

SECTION 2: Wheat Team Selection

The WT consists of one or more Spiritual Leaders (WSLs), 4 adult leaders, and up to 16 additional “Wheaties”. The group is mixed; boys and girls.

The **WT Selection Committee** includes:

- WT Coordinator(s)
- WT Leaders
- WSL - Wheat Spiritual Leader(s)

The WT Selection Committee will:

- meet to create a potential Wheatie call list (see selection criteria below) – **decide who will call who**
- if possible, use this same opportunity for a Leader’s meeting

Note: Manuals may not yet be returned from the previous WT and/or it may be better to schedule another meeting to review these specific items.

Once together:

1. review/distribute the WT Manuals
2. review formation meeting schedule
3. review position descriptions and responsibilities
4. assign meeting prayer reflections
 - TEC – a reintroduction (relationally) - WSL – meeting 1
 - Wheat – meeting 2
 - Prayer – meeting 3
 - Integrate with Reconciliation if possible/applicable
 - Agape Love – meeting 4
 - Discipleship – meeting 5
5. briefly review the weekend schedule
6. discuss any other topics
7. emphasize that all NW Area WT rules and guidelines apply to the weekend, and all must be followed

WT Selection:

- Leaders: 4 adult leaders plus WSL(s)
 - Adult leaders - 2 Male and 2 Female
 - At least one adult member should have WT experience

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- Wheaties: Up to but **not more** than 16 Wheaties (ideally youth members)
 - 10 Females and 6 Males is the ideal target ratio
 - Female applications typically outnumber male applications 2:1 or more making this a fair and preferable ratio.
 - 8 members should be **first-time** Wheaties
 - At least 4, but not more than 8, should have WT experience
 - Pay attention to college age... good balance
 - Be diverse in schools
 - Adult Wheaties can be used as leadership trainees or when it is absolutely necessary

WT Selection Criteria:

1. All members must have prior experience as a TEC candidate, adult observer, or an adult PT member.
2. High priority must be given to assembling a diverse group from a variety of schools, areas, and experiences.
3. WT Applications will be considered first for the teen positions.
4. The WT leadership should prayerfully discern and use references to determine which teens to call after applications have been exhausted.
5. Criteria should include: dedication to TEC, representation of TEC, character, dedication to service and contributions to team chemistry.
6. The Peace reflection speaker will come from the WT. Consider young adults mature in their faith.

NOTE: This will **not** be a High School student.

7. One or two vocal music leaders should be considered as music has become an integral factor in wheat service.
8. No one should be asked to be on the team unless approved by the selection committee or the Wheat Coordinator. This list of names should be shared with no one outside the committee.

Before calling potential Wheaties, have the following:

1. Meeting Dates and Times – the WT will meet 5 weekends prior to the weekend
 - **TIP:** It is strongly suggested to meet at the same time and place as the PT to be able to share common experiences, prayer services, and spend time with their PT prayer partner.
 - Meetings are recommended to be 12:30-5 PM on Sunday afternoons.
2. TEC Weekend Dates
 - Wheaties should commit to attending the **entire** TEC weekend - 4 PM Friday through 5 PM Monday; discuss any exceptions with WSL(s) and Leaders

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3. Discuss Commitment
 - Attendance should be considered mandatory (although missing a meeting is not unusual for the right circumstance)
4. Provide the Cost - \$40 (includes \$5 for pizza)
 - Scholarships are available for anyone who cannot afford all or part of this
5. Provide a “need answer by” date to encourage a sense of urgency. Give them 2-3 days to check their calendar and respond. If no response or no, move onto additional names.
 - If additional names not specifically discussed at selection meeting, check with other leaders before sending an invitation.

TIP: Texting – or Facebook - is the best form of communication. This is immediate and provides the quickest responses.

- Include a picture of the meeting/weekend schedule and/or include in text; this helps them check their calendar and get their yes or no back to you faster.

Wheatie Acceptance:

When a person accepts/agrees to be a member of the WT you **must** tell them:

1. Attendance at all meetings is expected, **especially the first meeting.**
2. No teen is allowed to be on the WT if they are unable to be present for the whole weekend.
3. Collect the Wheatie’s email address so correspondence can be sent.

Give Wheat Team Coordinator a copy of your roster as soon as complete so they can update the call list for the following team selection.