

USAFA Blue Class Spirit

April 2021

Recognition

Blue Class Cadets 1st Major Milestone

Congratulations Parents! Your Cadets have completed the first major milestone as a student at US Air Force Academy! This milestone is called Recognition. This year, there had been some concern that the Coronavirus Pandemic may have made it impossible to have Recognition as it did last year, but Superintendent Clark made sure that it happened for our Cadets.

Many families have asked, what is Recognition? In simple terms, Recognition is like a mini-basic training camp where the Doolies are able to show what they have learned from the first day of BCT to the start of Recognition. It is three days of physically and mentally challenging activities when the squadron members need to work together to show their strength and be successful. Recognition concludes with a ceremony when the cadets are pinned with a prop and wings pin that they are now permitted to wear and they are saluted by their fellow squad-mates. This is truly a remarkable day for them all.

After Recognition is complete, the Cadets have more liberties allotted to them. They are now able to roam around the cadet area and walk across the Terrazo the same as the upper classmen have been doing. Training in general will shift to leadership based training. Another perk, which is magnified during the covid times, is that they are able to interact as fellow upper classman. This means that they can study or visit friends in other squadrons and they no longer need to walk the strips.

One of the greatest things that happens at the end of Recognition is that the Cadets are presented with a challenge coin that has been created by the USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee. Those of you who are from military backgrounds understand how these coins become collector items for the cadets and carry very significant meaning to them.

The USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee thanks you all for the part you played in these coins. They are made with funding through your generous donations and purchases. We couldn't do it without you.



C4C Spotlight *Cadet Brooke*

Cadet Brooke is from Clovis, CA. She is still exploring options for her major, and luckily, at USAFA, there are many amazing majors from which to choose.

Brooke is currently on the USAFA swim team. Although she is very proficient in the water, she admits to having a fear of swimming in open water.

While discussing USAFA with Brooke, we learned that her most memorable experience to date was decorating rooms and exploring USAFA with friends during 100s weekend.

Check out the Spirit Committee website site to learn more about Brooke's favorite things and her reflections on Recognition.
www.usafablueclassspirit.com

Support the USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee through Amazon Smiles

Generate a donation with little effort

Shopping on Amazon has become a common place for many of us. Some of us use it to buy our groceries so we do not need to increase our exposure risk during the Coronavirus pandemic, some use it to send snacks and gifts to our cadets, and others use it for all of our shopping because it enables us to shop at the time that is best for us. Did you realize that you can continue to use Amazon in whatever way you like and raise money for the USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee while you shop?

The trick to raising this money is the use of Amazon Smiles. The USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee is a 501©3 charity. This enabled our finance team to work with Amazon and have it added to their list of charities that can receive donations. When you shop, if you enter into the Amazon website through Amazon Smiles, then choose USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee as your charity, 0.5% of eligible purchases will be given to the USAFA Blue Class Spirit. There is no additional fee to you for this service. Imagine that, you go onto Amazon Smiles to purchase your bathroom products so you can get them in bulk at lower fees (win for you) and Amazon Smiles sends 0.5% of your purchase total to the USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee (win for everyone)!

Amazon Smiles and choosing our charity is open to anyone that purchases items through Amazon. Spread the word to your families and friends and everything they purchase generates money to design, mint and package challenge coins for your cadet! Rest assured, what you have purchased is not shared with the USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee. We are only told how much was purchased and what our percentage of that total is. How you use Amazon remains private to you alone.

Let your friends and families know. When we purchase from Amazon and do not use the Amazon Smiles option, it is as if we are just leaving money that is needed to mint the next challenge coin for the Blue Class Cadets sitting on the table. As always, we appreciate all that you do to help support and fund the creating of the challenge coins that the USAFA Blue Class Spirit Committee provides for all of our Blue Class Cadets.

Next executive Blue Class Spirit
Committee meeting: April 11, 2021 3pm
MST