**JLAB Leadership and Academic Team SOP**

**Purpose:**

**JLAB Leadership Team**

The JLAB Leadership Team is formed with the purpose of reinforcing and developing a working knowledge of leadership principles and applications of said principles. The JLAB Leadership team should consist of cadets demonstrating outstanding leadership potential in the battalion from all LET levels.

**JLAB Academic Team**

The JLAB Academic Team is formed with the purpose of recognizing and reinforcing the academic aptitude of cadets within the battalion. The team should consist of cadets who have demonstrated exemplary academic achievement.

**JLAB Membership:**

There will be two (2) main types of participants, JLAB Team Members and JLAB Team Mentors. All JLAB participants must be in good academic and citizenship standing.

**JLAB Team Members:**

JLAB Team Members are made up of participants of the JLAB Team in LET levels 1 thru 3 who are not seniors. JLAB Team Members may either be part of the Academic Team or Leadership Team, not both. For Brigade level Academic Challenge contests, the team may include LET 4 or cadet seniors.

 **JLAB Competition Team Members:**

From the group of JLAB Team Members (either Academic or Leadership), the competition teams will be selected. The competition teams will consist of four (4) primary team members and two (2) alternates each (Academic and Leadership). The members of each of these teams will be the only persons allowed in the room during the testing of their respective teams (either Academic or Leadership) along with an instructor. Competition team members may be selected using any criteria. Some suggested selection methods are – peer selection boards (e.g. interviews, essays), leadership assessment tools (e.g. military, business or government), teacher or school leadership recommendations, GPA, performance on the practice test (details below), and overall enthusiasm for the competition. The SAI and AI make the final determination for which cadets are on each team.

 **JLAB Team Commander**

There will be one JLAB Team Commander for each team (Academic and Leadership). These Team Commanders should be a veteran member of the JLAB Team, which they wish to command. The JLAB Team Commander only is responsible for and has control over his/her own respective team (Academic or Leadership). It is recommended that this member be a LET-3, however, this is not required. There are multitudes of ways in which the JLAB Team Commander can be selected. This includes but is not limited to, elections, selection by the SAI, AI or previous Team Commander, or performance on a practice/assessment test.

**JLAB Team Executive Officer (XO)**

There will be one JLAB Team Executive Officer (XO) for each team (Academic and Leadership). The XO is subordinate to their respective team commander. The XO will be responsible for scheduling team practices with the instructor(s) in coordination and approval of the Team Commander. The XO is also responsible for taking attendance and other administrative duties as designated by the instructor(s) and/or respective Team Commander.

**JLAB Team Mentors**

JLAB Team Mentors are LET-4 participants of the JLAB teams. JLAB Team Mentors will not compete with the JLAB competition team. The purpose of JLAB Team Mentors is to provide instruction and mentorship to their respective JLAB Team Members. JLAB Team Mentors are not JLAB Team Members and as such, will not lead practices or compete with the team; JLAB Team Mentors are to coordinate with the JLAB Team Commander(s) and instructor(s) to best mentor the JLAB Team Members. JLAB Team Mentors are veteran JLAB Team Members who are knowledgeable in their respective JLAB team content. The SAI or AI will select Team Mentors. Team Mentors should be selected based on commitment, knowledge of the JLAB subjects (either academic or leadership content) and overall enthusiasm for the position.

**Practices:**

There shall be regular practices for the JLAB Teams. The JLAB Team Commanders, in coordination with the instructor(s), should schedule practices such that the proper level of proficiency in the subject(s) can be attained. Practices of each team (leadership or academic) will total at least 4 hours per month.

**Recognition:**

The following awards of recognition shall be given to a JLAB Team Participant when the requirements for said reward are met.

**Ribbon**

Considered recognition for participation, the JLAB Ribbon (N-1-10) will be awarded to any JLAB participant who attends 75% of all scheduled practices within a season. The JLAB Ribbon will be awarded at the end of the season in which the attendance requirement is met.

**Arc**

Considered recognition for commitment, the JLAB Arc will be awarded to any JLAB participant part of a competition team in which the competition team has reached round II of their respective competition. The JLAB Ribbon is a prerequisite for the JLAB Arc. The JLAB Arc will be worn on the right chest pocket in the same manner as all other special team pins. The JLAB Arc will be awarded to qualifying cadets at the end of the season in which the requirement is met.

**Cord**

Considered recognition for achievement, the JLAB Cord (Royal-Blue Single Braid Cord) will be awarded to any member of a JLAB Competition Team (Leadership or Academic) which achieves a 90% or greater in round II of its respective competition (Leadership or Academic). The JLAB Arc is a prerequisite for the JLAB Cord. The JLAB Cord will be worn on the left shoulder. Unlike the arc and ribbon, a cadet may no longer wear the JLAB cord (or Commander's Cord) if they are no longer a member of the JLAB Team (Mentor or Team Member).

**Commander's Cord**

Considered recognition for achievement, dedication and leadership, a JLAB Commander's Cord (Royal-Blue 1 Braid 2 Knots 2 Tips) may be purchased and worn by the present or former commander of a competition team who has scored 90% or higher on their respective round II competition (Leadership or Academic). In order to be eligible to wear the JLAB Commander's Cord, the JLAB participant must be eligible to wear the JLAB Cord. The recipient of the JLAB Commander's Cord wears the JLAB Commander's Cord in replacement of the regular JLAB Cord. As such, the JLAB Commander's Cord will be worn on the left shoulder.