



TRAIL LIFE USA®

AREA TRAIL TRACKS

This tool helps to track progress to becoming a thriving Area Team! Area Point Men and other Area Team members should review the following characteristics together, then self-evaluate to determine where your Area is now, and where improvement is needed.

THRIVIN' AREAS

- Embrace and promote the church-owned ministry model; CORs (church leaders) are regularly engaged with Area operations. Area Team routinely prays for each other, Troops and leaders
- Operate effectively to meet all needs within its designated, defined local geographical area
- Have a *locally-based* Point Man within a reasonable driving distance, with Area Team leaders, holding specific roles, in place
- Ensure that Area volunteers tune in to monthly Regional (and quarterly Home Office-led) online Trail Gatherings
- Host monthly in-person Area Committee meetings (for all Area Team members) and Area Trail Gatherings (for all Troops' Leaders)
- Are effective in getting and giving information, and communicating both in person and through online tools
- Are able to: (1) provide chartering assistance, (2) coach, train, and mentor other leaders, (3) connect to local Area contacts and resources, (4) organize, promote, and staff Area and multi-Troop activities, (5) support advancement needs, (6) recommend/organize community service opportunities, (6) share TLUSA updates and news using various communication methods, (7) verify mission alignment with potential new Troop Institutional Heads
- Have high RA-NT and COR participation; continue to recruit (growth breeds excitement!) RA-NT members
- Are made up of top leaders who are committed to God, passionate about the mission of TLUSA, and willing to learn and use TLUSA methods and support systems
- Are made up of leaders who seek to build relationships with one another, who seek to communicate regularly with one another, and who seek guidance from their PM, and their PM seeks guidance from their RTL

STRIVIN' AREAS

- Accept the church-owned model; involve the COR on a need-to-know basis, occasionally pray for Troop leaders
- Have a well-defined geographical area, but too large for all members to meet together in-person regularly
- Have a *remotely-based* Point Man leader, needing to depend on online communications
- Have leaders who sometimes tune in to monthly Regional (or quarterly Home Office-led) Trail Gatherings
- Area Team Leaders infrequently participate in monthly Area Committee Meetings, and may host Trail Gatherings
- Are somewhat effective at getting and giving information and communicating online
- Are unable to always (1) provide chartering assistance, (2) coach, train, and mentor other leaders, (3) connect to local Area contacts and resources, (4) help to organize, promote, and staff Area and multi-Troop activities, (5) support advancement needs, (6) recommend community service opportunities, (6) share TLUSA updates and news using many communication methods, (7) verify mission alignment with potential new Troop Institutional Heads; don't feel informed and often send such issues on to their RTL or Home Office
- Keep to themselves, but might interact with another Area if there's a problem
- Have minimal COR involvement in Area meetings and activities
- Have the same leaders "run" almost everything, with little leadership development shared with new members. Area Team members are "assistants", rather than subject matter experts on specific topics
- Have leaders who communicate periodically (but not consistently) with their PM, and their PM does not communicate or respond to their RTL regularly

SURVIVIN' AREAS

- Don't really understand/buy into "church owned-and-operated" ministry, COR's generally are not involved in Area Team, and Area Team members do not regularly meet or pray together
- Struggle to find enough Area Team leaders—many "wear more than one hat"
- Have no local Point Man and no well-defined Area
- Area Team members infrequently attend Regional Trail Gatherings; and do not hold Area Committee meetings or host Area Trail Gatherings
- Are not aware of all of the online methods used to communicate and get and give information online
- Are rarely able to (1) provide chartering assistance, (2) coach, train, and mentor other leaders, (3) connect to local Area contacts and resources, (4) help to organize, promote, and staff Area and multi-Troop activities, (5) support advancement needs, (6) recommend or organize community service opportunities, (6) share TLUSA updates and news using many communication methods, (7) verify mission alignment with potential new Troop Institutional Heads; and may or may not even forward continuing issues to their RTL or the Home Office
- Have one leader (Point Man) who is in charge of everything
- Don't participate in Area/multi-Troop activities
- Don't have a growth or recruiting plan
- Don't know where to go to find answers or help
- Don't respond to RTL and/or Home Office

SCORE YOUR AREA:

Our Area leaders are committed to God (1 point), passionate about the mission of TLUSA (1 point), and willing to learn and use TLUSA methods and support systems (1 point). [total of 0-3 points] [Core Values Video](#)

Our Area is faith-focused. We pray together and understand our ministry goals of adding and supporting Troops, and multiplying leaders. [self-evaluation, total of 0-2 points] [Resources Your Area Team Provides](#)

Our Area meets all objectives, and is effectively run by a team of dependable, positive, available, and aligned leaders who know their purpose and fulfill it. [self-evaluation, total of 0-2 points] [Adult Connection Guide](#), [Area Committee Operations](#)

Our Area has a "Power Team 3" (committee minimum: PM, NTO, DSA) [self-evaluation, total of 0-3 points] [Point Man](#), [Direct Service Advisor](#), [New Troop Organizer](#), [Power Team 3](#)

Our Area hosts a monthly Area Trail Gathering, holds Area Committee Meetings, and tunes in to Regional/Home Office-led Trail Gatherings too. [self-evaluation, total of 0-2 points] [Monthly Meetings of an Area](#), [Trail Gathering Support Tool](#)

Our Area seeks to find new leaders to serve on the Area Committee [self-evaluation, total of 0-3 points] [Ten Steps to Successful Selecting and Recruiting](#), [Circles of Influence](#)

Our Area fulfills communication goals, effectively linking Troop leaders with information from Regional Team Leaders and the Home Office (for example, sharing the quarterly Trailman Post with all Adult members within our Area). [self-evaluation, total of 0-3 points] [Levels of Support](#), [Troop Support Structure and Leadership](#)

Our Area has a posted calendar of upcoming events, including activities, events, and meetings of the Area, Region, and Home Office, and notifies Troops of opportunities. [self-evaluation, total of 0-2 points]

Scoring Results:

0-6 points	Please seek help from posted resources and your Regional Team Leader.
6-10 points	Survivin'— good start, room to grow!
10-15 points	Strivin'— on your way to something great!
15-20 points	Thrivin'— wow, you have it going on! Find a nearby Area to mentor!