

CHAPTER 4: RIBBON AWARDS AND APPURTENANCES

4.01 PURPOSE OF THE USNSCC AWARDS PROGRAM

(a) The USNSCC Awards Program exists to recognize meritorious performance by cadets and volunteers, to provide incentive for greater effort, to contribute to an effective military environment, and to enhance morale.

(b) The credibility of the USNSCC Awards Program depends on each step in the chain of command ensuring that every person presented with, or recommended for, an award meets all of the established criteria for that award.

4.02 ELIGIBILITY

(a) Only currently-enrolled officers, midshipmen, instructors, and cadets are eligible to receive awards in this Chapter, except that retired officers are eligible to receive the Escort Officer Ribbon if they meet the criteria.

(b) Midshipmen and instructors are considered to be officers for purposes of the Awards Program.

(c) Auxiliaries are only eligible to receive some of the awards in this Chapter. For those specific awards that auxiliaries are eligible to receive, any earned ribbons may only be worn if/when the Auxiliary transfers to a uniformed instructor/officer status.

(d) Persons not currently enrolled in the USNSCC, including members of other youth programs, members of the military, etc., are not eligible to receive awards under this Chapter.

(e) As a general rule, a member may only receive one award for each specific achievement or period of service. Multiple awards given for accomplishments within the same period of service timeframe must be justified separately.

4.03 RIBBON AWARDS AND CRITERIA

1. NSSC/NLCC Honor Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, auxiliary, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who, through direct action, saves a human life at the risk of his/her own life.

Approving Authority: Executive Director

Opening Sentence: "In recognition of extraordinary heroism in the saving the life of another at the risk of [his or her] own life."

2. NSCC/NLCC Distinguished Service Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, auxiliarist, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who distinguishes himself/herself:

- a. By extraordinary heroism, but not to the degree justifying award of the NSCC/NLCC Honor Ribbon;
- b. Through sustained and distinguished service at a national level to the USNSCC in a position of responsibility, such as:
 1. Officers who have commanded numerous Advanced Trainings;
 2. Volunteers who served on committees or working groups that improved the quality of the USNSCC training program or curriculum;
 3. Officers who are retiring after a lengthy career in the USNSCC and whose service included positions of significant responsibility;
 4. An end-of-tour award for a Regional Director who has served for no less than five (5) years; or
- c. By selection as the USNSCC Officer of the Year (Nicholas Brango Award), Instructor of the Year (Robert T.S. Colby Award), Naval Sea Cadet of the Year (Willis E. Reed Award), Navy League Cadet of the Year (Keith T. Weaver Award), Regional Director of the Year (Fred D. Carl Award), or Regional Director Recruiter of the Year (Bruce B. Smith Award).

Approving Authority: Executive Director

Opening Sentence: "In recognition of extraordinary heroism in saving the life of another" or: "In recognition of sustained and extraordinary service to the USNSCC while serving as [Billet] attached to [Unit or Training Contingent]."

3. NSCC/NLCC Meritorious Recognition Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, auxiliarist, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who distinguishes himself/herself through exceptionally meritorious service to the USNSCC in a position of responsibility, such as:

1. By humanitarian action;
2. Accomplishments which, though significant, do not warrant the Distinguished Service Ribbon but which do warrant higher recognition than the Commendation Ribbon;
3. An end-of-tour award for a Regional Director who has served less than five (5) years;
4. An end-of-tour award for a Unit Commanding Officer who has

served no less than three (3) years; or

- a. By establishing and/or overseeing programs which made a significant contribution to the USNSCC or civic/volunteer groups; or
- b. By selection as an NHQ Area Officer of the Year, Instructor of the Year, Naval Sea Cadet of the Year, or Navy League Cadet of the Year.

