

Junior Sea Cadets

2010 Edition

# JUNIOR SEA CADET PROGRAMME

Guide to Junior Sea Cadet Sections ASCR T25



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## **Introduction**

Welcome to the Junior Sea Cadet Programme. The purpose of this Guide is to provide information on almost anything to do with Junior Sea Cadets. This Guide provides information and advice, as well as providing a programme framework for instructors to use when delivering a structured programme to Junior Cadets.

## **General Information on starting a Junior Sea Cadet Section**

In the first instance Units must apply to the Area Officer, via their District Officer, for permission to start parading a Junior Section. The Unit should have shown consistently high efficiency standards and have the facilities and staff to handle the additional commitment.

## **Officer in Charge (OiC) Junior Sections**

Each section should have a dedicated Instructor who will be responsible for organising the Junior Sea Cadet programme. Commanding Officers are advised to call for volunteers for this post, as a volunteer is always better than a "pressed man"! Some adults find working with the younger age range more rewarding and are more suited to that age range. There can be quite a difference between the mental attitude of a 10 year old in comparison with a 12 year old.

Junior sections parading female Junior Sea Cadets should be supported by a female adult, however this person need not be dedicated solely to the Junior Section. Wherever possible, assistance should be given by Senior Cadets and other Instructors.

## **Parading the Section**

It is entirely up to the Commanding Officer and staff of a Unit whether a Junior section parades separately or with Cadets over the age of 12. Although guidance in the past has been for Junior Sea Cadets to meet separately, it is recognised that Units and staff know the capabilities and needs of the Cadets and therefore the decision is left to the Unit to make.

It is recommended that Junior Sea Cadets should only meet once a week rather than twice. This ensures a clear difference between Junior and senior Cadets and, if they do parade together, it allows one evening a week without Junior Cadets present.

If a decision is made to parade with the Senior Cadets, then sufficient staff must be available to provide a suitable programme for the Junior Cadets not to the detriment of the Senior Cadets.

## **Dress & Appearance**

The Junior Section may parade in uniform approved by the Commodore Sea Cadets, and this is provided at individual/Unit expense. Details of the approved Junior Sea Cadet uniform can be found in Dress Regulations. The emphasis should be placed on the Junior Sea Cadets being clean and smart in their appearance.

Badges will be worn, mounted on a navy blue brassard on the right arm in accordance with Cadet Dress Regulations. These can be ordered from Sea Cadet Stores.

Junior Sea Cadets who achieve the Commodore's Award and advance to Cadet are eligible to wear the Commodore's Award Badge with No 1 Uniform, signifying service to the Sea Cadet Corps' Junior Section. (Ref: Cadet Dress Regulations).

## **Equal Opportunities**

The entire Junior Sea Cadet programme is participation based. This means that a Junior Cadet is credited with a module by turning up and taking part. There are no tests (except where external Governing Body awards are used such as RYA YSS qualifications).

Therefore any young person should be able to achieve the Commodore's Broad Pennant, regardless of their ability or disability. Obviously the Junior Section leader needs to be aware of any additional safety considerations required when dealing with a Junior Cadet with special needs. This is in accordance with Sea Cadet Policy SCR 101.1 and 417.4.

## **Insurance**

Providing Sea Cadet Headquarters has approved the formation of a Junior Sea Cadet Section, they will automatically be included in the Unit Insurance. They are therefore able to use MoD boats and equipment.

Don't be tempted to enrol cadets under the age of 10 years – they will not be covered by insurance.

## **The Commodore's Award in ACTION**

The Commodore's Award Scheme is designed to reward participation and commitment rather than achievement (although this does not rule out undertaking qualifications). It aims to provide a framework for a stimulating and worthwhile series of activities to take the Junior Sea Cadets from the age of 10 to the age of 12.

The programme does necessarily include some of the New Entry Syllabus, it is important that the Junior Sea Cadets understand where they fit into the Unit and can behave appropriately during Colours and Evening Colours ceremonies. The New Entry syllabus also contains some basic health and safety information required by every new member.

However, it would be advisable for a Junior Cadet to complete a New Entry task book in the lead up to their 12th birthday, to ensure that they have covered all necessary details.

## **Activity Sections**

The activities or modules are grouped into 4 Sections, linked by activities of a similar theme, and allocated a colour.

- a. Section 2 - Red entitled UNIT
- b. Section 3 - Blue entitled WATERBORNE
- c. Section 4 - Green entitled OUTDOOR & RECREATION
- d. Section 5 - Yellow entitled COMMUNITY & CITIZENSHIP

These groupings are naturally generic, not rigidly specific. In many cases it could be argued that a particular subject, if completed in a slightly different way, would be more appropriate in a different section. However, to reduce complication, if an activity is designated within the Junior Sea Cadet Programme Guide in a particular section, then that is where we will leave it.

