

MEMBERSHIP

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Ten to fifteen years is the official age for Pathfinder membership. The first class, which is Friend, is designed for the average ten-year-old and is structured in keeping with their physical and intellectual abilities. Commencing this class before the ideal time of ten years may cause some hardship and will most likely detract from interest in future courses during the important teen years. Juniors nine years of age may only commence Pathfinders (and the Friend class):
 - a. When they are in Year 5 or its equivalent, or
 - b. When the 10th birthday falls within the first quarter of the Pathfinder year.

The state and national equivalent educational levels to Year 5 are:

Aust. Capital Territory	Year 5	Tasmania	Year 5
New South Wales	Year 5	Victoria	Year 5
Northern Territory	Year 5	Western Australia	Year 5
Queensland	Year 5	New Zealand	Standard 4
South Australia	Year 5		

2. Where a church conducts a junior and teen club, Pathfinders between the ages of ten and twelve (or Years 5-7 or equivalents) will join the junior club, and those between thirteen and fifteen (or Years 8-10 or equivalents) will join the teen club.
3. An application form is to be lodged with the club director/secretary.
4. Every Pathfinder is required to have a Pathfinder Passport, which is available upon application to the club director/secretary.
5. All Pathfinders must pay a membership and personal insurance fee as required by the club executive committee.
6. Each Pathfinder should own and regularly wear the complete Pathfinder dress uniform and club field uniform when applicable and must come to meetings and club-sponsored events in the uniform advised by the club director.
7. Members must be faithful in attendance. Minimum attendance required is 75%. Many clubs establish limits on absences and tardinesses and Pathfinders who do not comply with these regulations may be placed on probation or have their membership cancelled.
8. Pathfinders must learn and keep the Pledge and Law.

9. Club activities include crafts, outings, regular club meetings and class work, fund raising, campouts, outreach activities, Honours and other activities. The Pathfinder must agree before joining the club, to participate and cooperate in these activities.
10. The Pathfinder's parents must be willing to cooperate with the regulations and activities of the club. At times they will be asked to supply money and time to support their child's membership.
11. Provisional Membership: a period of three months is allowed as provisional membership to obtain uniform, and make a definite commitment to full membership.
12. Modifications may be made to the Pathfinder requirements to enable disabled Pathfinders to be integrated into the club. Contact the district director or conference youth director for assistance. (See section on Pathfinders With Disabilities.)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(To be filled out by applicant)

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
School _____ Year _____
Church _____ Age _____ Birth Date _____

I would like to join the _____ Pathfinder Club. I will attend club meetings, hikes, camping and field trips, outreach activities, and other club activities as required. I agree to be guided by the rules of the club and the Pledge and Law.

Pathfinder's Signature _____

THE PLEDGE

Loving the Lord my God I will
Daily seek His presence
Show friendship to others
Keep the Pathfinder Law
And honour my country

THE PATHFINDER LAW is for me to:

Look for good in others
Aim to do my best
Love and respect my family
Be thankful for what I have
Preserve God's creation
Take care of my health
Be involved in my church
And go where He sends

I have been a Pathfinder _____ YES (where) _____ NO

I have completed the following classes:

<input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED FRIEND
<input type="checkbox"/> COMPANION	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED COMPANION
<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORER	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED EXPLORER
<input type="checkbox"/> RANGER	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED RANGER
<input type="checkbox"/> VOYAGER	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED VOYAGER
<input type="checkbox"/> GUIDE	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED GUIDE

I wish to join the following class:

<input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED FRIEND
<input type="checkbox"/> COMPANION	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED COMPANION
<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORER	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED EXPLORER
<input type="checkbox"/> RANGER	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED RANGER
<input type="checkbox"/> VOYAGER	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED VOYAGER
<input type="checkbox"/> GUIDE	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED GUIDE
<input type="checkbox"/> MASTER GUIDE	

I have completed the following Honours: (List) _____
_____ (use back of page if necessary)

I have a full dress uniform YES__ NO__ I have a full field uniform YES__ NO__

APPROVAL BY PARENTS/GUARDIANS

We have read the requirements for membership in the Pathfinder club and hereby certify that _____ (name) has reached the age of ten years or over (or is in Year 5 or equivalent or above). We are willing and desirous that he/she becomes a Pathfinder.

