



The British Anglican **Cursillo**[®] Council

[®]Cursillo Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

Weekend Team Formation

Revised 2018

© British Anglican Cursillo Council 2018

Introduction

These booklets, which form the Resource Manual or Handbook for British Anglican Cursillo (BAC), are revised versions of the original documents gifted to BAC from the Episcopal Church of the USA in 1989. In the early to mid-2000s and again in 2013/4 They had been revised for basic differences between the American ways of doing things and for language alterations, but it became apparent that the booklets were not being read or used effectively by Diocesan Cursillo.

This major revision and rewording of the booklets was made by a group of experienced Cursillistas in 2017/8 and is intended for use by Diocesan Cursillo in order to explain and guide such groups in the practicalities and use of the Cursillo method. We believe that this reflects best practice.

In line with recent legal requirements there are also attached Guidelines and Policy Documents, particularly in regard to safeguarding, insurance and financial matters.

It is recommended that any future reviews of these booklets refer back to the original documents received from the Episcopal Church of the USA (ECUSA), copies of which should be held by the BAC President.

February 2018

WEEKEND TEAM FORMATION

Team formation is the process by which Cursillistas come together to plan and carry out a Cursillo 3 Day weekend.

- Team Formation does not just happen—it all starts with informed prayer.
- The formation of the team begins when the Lay Rector and the Spiritual Advisers (SA) have been chosen by the Secretariat. They will meet to consider possible team members and will suggest nominees to Secretariat and the Diocesan Spiritual Director (SD), who may then consult with relevant Parish Priests if appropriate.
- All team members should be Cursillistas, be active in their fourth day and able to attend all the training events and the post-weekend events.
- Staffing is a tremendous privilege, but also a big commitment.

The Goals of Team Formation are:

To ensure a common understanding of purpose

- To deepen the commitment to apostolic witness of team members
- To educate team members in the Cursillo method
- To select and assemble the team
- To build the team by giving opportunities for personal sharing
- To assign and carry out functions

The Lay Rector (LR)

The Lay Rector will have been an Observing Lay Rector on a previous weekend (usually the last one) and will have been appointed by the Secretariat.

His/her Role is:

To be involved with the selection and support of the weekend team

- To be the timekeeper/ master of ceremonies
- To be the central point for communications - staff, participants and venue.
- With the Spiritual Adviser(s), to ensure that the message of the weekend is clear, that group reunion happens at every training event and that staff understand the importance of the flow of the 3 day weekend.
- Take responsibility to ensure talks are allocated appropriately and that guidelines for the talks are given.
- To ensure that all staff are familiar with the Diocesan Cursillo Safeguarding Policy.
- Jointly, with the SA, collate feedback and report back to Secretariat after the weekend.

The Spiritual Adviser (SA)

The Spiritual Adviser(s) is (are) appointed by the Diocesan SD.

The role of the Spiritual Adviser is:

- To be involved with the selection and support of the weekend team.
- Prepare and lead worship in Training events and the Weekend itself, liaising with music gofor and chapel gofor, sacristan, or team member allocated to these responsibilities.
- Listen to all talks at the training days, before the weekend and give constructive feedback. At the discretion of the Diocesan SD, SAs may be asked to read all the lay talks before delivery at the training days, or other suitable clergy/laity may be asked to read them.
- Be available for prayer and spiritual advice.
- Preparation and delivery of meditations and relevant talks.
- To ensure that all staff are familiar with the Diocesan Cursillo Safeguarding Policy.
- Jointly with LR collate feedback and report back to Secretariat following the weekend.

The Table Leader

Table Groups are intended to create an atmosphere in which the concept of Group Reunion can be introduced and flourish.

Careful choice of Table Leaders is vital as these people are on team to:

- Facilitate discussion (not take over).
- Listen to what is being said and encourage interaction.

- Listen to what is NOT being said and address issues that arise. Referring to SA appropriately.
- Facilitate any activities that are within the timetable ensuring all the participants feel valued and involved.
- Be sensitive to different personalities - giving everyone the opportunity to engage.

For further information, see TABLE LEADER'S GUIDE

MARKS OF A WELL-FORMED TEAM

There are several elements in “interpersonal relationships” which mark a well-formed team.

Servant mentality - a willingness to “spend and be spent” for the sake of others, who will be listened to, loved, served and prayed for.

Openness - welcoming all without preconceptions or expectations.

Prayerfulness - that God will show us HIS way for the weekend.

Togetherness - working as a team... No “we-they” mentality. Staff and participants are on the same journey.

Trust - not in self... “I can do all things through **Christ** who strengthens me”. Trust in each other in His Grace.

Peace - stay in God's hands— "All shall be well, all shall be well, all manner of things shall be well".

TEAM FORMATION AND PLANNING DAYS

Diocesan requirements may vary slightly, but should include the following elements:

Group Reunion.

- Teaching - flow of weekend (talks and meditations); personal preparation; Table Leaders discussion of possible scenarios.
- Talks - allocation (if not already done), initial delivery to group and constructive feedback.
- Timetable—checking and correcting.
- Allocation of 'jobs'.

Talks and Meditations

Details of these can be found in:

- The Clergy Talk Workbook
- The Lay Talk Workbook.

Team Behaviour

The behaviour of the team should:

- Instil confidence
- Promote trust
- Handle self-revelations with care and compassion
- Observe confidentiality at all times

- Value individual personality
- Preclude gossip and deal with it firmly
- Embrace openness
- Promote togetherness

THE LARGER COMMUNITY

Although the team will concentrate on the Three Day Weekend, it should also be concerned about the Fourth Day community, encouraging discussion, as opportunity presents, on:

- Palanca
- Group Reunion
- Ultreya

The secretariat will communicate dates and names of participants and weekend team to the wider Cursillo community in advance of the weekend, to encourage Palanca, Prayer Vigil and participation in Wake-up and Closing Eucharist.

For further information on the weekend, please see “The Authentic Three Day Weekend” booklet.

