

CADET COUNSELOR QUICKTIPS

A gold mine of basic tips for the Cadet counselor

2025-2026

This is the Cadet Counselor Quicktips pamphlet for the 2025-2026 Cadet season - a quick reference for counselors that contains lots of tools to help your club be more effective. Use it to find information about Cadets in general and this year's theme in particular. It is the fastest way to find answers to your Cadet-related questions. These quicktips take a closer look at this year's theme and theme verse, along with related Bible verses, merit badges, and service project ideas. You will also find further helpful references, a sample club meeting, and an overview of counselor duties and responsibilities.

Theme: Stand Firm

Verse: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 - *Be on your guard; stand firm in your faith; be courageous; be strong; do everything in love.*

Logo:



This year's theme is "Stand Firm," based on 1 Corinthians 16:13-14. Throughout this year the boys will be reminded that forces in the world continue to work to test their faith. They should arm themselves with the gospel of Jesus and remain steadfast in responding with strength, courage and love, even when the going gets tough.

Theme-Related Bible Verses:

Below is a list of theme-related Bible verses to use all year long. These are perfect to assist boys with Bible memorization badges and logs. Remind the boys to read through these verses and to make room for God's word to speak to them as young leaders.

2 Chronicles 20:17
Psalm 57:7
Proverbs 3:5-6
Luke 1:37
John 15:5-8
Romans 5:3-5

1 Corinthians 15:58
2 Corinthians 1:24
Galatians 6:9
Ephesians 6:11-13
Philippians 1:27
Philippians 4:1

Philippians 4:13
1 Timothy 6:11-12
Hebrews 10:22-25
James 1: 2-4
James 1:12
1 Peter 5:8-9

Badges

Need some badge ideas to work on throughout the year? Have a cadet that needs extra badgework for home? Pick from this list of badges that we feel make a connection to our theme of "Stand Firm."

Amusement Park Science
Archery
Babysitting
Bible Knowledge
Chivalry
Christian Life

Christian Way
Church Leadership
Climbing
Community Life
Devotions
Fire Building

Forestry
Genealogy
God's Temple
Government
Individual Sports
Knots & Lashings

Law Enforcement
Occupations
Pet Care
Physical Fitness
Prayer
Public Speaking

Rock Collecting
Safety
Sculpture
Snowboarding & Skiing
Surfing
Team Sports

Camporee is Coming:

Join us for Kamp Longview, the Cadet International Camporee! It may seem like a long way away but there is a lot to do to prepare! A few things you should know:

- The Camporee takes place in Alberta, Canada, July 15 - 22, 2026.
- You and your cadets will need to be Camporee Certified. Start working on the camporee badges now (axemanship, fire building, camp cooking, and knots and lashings).
- Counselors and Junior counselors must be counselor certified. ***Counselors are the most needed position at camporee. If we do not get enough, we have to limit the number of boys that can attend. Prayerfully consider being a counselor at camporee!***
- American counselors and cadets will need a passport to travel to Canada.
- Start fundraising (car wash, babysitting night, spaghetti dinner, look for more ideas on the camporee site)! Do not let finances be the reason someone isn't able to go. The Cornel Rylaarsdam Memorial Fund can provide financial support for Camporee attendees if needed (forms are available on camporee.calvinistcadets.org).
- Registration opens in January 2026.
- For more information on all these items and more, visit camporee.calvinistcadets.org and check out your fall start up packet.



Cadet Meeting Suggested Opening Exercises

Items 3–6 are led by the “Cadet in charge,” all others are typically led by the head counselor.

1. **“Cadets, attention!”** (boys snap to attention)
2. **“Cadet in charge,** (boy’s name), **please come forward and lead us in opening exercises.”**
3. Landmarks (this is the official order of recitation)
 - a. **Motto**
 - b. **Hymn** (option A)
 - c. **Verse**
 - d. **Code**
 - e. **Pledge**
 - f. **Hymn** (option B)
4. Counselors’ Landmark
“Counselors, state your mission.”
Helping boys to grow more Christlike in all areas of life.
5. Annual Theme and Verse
 - a. **2025/26 Theme:** Stand Firm
 - b. **Theme Verse:** 1 Corinthians 16:13-14: *Be on your guard; stand firm in your faith; be courageous; be strong; do everything in love.*
6. Pledge to the national flag
7. Opening prayer
8. Inspection (for proper attire and neatness)
9. **“At ease!”**
10. Announcements