In consideration of the benefits derived from membership, we hereby voluntarily waive any claim against the club or the Seventh-day Adventist Church for any accidents that may arise in connection with the activities of the Pathfinder club.

As parents/guardians, we understand that the Pathfinder club program is an active one for the applicant. It includes many opportunities for service, adventure and fun. We will cooperate by:

1. Learning how we can assist the applicant and club leaders.
2. Encouraging the applicant to take an active part in all activities.
3. Attending events to which parents are invited.
4. Assisting club leaders and serving as leaders if called upon.
5. By purchasing Pathfinder uniforms and insurance through the club treasurer.

(Signature of father/guardian)

(Occupation)

(Signature of mother/guardian)

(Occupation)

I hold a current PLA	Father	NO	YES	Specialities	_____
	Mother	NO	YES	Specialities	_____

I have worked with Pathfinders in the following activities: _____

I am willing to assist the Pathfinder Club by teaching or helping in the following ways:

PATHFINDER'S MEDICAL INFORMATION

MEDICAL CONDITIONS eg Diabetic, Asthmatic, etc _____

ALLERGIES: eg Bee stings, Mosquito Bites, etc _____

MEDICATION: _____

Is Supervision needed for medication? _____

MEDICARE NO: _____

PRIVATE HEALTH FUND: _____ TABLE _____ BOOK NO. _____

I give permission to the leaders of the _____ Pathfinder Club or the _____ Conference to obtain medical treatment for my child (name) _____.

In the event of an emergency eg. surgery, blood transfusion, medication, and I cannot be contacted immediately, I give my permission for qualified medical staff to treat my child.

Father\Mother\Guardian _____

Signature

CONFIDENTIAL: Please ring director if there are special circumstances they should know for camps, hikes, travelling, etc. eg. car sickness, claustrophobia, bed wetting, nightmares, sleep walking, etc.

SAMPLE PRE-ENROLMENT LETTER

CLUB DIRECTOR TO PATHFINDER

(Use church letterhead)

(date)

Dear _____
(Name of potential Pathfinder)

Your name has been considered for membership in our _____.
(Name of club)

We will enrol new members into our club at _____.
(time, date, place)

As you consider the enclosed information concerning our club program, I know you will be happy to be one of our club members. Here are a few things you need to know:

1. To apply for membership you will need to appear in person with your Pathfinder application and one or both of your parents on enrolment night.
2. You are encouraged to invite your friends to also become members of our club.

I am happy to tell you we have Pathfinder club counsellors who like to have a good time with youth like yourself. If I can be of help to you in answering any questions, please feel free to call me on _____. We hope to see you on enrolment night.
(phone number)

Your friend and director,

_____, Club Director
(Director's name)

Note: Enclose the following:

1. Club calendar and program for next three months and highlights of the following six months.
2. Membership application form.
3. Uniform information.
4. Club policies and standards.
5. Insurance coverage.
6. Club fees: a. \$ _____ per year. (State whether the fee is to be paid each meeting, quarterly or annually, and whether this includes the registration fee and insurance charge.)
 - b. Registration fee - \$ _____
 - c. Insurance - \$ _____

SAMPLE PRE-ENROLMENT LETTER

CHURCH PASTOR TO PARENT OF PATHFINDER

(Use church letterhead)

(Date)

(Name)

(Address)

(City, State, Code)

Dear _____,
(name)

It is a privilege to pastor a church that feels a responsibility to help you prepare your son/daughter for a home with our heavenly Father.

