



Chapter of the Year Program

All DeMolay Chapters that are chartered or under letters temporary in the state of New Jersey are automatically entered into the program. Member Chapters earn points based on completing certain tasks throughout the State Council year. The Chapter of the Year program will be based on a point system outlined below.

Chapters should strive to earn the highest score they can by planning and participating in a well-rounded program. The Chapter of the Year selection will be made from those Chapters who attain the highest score. If more than one Chapter attains the same score, participation numbers will be evaluated to determine the Chapter of the Year. If there is a tie in participation, the decision on who receives the designation of Chapter of the Year will be made by the State Master Councilor and Executive Officer by evaluating the Chapter's overall program.

Points are awarded in 2 ways; automatically and by submission. Please review the criteria listing in the next section to see which points are awarded automatically and which points are awarded by submission. Submission points will be awarded to Chapters who complete the report form for each activity and submit it on time. When submitting via the Internet, please submit one activity at a time. Multiple activities on the same Internet form will cause those activities not to be counted. All forms must be received within 30 DAYS OF THE ACTIVITY. When submitting items for points, detailed explanations of the Chapter Activities are suggested so that they may be used in the evaluation.

Chapter Chairman will be contacted if questions arise concerning any event submissions.

Please note that all automatic submissions are pending information being supplied by the Chairman of said activity. For example, Athletics points will only be awarded upon information supplied by the Director or Athletics. Points for Membership, LCC and RD will be calculated on a quarterly basis unless otherwise noted by the director of said areas. No points will be awarded for manual submissions within these categories unless otherwise noted (FMA/BHK).

All chapters must complete and submit at least two (2) entries in the following categories in order to complete a well rounded program and be eligible for trophy placement:

1,6,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17

In addition to the points awarded for participation and submissions in order to be eligible for the Chapter of the Year Competition chapters must maintain a minimum proficiency in the opening, nine o'clock interpolation and closing of a chapter. The Director of Ritual and his staff will evaluate chapters at a regular meeting to determine their proficiency score. For the purposes of COTY, the chapter will be evaluated on the ritual only (spoken words) and not direction or performance.

A minimum score of 500 points will be required in order for a chapter to be eligible to place within the competition.

If your chapter does not meet minimum proficiency then you will have one more opportunity to try again at the state ritual tournament. In doing so, you will be entered into the Chapter Proficiency competition and judged by the panel of judges. While a minimum score of 700 using all judging categories is required to win the Chapter Proficiency competition, only the ritual score will be used for COTY eligibility with the COTY minimum score of 500. It is your responsibility to register for the tournament as a competitor if you choose this method!



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The Director of Ritual will schedule a maximum of 3 evaluations per month – no exceptions. Be sure to register early to reserve your preferred date.

To qualify, a Chapter must open, perform the 9 O’Clock Interpolation, and close the chapter consecutively (this to help make the evening shorter for the evaluators). Where possible, the evaluators will excuse themselves to tabulate the results and present the Chapter’s score that same evening. A chapter must fill the chairs with their own members as much as possible. If there are no more members, the chapter may use members from other chapters to fill the chairs, but the following parts **MUST be filled by the sitting officers:**

**Master Councilor
Senior Councilor
Junior Deacon
Chaplain**

The Master Councilor’s part must be filled by someone who has been installed and served as MC during the current or immediately previous term for the chapter.



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COTY Program Criteria

Criteria #1 ~ Membership (automatic):

Number initiated into your chapter, receiving the Initiatory Degree, from June 1 through May 31 of the DeMolay year and reported properly via a Form 10 to the EO and DeMolay International.

- 50 points for each member
- 100 points for surpassing your majority
- 300 points for meeting your membership goal
- 100 points for earning the Founders Membership Award (submitted)
- 200 points for earning the Blue Honor Key or for each BHK Star (submitted)

Criteria #2 ~ Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award (automatic):

A Master Councilor of your Chapter earns the PMC-MSA award between June 1 and May 31 of the DeMolay year.