Cadet Counselor Duties and Responsibilities

1. Understand the primary emphasis of Cadeting, which is to build a relationship between a Christian man and a boy. Always remember the goal of Cadeting is to help boys grow spiritually in all areas of life — devotional, mental, physical and social.
2. Be a committed Christian. Pray for the boys in your group.
3. Try to involve parents of non-churched boys in Cadet and church activities.
4. Attend all meetings. If you cannot make a meeting, give your head counselor plenty of time to plan for your absence.
5. Plan ahead — spend at least one hour preparing for each meeting, making sure the Bible lessons, craft activities and games are well planned and that all four aspects of the Cadet goal will be covered regularly in your meetings.
6. Study Cadet materials before the season begins, as well as attend any counselor training sessions when they are held in your area.
7. Attend council meetings and regional workshops as often as they are held.
8. Plan two or three outside activities for your cadre during the season, such as:
 - attending a sports event
 - camping
 - hiking
 - a service project
 - a party at your home
9. Help organize club events — campouts, snow derbies, model-car derbies, etc.
10. Participate in club fund-raising projects if asked to do so.
11. Be responsible for the behavior of your cadre during the entire club meeting, as well as when you are together on special outings.
12. Attend the Counselors Corner after your meetings if your club has one, so that you stay connected with the needs of the other counselors and boys in your club.
13. Don't leave your boys unattended during meeting hours.
14. Don't be a spiritual stumbling block for your boys. Be a positive Christian influence.
15. Don't downgrade your club. If something in your club bothers you, work to make it better.
16. Be enthusiastic, it's contagious.
17. Remember ... you are the only example of a committed Christian man that some of your boys will ever see. Don't disappoint them ... or God.



Do you know about CadetZone?

It's a fun place online for boys to access badges and find extra *Cadet Quest* content like videos, extended articles, puzzles, puzzle solutions and jokes! Talk to your head counselor and make sure your boys have access to this great resource!

Emails:

Having your email on file with the Corps Office is important because we send out communication to all counselors including a link to our digital counselor newsletter. Be sure your email is up to date on your club's counselor list on file with Corps office.



Register for the Counselor Website

1. Head to **counselors.calvinistcadets.org**.
2. Click "Register to request a login."
3. Complete the form, then click "Register."
4. The office staff will review your registration and create a login for you.

Where to find help

Brief description of all programs

- *Counselor Manual*, page A-5
- *Head Counselor Handbook*, page 4
- *Supply Catalog*, page 2
- Cadet website, "About Cadets" tab, "Programs"

Organizing your Club

- *Counselor Manual*, pages B-3 to B-4
- *R•P•B Guidebook*, pages 5-6

How to plan a regular Cadet meeting

- *Counselor Manual*, page B-6 to B-7
- *R•P•B Guidebook*, page 5

How to make a master plan for the entire season

- *Counselor Manual*, pages B-4 through B-6
- *Cadet Profile*
- *Head Counselor Handbook*, pages 14-16

Brief summary of the Cadet rank advancement program

- *Cadet Profile*
- Cadet guidebook for each program level

Ideas for a one-night or long-term cadre project

- *Clarion* newsletter, e-mailed and online
- *Cadet Quest* magazine
- *Metalworking* Counselor Aid Booklet
- Various Guide Trail project booklets
- *Junior Cadet Counselor Manual*, section F
- Cadet Blog
- Cadet Counselor's website

Ideas for games

- www.pinterest.com/calcadet/
- *Junior Cadet Counselor Manual*, section F

Patch placement on uniform shirts

- pamphlet *Your Cadet Uniform*
- Cadet guidebook for each program level
- Cadet Counselor's website*, "Resources" tab, "Uniform"

Information about specific badges

- *Counselor Manual*, Section F
- Cadet guidebook for each program level
- Cadet Counselor's website*

General information

- *Supply Catalog* — study and learn what's available; you'll be surprised what a great aid this is
- Cadet website
- Cadet Counselor's website*

Theme Materials

- *Supply Catalog*
- Cadet website — Find theme materials, resources, and even downloadable logos under "Events" then "Cadet Sunday"
- On the Cadet store under "Theme"

Still Need Help?

Call your council president, congressman,
independent club coordinator or quartermaster.

— or contact the Corps office —

Phone: 616-241-5616

E-mail: info@CalvinistCadets.org

Web: CalvinistCadets.org