Our Pathfinder club's director and associates have one purpose in working with our youth. They desire to help lead them into a deeper experience with Jesus Christ. By involving the youth in a fourfold program of spiritual, mental, recreational and social activities, they will help guide them in their character growth. They need your prayers and loving cooperation as parents to achieve this goal.

Enrolment night will be next _____ (day) evening _____ (date) at _____ (time) in/at the _____ (place). You will plan to enrol _____ (name) then, won't you? I will be looking for both of you.

Let us remember God's promise, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

Sincerely your brother in Christ,

_____, Pastor
(Pastor's Name)

PASSPORT APPLICATION FORM

SOUTH PACIFIC YOUTH MINISTRIES of the Seventh-day Adventist Church						Photograph		
Pathfinder Passport Application								
DETAILS OF APPLICANT	Title	Surname	Christian or given names			SEX	M/F	
PLACE OF BIRTH	Town/City		DATE OF BIRTH		Day	Month	Year	
	State/Country		HEIGHT		COLOUR OF EYES			
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	Unit/No	Street		Town/City	Post-code	PHONE Home Business		
NAME OF PATHFINDER CLUB	CHURCH			SCHOOL		YEAR OR FORM		
POSITION IN CLUB (Please tick)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Director		<input type="checkbox"/>	Chaplain			Other office (please specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Director		<input type="checkbox"/>	Instructor			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Counsellor		<input type="checkbox"/>	Pathfinder			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Junior Counsellor		<input type="checkbox"/>				
Enclosed is my Pathfinder fee of				<input type="checkbox"/> Cash				
Cheques made payable to Youth Ministries				<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque				
Have you previously had a Pathfinder Passport? Yes/No If YES state the reason for your current application - e.g. lost, stolen, destroyed					Previous Pathfinder Passport Number:			
NEXT OF KIN (Parent or Guardian)	Name		Address			PHONE Home		
	Relationship					Business		
CERTIFICATION REGARDING APPLICANT <small>(Parent, Guardian, Director, Deputy Director, District Director, Church Pastor, Elder, etc.)</small> I hereby declare that I have known(full name of applicant) for a period of.....years. To the best of my knowledge and belief the statements made by the applicant on this form are true, the signature on the application is that of the applicant and the accompanying photograph is that of the applicant. NAME SIGNATURE DATE DECLARATION I, the undersigned person, making this application, hereby declare that the statements made in this application are true and correct in every detail. SIGNATURE..... DATE								
OFFICE USE ONLY P.N. [] D.SE.[] D.A.R.[] D.S []								

PATHFINDERS WITH DISABILITIES

Young people with disabilities may feel they are unable to actively participate in the Pathfinder program. However, when some modifications are made clubs are quite able to integrate disabled people into the club structure. This is not only beneficial for the disabled Pathfinder, but also a good opportunity for the other Pathfinders to share fun times with the disabled in learning about God and creation.

Local clubs should be aware of the nature of the disabilities of a young person and modify the program accordingly. The conference youth director may be able to offer suggestions on how to modify the program to suit the needs of a disabled Pathfinder in your club. Always maintain constant communication with parents as details of the disability may change, and you would need to be aware of any medications to be taken on a campout.

Many of those who are disabled demonstrate the true spirit of Pathfinding as the following story illustrates.

"Come on, Jared, we are waiting for you." Toronto Pathfinders are ready to go on a long walk on a bush track around Myall Lakes. Everyone is ready except Jared, who is waiting for his wheelchair to be changed into a chariot for the long trek ahead. By the end of the walk the two front wheels are worn and the rims are cracked all the way around. Despite this, Jared had a great time.

When Jared was three years old, he suffered with pain in both legs while swimming. This concerned his parents, Hank and Darrylyn Penola. Medical reports were not encouraging. Jared was diagnosed as having Duchene Muscular Dystrophy, which is a deterioration of all the muscles.

Even with this problem, Jared was and still is very active. He stopped walking at the age of eleven. His parents and his brother, Floyd, enjoy life to the full and nothing gets in their way when it comes to having fun with Jared.