Approving Authority: NHQ Representative

Opening Sentence:

- *“For distinguishing [himself or herself] by humanitarian action on [Date]” or “during the period of [Start Date] to [End Date].”*
- *“For distinguishing [himself or herself] through exceptionally meritorious service to the USNSCC on [Date]” or “during the period of [Start Date] to [End Date]” “while serving as [Billet] attached to [Unit or Training Contingent].”*

4. NSCC/NLCC Commendation Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, auxiliariest, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who distinguishes himself/herself through superior service, at a level exceeding that of the Citation Ribbon, but of lesser degree than the Meritorious Recognition Ribbon:

- a. By performing specific project(s) or complex task(s) in a manner that greatly exceeds what is typically expected, considering the member’s grade or rate, training, and experience.
- b. By a period of sustained service that warrants recognition of the individual’s achievements, such as:
 1. Making significant contributions to the USNSCC, the unit, region or training contingent;
 2. An end-of-tour award for a Unit Commanding Officer who has served less than three (3) years, or whose accomplishments do not warrant the Meritorious Recognition Ribbon; or
- c. By selection as a Region’s Officer of the Year, Instructor of the Year, Naval Sea Cadet of the Year, or Navy League Cadet of the Year.

Approving Authority: NHQ Representative

Opening Sentence: “For distinguishing [himself or herself] by superior service to the USNSCC during the period of [Start Date] to [End Date] while serving as [Billet] attached to [Unit or Training Contingent].”

5. NSSC/NLCC Citation Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, auxiliarist, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet for commendable service, based on sustained performance or specific achievement of a superlative nature. Qualifying service must clearly exceed that which is normally required or expected, considering the member's grade or rate, training, and experience.

Cadet: To be eligible for this award, a cadet must:

- a. Demonstrate the virtues of the USNSCC's Core Values and Cadet Code of Conduct. Examples must be specifically described in the citation accompanying the recommendation, and may include:
 1. Consistently exceed minimum USNSCC attendance, advancement, and training requirements;
 2. Perform successfully in assigned leadership positions or other responsibilities within the unit or training contingent;
 3. Lead by example in areas such as personal appearance, respect for others, enthusiasm, character, and grit.
- b. Have been selected as:
 1. A Company or Division Honor Cadet of any Recruit or Advanced Training;
 2. The overall Honor Graduate of any Recruit or Advanced Training having 100 or more initial cadets, excluding staff cadets and staff. In this situation, the Ribbon will be worn with Large (5/16") Gold Star; or
 3. His/her unit's Sea Cadet of the Year or League Cadet of the Year—except that the cadet cannot receive both the Citation Ribbon and the Navy League Youth Medal for the same honor.

Volunteer: To be eligible for this award, a volunteer must:

- a. Clearly exceed minimum USNSCC attendance, professional development, and training requirements;
- b. Render important service in a position of responsibility within his/her unit or training contingent;
- c. Serve as a personal example of the virtues of the USNSCC Core Values and Volunteer Code of Conduct. (Examples must be specifically described in the citation accompanying the recommendation.); and/or
- d. Be selected as the unit's Officer or Instructor of the Year.

Approving Authority: Regional Director or COTC

Opening Sentence: "For distinguishing [himself or herself] by commendable service to the USNSCC during the period of [Start

Date] to [End Date] while serving as [Billet] attached to [Unit or Training Contingent].”

6. NSCC Escort Officer Ribbon



Awarded to an USNSCC officer, midshipman, instructor, or auxiliariest who successfully serves in a leadership role at an in-person, NHQ-approved NSCC Recruit Training, NLCC Orientation, or NSCC/NLCC Advanced Training which qualifies for cadet advancement credit.

An USNSCC officer serving as COTC of a training contingent (or combined training contingents) of 100 or more student cadets (excluding staff cadets and escorts), is authorized to wear the Escort Officer Ribbon with Large (5/16”) Gold Star.

Approving Authority: COTC

7. Navy League of the United States (NLUS) Youth Medal and Ribbon



Awarded to a Sea Cadet or League Cadet based upon the criteria established by the Navy League of the United States (NLUS). The NLUS Youth Medal enables sponsoring councils to annually recognize excellence on the part of young people participating in NSCC and NLCC programs. It serves to emphasize the importance placed on education and training of American youth and recognize the importance of NSCC and NLCC as NLUS youth programs in attaining established goals and objectives.

