

10 Tips on How to Reach Chapter Success

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SWUSY Regional President 2006 – 2007

- **Work WITH your Advisor.** They are there to help you. Sit down with them before a meeting to discuss a game plan. The President and the Advisor should ALWAYS work as a team and be on the same page.
- **Communicate!** Communication is the key to a successful year between the President and his or her board. Emails, Phone Calls, IMs.. It doesn't matter what it takes to communicate, just do it! Make sure that everyone is aware of deadlines and times for meetings. Be fair and be sure to give your board members an advanced warning for deadlines and meetings. If you do this correctly, there should be no excuse for poorly planned programs or lack of attendance at meetings.
- **Inform your Chapter about events in a timely matter.** Phone Calls!!! No one likes to make phone calls but it has to be done. Be sure to enforce it anyway you can. Find something that works and go with it. A phone tree is an absolute must!
- **Also, try Evite (www.evite.com).** It is a free and all you have to do is set up an account. Evite will send out an Electronic Flyer for an upcoming event to your chapter. All you have to have is the information for the event and everyone's email addresses.
- **Work with your Board.** If there is a problem with a board member, work it out. Your board is there for your use. Use them to the fullest. No one is perfect and be sure to give each board member a second chance. Be sure to lead them but don't become a Dictator.
- **No Idea is a bad Idea.** Always be positive and let everyone have a fair chance to share their suggestions and ideas. Just because you're the President, doesn't mean your board can't teach you a thing or two. After all, 6 heads are better than 1.
- **You are a Dugma so act as one!** Whether you know it or not, as a Chapter President, people look up to you. Remember, not only are you a leader in USY, but you represent USY in your Synagogue. Be sure to be on your best behavior whenever in the eye of your Synagogue. You should enforce your chapter board to attend services no less than 2 times a month!! This including you too!
- **Get work done at Board Meetings.** Stay on topic and try not to run over the allotted time too much. When your board meeting starts, be sure to keep things going. If it is taking too long to decide on something, come back to it at the end of the meeting or wait until the next meeting to make a final decision. Use your board meeting to accomplish things and not to waste time by goofing around. After the meeting, there is plenty of time to catch-up with your friends.
- **Be Organized.** Simply put. Have binders for your board. Make Agendas for meetings. Do whatever it takes to keep things in order. Be sure to create some sort of filing system to give to the next Chapter President to help them succeed.
- **Have Fun!** Yes, it is important to be successful but who wants to be successful without having fun? Don't get to the point where you don't love what you do. You decided to become Chapter President because you love USY and because you feel you can add something special to your chapter. Work hard and do great things but don't forget to have a little fun every once in a while! ;)