

Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder Award of Excellence Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder Award of Excellence program is to recognize those individual Pathfinders who have gone “the extra mile” in their Pathfinder experience.

A special Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder pin is available for club purchase from AdventSource. (This pin is to be awarded at the local club investiture program).

In addition, Honor Pathfinders will be recognized and receive an award at the annual Georgia-Cumberland Pathfinder Camporee. (Honor Pathfinder must be in attendance at the camporee to receive the conference award).

While the Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder Award of Excellence program is presented by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference it is to be administered entirely at the local club level. Each local club is to form a Honor Pathfinder Committee to oversee implementation of the program.

The program consists of the following five requirements:

- 1. Completion of the requirements for the General Conference Pathfinder Excellence Award [formerly known as the Good Conduct Ribbon].**
- 2. Invested in the Advanced Class level in addition to the Basic Class level for his/her grade level.**
- 3. Completion of at least two extra AY Honors during the Pathfinder year, outside of the club scheduled AY Honors.**
- 4. Completion of an individual “Service for Others” project outside of club Service Projects. Work on this project should not take place during club time.**
- 5. Submission of a 150 word report detailing his/her individual “Service for Others” project to his/her club's Honor Pathfinder committee. This report should include a statement as to how this project affected those being served.**

**These 5 requirements will be explained
in detail on the next several pages.**

Requirement 1. Completion of the requirements for the General Conference Pathfinder Excellence Award (formerly known as Good Conduct Ribbon).

General Conference Pathfinder Excellence Award (formerly known as Good Conduct Ribbon)

Purpose

While Pathfinding is designated to help youth appreciate the value of group participation, it should not be forgotten that there is scope for the development of the youth as an individual. A major part of Pathfinders is group activity. This is vital in learning the art of cooperation, which is a necessary ingredient in the make-up of a well balanced Christian.

The Pathfinder Excellence Award has been developed to recognize individual achievement over a one-year period of time. As in the class investiture pins and Honor tokens the Pathfinder Excellence Award should be awarded only to those who have reached a high standard of Pathfinder efficiency as outlined in these criteria.

Selection Process

Toward the close of the Pathfinder year the Pathfinder Club executive committee acts as the awards-recognition-selection group for their club. They will compare each Pathfinder's record of achievement with the criteria to establish who in the club qualifies for this award. (More than one way may qualify as well as none may qualify.)

Criteria

The following criteria must be applied by the Pathfinder executive committee when deciding whether a club member is entitled to the Pathfinder Excellence Award:

The Pathfinder

1. Is an active member of the Pathfinder Club and has been for at least one year.
2. Is an example in uniform requirements, is on time for all meetings, and actively works as a leader in their unit.
3. Believes in and lives up to the Pathfinder Pledge and Law. Displays a loyalty to these Pathfinder ideals and holds them as a sacred honor.
4. Willingly accepts assigned responsibilities and demonstrates initiative and leadership in carrying them out simply or in a team effort.
5. Maintains personal equipment in the best possible condition.
6. Relates to all races and entire groups in a positive Christian manner.
7. Annually completes the current Pathfinder Class and, in addition, earns the offered AY Honors.

When and by Whom Should the Award be Presented

The Pathfinder Excellence Award is preferably to be made at a Pathfinder Day program in the church by the ranking Pathfinder leader or at the annual Investiture program by the investing leader or at the Conference camporee or fair by the conference youth leader.

How Should it be Worn?

Above the advanced class ribbon awards during the year following the award presentation. If the Pathfinder does not qualify, then it must be placed in the Pathfinder's inventory of mementos. The award may only be worn during the year following recognition.

When Should it be Worn?

The award becomes an integral part of the dress uniform and may be worn for 1 year from the date of presentation. After the close of each year, the wearer is reevaluated to determine continuance of privilege or loss of privilege. Once a Pathfinder leaves the club, he/she may keep the award for permanent usage only if he/she qualified during his final year. Adults not having been Pathfinders should not wear it.