Cadet of the Year:

- a. A Unit's or Training Ship's Sea Cadet of the Year or League Cadet of the Year is eligible to receive the NLUS Youth Medal/Ribbon only once as a League Cadet and only once as a Sea Cadet.
- b. The NLUS Youth Medal and Ribbon with a Large (5/16”) Silver Star affixed to the center of the Ribbon may be awarded annually to a NSCC Unit's Sea Cadet of the Year.
- c. The NLUS Youth Ribbon with the Gold Boot affixed to the center of the ribbon may be awarded annually to a NLCC Training Ship's League Cadet of the Year. (But not the Medal)

Notes:

- a. The Unit Commanding Officer is responsible for nominating the prospective award recipients to either the sponsoring NLUS council or the nearest NLUS council if the unit is sponsored by another organization.
- b. The award is based on the inspection year (calendar year) and shall be awarded in the second quarter of the year.

- c. The unit may be required to assume the cost of obtaining the medal and ribbon.
- d. For those Sea Cadets who previously earned the NLUS Youth Award as a League Cadet, and who earn it again as a Sea Cadet, the 5/16" Silver Star is affixed to the center of the suspension ribbon on the Medal, and the star is also affixed to the outboard side of the Ribbon, with a gold boot on the inboard side.
- e. No cadet may receive more than one of the Navy League Youth Medal, DAR Outstanding Cadet Medal, SAR Good Citizenship Award, or the VFW Naval Sea Cadet Award for any calendar year.

Approving Authority: NLUS Regional President or Local Council

8. NSCC/NLCC Community Service Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who performs 30 hours of community service work, accurately documented in Magellan.

- a. "Community service" is defined as voluntary work which is done to benefit the community or particular groups of people in need. Examples include volunteering at a soup kitchen, visiting a local nursing or veterans' home, completing projects to benefit the environment, or coordinating a care package drive for deployed troops.
- b. Public events, such as parades, color guards, recruiting drives, or other activities that only benefit the USNSCC or the unit do not constitute "community service."

Approving Authority: Unit CO

9. NSCC International Exchange Program (IEP) Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, or Sea Cadet who is selected for and successfully completes an authorized exchange as part of the International Exchange Program (IEP).

Notes:

- a. Volunteers receiving the IEP Ribbon will not also receive the Escort Officer Ribbon.

Approving Authority: Executive Director

10. NSCC/NLCC Academic Achievement Ribbon



Awarded to a Sea Cadet or League Cadet who distinguishes himself/herself at school or accredited home school program meeting the following requirements:

a. A cadet enrolled in an accredited school (including an accredited home school program) is eligible when he/she:

1. Is officially declared on his/her school's Honor Roll for a semester or school year;
2. Makes no grade below B;
3. Is a full-time student at the school; and
4. Provides his/her unit CO with a letter from the school verifying the Honor Roll status.

b. A cadet that is home schooled, but not enrolled in an accredited home school program, is eligible when he/she:

1. Carries the required courses to be considered a full-time student;
2. Makes no grade below B;
3. Provides his/her unit CO with a letter from the person conducting the home schooling verifying his/her course enrollments and grades; and
4. Provides his/her unit CO with a copy of a standardized test showing that he/she has been tested during the school year and is placed in the 75th or higher percentile of tested students in all areas of achievement. Acceptable standardized tests include:
 - (i) State-designated standardized testing meeting the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act;
 - (ii) The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS);
 - (iii) The California Achievement Test (CAT); or
 - (iv) The Stanford Achievement Test.

c. **Notes:**

1. Subsequent awards can be earned for each semester a cadet meets the award criteria, using the appurtenance star system, with a maximum of two (2) awards per school year.
2. Former League Cadets may transfer the ribbon, but not any earned star appurtenances, when the League Cadet becomes a Sea Cadet.
3. To assist cadets in obtaining the required documentation for this Ribbon, a unit CO may use a form letter which is available on Homeport.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