Adults in Charge of Junior Sections are free to adapt the scheme to meet local Unit situations. The Junior Sea Cadets are not in competition with each other or with other Junior Sea Cadet Sections and there are no tests to pass; the Junior Sea Cadets taking part are rewarded as a measure of their participation.

Although striving to reach a standard is important, gathering experience is of greater importance in order that the Junior Sea Cadets themselves can feel that they are making progress right from the start. It is left to the Commanding Officer, with the recommendation of the OiC Junior Cadets, to decide whether a given Junior Sea Cadet has gained sufficient experience and put in sufficient effort.

## **Activity Modules**

Each of the four sections contains a number of suggested activity modules.

The programme framework is designed to be as flexible as possible to allow the suggested activities to be altered to meet the needs of the Junior Cadets in the Unit the environment the section meets in, the availability of equipment or location.

This resource should be seen as a framework into which other activities, projects and games can be included.

The activity modules can be altered in any way that the leader sees fit. The pack should be seen as a resource to spark ideas for the Unit to use to its best effect. If a Unit wishes to

undertake an activity from one module together with an activity from another module, then that is entirely acceptable. If a leader does not feel able to undertake a suggested activity due to lack of experience, lack of resources or non availability of equipment, then an alternative activity should be undertaken.

It is not intended that the modules should be completed in a numerical sequence. It might be that a Unit undertakes module 23 in the Blue section followed by module 2, then module 9 perhaps followed by module 4. It is important that leaders have as much flexibility as possible to offer the best programme they can.

Please remember that if a module doesn't meet your needs, then write your own. The pack simply contains a number of activity suggestions to help a leader produce a stimulating and enjoyable programme based around 4 sections. The leader can use the resource in a 'pick and mix' fashion, simply selecting activities or modules around a theme.

The programme is broken into modules. The length of time a module might last is entirely flexible. Some modules may last one evening whilst others will last for several evenings. Leaders may extend an activity if they wish or the Junior Cadets take longer to achieve the task than anticipated. If this is the case, then the module should be extended and the time taken recognised. The activities merely represent a resource of possible activities that can be completed.

If a module takes two weeks to complete, then it should be counted as two modules. If it takes four weeks then it should be counted as four modules. The programme is very much about participation.

It is difficult to estimate how long a module might last as this can be affected by so many things and the OiC Juniors will of course know the abilities and capabilities of specific Cadets much better than the writer of this resource.

You should find that this pack will provide you with about 2 years' worth of suggested activities for the Junior Cadets.

If you have activities etc that you have designed, or obtained from elsewhere, that you have used successfully, please send them in to MSSC HQ so that best practice can be shared and good ideas can be added to the existing database.

### **A Suggested Evening Programme**

It is important that Junior Cadets do not feel as though they are back in school. Therefore it is suggested that activities should be as active as possible. Remember that activities can be broken up by games to make the evening more interesting, particularly if using worksheets.

#### **A suggested evening format might be:**

Colours  
Game  
Activity 'module'  
Game or standeasy  
Activity 'module'  
Game  
Evening Colours.

Some modules include suggestions for games within them as well as activities. Just have a go and have fun.

There are also suggestions for activities that can be carried out during a day or weekend such as a visit to a museum etc. Many Junior Sections hold weekend camps or day activities and there are suggested activities included in the programme.

OiC Junior Sections may find it helpful to plan the programme for a three month period. There must be plenty of activity on each parade night and this must be organised and well prepared. Junior Sea Cadets need the security of an organised programme; they want fun and interesting activities – always.

Planning this far in advance will also enable the Junior section to integrate better with the activities of the senior section and make best use of scarce resources.

### **Completing the Sections**

Every Junior Sea Cadet must finish fifteen (15) modules to complete a coloured section.

That may sound an awful lot, but it is estimated that a Junior Cadet should perhaps complete 1 module on a parade night, up to 3 modules on a day activity and perhaps as many as 5 modules on a weekend programme

One Parade Night = 1 module.

A day activity = 3 modules.

A weekend activity = 5 modules.

Two coloured sections have some compulsory modules that **MUST** be completed. The compulsory modules are clearly marked at the front of the RED coloured section and the BLUE coloured section.

The remaining modules can be chosen by the OiC Juniors or the Juniors themselves and selected from the Activity handbook.

For each section there are a range of activities that can be undertaken and the length of time spent on each activity is unspecified, being dependent upon the OiC Junior Section's planning. Junior Sea Cadets do not have to complete a section before moving on to another, however it is perhaps advisable.

Remember that if a module lasts more than one night, count it as however many evenings the module takes to complete. You may also find that you repeat certain activities throughout the two year period, like swimming or Drill. Remember to count each evening the Cadet attends as a 'module'.

### **Achievement Badges**

On completion of 15 modules in one coloured section, and on the recommendation of the Commanding Officer of the Unit, a Junior Sea Cadet can be presented with a badge to mark his/her achievement.