Requirement 2. Invested in the Advanced Class level in addition to the Basic Class level for his/her grade level.

What does this mean?

To qualify as a candidate for the Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder Award of Excellence the Pathfinder must not only complete Requirement # 7 (first part) of the General Conference Pathfinder Excellence Award [Annually completes the current Pathfinder Class], he/she is to be invested in the Advanced Level of the current class.

Requirement 3. Completion of at least two extra AY Honors during the Pathfinder year, outside of the club scheduled AY Honors.

What does this mean?

To qualify as a candidate for the Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder Award of Excellence the Pathfinder must not only complete Requirement # 7 (second part) of the General Conference Pathfinder Excellence Award [earns the offered AY Honors], he/she is to complete 2 additional AY Honors outside the club scheduled AY Honors. These AY Honors may be earned under the guidance of a parent, teacher, friend, or at summer camp. This will require that the Pathfinder demonstrate their own initiative.

Requirement 4. Completion of an individual “Service for Others” project outside of club Service Projects. Work on this project should not take place during club time.

What does this mean?

To qualify as a candidate for the Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder Award of Excellence the Pathfinder must not only participate in all of the “Service for Others” activities that the club schedules for the meeting of AY Class requirements, but plan and execute a personal “Service for Others” project centering around service for others and community. This will require that the Pathfinder demonstrate their own initiative. The project plan should consist of no less than 20 hours of planning and service. Please note that the emphasis is to be on the amount of service, not the amount of planning. The Pathfinder must not receive any type of payment or compensation. It is not necessary for the project plan to be complicated or even original. The plan can consist of donation of time, fund raising for mission projects, etc. It can even be made up of many different segments. The project plan may be developed under the guidance of a parent, Sabbath School teacher, friend, counselor, etc. The purpose of this project is to help the Pathfinder in developing a sense of service for others using their own initiative and talents. This project plan should be submitted to the local Honor Pathfinder Committee for approval at the beginning of the Pathfinder year. (The project plan for the following year may be submitted toward the end of the current Pathfinder year to allow the Pathfinder to make use of the summer months to accomplish much, if not all, of his/her project plan).

A non-comprehensive list of service projects

The Pathfinder should feel free to choose a special project that interests him/her. Here are some examples.

- Fund-raising for worthy projects
- Assisting in Sabbath School department
- Temperance talks to younger grades
- Tutoring of younger student at school
- Free yard care and/or housework for the elderly, invalid, or shut-in
- Having story hours
- Holding a church office
- Volunteer work in a hospital
- Landscaping public buildings or churches
- Developing nature trails
- Tree planting
- Flower boxes for town streets
- Literature racks
- Wildflower seeds
- Books and games to hospital
- Books to officials
- Helping church with mailing list

- Rehabilitation with physically handicapped
- Posters and art projects for hospitals
- Prepare Christmas packages for orphans
- Develop vespers program for church
- Assist with food or clothing distribution

Remember that this should be an outstanding project. It is **not** a club project. It is something that the Pathfinder should choose, work at and report on from an individual basis.

Requirement 5. Submission of a 150 word report detailing his/her individual “Service for Others” project to his/her club's Honor Pathfinder committee. This report is to include a statement as to how doing this project affected the candidate and a statement as to its affect on those being served.

What does this mean?

As the final requirement to qualify as a candidate for the Georgia-Cumberland Honor Pathfinder Award of Excellence the Pathfinder must make a report detailing his/her personal “Service for Others” project, describing how it was a help to the people being helped and how did accomplishing the project make them feel about their self. This will help us as leaders to understand if we are doing our job in teaching our Pathfinders to worship Jesus by serving others.

NOTICE: To qualify for the conference reward at the Pathfinder Camporee a copy of this report must be forwarded to the Pathfinder office no later than the registration deadline for the Pathfinder Camporee. All reports will be on display at the Pathfinder Camporee. Photos of the project(s) will be accepted to enhance the display.