

POINT PLEASANT BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Junior Firefighter and Fire Explorer

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose:

To outline program requirements, responsibilities and fireground duties of the Junior Firefighters and Fire Explorers.

Defined:

The Junior Firefighter and Explorer program shall provide support for the Point Pleasant Beach Fire Department and the citizens of Point Pleasant Beach. The Junior Firefighter and Explorer program shall provide a program of career awareness and career development.

Junior Firefighters are Fire Department members between the ages of 16 and less than 18 years old.

Explorers are not recognized members of the fire department, instead are sponsored by the Point Pleasant Beach Fire Department under the Boy Scouts of America, Learning for Life program. They shall be between the ages of 14 and less than 16 years old.

Program

1. Junior Program:

- A. The Junior Program is a career awareness program through the Point Pleasant Beach Fire Department.
- B. The Junior Program is open to all young adults ages sixteen (16) years old up to their eighteenth (18th) birthday.
- C. Upon reaching their eighteenth (18th) birthday a Junior Firefighter must apply to either Ocean Fire Company #1 or Point Pleasant Beach Fire Company #2 for senior membership.

2. Explorer Program:

- A. The Explorer Program is a career awareness program through the Explorer division of the Boy Scouts of America
- B. The Point Pleasant Beach Fire Explorer Post is located within the Three Rivers District of the Jersey Shore Council.
- C. The Point Pleasant Beach Fire Explorer program is open to all young adults ages fourteen (14) years old up to their sixteenth (16th) birthday.

- D. Upon turning the age of sixteen (16), an Explorer must submit an application for Junior Membership within two (2) months of their birthday.
- E. To remain in good/active standing, an Explorer must submit a copy of their report card and must maintain a 75% average in all classes. If the grade is below 75%, the Explorer must seek extra help in that subject and a letter from the respective teacher stating so must be submitted. Two consecutive marking periods below 75%, the Explorer will be placed on academic leave until a report card satisfies the above criteria.

Post Organization:

1. Junior Firefighter Program

- A. Junior Firefighters shall be under the command and control of the Department Line Officers or their designees.

2. Fire Explorer Program

- A. All persons appointed as an Explorer Advisor shall have background checks and attend training as outlined by the Jersey Shore Council prior to their appointment
 - B. All Advisors must be at least twenty-one years of age.
 - C. The Point Pleasant Beach Fire Explorer program shall have the following positions:
 - a. Explorer Captain
 - b. Explorer Lieutenant
 - c. Explorer President
 - d. Explorer Vice President
 - e. Explorer Secretary
 - f. Explorer Treasurer
- At a Minimum, the Explorer President and Explorer Captain shall be filled. Other positions shall be filled depending on Explorer Membership.

General Rules:

- A. Junior Firefighters and Explorers must have a release form signed by his/her parents or legal guardian upon acceptance to the Post. This release must be maintained by the Explorer Lead Advisor and the Captain of the Department.
- B. Junior Firefighters and Explorers will be furnished with proper safety equipment (ie. coat, gloves, helmet, boots, etc.)
- C. All Junior Firefighter and Explorer activities shall cease by 10 p.m.

Support Activities:

A. Junior Firefighters/Fire Explorer

Junior Firefighters and Fire Explorers shall comply with the following guidelines in response to calls with the exception that the Fire Explorer Post shall be mobilized as a post with required leadership. Explorers are not on call as individuals to fight fires at a fire scene.

- a. Juniors and Explorers may respond to fires, ride apparatus and vehicles but may not enter a burning structure for either training or actual fire situations. Further, Juniors and Explorers may not enter a potentially Immediate Danger to Life and Health areas (IDLH). Juniors and Explorers may assist in support activities on the fireground.
- b. Explorers must be equipped with and wear personal protective equipment (PPE) that is appropriate for the activity being done.
- c. Juniors and Explorers may not be substituted for trained firefighters.
- d. Juniors and Explorers may only be mobilized as a post with required leadership. Juniors and Explorers are not on call as individuals to fight fires at a fire scene.
- e. Juniors and Explorers who ride on the apparatus or other fire department vehicles must be seated and must wear a seat belt.
- f. Juniors and Explorers may not drive fire apparatus.
- g. Juniors and Explorers may not climb aerial ladders.
- h. Juniors and Explorers may not climb ground ladders that exceed 24 feet in length.
- i. Juniors and Explorers may not enter or perform ventilation procedures on a burning structure.
- j. Juniors and Explorers may not utilize any di-electric tools or gloves on energized electrical equipment.
- k. Juniors and Explorers may not operate powered hydraulic rescue tools or gas powered cutting equipment.
- l. Juniors and Explorers may not operate acetylene-cutting torches.
- m. Juniors and Explorers may not handle life nets.