He has had some great moments with his club, including his share of fun. One time Jared was taken down to the beach, where everyone joined onto the wheelchair and pushed and pulled it up over the sand dunes. Other times some have even put Jared on their backs and carried him.

Jared, now fifteen years old, has been in Pathfinders for six years. He does as well as anyone when it comes to classwork, has been invested every year, and in 1990 plans to complete Guide. The Honours he does are ones that do not need a lot of activity.

Jared makes the effort to do as many things as he can. If the ground is flat he uses his electric chair, but where the electric chair cannot go he uses his manual chair. He has been to every Expedition and Camporee except the Expedition in 1989. On the Expeditions Jared stays at base camp with his mum or dad in snow, rain or shine. His parents try to find ways to get him to the Sabbath programs. Sometimes it means four-wheel driving to a certain spot, then on by wheelchair with plenty of pushers. He helps get his meals ready, cleans his dishes and tidies the campsite. His logbook is filled with things he has seen or heard around the camp.

Jared enjoys the marching in Pathfinders. One of his mates is always happy to push the chair. In 1987 Jared went to Tui Ridge Camporee in New Zealand, and participated in the flag-raising ceremony. He went on outings and observed activities when his club was involved.

Jared gets involved in the worships in his club, enjoys singing and doing skits with his friends. He never lets his handicap interfere with his joy for living. He's a friendly guy with a bubbling personality and he is always smiling. His loyalty and enthusiasm explain why he was chosen for the Pathfinder Award of Excellence.

Jared has a saying on the wall: "Even I don't always understand me, but God does."

PATHFINDER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Pathfinder Award of Excellence is the highest award given to Pathfinders who have shown in all their Pathfinder activities a spirit of participation, cooperation, initiative and responsibility. While this award is granted only once in the lifetime of a Pathfinder, it does provide recognition for individual development and the ability to achieve an outstanding level of proficiency.

While the Pathfinder club is designed to help its members appreciate the value of group participation, it should not be forgotten that there is considerable scope for the development of each member. The individual should be able to work well in group activities and be willing to give of oneself in order to help other Pathfinders. This is vital in learning cooperation and team spirit, which are necessary ingredients of a well-balanced Christian.

Towards the close of the Pathfinder year the club executive should meet to discuss the possibility of awarding the Pathfinder Award of Excellence. It is preferable for the Award of Excellence to be given to a teen Pathfinder with at least two or three years of involvement within the Pathfinder club.

Clubs are to make their submission of nominated names for the Pathfinder Award of Excellence on the special form to be photocopied from this manual. This is to be sent to the conference youth director, who may be invited to present the Award of Excellence at the time of the club Investiture, or at the conference Pathfinder Fair or Rally.

NOTE: It is not anticipated that this will be awarded to every Pathfinder in a club.

Criteria for the nomination of a candidate for the Pathfinder Award of Excellence:

1. Be a member of a teen Pathfinder class.
2. Be an active member of the local club for at least one Pathfinder year, with a record of attendance at no less than 80% of all functions.
3. Have a record of conduct consistent with the ideals of the Pathfinder Pledge and Law.
4. Have a record of responsibility that demonstrates self-initiative and a high level of proficiency.
5. Reflect the spirit of Pathfinding through team spirit and cooperation with leadership.
6. The Pathfinder will be completely uniformed on all occasions in the uniform specified.
7. The Pathfinder will have a record of relating to all cultural groups in a positive Christian manner.

**PATHFINDER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
NOMINATION FORM**

(To be completed by the Pathfinder director after approval by the Pathfinder Executive Committee. Only one nomination per form.)

Name of club: _____

Director's name: _____

Director's address: _____

Nominated Pathfinder: _____

Years in local club: _____

Years in other clubs: _____

Give locations: _____

Date the award is to be presented: _____

On behalf of the _____ Pathfinder Club Executive Committee, I recommend the above mentioned Pathfinder for the Pathfinder Award of Excellence, because:

Pathfinder director

Date