# BEING A BIG BROTHER



## **Big Brother Pamphlet**

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This Workbook belongs to:

My Little Brothers Name and Phone # are:

My Little Brothers Parents

Name and Phone # are:

My Little Brothers Other Parents Name and Phone # are:

My Little Brother's Emergency Contact Name and Phone # are:

## **Introduction**

Congratulations on becoming a Big Brother. You have taken one of many steps in our organization better yourself and others. Your primary focus as a Big Brother should be to help ensure your Little Brother gets started on the right foot and that he feels welcome.

The Big Brother Program has two primary goals. First, to help new brothers learn about and get immediately involved with DeMolay. The second goal is to encourage experienced DeMolays to become more interactive with the new brothers and establish an integrated way of passing on our teachings and having fun at the same time! Your participation is not merely for the benefit of your Little Brother, but also for your benefit as a DeMolay leader.

The Workbook which you now hold will serve as your guide through the next 6 months as a Big Brother. We hope that you will use it and refer back to it regularly to ensure you are being the best Big Brother you can be!

As you move through this program, remember to guide your Little Brother, as he has no experience being a DeMolay, and that you are here to teach him. Serve as a teacher and mentor. This is a great learning opportunity for you on how to teach others. Please keep in mind that this will all be very new to your Little Brother. There may or will come a time when your Little Brother makes mistakes and this is the perfect time to teach him how to do everything right in DeMolay. Remember, DeMolay is about learning in a safe environment so that new skills may be practiced without fear. Finally, have fun.

# **Initial Objectives (Weeks 1-2)**

Start by meeting up around a week after Little Brothers initiation to inform him of the program and everything it includes! Before doing this, make sure you read all of your booklet and that you know all of the information you need to know about DeMolay in order to instruct the Little Brother.

Choose a location for the Meeting:

- 1. Decide upon the location of the meeting with your Little Brother, either at his house, your house, the Starbucks down the street or even the lodge.
- There are no limits, but keep in mind the Little Brother will be out of his comfort zone not knowing a lot about DeMolay, so make sure he feels welcome and safe wherever you meet.

What to talk about in the Meeting:

- 1. Bring a notebook to take notes, you should write down your Little Brother's personal information in the resource at the end of this booklet. (See page 22)
- 2. Introduce yourself and have the Little Brother introduce himself, make sure that he has your contact information.
- 3. Start the meeting off fun by telling a joke or playing a quick game. By doing this, you will put your Little Brother's nerves at ease.
- 4. Explain what it means to be a DeMolay and give a brief history of our organization, how it started, who started

it, when it started, where it started, why it started, and what we do in DeMolay, like State Events and within your Chapter.

- 5. Instruct the Little Brother about the purpose of the Big Brother Program. Make sure that your Little Brother has read through the introduction in his booklet and that he understands how to use it.
- 6. Find out what the Little Brother is interested in learning or doing for fun. If he has a specific interest in sports, games, or hobbies then write it down. You want to get to know your Little Brother and at the same time you want to inform your Little Brother more about you and your interests.
- 7. Show and give the signs and grips of both degrees and the password of a DeMolay to your Little Brother (If he has had both degrees conferred upon him) and help him memorize them. Go over the Ritual Book giving him basic knowledge of how to navigate the Ritual, where the appendix is, all of the diagrams, and how to find specific parts like M.C. means Master Councilor. Teach him how to kneel properly.
- 8. Teach your Little Brother how to conduct himself in a Chapter meeting. Talk about how to stand and wait to be addressed by the Master Councilor, inform your Little Brother that he has to say Brother Master Councilor then continue on to what he has to say next, and how to address the MC, Brothers and Advisors.

- 9. Get the calendar from your current Master Councilor prior to your meeting and go through it with your Little Brother. Inform him about obligatory days, when you have meetings, what time meetings start, special events for your Chapter, and State Events. Talk about how to dress for events, casual, business casual, and formal.
- 10. Get the current contact list of your Chapter from your Master Councilor prior to your meeting to give to your Little Brother. Inform your Little Brother about who are the youth and adult leaders of the Chapter.
- 11. <u>Very important ask your Little Brother if he has</u> <u>questions!</u>

After your Meeting... Remind your Little Brother to familiarize himself with his Ritual!

## **First DeMolay Meeting**

Your Little Brother's first meeting can be quite intimidating. He will have a hard time following along with the meeting and you need to remind him that he will do great. In DeMolay, we strive to provide a safe and welcoming environment where your Little Brother can feel comfortable participating without fear. During the Meeting you are going to have your Little Brother shadowing you or another experienced DeMolay. You will have him stand when you stand and walk where you walk. Have him replicate your movements precisely.

