

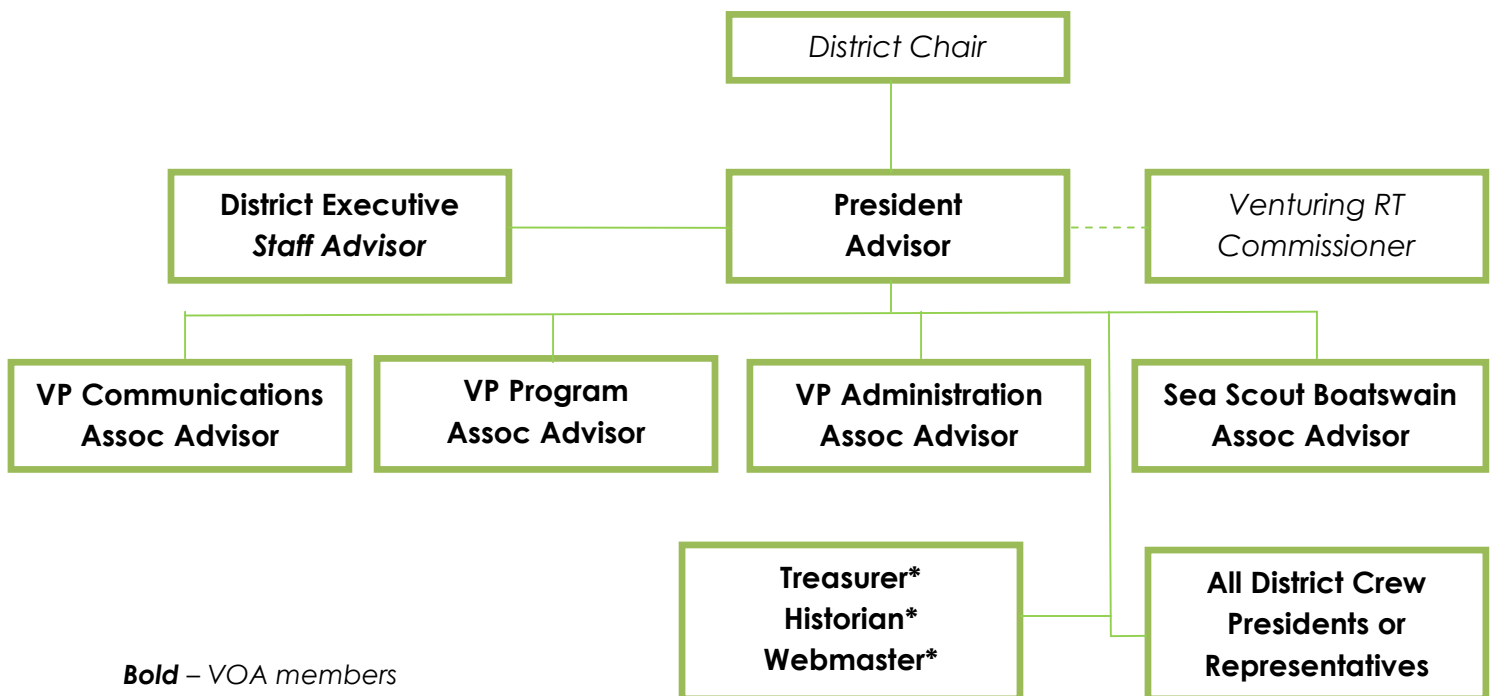
Eagle River District Venturing Officers Association

VOA Organization

The purpose of the Venturing Officers Association (VOA) is to provide support and guidance to maintaining and growing the Venturing program within the Eagle River District of the Northern Star Council, BSA.



The VOA is a Venturing youth run district organization. It can be looked as a youth version of the District Committee. The VOA reports to the District Committee's Chair.



Bold – VOA members

* -- Optional

District VOA Cabinet

District VOA Cabinet is made up of the District Venturing President, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Program, Vice President of Administration and Sea Scout Boatswain.

