



Lesson Guide

Squadron Commander Panel Guide

10 May 2022



Squadron Commander Panel

Purpose

This lesson guide is designed to support the local development of Flight Commander Leadership Course materials. Selected facilitators should use this guide as they prepare presenters and topics. For more information on how lessons are structured, or how to use them in the course, see the **Course Director's Handbook** or online Facilitator Resources.

Scope

Leaders can learn plenty from the experiences and knowledge of others. This panel of experienced squadron commanders offers a wide range of insight into the Flight Commander position, how to navigate the role of leading and developing others, and how Flight Commanders can help drive the culture and direction of the squadron.

As a Flight Commander, you play a key role in integrating the efforts of individuals throughout the organization to accomplish the mission and vision of the squadron commander. This panel of squadron commanders has insight into this task from a unit-wide perspective and can provide insight into the intricacies of how the Flight Commander supports the efforts of the squadron leadership team.

Recommended Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the participants should be able to:

1. Discuss the role and overall purpose of the flight commander within the squadron (or equivalent).
2. Discuss ways the flight leadership team can help set the squadron up for success.
3. Apply the perspective and experience of squadron commanders to your respective situation.

Recommended POC / Presenter

- No more than three experienced or recently graduated squadron commanders

Recommended Length:

- 30 minutes (inclusive of questions)

Recommended Approach

- Informal intro and background of each panel member followed by Q & A

Potential Questions for the Panel to Address

- What are your primary expectations of your Flight Commanders?
- In your view, what is the most important job of the Flight Commander?
- What are some tips for Flight Commanders to set the flight (and themselves) up for success?
- How does a Flight Commander balance resource constraints, multiple priorities, and a challenging tempo?

- What experience(s) did *you* have as a Flight Commander that you feel best prepared you for squadron command?