As you move through the Opening, Business, and Closing of the Chapter, you want to whisper tips and explanations to your Little Brother to help him follow along. Invite your Little Brother's parents to the meeting so that they can see the meeting and, more importantly, the mentoring their son is receiving.

During this meeting, you should make sure your Little Brother knows how to...

- 1. Perform the Step, Sign and Token.
- 2. Give the Grips and Passwords.
- 3. Kneel.
- 4. Shadow you though your Ritual Part. That he pays attention to how you square your corners, turn, and kneels.

- 5. Listen carefully during the business portion of the meeting. That he is attentive to upcoming events that he may want to participate in.
- 6. Make sure that he is taking notes about what he wants to know more about that you can find the answer to later.
- 7. Encourage your Little Brother to give remarks to the Chapter in Good of the Order. Inform him of how to stand and wait to be addressed by the Master Councilor.
- 8. **BONUS:** You have now had an opportunity to meet your Little Brother on a more personal level. Consider giving brief remarks to the Chapter about your Little Brother, his interests, and how excited you are to be working with him and to have him in the Chapter (after he gives remarks).

## **First Month Objectives**

Following your Little Brother's first meeting, it is vital that you continue to engage your Little Brother in DeMolay activities. You should meet up with your Little Brother again in the two weeks following your Little Brother's first meeting. Instead of an informal meeting, you should try to schedule a little time out during another function you are both attending. This does not necessarily have to be a DeMolay function, but you and your Little Brother should find or manufacture an activity. Some ideas might include, going on a hike, going to a water park or nickel arcade, visiting another Chapter within your Region, or attending a DeMolay activity.

#### During this Month, you should:

- 1. Go out and have fun with your Little Brother. Plan an activity for you and your Little Brother to do like hiking, going to the water park, nickel arcade, etc.
- 2. Visit another Chapter within your region with your Little Brother. Make sure that your Little Brother's parents are okay with him traveling to that Chapter or, even better, get his parents to go with the both of you! Introduce him to all the members of this Chapter and have him meet some of the Advisors as well. Make sure that your Little Brother is participating and having fun. Tell him intriguing facts about that Chapter.
- 3. Show your Little Brother how to do floor work and escorting. Show your Little Brother where each marching band is in the Chapter room. Teach him how

to square his corners with his outside foot smoothly. Teach him how to perform an about-face by putting his right foot behind him standing on his tippy toe and pivoting 180 degrees.

- 4. Teach your Little Brother some memorizing techniques. (See page 22)
- 5. Have your Little Brother invite his parents to attend a meeting to get to know what DeMolay is about and encourage them to participate with your Little Brother in events.
- 6. Learn a new tie knot that you like and teach that to your Little Brother.
- 7. Have your Little Brother meet and get to know your Dad Advisor, Chairman, and Advisory Council.

# Second Month Objectives

You made it through your first month. Keep up the good work. As with all learning, it takes time to teach others that which you have learned yourself. During your second month of the Big Brother Program, you should continue to work on helping your Little Brother learn the skills which you have already been developing while seeking to broaden your horizon. During this month, you should talk to your Master Councilor about assigning your Little Brother a pro-tem ritual role during your Chapter meetings, help him seek out and meet new brothers from your Chapter or others, and begin learning about DeMolay.

#### During this month, you should....

- 1. Have an event with all the members of your Chapter and your Little Brother. Plan to have your Little Brother attend a fun event with everyone like laser tag, basketball, magic tournament, etc. During this event you want to help your Little Brother get familiar with every member of the Chapter. You want to make sure that your Little Brother is having fun and that his interest in DeMolay stays active.
- 2. Have the Master Councilor assign your Little Brother a pro-tem office, which is an office that he can fill in for the rest of the term until he gets installed into a new office at the beginning of the next term. Show your Little Brother his pro-tem part. Preferably this would be a steward, standard bearer, or Junior Deacon part

that will be relatively easy for him to start on. Help your Little Brother to start memorizing his part.

- 3. If your Chapter wears capes in your meetings, then teach your Little Brother how to wear a cape and how to hold a sword. If your Chapter doesn't typically wear capes in your meetings, then you should have your Chapter wear capes during one of your meetings so that you can show him the finer points of tying the knots and sitting with the cape on.
- 4. Help your Little Brother connect on social media with the rest of your Chapter and with the State. Ask permission from his parents to help him create social media accounts if he does not have one.
- 5. Teach your Little Brother how to address members and Advisors in and out of a meeting. In a meeting you call your brother by "Brother" Master Councilor or "Brother" Senior Councilor. In and outside a meeting you call Advisors by "Mom" or "Dad" and then their last Name.

