Not Enough Reserves to Drop a Trip?

There are two reasons

1. The flight attendant staffing levels do not exceed the number of flight attendants needed to cover the pairings listed in the bid package each month and the reserve requirements of operations. Compass flight attendants will always desire the company to hire more staff when the reserve pool is low. However, Compass will only hire enough flight attendants to meet their operational needs.

2. Flight Attendant Availability. When flight attendants are not available for work, it negatively impacts the reserve buffers. When excessive sick calls, MFAs, disciplines and attrition put flight coverage at risk, operations raises the number of reserves needed for any given day to ensure that all of the scheduled flying is covered. The daily minimum number of reserves required each day increases when there is an increased risk to operations.

How to survive a shortage of reserves:

1. Knowing how to bid is crucial. If you get what you want, there’s is less need to depend on grid flexibility. Flight attendants that take the time to learn how to bid effectively, often get better line awards than many flight attendants who are senior to them who do not put the time in.

2. Creative trading! If a direct trade with another Flight Attendant or with open time isn’t possible, try thinking of a reserve trade (trade a trip for RSV days or vice versa) or a multi trade with several Flight Attendants. I want yours, but she/he wants theirs and they want yours scenario:

   ![Diagram of reserve trades]

How does SCP help with the reserve buffers?

SCP helps bring down the number of open time pairings and the reserves required to cover those trips for any given month. This lowering of the reserves needed creates more opportunity to drop because it reduces the amount of open time pairings that operation’s would have needed. Allowing the reserves to be focused on covering normal operations.

In addition, when SCP eligible flight attendants participate in SCP and trade awarded reserve days for pairings, those pairings are often greater in length than the reserve days that they are swapping out of. This improves the reserve pool even more. For example: When a flight attendant trades 3 days of reserve for a 4 or 5 day pairing, they have just eliminated 1 or 2 days of required reserve coverage that would have been needed by operations.