

GOPHER CHA JOB DESCRIPTION

Introduction and Overview

While it is every team member's responsibility to serve the candidates on a Tres Dias weekend, the Gopher Cha will focus most of their time on certain team members. It is the Gopher Cha's primary responsibility to ensure Rollistas, Spiritual Directors and Prayer Palanca Teams are present at their designated locations at appropriate times on the Tres Dias Weekend.

Tres Dias is a 72 hour weekend patterned on the Cursillo movement founded in Majorca Spain in August of 1944. While this 72 hour schedule is approximate, careful attention must still be given to the published schedule provided by the Tres Dias of North Georgia Secretariat. This is necessary to ensure all of the Essentials of Tres Dias and Policies and Practices of North Georgia are carried out during the time allotted for the weekend. Therefore, the Gopher Cha is one of several team members who play a vital role in maintaining the overall schedule of the weekend.

Each Rollo has a time objective which is computed in the overall weekend schedule. Any delays in delivering the Rollista to the Rollo room at the designated time will ultimately impact the overall weekend schedule.

Gopher Cha responsibilities and team members you will interface with

On Thursday all Gopher Chas should be at the camp ground at the published time. Be available to the Head and Assistant Head Cha's should there be needs. Other than that, mingle and meet the candidates when they arrive. Your main responsibilities do not begin until Friday morning when you notify and escort (pull) the first Rollista for the Ideals Rollo. The Ideals Rollista will be the first person called up to introduce themselves and the first Rollista seated. **Pulling the Ideals Professor takes place just after the first table has been seated.**

Each Rollista on the weekend must have time to dress and pray prior to giving their talk. To ensure this is accomplished within the allotted time, the Gopher Cha will, at the appropriate time, approach the Rollista giving the upcoming talk. This Gopher Cha will then escort the Rollista to their dorm so they may dress for their talk. Once dressed the Rollista is escorted to the auxiliary chapel. At the same time a second Gopher Cha will notify each of the Prayer Palanca team to meet in the Auxiliary Chapel. After prayer the Gopher Cha will escort the Rollista to the Storeroom or hall just outside the Rollo room and notify the Assistant Head Cha that the Rollista is ready.

Prayer Palanca teams for each Rollo consists of 2 team members and 1 Spiritual Director. There are 2 exceptions to this. First exception will be the Sacred Moments of Grace Rollo. This is covered usually by 2 prayer teams. The second exception will be the Prayer Palanca team for the Rector. Here the Rector usually ask their reunion group or close Tres Dias friends to come to the camp ground and pray for them during the time the Rector is giving their Living the Fourth Day rollo. Verify this with the Head Cha and Rector prior to the weekend to avoid any last minute confusion.

GOPHER CHA JOB DESCRIPTION

The **Prayer Palanca signup sheet** listing names of the Prayer Palanca teams for each Rollo will be your guide on which team members and Spiritual Directors are pulled for a particular Rollo on the weekend. This signup sheet is usually completed by the Head Cha at team meetings and hopefully before arriving at the campground on Thursday. Head Gopher, remind the Head Cha to do so if you see it has not been completed by the last team meeting. Each Gopher Cha will need a copy of this assignment sheet. The Head Spiritual Director will complete a similar assignment sheet listing the names of Spiritual Directors.

During team meetings volunteers for Prayer Palanca are also needed. Be sure to coordinate with the Head Cha on who will be asking for volunteers to pray during the talks given that meeting.

The Expanded Time Schedule is your constant guide. You should never be without it. It will give you cues to when and whom, to pull for Rollos. However, **take note**...you will need to constantly revise the times on the schedule as the weekend progresses. Some times you will be ahead and at other times you will be behind. Your mental “calculator” must constantly be recalculating when you will pull people. Because of this, you must be in constant communications with the Assistant Head Cha as changes occur.

To best utilize your time it will be necessary for one Gopher Cha to pull the Rollista and one Gopher cha to pull the Prayer Palanca team. **One Gopher Cha** should pull the **Rollista** from the Rollo Room or Dining Room as the schedule indicates and escort them to their dorm room. Help in any way you can, as the Rollista gets ready. The Rollista may desire to be alone, therefore, be sensitive to their wishes. Make sure the Rollista knows how much time they have to dress. Do **not** let them be late. Candidates should **never** have to wait for **any** team members. When it is time, escort the Rollista to the chapel for prayer. After prayer, escort the Rollista to the hall just outside the Rollo Room or the storeroom. Alert the Assistant Head Cha and wait until you are notified the Rollo Room is ready.

Be in or near the Rollo Room while the professor is speaking. You must be there as they exit to escort them back to the chapel for prayer, and then to the dorm to change. Remember to encourage the Rollista as you escort them to the chapel and dorm. If you can, write a note to the Rollista indicating what God spoke in your heart during their talk. This encouragement will often be confirmation to the Rollista of their obedience in allowing God to speak through them. Afterwards remind the Rollista they should be back in the Rollo Room once the table discussion and posters for their Rollo are finished and before the next Rollo.

The **Second Gopher Cha** will pull the designated Spiritual Director and two team members who have volunteered for Prayer Palanca. They should be pulled in time to be **waiting** for the rollista at the chapel. **Do not keep the Rollista waiting!** Allow yourself plenty of time to find whom you need. Spiritual Directors sometimes wander off. Be prepared to get another one should this happen.

You may be flexible on who pulls whom...just be sure everyone is covered! Take turns on who will pull Professors and who will pull Prayer Palanca people.

GOPHER CHA JOB DESCRIPTION

Things to Keep in Mind

Adjust your pull times as changes are made to the schedule. Keep in close contact with the Assistant Head Cha on changes in the time schedule.