11. NSCC/NLCC Drug Reduction Service Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet or League Cadet who displays outstanding leadership by example in the community as a drug-free role model, and who meets one of the following requirements:

- a. Attends four (4) prescribed substance abuse, anti-drug awareness lectures given by local law enforcement; State Police; Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE); Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD); or trained military personnel in the area of substance abuse and anti-drug awareness counselling. The lectures can be four (4) one-hour or eight (8) thirty-minute lectures;
- b. Performs one (1) one-hour or two (2) thirty-minute substance abuse, anti-drug awareness lecture(s) to a school, civic, church, youth group, or other community-based audience; or
- c. Successfully provides substance abuse and anti-drug awareness to the community, school, church, or other youth-related organizations by way of newspaper articles, radio or television, social media, displays, or participation with other youth organizations.

Note:

- a. The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) distinguishing device may be awarded to any member who distinguishes himself or herself by presenting (2) one-hour or (4) thirty-minute presentations to any of the aforementioned community organizations.
- b. All activities should be tracked in Magellan.

Approving Authority: NHQ Representative

12. Office of Naval Research (ONR) Science Achievement Ribbon



This Ribbon was awarded to Sea Cadets who competed in certain regional or national STEM competitions. No further awards of this Ribbon are authorized; however, any cadets who have already received authorization to wear this Ribbon may continue to do so.

13. NSCC/NLCC STEM Achievement Ribbon



Awarded to a Sea Cadet or League Cadet who participates in a regional or national science, robotics, drone, or other STEM competition, and who receives a placement award or other special award.

Note:

- a. One award per competition is authorized.
- b. Cadets who serve as a member of a Science, Technology,

Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM) team that placed first in a national STEM competition may be awarded the “E” appurtenance.

c. Subsequent awards will be recognized using the appurtenance star system.

Approving Authority: NHQ Representative

14. NSCC/NLCC Recruiting Incentive Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who meets the following requirements:

Cadet. Recruits an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, League Cadet, or two (2) auxiliaries into any unit. One award for each person enrolled.

Officer/Midshipman/Instructor. Recruits two officers, midshipmen, instructors, Sea Cadets, and/or League Cadets into any unit. One award is made for every two (2) members recruited.

Notes:

- a. Recruited members must remain a member of the program for at least 3 months to get credit for the recruitment/enrollment.
- b. Subsequent awards will be recognized using the appurtenance star system.
- c. Units will update Magellan with records of which cadet(s) were recruited by the cadet to whom the award is made.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

15. NSCC/NLCC Executive Director’s Unit Citation



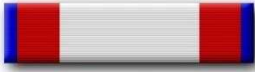
Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who is a member of a unit which:

- a. On or after January 1, 2022, is awarded the:
 - 1. John J. Bergen Trophy;
 - 2. Morgan L. Fitch Trophy;
 - 3. George S. Halas Trophy; or
- b. On or after January 1, 2022, is recognized by National Headquarters as one of the Top Ten Sea Cadet units or Top Five League Cadet training ships in the nation; or
- c. Distinguishes itself by exceptionally meritorious service to the USNSCC, its Region or Area, or the community in a manner that clearly exceeds the criteria necessary to justify award of the Unit Commendation.

Approving Authority: Executive Director

Opening Sentence (for awards under paragraph (c) only): "For sustained extraordinary service to the USNSCC during the period of [Start Date] to [End Date]."

16. Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Outstanding Cadet Medal



Awarded to a Sea Cadet or League Cadet who has distinguished himself/herself through outstanding leadership, honor, service, courage, and patriotism.



- a. The Unit CO may nominate a prospective recipient of this award to the local DAR Chapter Regent, who will normally make the presentation.
- b. Each unit may only receive one award per year.