- 1000 points each

Criteria #3 ~ Representative DeMolay Award (automatic):

The RD is granted to a member of your Chapter between June 1 and May 31.

- 250 points each

Criteria #4 ~ Leadership Correspondence Course (automatic):

Completing one of the five LCC courses between June 1 and May 31 of the DeMolay year. Send copies of the completed lessons with the submission.

- 10 points each
- Bonus 100 points if a member earns the Lamp of Knowledge for completing all five LCC's.

Criteria #5 ~ LTC (automatic):

One member attending LTC

- 50 points (upon receipt of thank-you letter to sponsor)
- If your Chapter sends two members the chapter receives the 100 points maximum.

Criteria #6 ~ Grand Master's Class/Fall Honors Class (automatic):

One or more candidates from your Chapter receive one or both Degrees at Grand Master's Class or Fall Honors Class.

- 100 points
- An extra 10 points for every additional member

Criteria #7 ~ NJ State Ritual Tournament (automatic):

Your Chapter participates in the NJ State Ritual Tournament

- 300 points for large team competition
- 100 points for small team competition (max 3)
- 50 points for Flower Talk and Ceremony of Light
- 10 points for Preceptor Competition
- Competitions added by the Ritual Committee will be scored based on comparable submissions
- 10 points for all members that complete their Obligations (not required at ritual tournament)

Criteria #8 ~ Sponsor Appreciation (submitted):

Your Chapter performs an activity or event for your sponsoring body, Masonic District or other local Masonic body.



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- 100 points per event (max 6)



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Criteria #9 ~ Visitation (submitted):

Your Chapter completes a visitation to another chapter's meeting. Visitations consist of at least 3 Members and 1 Advisor.

- 50 points (max 1 visit to each chapter per quarter)

Criteria #10 ~ Sports Tournaments (automatic):

Your Chapter has one or more teams entered in one of the NJ DeMolay sports tournaments.

- 100 points
- A bonus 100 points are awarded if your Chapter is entered in ALL Sports Tournaments
- 1st Place will earn an additional 50 points
- 2nd Place will earn an additional 40 points
- 3rd Place will earn an additional 30 points

Criteria #11 ~ Chapter Newsletter (submitted):

Your Chapter publishes four or more editions of a Chapter newsletter between June 1 and May 31 of the DeMolay year. A Chapter webpage is also acceptable (3 articles must be updated on the web page for this to count). Chapter newsletters must be accompanied with the submission form and a web page update notification email must be sent to Matt Golway (njpsmc95@comcast.net) and Mike Buttery (mbuttery@hotmail.com).

- 100 points

Criteria #12 ~ Obligatory Days (submitted):

Your Chapter holds an observance for an Obligatory Day during the year between June 1 and May 31.

- 100 points
- Bonus 200 points for observing all seven
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Criteria #13 ~ DeMolay Month (submitted):

Your Chapter must complete a special DeMolay Month form which describes seven events related to the seven precepts that your chapter executed during the month of March.

- 300 points
- An extra 50 points will be awarded if your Chapter gets a proclamation from the City Council or Mayor and have met all other criteria for DeMolay Month.

Criteria #14 ~ Civic Service Events (submitted):

Your Chapter performs a civic service event during the year between June 1 and May 31.

- 100 points each (max 6)

Criteria #15 ~ Masonic Service Events (submitted):

Your Chapter performs a Masonic service event during the year between June 1 and May 31

- 100 points each (max 6)

Criteria #16 ~ Fund Raising Events (submitted):

Your Chapter performs a fund raising event during the year between June 1 and May 31

- 100 points each (max 6)

Criteria #17 ~ Social Events (submitted):

Your Chapter performs a social, or fun, event during the year between June 1 and May 31

- 100 points each (max 6)



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Criteria #18 ~ Public Relations Program (submitted):

Your chapter participates in the NJ DeMolay Public Relations Program

- 50 points each (max 12)