Powder Horn Training FAQ's

What is Powder Horn?

Originally designed to help youth obtain the Venturing Ranger Award; Powder Horn now helps Crews, Ships, and Troops to safely conduct outdoor activities in a fun and challenging way while providing both adult and youth leaders the means of having a successful youth lead unit through high-adventure opportunities.

Who should take Powder Horn?

Any adult or youth (14 years old +) registered with a Venture Crew, Sea Scout Ship or Scouts BSA Unit that wants to learn new and exciting ways to expand upon their current unit programing tailored toward older youth.

• Are there prerequisites prior to attending Powder Horn?

All participants must complete Hazardous Weather, Safety Afloat, Safe Swim Defense, Climb on Safely and Youth Protection Training all online, along with a swim test.

Adult participants must have completed Venturing Specific Leader Training or Introduction to Outdoor Leader Training prior to attending.

Youth participants must have completed Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops, Ships, or Crews. National Youth Leadership Training is recommended but not required.

• What Topics will be covered at Powder Horn?

There are 19 topics covered, 12 must be attended to complete the course.

Topics will include: The Sweet 16 of BSA Safety, Shooting Sports, Astronomy, Cave Exploration, Fishing/Fly Fishing, Hunting, Kayaking/Small Boating, First Aid, leave no Trace, Outdoor Ethics, Climbing/Repelling, COPE, Scuba/Snorkeling, Paddle Craft Training, Wilderness Survival, Sea Scouting, Conservation, Backpacking, and Expedition Planning.

• Do I need to participate in every topic covered?

No! If you do not feel comfortable participating in a topic, you can either participate in something else or observe. No participant will be forced to engage in activity that makes them feel uncomfortable!

• I am a youth registered in a troop; can I do pistol shooting?

Unfortunately, pistols are reserved as an activity for registered Venturers' and Sea Scouts only. You can participate in another shooting sport activity offered at the course.

• Can I get a schedule of the events for this course?

We coordinate our schedules with a multitude of consultants to provide the most fun and diverse adventure opportunities possible. As such, schedules are dynamic and change frequently. Rest assured we are working to provide the best opportunity for you to take back the knowledge obtained on this course to your unit!