# **Third Month Objectives**

Now that you have gotten a handle on being a Big Brother, you will now begin working on a more crucial part of the Big Brother Program... Proficiency. This month you will help your Little Brother begin learning his Obligations. You want to keep in mind that this will be his biggest task as a new DeMolay, but that you must reassure him that it is easy enough to do and that all you need is a bit of time and a bit of practice.

#### During this month, you should...

- 1. Go out and have fun with your Little Brother, go to the park, watch a sports game, watch a movie. This is another opportunity for you to have fun and bond with your Little Brother!
- 2. Visit a Chapter outside of your region, preferably a Chapter that you never get to visit often. Make sure that your Little Brother's parents are okay him traveling to that Chapter and always follow your state's rules for traveling in DeMolay. Introduce your Little Brother to all of the members of that Chapter and have him meet new Advisors, and make sure that he is participating in what the Chapter is doing.
- 3. Help your Little Brother memorize the examination queries for the Initiatory Degree and the first three paragraphs of the Initiatory degree part of the Obligation. This should be committed to memory by the beginning of the 4th Month of the Big Brother Program. Help him schedule times to practice his

Obligation. Show him how to break his Obligation into smaller portions to memorize. Have a time where you meet with him and help him memorize a bulk of the three paragraphs in one sitting to show him that it is easy to do. Help make memorizing his obligation be as fun as possible by having him take breaks. Bring your Little Brother to discussions on planning events and have him participate.

4. Make sure that your Little Brother is participating in Chapter meetings and discussions. Inform your Little Brother that he can participate, but he cannot vote until he is proficient and that he needs to finish his obligations.

## Fourth Month Objectives

How is your Little Brother doing? Is he having fun and meeting new people? Has he finished the first three paragraphs of the Initiatory Degree Obligation. If any of the above is a "no," then you need to figure out a way to make it a "yes!" You've made it past the half way point, congratulations!!!

#### During this month, you should...

- 1. Before a Chapter meeting, while the room is set up, you want to have a couple of Rituals and do a walkthrough of each Office. You want to explain what each stations job entitles and what it means to do that position. You also want to explain the relationship between all of the stations like the correlation of the Master Councilor and the Senior Councilor and how one is lower in the line of the Chapter.
- 2. Help your Little Brother complete the memorization of the first six paragraphs of the Initiatory Degree Obligation part committed to memory, by the beginning of the fifth month of the Big Brother Program.
- 3. Encourage your Little Brother to continue attending Chapter ritual practices. Have your Little Brother talk with your ritual Advisor as they may have different insight on ritual that can help your Little Brother with memorization.
- 4. Have your Little Brother bring a calendar to every meeting to make changes and take notes on what is being planned for those events. Emphasize on the

importance of staying up to date on Chapter events and communication on events. Remind him that whenever your Chapter talks about events and planning, that he will want to talk to his parents about the events and the availability for him to attend.

5. Encourage your Little Brother to bring one of his friends to an event put on by your Chapter or the State. Teach your Little Brother how to treat his friend like a prospect for DeMolay and how he wants to be an advocate for DeMolay, because he wants his friend to join DeMolay like he did. Lastly, but most important is to always have fun!

## **Fifth Month Objectives**

This is a crucial month in the Big Brother Program. This will be the month in which you help your Little Brother get set up for proving up in Chapter, next month is when your Little Brother will be proving up on his Obligation. Second, you and your Little Brother will recruit one of his friends into DeMolay!

#### During this month, you should...

- 1. Plan a ritual practice with your Little Brother, which you should hold in the middle of the month. During the practice you want to go over the Initiatory Degree part of the Obligation, make sure that your Little Brother can say his Obligation part from memory. At this practice, you want to practice as though he were proving up in Chapter on the Initiatory Degree, explain what he will be doing when proving up in Chapter, like that he will be saying the part without the ritual and that he will have to give the sign and grip of the Degree at the end of the ritual part. Make sure that your Little Brother is ready and not too nervous to perform his part in front of his brothers.
- 2. Help your Little Brother memorize the rest of the Initiatory Degree Obligation. The Initiatory Degree has a total of nine paragraphs. Make sure that your Little Brother has the Initiatory Degree solid enough in memory that he could say the part out loud in Chapter without any prompts.

3. Recruit one of your Little Brothers friends into DeMolay. Talk with your Little Brother about his friends, then have him pick one of his friends that he would want to join DeMolay. Talk with your Little Brother on how to bring his friend to a event like, game night, paintball, dances or fencing.

Show up to the same event that your Little Brother and his friend is going to participate in, while at the event you and your Little Brother will talk about how great DeMolay is and why his friend should join. Make sure that you bring a petition and have fun.

You and your Little Brother can also invite his friend to someone's house and have a more casual activity. You and your Little Brothers goal is to recruit at least one of his friends by the end of the sixth month.