District Venturing Officers Association

The District Venturing Officers Association consists of the District VOA Cabinet (District Venturing President, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Program, Vice President of Administration, and Sea Scout Boatswain), District Venturing Advisor, District Associate Advisors for each VP position, and District Executive as the Staff Advisor. The

VOA also includes all District Crew Presidents or Crew Representatives, Treasurer, Historian, and Webmaster. Input from the different Unit Commissioners serving Venturing Crews may involve the District Commissioner, Venturing Roundtable Commissioner, the Assistant District Commissioner for Roundtable, or an Assistant District Commissioner for Venturing. The District VOA provides the district level programming that district crews can take advantage of to add to their crew's program including Training events, High Adventure events, Social events, and recognitions.

The VOA meets once a month like the District Committee. There may be times that the VOA and the District Committee meet together.

District Venturing Assembly

All Registered Venturers of the district meet once a year before May 15th in a social, training, recruitment (under development), and competition district event (under development). As part of this event, the new officers (the District VOA Cabinet) for the next year's VOA are announced. These officers are the District VOA President, District VOA Boatswain, and District VOA Vice Presidents. The new District VOA President appoints the new Communications VP, Program VP, Administration VP, and Sea Scout Boatswain. The new District VOA officers (the VOA Cabinet) take over leadership of the District VOA on June 1st.

This event includes the recognizing of the Corps of Discovery to those Venturers and Venturing Adults that have been elected for recognition. Any amendments needed to the District's **VOA Standards of Operation** are also voted on by the assembly.

Corps of Discovery

The purpose of the Venturing Corps of Discovery is to promote Venturing within our communities and within the Scouting movement. The mission is to provide servant leadership to youth and adult members of Scouting and Venturing through leadership training, program development, and service projects.

The Corps of Discovery is not an honor society like the Order of the Arrow, so much as it is a group of honored Venturers who desire to offer the benefits of Venturing to a larger community of teens and young adults. The Corps of Discovery do not hold meetings. They do not plan Corps of Discovery events. The COD is not a Venturing OA.

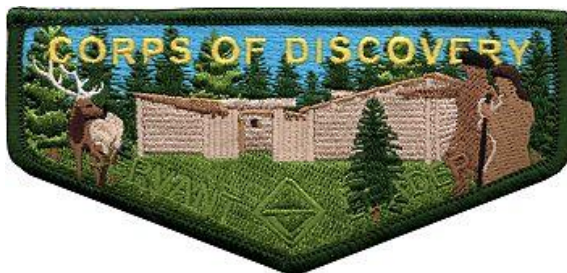
The table below notes the number of Venturers and adults that maybe on your crew's selection ballot. A youth must be selected for an adult to be selected. No adult only selections from a crew/ship are allowed. Whoever has the most votes is selected for the youth and adult, if adults are on the ballot. Only youth may vote. No adults voting, even for adults on the ballot.

NUMBER OF YOUTH IN UNIT	5 - 8	9 - 12	13 - 16	17 - 20	21 - 24	25 - 28	29 - 32	33 - 36	37 or more
NUMBER OF NAMES ON BALLOT (plus 2 adults)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	ratio of 1 to 4 (round up if the number of members is odd)

The servant leadership is service up and beyond those of the awards programs.

1. Venturer should have completed the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC), shows Service to Scouting through personal leadership development.
2. Has provided Service to Scouting and leadership above the Venturing Recognition Program. Examples include:
 - a. As a Venturer, have Served on the District's VOA
 - b. As a Venturer, have Served as staff in District or Council level events
 - c. As a Venturer, have Served as lead coordinator or staff for major crew service projects (as defined by the Advisor)
 - d. As a Venturer, have Worked as support staff for Kodiak Course Directors' Conference
 - e. As a Venturer, have Served as a Den Chief for a period of 1 year
3. Has provided Service to the Community and leadership above the Venturing Recognition Program. Examples are:
 - a. As a Venturer, have worked as a coordinator or staff for crew sponsored/initiated service endeavors or Good Turn project.
 - b. As a Venturer, have worked individually as a coordinator or staff for individual (not crew sponsored/initiated) service
 - c. As a Venturer, have worked as a coordinator or staff for Chartered Organization sponsored/requested service
4. And has exhibited the desire, tendency, or potential to continue to provide service to Scouting and the community in the future (Subjective-discussion and vote).

