



TRAIL LIFE USA®

Adventure › Character › Leadership

THE ROLE OF THE TROOP CHARTER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE (COR)

The Charter Organization owns and operates the Trail Life USA Troop. The top decision-maker is called the Institutional Head (IH). In a church, the IH would normally be the Senior Pastor. He either serves as COR or appoints one.

The Charter Organization Representative will:

1. Be selected by, and remain accountable to, the organization's Institutional Head. The COR is to be a respected member of the Chartered Organization. It is highly recommended that he be a Staff member (such as a Youth Minister), or leading layman (Chairman of the Deacons, Elder, etc.) He should be empowered to speak and act on behalf of the church.
2. Be the IH's designee to approve all decisions made by the Troop Committee. [The Troop's Committee Chairman oversees the Troop's regular operations and presides at Committee meetings—but that does not reduce the COR's role as the final authority.]
3. Monitor Troop operations, assuring that Troop decisions are aligned with the wishes and plans of the Charter Organization.
4. Approve all potential Troop leaders. Ideally, he will help *select* the leaders; but if a leader is recommended by the Troop Committee, it remains the COR's responsibility to make sure he has the Christian character and abilities to successfully carry out the role.
5. Assure that the Trail Life USA Troop is—and is recognized as—a vital ministry of the church, much like the church's choir or Sunday School department (as opposed to being considered an "outside group that uses our building every Tuesday night").

[What that looks like: church secretaries will have Troop leaders' contact info, and be able to route callers to the COR or to the Troop website (in fact, the Troop website should be linked to—or even exist within—the church website). Church staff will be able to invite families in the Troop to church; Troop and church should consistently help grow each other's membership.]

6. Effective January 1, 2015 be the Charter Organization's voting member of Trail Life USA on matters of national importance to Trail Life USA.
7. Become a member of the Area (volunteer support) Team. The local Point Man, who is the Chairman of the Area Team, will contact the COR to invite him to serve. There is no better way to stay plugged in to Trail Life USA! The COR's God-given skills will benefit Troops families far beyond his own church community. The COR is the only "dual-role" in Trail Life USA (meaning a Troop leader is encouraged to be a member of the Area Team)

