this award as per the DeMolay International guidelines which are posted on the DeMolay International web site. Please submit a Nor Cal activity form to receive your points.

To find, go to **www.demolay.org**. Go to **Resources** and use the drop down to **Forms**. Then scroll down and find the file **DeMolay Month Packet**.

Unusual Circumstances

Each year some unique circumstances arise regarding the eligibility of certain activities and point eligibility. The Jurisdictional Officer responsible for the Chapter Excellence/ Chapter of the Year program, in coordination with the Jurisdictional Dad Advisor, will resolve these matters and their decision will be final.