Recognition in the Corps of Discovery is the COD pocket flap patch and certificate.



District VOA Standards of Operations

While the district is not a legal entity, a document called the **Eagle River District VOA Standards of Operations** is used. While like “by-laws”, the Standards of Operations document describes how the VOA operates. It also includes who is on the VOA, their job descriptions, eligibility, selection, and other operational procedures. Any deletions, changes, or additions are determined by the district's VOA and final vote for approvals or rejection are done by the District Venturing Assembly.

District Venturing Forum

A Venturing Breakout at Roundtable is outside of the Boy Scout Breakout. The Venturing Breakout is called Venturing Forum. It is different from the Cub Scout and Boy Scout Breakouts. Both youth and adult Venturing leaders are part of this group. The VOA and Venturing Roundtable Commissioner work together to bring about a coordinated program.

Monthly District Roundtable gets a slight structure change.

- 6:30 Roundtable Gathering
- 7:00 Roundtable Opening & Announcements
- 7:30 Breakouts/Forum – Cub Scout Leaders, Boy Scout Leaders, Venturing Officers and Advisors
- 8:00 Venturing Officers Association meeting

Other Roundtable happenings include: OA Chapter Meeting, District Training, Eagle Scout Service Project Reviews, and Eagle Scout Board of Reviews.

All Leaders start together at 7:00 pm. From 7:30 to 8:30 are program breakouts.

Objectives for the District VOA

These are some, but not all that the District VOA provides.

1. Link district crews to each other and resources at the district, council, region, and national levels.
2. Provide an advanced youth leadership opportunity and training experience for Venturers.
3. Provide a platform for youth leaders to promote Venturing through the focus areas of: leadership, fun adventures, recognition and communication & networking.
4. Function as a model crew for other crews to observe and for VOA representatives to experience so that they can take back what they have learned and implement it in their own crews.

5. Provide a means of presenting key Venturing program activities for developing crews to participate in until they are able to implement them into their own crew program.
6. Provide a venue for VOA officers and any other interested Venturer in the district to complete the requirements for the Venturing Gold and Silver Recognition Awards regardless of the functional status of their own crew.
7. Provide a venue for youth leaders to receive the Venturing Leadership Award in recognition of their significant contributions to strengthening Venturing in their council.
8. Provide a model for the practical implementation of principles taught through Venturing's Nature of Leadership, for the utilization of Venturing activity planners, adult mentoring relationships, crew officer cabinets and Venturing committees in order to realize an ultimate objective in Venturing which is to have Venturers, through servant leadership, take the lead in establishing their crews into highly effective teams that create quality, youth-led programs and opportunities for the growth and development of the crew members.

The Eagle River District VOA is governed by the **Eagle River District VOA Standards of Operations** document.

The BSA Youth Leadership Development

<u>Program</u>	<u>Youth Leadership</u>	<u>Adult Leadership</u>
Cub Scouts	Denner (Helper) Den Chief (Helper)	Adult Programming & Run
Boy Scouts	Boy Lead (PLC)	Adult Run
Venturing	Youth Run	Adult Advisors

Eagle River District Venturing Activities Calendar

Activities	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Roundtable												
Venturing Forum	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
VOA Meeting	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Training												
Adult Training	X				X							
Venturer Training					X							
Specialized Training					X							
Open House District Training								X				
<u>Kodiak Challenge</u>												
Recruitment												
<u>District Recruitment Event</u>					<u>X</u>							
Crew Open House									X	X		
Boy Scout to Venturing Transition				X	X							
Crew Health Review						X						
Activities												
<u>District Trip</u>									X			
District Activity					X				X			
Council Activity		X		X	X					X		
<u>Service Project</u>											<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>

Items that look like this: Item are underdevelopment