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GUIDELINES ON TOTAL DEFENCE (TD) BADGE PROGRAMME FOR UNIFORMED GROUPS BY MINDEF NEXUS

INTRODUCTION

1. The Total Defence Programme for Uniformed Groups (UGs) aims to create opportunities for Secondary school UG cadets to participate in and lead Total Defence-related activities within their UGs, schools, and/or communities. In the 2021/22 TD Review, 80% of youths agreed that TD is relevant to Singapore's future, but only 40% said that they know how to put TD into action. In response, Nexus has modified the TD badge programme to help youths gain a better understanding of the different ways they can play their part for the security of Singapore and be inspired to put Total Defence into action in their everyday lives. The programme comprises three levels: (1) Bronze; (2) Silver; and (3) Gold, and uses the Appreciation, Application, and Advocacy model, with lessons designed to help cadets put Total Defence into action, and be advocates for Total Defence. This guideline aims to provide a clear scope of the TD badge programme and the requirements for completion.

ELIGIBILITY

2. The TD Badge for UG programme is open to approximately 30,000 secondary school students and across the following nine UGs including clubs and societies:

- a. National Cadet Corp (NCC)
- b. National Civil Defence Cadet Corp (NCDCC)
- c. National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC)
- d. Boys' Brigade Singapore (BBS)
- e. Girl Guides Singapore (GGS)
- f. Girls' Brigade Singapore (GBS)
- g. Singapore Scouts Association (SSA)
- h. St John Brigade (SJB)
- i. Red Cross Youth (RCY)
- j. Singapore Youth Flying Club (SYFC)

DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

3. The TD badge programme is designed based on the following components:

- a. Appreciation: The component of appreciation is introduced with consideration for the cadets to have a full understanding of the threats Singapore face. Against the backdrop of threats, there are also opportunities for Singapore. As we live in an uncertain world, bringing up the cadets awareness in appreciating the current threats and opportunities reminds cadets not to take our peace and security for granted and inspire them to play their part to keep Singapore safe and prosperous.
- b. Advocacy: The component of advocacy is introduced with consideration to let Singaporeans know how Total Defence can help Singapore overcome challenges

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together and build a cohesive and resilient society. It has been effective in helping the cadets understand the role of TD in defence and how advocacy efforts enable the cadets to amplify TD messages in the communities to provide support to each other in times of needs, in turn build a strong Singapore.

c. Application: The component of application is introduced with the consideration of equipping the cadets with life-saving skills and having the cadets put them into action in the community. Equipping the cadets with practical emergency preparedness skills allows the cadets to be ready to face the challenges of tomorrow.

SUMMARY OF THE TOTAL DEFENCE BADGE PROGRAMME

4. The TD badge programme comprises of three levels: (1) Bronze; (2) Silver; (3) Gold. After the satisfactory completion of the activities in each level, cadets will be awarded the corresponding badges. The table below shows the mapping of the requirements for the various levels of the badges for UG.

	TD Appreciation	TD Advocacy	TD Application
Bronze	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete Total Defence Student Learning Space (SLS) module on Total Defence- Play Guardians of the City II (GOTC II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Design and submit new GOTC II action card	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete intro to CPR-AED (as part of PE curriculum)
Silver	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Submit storyboard for N.E.mation!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Facilitate GOTC II lesson for cadets	
Gold		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete TD Values-In-Action (VIA) project OR- Join volunteer schemes approved by Nexus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete CPR-AED¹ certification- [Optional] Complete Psychological First Aid (PFA) certification²

1. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

2. Only offered to cadets who have completed the CPR+AED certification & indicated interest to volunteer in People's Association Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

CONSIDERATIONS

5. The principal consideration in the launch of the TD Badge programme is to provide a platform for UG cadets to put Total Defence into action in their community. The requirements for the programme are therefore designed to facilitate meaningful actions that contribute to the community. For the Silver Badge, this includes public education efforts, and for the Gold Badge, VIA projects or volunteering. As the consideration is to facilitate the contribution to the community, **Nexus delegates permission to all UG Headquarters to decide what are the VIA projects or volunteer schemes that contributes to Total Defence.**

SCOPE OF PROGRAMME

6. The scope of the programme and the instructional objectives are detailed as below:

a. Total Defence Bronze Badge. The Total Defence (Bronze) Programme will also be offered to students beyond UGs. Schools may conduct this badge programme as a cohort experience for Secondary 2 students in general, as part of their Total Defence Day commemoration programme as well as other suitable juncture within the school year. Students (including non-UG) who complete this programme based on the requisites, will receive the Total Defence Bronze Badge from MINDEF/Nexus.

(1) TD Appreciation

- (a) Complete Total Defence Student Learning Space (SLS) module on Total Defence. This is to ensure that the cadets have a basic level of understanding of Total Defence and its relevance in today's context.
- (b) Play "Guardians of the City II" (GOTC II) – the Total Defence Card Game. This is to allow the cadets to gain a deeper understanding of Total Defence and its relevance in overcoming Singapore's security threats. To recognise simple, yet concrete Total Defence actions that cadets can help their family and friends be more prepared for crises.

(2) TD Advocacy

- (a) Design and submit new GOTC II action card. The cadets will have to reflect on how they or the community can put Total Defence into action. The cadets will have to demonstrate their understanding of how the individual/community can put Total Defence into action.