Notes:

- a. As of March 2014, the DAR has stopped issuing the ROTC award to non-ROTC, military affiliated cadet programs. They established the DAR Outstanding Cadet Award in its place. Those that were awarded the DAR/ROTC award prior to March 2014 may continue to wear that award.
- b. No cadet may receive more than one of the Navy League Youth Medal, DAR Outstanding Cadet Medal, SAR Good Citizenship Award, or the VFW Naval Sea Cadet Award for any calendar year.

Approving Authority: Local DAR Chapter.

17. Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Good Citizenship Medal



Awarded to a Sea Cadet or League Cadet in the rate of Petty Officer Second Class or above, who meets the following requirements:



- a. Maintains good standing scholastically at the time of selection and presentation;
- b. Demonstrates a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing, and excellence in the performance of duties; and
- c. Has the potential for greater leadership responsibilities.

Notes:

- a. The unit CO will select and nominate the prospective recipient of the award to the local SAR Chapter President, who will normally make the award.
- b. The award consists of a bronze medal and accompanying ribbon bar (NSCC only) and a certificate of recognition (NSCC/NLCC).
- c. No cadet may receive more than one of the Navy League Youth

Medal, DAR Outstanding Cadet Medal, SAR Good Citizenship Award, or the VFW Naval Sea Cadet Award for any calendar year.

Approving Authority: Local SAR Chapter

18. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Naval Sea Cadet Medal



Awarded to a midshipman or Sea Cadet serving in the rate of Petty Officer Third Class or above, who meets the following requirements:

- a. Be in good standing academically;
- b. Progressing satisfactorily in the Sea Cadet program;
- c. Is a member of the unit's Color Guard or Drill Team or has been awarded the Color Guard Ribbon;
- d. Demonstrated outstanding achievement in:
 1. Community Service; and
 2. NSCC Naval Education (required Polaris Advancement Courses);
- e. Demonstrated outstanding leadership in the NSCC;
- f. Must be of high moral character;
- g. Displays outstanding military bearing and conduct both in and out of uniform;
- h. Actively promotes patriotism and Americanism; and
- i. Demonstrates growth potential (assumes higher levels of responsibility).

Notes:

- a. A representative of the local VFW Council should be invited to present this award.
- b. No person may receive this award more than once.
- c. Submit nominations via business letter, with justifications for the award, either to the local VFW Council, or to VFW Headquarters, Department of Youth Development, Scholarship and Recognition Programs, 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111.
- d. No cadet may receive more than one of the Navy League Youth Medal, DAR Outstanding Cadet Medal, SAR Good Citizenship Award, or the VFW Naval Sea Cadet Award for any calendar year.

Approving Authority: VFW

19. NSCC/NLCC Unit Commendation Ribbon



Awarded to officers, midshipmen, instructors, Sea Cadets or League Cadets who, as a group of either fifteen (15) or more, or 80% of unit enrollees, meet one of the following requirements:

- a. Acts which render the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service. Normal duty, by itself, does not justify this award;
- b. Participate in at least two community events that bring great credit upon the USNSCC;
- c. Participate in humanitarian actions; or
- d. Be recognized as the Honor Division cadets of a NSCC Recruit Training or NLCC Orientation.

Notes

- a. The unit CO must document the events for which this award is being submitted, and must enclose a roster of all of the unit personnel participating in the event should be made part of the request.
- b. Only those unit members participating in the two events are eligible to wear this award.
- c. Color Guards performing color guard duties are not eligible for this award.
- d. If a unit participates in an event that lasts over eight (8) hours, the Authorizing Authority can consider each time period as a separate event.

Subsequent awards will be recognized using the appurtenance star system.

Approving Authority: NHQ Representative or COTC

Opening Sentence: "For sustained meritorious service to the USNSCC during the period of [Start Date] to [End Date]."

20. NSCC/NLCC Physical Fitness Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who meets the following requirements:

Cadets:

- a. A cadet who meets or exceeds the "Good" standard on the Physical Readiness Test (PRT) is eligible to wear the Physical Fitness Ribbon.
- b. A cadet who meets or exceeds the "Excellent" standard on the PRT is eligible to wear the Physical Fitness Ribbon with silver "E"

appurtenance.

