

The Picket Captain

The Picket captain is:

- The representative of the union on the picket line.
- The liaison with the police and security guards on the picket line.
- Responsible for maintaining the morale of everyone picketing on their shift.

Duties of the Picket Captain

Picket captains:

- ✓ Arrive at the line 15 minutes before the start of their shift to receive information from the previous picket captain. Stay on the line until the next picket captain arrives.
- ✓ Greet all picketers and solidarity pickets as they arrive. Pass on new information from the Executive or Strike Committee.
- ✓ Take attendance by completing the daily picket line roster – ensuring all members sign in and out and remain on duty for the duration of their shift.
- ✓ Provide leadership on the picket line and bolster the morale of picketers
- ✓ Assign tasks to picketers – leading chants, leafleting and talking to people in cars, pedestrians, taking pictures, keeping the area clean, etc.
- ✓ Identify key leaders on the line, and especially those who might be interested in getting more involved in other actions to support the strike or lockout.
- ✓ Confirm identity of any scab crossing the picket line.

- ✓ Communicate with police and security guards if necessary.
- ✓ Ensure the safety of picketers.
- ✓ Make sure that someone cleans up the area around the picket line at the end of each shift.
- ✓ Pass on all forms to the next picket captain.

Picket Captain's Survival Kit

Picket captains need to bring the following every time they are at the picket line:

- ✓ Picket Captain Vest / Button / Armband
- ✓ Copies of any pamphlets being given out to anyone crossing the picket line.
- ✓ Copies of the latest strike bulletin for the picketers.
- ✓ A copy of any picketing protocols and forms.
- ✓ Traffic Cones (to slow traffic crossing the picket line and limit the chances of picketers being hit by scabs crossing the picket line)
- ✓ A mobile phone with contact numbers for everyone on your "shift" plus strike related numbers (strike headquarters, picket coordinator, strike committee members, police, etc.)
- ✓ A camera, pen, clip board and paper (to record incidents)
- ✓ First aid kit, Flashlight, Matches, Garbage Bags
- ✓ Strike and bargaining support buttons, etc.