

Note to Advisors from Chief Watchu

Welcome to Watchu Mountain! This weekend is designed for you and your crew to evaluate where you are in preparing for your Philmont trek. We hope you have a great time, a positive learning experience, and go home knowing more about your crew's Philmont readiness. Please call on any of us should you need any assistance this weekend or during the remainder of your training.

This weekend has been designed with the following principles in mind:

- A Philmont crew is a youth led organization. Let the Crew Chief lead.
- This weekend is your opportunity to observe your crew in action. It will give you a very good view of the gaps in the crew's training.
- What you learn about your crew's performance this weekend should be the basis of your training plan between now and leaving for Philmont.
- The youth of the crew should have selected its "on the trail" leaders prior to your arrival on Watchu Mountain. If they have not, you must take time Saturday morning for them to name their Crew Chief, Chaplain Aide and Wilderness Pledge *Guia*. In addition, they need to designate their Crew Reporter. Briefings for each of these positions are scheduled during the Watchu Mountain Adventure.
- We have provided several gaps in the schedule to allow time for you and your Crew Chief to tailor the program to your needs. You should use the time to work on team work, definition of roles, practice of crew assignments, crew equipment shakedown, in depth review of your Philmont itinerary, reaction to information gained in the "Thorns and Roses" exercise, etc. In short, we believe it will give you valuable time with your crew to build a lean, mean hiking machine.
- The Advisor corps is charged with assuring the health and safety of the crew. This weekend will give you a chance to put that responsibility to work. Practice makes perfect. It requires a sharp eye to be on top of all the possibilities for misadventure.

Hike On and Happy Trails!