## Sixth Month Objectives

You are in the home stretch. By this point in the program, your Little Brother should finalizing his First Proficiency and begin working on his Second. Following completion of his proficiencies, you will help him with his first Leadership Correspondence Course. Completion of this program is a giant leap in the DeMolay experience and you can and should be proud, however don't let your activity and interest lapse merely because you have completed the Big Brother program. You should work towards another goal in your DeMolay career and possibly take on another Little Brother.

#### During this month, you should...

- 1. Help your Little Brother complete the memorization of the DeMolay Degree and make sure your Little Brother is ready to prove up on the DeMolay Degree in Chapter by the end of the sixth month.
- 2. Have a practice with your Little Brother towards the middle of the month to check up on your Little Brother. Make sure that he has fully memorized or almost completed memorization of the DeMolay Degree proficiency. Motivate your Little Brother by reminding him that this is the last part of the proficiency process. Work with your Little Brother get ready to prove up in Chapter on the DeMolay Degree.
- 3. Have your Little Brother complete proving up in Chapter on both Degrees of the Obligation.

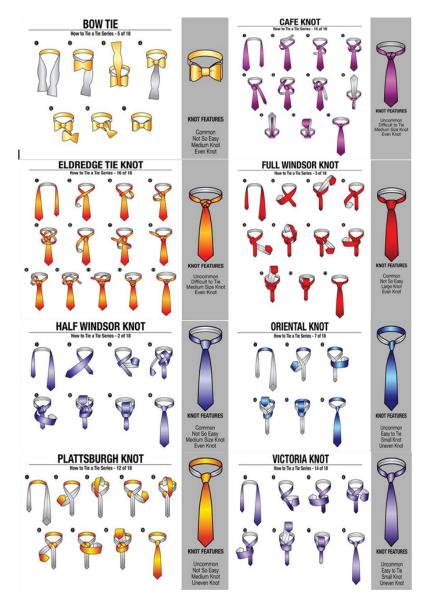
- 4. Help your Little Brother complete his first LCC after he has proved up in Chapter. You will need to take the LCC online and talk to your Dad Advisor about getting your Little Brother's DeMolay Membership Number.
- 5. Have a meeting and ask your Little Brother what more he would want out of the program, write it down and report it to your State Corps.
- 6. Check up on the recruitment of your Little Brother friend. If you have a petition back from one of his friends, then have it read at a meeting this month. Make sure that you have at least one candidate recruited by the end of this month. If your Little Brother has recruited one of his friends, then get him working towards recruiting more of his friends.
- 7. Celebrate completion of the Big Brother Program after the Little Brother has proved up on the second degree of the obligation and has completed his first LCC!

## **Resources**

### <u>First Meeting Notes</u> Input Info About Your Little Brother

Phone Number
Address
Email Address
Birthday
Favorite Color
Favorite Restaurant
Favorite Activity for Fun
Favorite Sport
Favorite School Activity
Do you have any animals
Do you have any siblings
Favorite Book
Favorite Video Game
Favorite Candy Bar
Favorite Food
Do you like to help others
Do you do volunteer work
Do you play any card games

## **Notes From First Meeting**



### **Different Ways to Tie a Tie**

#### **Memorization Tips**

-Read through the entire ritual part many times before memorizing it and start breaking the ritual part into smaller sections for easy memorization.

-Some people have a problem with connecting ritual parts past period breaks, a good way to fix that is to practice a few words before and after the period together.

-In the ritual there are reoccurring words at the start of sentences, you can emphasize on these starting words when practicing to help yourself define start and end points of sentences.

-Practice saying ritual while doing something else like video games, arch of steel practice, doing homework, etc. Reciting ritual while you are doing something that needs concentration will help you say ritual with ease.

-After a certain point in learning a new ritual part, you may start having problems, like messing up on a part that you had perfect previously or being overwhelmed. When this happens, you want to stop practicing ritual until the next day so that you get some rest, because when you sleep your mind goes over what has happened during the day and will lock in the ritual you have learned.

## Program Review to be Submitted back to State Corps

What did you like about the program?

What did you feel worked the best?

What suggestion would you make to enhance the program?

How did your Little Brother feel about the content of the program covered?

What is one take away that you got from the program that you want to share with your Chapter?

Is there a specific topic you would like to have covered by the State?

Were the timelines for the program reasonable?

Should the program have been shorter or longer?

Were there tasks that should have been included to help the your Little Brother?

#### Did the tasks seem to be redundant?

#### Is your Little Brother still active in DeMolay?

Is your Little Brother more likely to stay active?

\_\_\_\_

Are your Little Brother's parents involved? If not, why not? If so, why so?

Are there any other resources that you would have wanted in the program?

Thank you for participating in the

**Big Brother Program!**