Officers/Midshipmen/Instructors:

a. An officer, midshipman, instructor who meets the appropriate standards on the PRT is eligible for the Physical Fitness Ribbon.

Notes:

a. Subsequent awards will be recognized using the appurtenance star system, up to a maximum of two (2) awards per year.

b. Only one (1) "E" can be affixed to the ribbon.

c. The Ribbon is worn with the color BLUE inboard and YELLOW outboard.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

21. NSCC Staff Cadet Ribbon



Awarded to a Sea Cadet who successfully serves as a staff cadet for a nationally-approved NSCC Recruit Training, Advanced Training, or NLCC Orientation.

Notes:

a. The cadet's orders must reflect participation as a staff cadet.

b. Staff cadets serving at "locally arranged NLCC Orientation and NSCC Recruit Trainings" authorized by NHQ, can receive credit for serving as a staff cadet.

c. Subsequent awards will be recognized using the appurtenance star system.

Approving Authority: COTC

22. NSCC/NLCC Color Guard Ribbon



Awarded to a Sea Cadet or League Cadet who, as a member of a color guard, exhibition drill team, or ceremonial rifle squad, meets the following requirements:

a. Performs as a member of the team for at least six (6) months;

b. Performs in at least five (5) evolutions at a public event;

c. Is smart and neat in appearance, and wears the uniform with pride; and

d. Always acts in the highest traditions of the USNSCC.

Notes:

a. Each event must be documented in the cadet's Magellan Record Book.

- b. Evolutions at unit drills, including annual inspections, do not qualify. Nor does the daily raising or lowering of colors aboard a ship or military installation.
- c. Color guard evolutions at parades qualify when the color guard marches separately from the rest of the unit. Evolutions such as military retirement ceremonies, changes of commands, formal dinners, and similar events also qualify when the color guard performs as a unit.
- d. A cadet who has earned this Ribbon is authorized to wear the Compass Rose appurtenance upon successful completion of an Honor Guard Training.
- e. Subsequent awards will be recognized using the appurtenance star system.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

23. NSCC/NLCC Prior Service Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, or Sea Cadet who meets the following requirements:

Sea Cadet:

- a. Served as a League Cadet for at least twelve (12) months prior to transferring to the NSCC;
- b. Transfers to the NSCC without any break in enrollment; and
- c. Attained, as a League Cadet, the rate of Petty Officer Third Class (PO3) or higher.

Officer, Midshipman, or Instructor:

- a. Served as a League Cadet or Sea Cadet for at least twelve (12) months prior to being appointed as an officer, midshipman or instructor; and
- b. Attained, as a League Cadet or Sea Cadet, the rate of Seaman/Airman (SN/AN) or higher. If the officer, midshipman, or instructor is a former Sea Cadet Chief Petty Officer (CPO), the Ribbon will be worn with Large (5/16") Gold Star.

Notes

- a. A Sea Cadet may wear any three of the appurtenances earned as a League Cadet on this Ribbon. An officer, midshipman, or instructor will not wear any previously earned appurtenances.
- a. An officer, midshipman, instructor, or Sea Cadet will wear the Ribbon with the Bronze Boot appurtenance if he/she attended NLCC Orientation as a League Cadet.
- b. An officer, midshipman, or instructor will wear the Ribbon with Large (5/16") Silver Star if he/she received this Ribbon while a Sea

Cadet for prior service as a League Cadet.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

24. NSCC/NLCC Marksmanship Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who meets the following requirements:

a. Qualifies on either a pistol or rifle according to the USNSCC Marksmanship Program training standards which are in effect on the date of qualification.

1. A member who qualifies as “Expert” according to the range’s standards will wear this Ribbon with “E” appurtenance.

2. A member who qualifies as “Sharpshooter” according to the range’s standards will wear this Ribbon with “S” appurtenance.

