



## Submarine PXO Detailing Information

(Updated: 30 June, 2016)

**1. Your Detailer:** The post-DH detailer remains your detailer until you are slated for XO. Work with him to determine which Submarine Command Course (SCC) you will attend based on your PRD and career timing gate. Once you are screened for XO, ensure that the post-DH detailer has your up-to-date contact information and discuss with him when you expect to start the XO pipeline. The post-DH detailer provides the list of PXOs for each SCC 6-7 months prior to the course convening date, which is typically the first week in January, April, July, and October.

### **2. The Process:**

- A. Once the class is finalized the XO detailer will contact you to provide details about the slate including a rough schedule and other process details regarding the slating process. Most importantly, he will provide you with a template intended to solicit your preferences and inputs in support of the slating process.
- B. The submarines on your slate are determined based on XO PRDs, ship schedules, and wardroom planning conferences. Note – there is a 3-month interlock between CO and XO reliefs.
- C. As part of the PXO slating, the XO detailer will provide the expected billets for fill with the first contact email.
- D. The nominal XO tour length is 20 months. The minimum tour length is 18 months and tour lengths upwards of 24 months are not uncommon. In some cases, XOs have done tours as long as 29 months, but this is rare and is typically driven by operational requirements.
- E. When slating PXOs, every effort is made to balance the PXO's desires, professional development/career needs, and needs of the Navy.
- F. The following considerations factor into the PXO slating process to achieve that balance with the ultimate goal of preparing each officer for command of any boat that may be on a CO slate in the future:
  - i. Engineering background. Either the CO or the XO must have served as an engineer officer. We do not have an excess of engineer officers, which usually prevents the XO detailer from assigning an engineer officer served XO and CO to the same submarine. Note – SSGN COs get engineer officer credit based on their previous CO tours.
  - ii. Tactical experience. The Submarine Force policy is to provide each officer forward-deployed mission experience (deploying SSN or SSGN) and strategic deterrent patrol experience (SSBN) prior to his command tour.



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iii. Operational vs. shipyard experience. Significant effort is expended to prevent officers from doing multiple shipyard-intensive sea tours.

G. Once initial PXO slating is complete, an extensive review process within both PERS 42 and Naval Reactors occurs. It is not uncommon for assignments to change during this review process; therefore, PXO assignments are held close until all reviews are complete and approvals received. Expect upwards of 6 weeks from the start of the slating process until you are notified of your assignment. Please trust that the XO detailer is pushing the process to get you an assignment and orders as quickly as possible.

H. Orders are generally transmitted about a month after assignment approval.

**3. PXO Timing Gates:** Meeting career gates is a critical element to preserving competitiveness for career progression and promotion. It is important that you keep the lines of communication open with the post-DH detailer, and keep yourself informed on the latest with respect to career timing metrics and milestones. The gate to start SCC is July of 12 YCS.

**4. Training Pipeline:** The following schools are required as part of the PXO training pipeline:

A. SCC: 9 weeks in either Pearl Harbor (January and July class) or Groton (April and October class). SCC is an intensive, decision-rich, tactically advanced course designed to produce officers who consistently demonstrate superior decision making. All briefs and lectures used during the course are available for review via the NKO-S portal. (Log on to NKO-S and select the NKO-S library link at the top of the page; click on “communities,” “submarine learning,” and “Submarine Command Course.”) Additional course material is available on the COMSUBFOR and COMSUBPAC SIPRNET websites.

B. Command Leadership Course (CLC): 2 weeks in Newport, normally just before or just after SCC. Additional information, including CLC convening dates, is available at <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/cppd/cls/>.

C. PCO/PXO Strategic Weapons Course (for SSBN XOs only): 5 weeks primarily in Bangor or Kings Bay. The course also includes brief trips to Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) in Washington, DC, and USSTRATCOM in Omaha, NE.

D. Advanced Weapons System (AWS) Command Course (for SSGN XOs only): 1 week in Kings Bay.

**5. Orders/Travel:**

A. Rental cars. PERS 42 is authorized to pay for one rental car per four students. Rental cars are preferentially assigned to those officers who are coming from overseas, etc.



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- B. Intermediate stops. The Navy's policy is that official travel is only authorized/ reimbursed between military obligations. However, I have the ability to insert intermediate stops in your orders to minimize leave days or to travel as long as it is cost effective. For example, there is frequently one to two weeks between SCC and CLC. In some cases, it is less expensive to pay for travel back to your permanent duty station than it would be for you to spend an additional week earning Pearl Harbor, Groton, or Newport per diem. If you desire an intermediate stop in your orders, let me know when we discuss your final assignment and before I issue orders. All intermediate stops are considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by my NPC chain of command outside PERS 42. Intermediate stops at the previous duty station to move your family are not authorized by the JFTR.
- C. Travel. Arrange your travel and rental cars through SATO once you have orders.
- D. Entitlements. PSD (at your current or ultimate duty station) is the best source of information for questions regarding pay, entitlements, travel allowances, etc.

### 6. Additional Information:

- A. XO detailing is significantly less volatile than DH detailing, but changes occur. Please keep me up to date with your contact information, and let me know if you have taken any significant actions that need to be considered when changes occur (e.g., buying a house or moving your family).
- B. Command qualifications must be complete prior to starting SCC. We track this at PERS 42. If your command qualifications are not complete, let me know early in the PXO detailing process so we can develop a plan that allows you to complete them. Not being command qualified will prevent you from starting the PXO training pipeline.
- C. Verify/update your security clearance data 6-8 months prior to SCC. This will cause problems at SCC if not squared away.

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