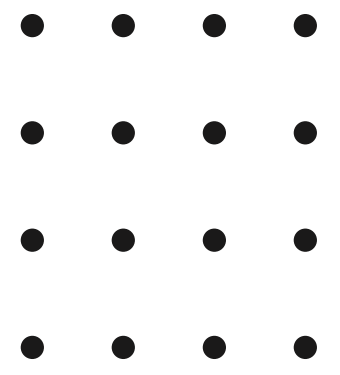


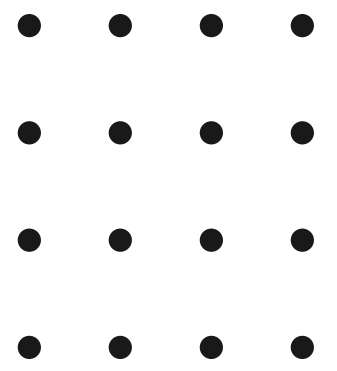


How To Build a Spirit Stick

President's Welcome Reception
August 9, 2026

PREPARED FOR
FPRA Chapter Leadership





Get ready to tap into your creativity and show off your chapter pride! As part of the President’s Welcome Reception during the PR & Comms Summit this August, each chapter is invited to create a custom **Spirit Stick** — a fun, high-energy way to represent who you are. Whether you go bold and over-the-top or sleeker and more polished, your stick will become part of the Camp Summit experience, bringing color, personality and a little friendly competition to the event.

WHAT IS A SPIRIT STICK?

A spirit stick is a decorated pole or staff that represents your chapter through color, creativity and personality. It can be simple and ribbon-based or more elaborate with signs, letters, toppers and themed objects.

GUIDELINES FOR BUILD

- Keep it approximately 4-6 feet tall
- Make it lightweight and easy to carry
- The chapter name should be clearly visible
- Avoid anything fragile, messy or sharp
- Keep it fun, creative and in good spirit!

MATERIALS YOU MAY NEED

- Wooden dowel
- PVC pipe
- Lightweight broom handle
- Wrapped cardboard tube
- Decorating supplies

When it comes to decorating, we encourage you to be as creative as you like. Decorations could include, but aren’t limited to, ribbons, streamers, fabric, decorative tape, glitter foam sheets, bells, fringe, tassels or even battery-operated fairy lights.



STEP 1: CHOOSE YOUR THEME

Before building, decide what your stick should say about your chapter. You might base it on:

- Your chapter name
- Your chapter's region
- An icon or well-known destination within your chapter
- Golf-inspired fun
- PR and communications themes

Keep the overall look cohesive so it feels intentional.

STEP 2: PICK THE STICK BASE



AI generated as an illustration of how the sticks may be propped up.

Choose a pole that is lightweight but sturdy. Best options:

- PVC pipe is lightweight and easy to decorate
- Wood dowels look more natural and are sturdy
- Broom handles work well for a rustic camp look

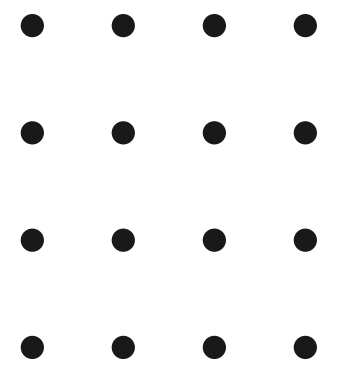
Please keep in mind that we will be propping up your spirit stick vertically in Camp Summit for the duration of PR & Comms Summit, similar to the illustration. So, as you build it, don't make it too top heavy and be sure to allow at least 6 inches at the bottom to be stood vertically.

STEP 3: WRAP OR PAINT THE POLE

Time to make the stick look festive. Here are some ideas:

- Paint it in your theme's colors
- Wrap it with ribbon in a spiral pattern
- Cover it in decorative tape
- Use glitter tape or metallic ribbon for shine
- Alternate two colors for a striped effect

Pro Tip: Start at the bottom and work upward so the wrap stays neat and secure.



STEP 4: CREATE A TOPPER

This is your time to shine! Many spirit sticks have a standout feature at the top. This is what gives it height and personality. Be sure not to make this too top heavy, but feel free to get creative! Here are some topper ideas:

- A star
- Your full chapter name on a sign
- A golf flag or something related to Happy Gilmore or Caddyshack
- A shape or symbol
- A fun icon tied to your chapter or region

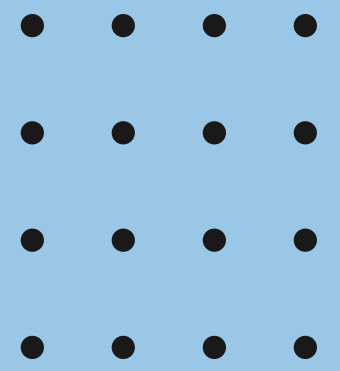
How to make it:

1. Cut the shape from foam, poster board, wood or thick cardstock
2. Paint/decorate it
3. Add chapter wording with letters or paint pens
4. Secure it to the top using hot glue, wire, zip ties or a dowel insert

STEP 5: ADD THE CHAPTER NAME

Many of the examples show letters running vertically down the stick. Others incorporate the name in the topper. Either way, this is a great way to personalize it and let everyone know your chapter's spirit!

Pro Tip: Use large, bold letters so the name is readable.



STEP 6: ADD RIBBON AND MOVEMENT

The ribbons make the spirit stick look lively and celebratory. Here are some ideas for the type of ribbon to attach:

- Long satin ribbons
- Curling ribbon
- Metallic streamers
- Tulle strips
- Fringe or tassels

Where to place them:

- At the very top
- Just under the topper
- At a few points down the stick
- Hanging from letters or side accents

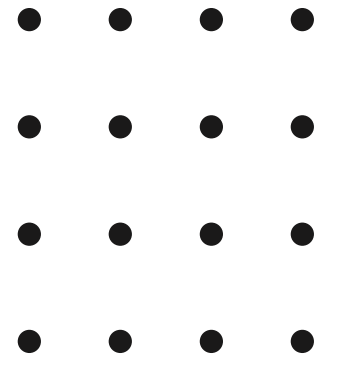
Pro Tip: Use different ribbon widths for a fuller look. Let some hang long for movement.

STEP 7: LAYER IN DECORATIVE ELEMENTS

Consider some fun ways to differentiate your spirit stick from the rest! You can add:

- Glitter stars
- Camp-themed icons
- Mini signs
- Flowers
- Feathers
- Bells
- Faux leaves
- Small ornaments
- Golf trees, mini flags or golf balls
- PR props like speech bubbles, headlines or microphones

Pro Tip: Use large, bold letters so the name is readable.



STEP 8: REINFORCE EVERYTHING

Because the spirit sticks will be transported and displayed, it is important to make sure they are secure. Before finishing make sure to re-glue loose pieces, tape down any ribbon, tighten wires and make sure hanging pieces are attached firmly.

If using lights:

- Use only lightweight, battery-operated string lights
- Secure the battery pack neatly to the back or lower section

STEP 9: BRING IT TO THE PRESIDENT’S WELCOME RECEPTION!

Bring your spirit stick to the President’s Welcome Reception (6–9 p.m. at Eagles Edge at Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate) and get ready to celebrate your creativity! Gather your team, show off your design and let your chapter pride shine.

At the end of the evening, your spirit stick will be collected and propped vertically at Camp Summit, where it will be proudly displayed for all attendees to see throughout the conference.

PHOTO EXAMPLES