3. A member who earns an “E” or “S” on a pistol and also earns an “E” or “S” on a rifle may wear both appurtenances.

Notes:

a. The USNSCC Marksmanship Program training standards are available to units via Magellan, in the internal library.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

25. International Naval Review (INR)/OpSail Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who participates in any large civic maritime event, such as International Naval Review, OpSail, or similar events.

Note: This Ribbon is worn with BLUE on the inboard side and RED on the outboard side.

Approving Authority: Executive Director

26. USNSCC 25th/50th Anniversary Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who was enrolled in the USNSCC on the date of its 25th Anniversary (September 10, 1987) or its 50th Anniversary (September 10, 2012).

a. Personnel who attended the 25th anniversary ceremonies in Washington, D.C., on August 15, 1987, will wear this Ribbon with Large (5/16”) Silver Star appurtenance.

b. Personnel who attended the 50th anniversary ceremonies in Washington, D.C., on September 29, 2012 or in San Diego, California, on October 6, 2012, will wear this Ribbon with Large

(5/16") Gold Star appurtenance.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

27. 25th Year Commissioned Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who meets the following requirements:

- a. Has been enrolled in a unit that National Headquarters recognizes as being commissioned for at least twenty-five (25) continuous years;
 1. If the unit has been commissioned for at least fifty (50) continuous years, this Ribbon will be worn with Large (5/16") Silver Star appurtenance; and
- b. Has been a member of that unit for at least one (1) year.

Note:

- a. The unit CO should ensure that a copy of the unit's commissioning warrant is on file both locally and at National Headquarters, to confirm the correct commissioning date.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

28. USCG Bicentennial Unit Commendation Ribbon



Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who served at least one day with the Coast Guard during the period 6 June 1989 through 4 August 1990. U.S. Coast Guard personnel (active duty, reserve, or retired) who are active volunteers will wear this Ribbon in accordance with USCG instructions.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

29. NSCC/NLCC Service Ribbons



FIRST

Awarded to an officer, midshipman, instructor, Sea Cadet, or League Cadet who completes the following periods of service as a member in good standing:

Cadet:

- a. 1st Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 90 days of service.
- b. 2nd Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 1 year of service.
- c. 3rd Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 2 years of service.
- d. 4th Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 3 years of service.
- e. 5th Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 4 years of service.
- f. Additional years of service will be recognized using the



SECOND

appurtenance star system



THIRD



FOURTH



FIFTH

Officer/Midshipman/Instructor:

- a. 1st Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 1 year of service.
- b. 2nd Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 2 years of service.
- c. 3rd Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 3 years of service.
- d. 4th Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 4 years of service.
- e. 5th Service Ribbon: Upon completion of 5 years of service.
- f. Additional years of service will be recognized using the appurtenance star system, up to a maximum of 25 years.

Notes:

- a. League Cadets may not transfer service ribbons to the NSCC.
- b. Sea Cadets may not transfer service ribbons upon enrolling as a midshipman, instructor, or officer.
- c. The appointment of a midshipman or instructor to the USNSCC officer corps does not interrupt the earning of service ribbons.
- d. USNSCC Officers, midshipmen, and instructors may elect to wear either all earned service ribbons, or the highest earned service ribbon.

Approving Authority: Unit CO

4.04 RECOMMENDATION PROCEDURES

(a) All recommendations for awards will be sent via Magellan to the Approving Authority via the chain of command, and must contain justification and any relevant documentation to support the award.

(b) Any member of the USNSCC or other person may recommend a member for an award. Unless specifically provided otherwise in this Chapter, a recommendation may be made in letter form, briefly and accurately stating the reasons why the member is eligible for, and should be recognized by, the award.

4.05 HOW TO AUTHOR EFFECTIVE MERIT AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Recommendations for “merit” awards—such as the Citation Ribbon and above, the Executive Director’s Unit Commendation, and the Unit Commendation—must be accompanied by a strong, well-written citation that clearly demonstrates that the award is justified for the particular individual or unit.

(b) *Citation Text.* The citation text should be drafted as a single paragraph, consisting of an Opening Sentence, the Body, and the Closing Sentence. The maximum number of characters allowed in the Magellan citation text box is 1,500.