(3) TD Application

- (a) Complete introduction to CPR-AED. The cadets are required to have a basic level of understanding of Emergency Preparedness (EP) skills. The introduction to CPR-AED is completed as part of Secondary 1 Physical Education curriculum.

b. Total Defence Silver Badge. The Total Defence (Silver) Programme will be offered to cadets in UGs. The cadets attempting the Silver level should have completed the Bronze level of the TD programme for UGs. The cadets will undergo the activities listed below to attain the TD Silver Badge.

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(1) TD Appreciation

- (a) Submit Storyboard for N.E.mation!¹ This involves sketches on a nine square animation storyboard to convey a TD message. The submission allows cadets to demonstrate their understanding to Total Defence narratives and encourage collaboration among fellow cadets as they discuss TD messages and actions in the process.

(2) TD Advocacy

- (a) Facilitate GOTC II lesson for cadets. The cadets are required to teach at least a pair of classmates on how the game of GOTC II card game is being played. Through instruction, internalise learning points from the GOTC II game, so that cadets can better appreciate the complexity of threats that Singapore faces, the need for trade-offs, and the impact of everyday decisions on the fight against terrorism.
- (b) Assist in the facilitation of gameplay. The cadets are required to assist in facilitation of gameplay of at least a pair of classmates at a GOTC II gameplay session (or equivalent). This will help to extend the reach of TD messages among their peers.

c. Total Defence Gold Badge. The Total Defence (Gold) Programme will be offered to cadets in UGs. The cadets attempting the Gold level should have completed the Silver level to the TD programme for UG. The cadets will undergo the activities listed below to attain the TD Gold Badge.

(1) TD Advocacy

- (a) Complete TD Values in Action (VIA) project. The cadets should initiate, plan and execute a Total Defence-related VIA project that benefits the community at large (individually or in groups). The activity allows the cadets demonstrate an appreciation of Total Defence by initiating, planning, and executing a meaningful project that either puts Total Defence into action or provides a platform for others to put Total Defence into action. Teachers are encouraged to customise the activities to meet the needs of the cadets. The activities are meant as suggestions and may be taken as starting points for creating their own activities.

*Example: VIA project should start with an action and end with an outcome, is inclusive but not limited to the following:
(1) having a group of cadets initiate outreach to the*

¹ Online submission of N.E.Mation! storyboard is required, and the submission may not be part of N.E.mation! competition.

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community (residents within a block, Community Club [CC], Active Ageing Club [AAC], etc.) to educate about a topic under the TD pillar (Military, Civil, Economic, Social, Digital and Psychological²). (2) Initiate an interview session with the community to find out more about their commitment to defence (C2D) and publish the outcome on a school website/bulletin. (3) Educate fellow citizens to support the Total Defence through the use of gamification/contest/education/video production. (4) Conduct a Total Defence (TD) Table Top Exercise (TTX) for fellow citizens/students/colleagues. Engage the participants to think about global/current issues that are happening around the world, and why and how these issues may affect Singapore and its communities. Create an avenue for the participants to activate thinking on how to tackle issues and develop contingency plan in times of crises.

Or

- (b) Join volunteer schemes approved by Nexus. The act of joining a volunteer scheme (can be any age-appropriate volunteer schemes in MCCY's www.volunteers.gov.sg portal relating to one or more TD pillars) allows the cadets opportunities to put Total Defence into action and contribute to the community through volunteerism.

Example of volunteering but not limited to the following: (1) Joining the SPF's revamped Community Watch Scheme launched in Dec 2021. (2) Serving as first aid volunteers in community events.

(2) TD Application

- (a) Complete CPR-AED certification. The cadets will be required to complete and obtain the CPR-AED certification under the appointed training providers (Singapore Emergency Responder Academy [SERA], Singapore Red Cross, and St John Singapore) paid for by Temasek Foundation³. Through practical experience, strengthen Emergency Preparedness skills among cadets and build their confidence in reacting to critical medical emergencies in the community.

² **Military Defence:** Ways of showing support for soldiers who safeguard Singapore's peace. **Civil Defence:** Learning Emergency Preparedness skills to help the community during crisis. **Economic Defence:** The importance of upgrading oneself for personal and career development. **Social Defence:** Being kind to your neighbours during a pandemic. **Digital Defence:** The importance of using social media responsibly. **Psychological Defence:** Being proud of your nation and celebrating the Singaporean identity.

³ Chaperones of the UG cadets may obtain the CPR-AED certification paid for by Temasek Foundation.

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- (b) Complete PFA certification. PFA certification training will be an optional, additional provision for Cadets who (i) are already CPR+AED certified, (ii) have volunteered or are prepared to volunteer in the People's Association Community Emergency Response Teams (PA CERT), and (iii) are keen to be trained and certified in PFA. The training provider appointed by Temasek Foundation is SERA.

7. An estimated 5,000 cadets across the nine UG is targeted to undergo the activities to attain the TD Gold badge every year. Student Leaders with TD Gold badge are better equipped in emergency preparedness through certifications in life-saving skills and better prepared for community contingency response. They are better equipped to put Total Defence into action and display our nation's readiness and preparedness to deal with crises and disruptions to help build a strong and resilient Singapore.

CLARIFICATION

8. Queries on the policy guidelines for the TD Badge for Uniformed Groups can be directed to Nexus@defence.gov.sg.

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