



Cavalier Program Description & Guidelines

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Greater Mankato Growth Cavaliers is to be the welcoming committee of Greater Mankato Growth, Inc. to encourage new members to become and stay active in their membership.

Purpose:

Cavaliers assist GMG staff with welcoming new members and engaging existing members to Greater Mankato Growth through new member visits, phone calls, and event participation.

Volunteer Requirements:

There are limited volunteer positions available (typically around 40 active Cavaliers serve each year.) Volunteers who work for active GMG members (at the Engaged Level or higher) can apply to be considered by a selection committee of Greater Mankato Growth. Volunteers should be a community minded professional who believes in the mission of Greater Mankato Growth and will be committed to being a positive representative of the organization and community. Interested volunteers should apply in writing to GMG. Prospective members should be active participants in Greater Mankato Growth, Inc. activities. The GMG selection committee will be responsible to review candidate applications and make selections at the beginning of every year or as needed throughout the year. When a new committee member has been accepted by the committee, a Cavalier Captain or a Distinguished Cavalier will mentor the new volunteer as they become familiar with the Cavalier role. Team Captains and GMG staff will monitor volunteer participation. Selections will be made based on the skills of the volunteer and the diversity of representation needed on the team.

Time Commitment:

- Monthly Cavalier meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at various member restaurants. Attendance is expected of all Cavaliers (optional for Distinguished Cavaliers.)
- New Members: In addition to monthly meetings, visits to welcome New Members are scheduled during the third week of the month for small teams: GMG staff will set up the visits, and Cavalier Teams will be responsible to meet new businesses at their business locations during their monthly scheduled visits.
- New Member Engagement Invitations: Make 1 personal phone call or email to assigned new members to invite them to an upcoming GMG event or to attend a Maximize Your Membership Meeting.
- One Year Anniversary Retention Calls: Make 1 personal phone call or email to congratulate them on their first year of membership, to thank them for their support and continue to encourage active involvement.
- GMG Member Event Support: Assist with Business After Hours, Business Before Hours, Business Showcase, Greater Mankato on the Green and other member events as needed for introductions and to help greet members and guests.

Miscellaneous:

- Cavaliers will be split in to three teams for scheduled visits with each team having a Captain. The Captain will lead the scheduled visits. Teams will be organized by preference for the day of the week if available to ensure enough coverage of all teams.
- Each Cavalier will be responsible for purchasing his or her own red jacket if one is not available from a past GMG Cavalier.
- Red jackets representing the Cavaliers should be worn to all events and meetings unless otherwise noted. During the summer, a Cavalier polo may be worn instead. (The purchase of a polo or other Cavalier item is voluntary.)
- Because there are always more interested members in becoming a Cavalier than there is space available, attendance and activity of the Cavaliers will be monitored.

Terms of Service & Distinguished Cavaliers:

Cavaliers are asked to make a commitment to 2 years at a time. They can serve five consecutive 2 yr. terms for a total of 10 years if they are sufficiently fulfilling their responsibilities. After 10 years, active Cavaliers will be moved to a "distinguished" status, which honors their commitment to the organization. Distinguished Cavaliers can continue to attend any Cavalier meeting, business visit or social gathering that they'd like to, but they won't be expected to fulfill the duties of an active Cavalier.