A Junior Sea Cadet can gain up to 4 badges, representing completion of all four coloured sections. The badge will be the same colour as the section completed. The badges will be worn on the brassard (see diagram on page 1.8).

Junior Cadets who have achieved a BCU canoeing certificate, YSS sailing certificate, SCC Pulling competent crew badge or Basic Campcraft Badge, can show their achievement by wearing the appropriate badge(s) on their brassard.

Points gained undertaking these activities can be 'banked'. When a Junior Sea Cadet transfers into the senior section, he/she can be credited with the points gained.

Under no circumstances should a Junior Sea Cadet undertake any specialisation training. The point of having their own programme with a suitable reward system is to ensure that they do not encroach on activities they might undertake as a Cadet. This means that we can maintain their interest as a senior Cadet for longer.

## Commodores' Broad Pennant

Once a Junior Sea Cadet has completed all four coloured sections, there is the option to gain the 'Commodore's Award Broad Pennant'.

To achieve this each Junior Sea Cadet will need to complete a further twenty (20) modules from any of the four coloured sections. However, Junior Sea Cadets are not permitted to count more than 23 modules in one section. Therefore a Junior Cadet can only count a maximum of a further 8 modules from each coloured section towards the Commodore's Broad Pennant. This ensures that the activities undertaken are from a wider base.

Position of badges on the Brassard

### Summary

#### Section 2 Unit - Red

- Choose Activities from the Unit Section in the Junior Cadet Programme Guide.
- A record of activities must be maintained.
- Undergo the appropriate briefing and then take part in at least 15 of the practical Unit based Activities.
- The record of activities is to be maintained on form JSC 1, or ProjectWestminster.

#### Section 3 Waterborne - Blue

- Choose Activities from the Waterborne section in the Junior Cadet Programme Guide.
- Undergo the appropriate briefing and then take part in at least 15 activity modules.
- The record of activities is to be maintained on form JSC 1, or ProjectWestminster.

#### Section 4 Outdoor & Recreation - Green

- Choose Activities from the Outdoor Section in the Junior Cadet Programme Guide.
- Undergo the appropriate briefing and then take part in at least 15 activity modules.
- The record of activities is to be maintained on form JSC 1, or Project Westminster.

#### Section 5 Community & Citizenship - Yellow

- Choose activities to learn about your community and take an active part in it.
- Undergo the appropriate briefing and then take part in at least 15 activities modules.
- The record of activities is to be maintained on form JSC 1, or ProjectWestminster.

### Commodore's Broad Pennant Award

- To achieve the Commodore's Broad Pennant Award, the Junior Sea Cadet must complete a further 20 activity modules spread over the four coloured activity sections (no more than 8 from one section).
- Record of activities to be maintained on form JSC 1, or ProjectWestminster.

### Advancement Structure

In addition to completing activities towards the Commodore's Broad Pennant Award, Junior Cadets can gain promotion:

Junior Sea Cadet	New entry into the Junior Section
Junior Sea Cadet (1 blue star)	1st Class Completion of Unit (Red Section) core modules and minimum of 6 months' service as a Junior Sea Cadet
Leading Junior Sea Cadet (2 Blue stars)	12 months' service as Junior Sea Cadet 1st Class Completion of Waterborne (Blue Section) core Module

The blue stars designating Junior Sea Cadet 1st Class and Leading Junior Sea Cadets should be worn on the Brassard as shown on page 1-8.

## **Record Card**

Appendix A - Form JSC1. Junior Sea Cadet Progress Record Card will be raised on entry into the Junior section.

## **Certificates**

Whilst Unit records are a must, the Junior Sea Cadets, themselves, will wish to have mementoes of their achievement. There are five separate Certificates (one for each of the four Sections & one for the Commodore's Broad Pennant). These are available for presentation to the Junior Sea Cadets together with the appropriate badge, when they have completed the necessary activities. Certificates can be ordered from MSSC HQ.

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Programme Framework Developed by HQSO, ASO's (Junior Sea Cadets)

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**Junior Sea Cadet Record Card – JSC1**

<b>Name</b>	
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<b>Date of Joining</b>	
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Red Core Modules	Red Section modules	Date Red Section completed	Additional Modules for Commodore's Broad Pennant	Date completed

Blue Core Module <i>Water Safety Certificate</i>	Blue Section modules	Date Blue Section completed	Additional Modules for Commodore's Broad Pennant	Date completed

Green Section modules	Date Green Section completed	Additional Modules for Commodore's Broad Pennant	Date completed

Yellow Section modules	Date Yellow Section completed	Additional Modules for Commodore's Broad Pennant	Date completed

<b>Date Rated Junior Sea Cadet</b>

<b>Date Rated Junior Cadet 1<sup>st</sup> Class</b>

<b>Date rated Leading Junior Cadet</b>

<b>Date Award Commodore's Broad Pennant</b>