Be available to the Assistant Head Cha to help out in other areas in between pulling.

Please take special care to be punctual at all times. This is vital! You are critical to keeping the weekend on time. Check your watches frequently with Assistant Head Cha. Carry a copy of the schedule, and a notepad. Make sure you synchronize your watches with the Assistant Head Cha and Spiritual Directors.

NOTE: On weekends where opposite gender Spiritual Directors are serving. Do not go into the Spiritual Director's room under any circumstance. Have another Spiritual Director help you if you need to get a Spiritual Director from their room. This applies even to husbands and wives serving together in the same or different team positions.

Team Meetings

Gopher Chas will be responsible for pulling rollistas' and Prayer Palanca at team meetings. Be at the team meetings about 15 minutes early so that you can be familiar with the speakers and Prayer Palanca team and so that they can be familiar with you. You also need to find out from the Head Cha where the designated rooms are for Prayer Palanca and what rooms each rollista will be speaking in depending on how many talks are given in a night. Also, choose a Spiritual Director for each rollista. The Spiritual Director will accompany you and the rollista to pray, listen to the practice talk and then go back with you and the Rollista for praise and thanksgiving with the Prayer Palanca team. You may want to check with the Head Cha about the schedule for the night and pick a time (after announcements for example) that would be good for everyone to meet you at a designated location. That way you won't be interrupting any part of the meeting by searching for people.

Options on weekend

Ask the Rector if there are any special suggestions or things they would like to have done on the weekend. For example, a sample copy of a letter to the rollista and a letter to someone who is giving Prayer Palanca is attached. These letters are self-explanatory and may be a special blessing to the rollista and those giving Prayer Palanca if the Rector would like to have that done. Remember, this is the Rector's option. If the rector does not choose this option, then it is a good idea to at least touch base with each rollista and Prayer Palanca person the evening before simply as a reminder and to answer any questions or concerns they have.

A blessing to the speakers is to have a small table (T.V. tray size) set-up by their beds when they come to get dressed for their Rollo. You can decorate it as the Lord leads you. Some suggestions are; a pretty table cloth, a nice glass of ice water, fruit, nuts, crackers, mints, etc. This helps the rollista to relax and feel very special as they read their letters and gets ready to share what God has given them to share. If a Rollista's talk is being given just before or after a meal, you need to find out in advance if they would like to eat in their room. If so, coordinate with the Head or Assistant Head Kitchen ahead of time about having a meal prepared. When the

GOPHER CHA

JOB DESCRIPTION

time comes, bring it to the rollista. This is something you can discuss with the Rollista and the kitchen during team meetings and then confirm it on the weekend. Remember; always make notes during team meetings and on the weekend so that you won't forget.

General Info about Gopher Cha position.

At Team Meetings

Team meetings according to the Essentials of Tres Dias are: a time to, promote community, receive instruction on the dynamics of Tres Dias and the weekend and finally, critique all Rollos.

It is a time to practice and learn your responsibilities for the weekend. Just like the weekend, you will be notifying Professors and Spiritual Directors when it is time for them to give their rehearsal talk to the team. Likewise you will be notifying team members who have indicated they would like to serve by praying for the Rollista while they are giving their talk.

Final Reminders for the Weekend

Each morning of the weekend all Gopher Cha's synchronize your watches with Assistant Head Cha.

Periodically throughout the day coordinate any schedule changes with Head Gopher. Head Gopher keep in contact with Assistant Head Cha.

On Women's weekends do not enter male Spiritual Director's dorms under any circumstances. This includes those weekends where a husband and wife are serving together either as team and Spiritual Director or as a husband and wife Spiritual Director team.

When the Professor finishes their talk and exits the Rollo Room, encourage them in what God said through them in their talk. This may be the first talk this person has ever given. Satan will launch an attack against the Rollista almost as soon as they finish their talk. Remind the Professor that God's word will not return void.

Above all serve the Lord with gladness. Thanking Him for allowing you to serve Him as Gopher Cha.

GOPHER CHA JOB DESCRIPTION

Limited Glossary of terms used by Tres Dias of North Georgia.

Rollista: Also known as Professor. Lay table leader who delivers one of the 10 lay Rollos on a Tres Dias weekend.

Spiritual Director: An ordained/licensed pastor or minister responsible for delivering 1 or more of the 5 Spiritual Director Rollos and 1 or more of the 5 chapel meditations on a Tres Dias weekend.

Prayer Palanca: In this case, prayer offered by a team member during the time a Rollista is giving their Rollo, either during team meetings or the weekend.

Prayer Palanca Team: Usually 1 Spiritual Director and 2 Team members. The 2 lay team members will stay and pray in the chapel during the entire Rollo. The Spiritual Director will visit the chapel for beginning prayer then will go to the Rollo room and listen to the talk. Once the Rollo is completed the Spiritual Director will accompany the Rollista back to the Chapel, along with the Gopher Cha, to join with the 2 team members who remained in the chapel praying during the Rollo, for closing prayer.

Pulling Rollista: At the appropriate time a Gopher Cha informs and escorts the Rollista to get dressed, followed by a short visit to the chapel to pray and then on to the Rollo room when it is time for their talk.

Pulling Prayer Palanca Team: At the appropriate time, a Gopher Cha will locate and inform the Spiritual Director assigned to pray for a specific talk that it is time for Prayer Palanca. Normally, this same Spiritual Director returns to the chapel after the talk to offer closing prayers. Likewise a Gopher cha will pull team members who have signed earlier up to pray for this Rollista during the time they are giving their talk.