Year-Round Song Leading

This is a non-competitive event.

Purpose
To prepare young men to be accomplished song leaders by encouraging them to lead songs at worship assemblies, Bible classes, devotional groups, or other appropriate audiences, such as civic clubs or schools.

Event Participation
- All boys through grade 12 may participate.
- Lesson 8 of the *Field Book of Leadership:Revised* provides basic instruction on Song Leading. The *Field Book of Leadership:Revised* may be ordered from the L2L Online Store.

Event Rules and Guidelines
1. Students lead songs a minimum of 12 times during the year before an audience, using no less than 3 different songs.

2. Students may do an accelerated program, or the program may be started in any month of the year. However, all work must be done within one, consecutive 12-month period.

3. Bronze requirements: Lead songs at least 12 times, using no less than 3 different songs. Feedback and encouragement should be given locally using forms provided. It is preferred that the first and last song leading times be spaced apart for improvement opportunities.

4. Silver requirements: Lead songs at least 18 times, using no less than 4 different songs. Feedback and encouragement should be given locally using forms provided. It is preferred that the first and last song leading times be spaced apart for improvement opportunities.

5. Gold requirements: Lead songs at least 24 times, using no less than 5 different songs. Feedback and encouragement should be given locally using forms provided. It is preferred that the first and last song leading times be spaced apart for improvement opportunities.

6. The student may lead as many verses as appropriate, but two verses (or twice through a song with one verse) is the minimum per song.

7. As a student grows in ability, it is recommended that students choose a variety of songs with different tempos, time signatures, starting pitches, and meanings (Prayer, Lord's Supper, Praise, Devotional, etc). The overall purpose of this event is to expand the students' repertoire of songs that can be comfortably led, and to have a greater understanding of the situations when certain types of songs should be led. An additional benefit for the students is for them to gain experience and understanding in working with others in planning songs for worship, devotionals, etc.

8. Students who participate more than once may not use songs led within the last year for this event, but must prepare a different set of songs. Lead these songs locally. There will be no convention participation in this event.

Documentation
To qualify for the award, documentation must be maintained for each student. The participant must be registered for this event before the Convention registration deadline. **Group leaders are to electronically verify each participant of this event in the registration system.** The National Service Center will use this to verify that the requirements are completed.

1. Students must keep a log of songs led. The log must contain the following documentary information:
   - Date
   - Title of Song
   - Place (e.g., church name)
   - Type of audience (e.g., Bible class, devotional, worship service)
   - Signature of adult verification

2. Evaluation sheets for at least two instances of two songs.

3. The official verification form from the Entry Forms and Log Sheets section of this rulebook.

Evaluation

1. Ask an adult in the audience (e.g., song leader for the congregation, youth director, minister, mentor) to evaluate the song from the audience and rate the student as good, excellent, or superior. This same adult should be used, if possible, for more than one evaluation to look for improvement.

2. Evaluators should be supplied with the official score sheet that the student should retain for his records. Ratings are: Superior: 85-100; Excellent: 70-84; Good: 50-69. These ratings do not reflect the level of award that the student receives. Rather, they are to help show the student the areas in which he did well and the areas that need improvement.

3. Once you have completed your evaluation, plan some time to sit down with the student and go over the areas in which improvement can be achieved. **Feedback is important and helps the participant grow and improve. Feedback is best when done locally by individuals who know the participant and can encourage him. On page 129, you will find Evaluation and Feedback forms to use by those giving feedback.**

Awards

Awards will be given at convention for the levels of Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Participant names will be listed in the convention yearbook.

Congregation Suggestions

Have a qualified song leader, if possible at your congregation, work with the students in this program throughout the year.

Evaluators' Instructions

1. Use the Year-Round Song Leading Evaluation Form

2. Be sure to completely fill out the student's name and group name. Please designate the type of audience(s) that the songs were led to (e.g., worship service, devotional, nursing home service) and whether this particular sheet is the initial evaluation or the final evaluation. Also, please include your name on the sheet.

3. Use a separate evaluation sheet for each time a song is led. There is room to also record the song title if you find that helpful. The student will be keeping a log of these same songs, so it is not mandatory. Please ensure the sheet marked "1st Leading" is used for all first time evaluations of songs, and the sheet marked "2nd Leading" is used for all final evaluations of the songs.

4. Once you have completed your evaluation, plan some time to sit down with the student and go over the areas in which improvement can be achieved.