



BSA Troop 1776

Scout and Parent Troop Handbook



BSA Troop 1776, Evergreen, CO

Scout and Parent Troop Handbook

Table of Contents

1) It's up to you	<u>Page 4</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dear Scout, This is your Troop• The Expectations	
2) Stuff to get started	<u>Page 7</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visit to Scout Store (Uniform, et al)• What you get from the Troop• Second-hand trade-in's may be available• Camping Gear	
3) Activities	<u>Page 9</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Camping• Service Projects and Tracking Logs	
4) Meetings (how to get the most out of meetings)	<u>Page 12</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uniform• Pre-Opening• Opening Ceremony• Announcements• Skills Instruction• Patrol Meetings• Inter-Patrol Activities• Advancement• Closing and Scoutmaster Minute• Leave No Trace• General Notes• Tracking Attendance	
5) Rank Advancement (how you manage that)	<u>Page 15</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signoff on requirements• Scoutmaster Conference• Board of Review• Courts of Honor	
6) Merit Badges	<u>Page 19</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What badges do I need for Star, Life and Eagle?• 17 Required Merit Badges (earn at least 13 for Eagle)• Elective Merit Badges• How can I find out the requirements?• What are Merit Badge Counselors and Who are they?	

7) Leadership

Page 23

- Expectations
- Scout Event Planner
- Requirements
- Opportunities

8) Adult Helpers (who can I go to for help?)

Page 25

- Scoutmaster
- Assistant Scoutmasters
- Troop Committee positions

9) Dictionary of BSA Terms and Acronyms

Page 25

Attachments (You can make copies of these when needed).

- (01) WELCOME LETTER
- (02) BOY SCOUT PARENT ORIENTATION GUIDE
- (03) ACTIVITY / BOY SCOUT EVENT LOG
- (04) INDIVIDUAL SCOUT RECORD
- (05) UNIT SWIM CLASSIFICATION RECORD
- (06a) ANNUAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RECORD FORM – PARTS A & B. NOTE: THE COMPLETE FORM IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE.
- (06b) CDPHE FORM
- (06c) CDPHE IMMUNIZATION LETTER
- (06d) MEDICAL FORM REQUIREMENTS
- (06e) DIET REQUEST FORM
- (06f) GLUTEN FREE DISCLAIMER
- (07) TROOP POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY
- (08) CAMPOUT SAFETY CHECKLIST
- (09) BACKPACKING GEAR LIST
- (10) SUMMER CAMPING GEAR LIST
- (11) WINTER CAMPING GUIDE & GEAR LIST
- (12) SCOUT EVENT PLANNER DUTIES
- (13) SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE / BOARD OF REVIEW – SCOUT
- (14) SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE / BOARD OF REVIEW – TENDERFOOT, 2ND CLASS, 1ST CLASS
- (15) SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE / BOARD OF REVIEW – STAR & LIFE
- (16) MERIT BADGE APPLICATION FORM ([aka the BLUE CARD](#))
- (17) MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR APPLICATION
- (18) UNIFORM INSPECTION – YOUTH
- (19) UNIFORM INSPECTION – ADULT
- (20) TROOP MEETING PLAN
- (21) CAMP FIRE PROGRAM PLANNER
- (22) TROOP RESOURCE SURVEY

- (23) TROOP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
- (24) AKELA AWARD WORKSHEET
- (25) POLAR BEAR PATCH REQUIREMENTS

TROOP WEBSITE: www.boyscout1776.com

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Current version since 1954): *“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”*

SCOUT OATH. Note: Always recited before the Scout Law: *“On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty, to God and my country, and to obey the Scout Law. To help other people at all times. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.”*

12 POINTS OF THE SCOUT LAW: *“A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent.”*

SCOUT MOTTO: *“Be Prepared.”*

SCOUT SLOGAN: *“Do a Good Turn Daily.”*

1) IT IS UP TO YOU

Welcome to Boy Scouting and Welcome to Troop 1776! We are Trooper glad you chose to join Troop 1776! You will get out of this experience EXACTLY what YOU put into it.

Dear Scout, This is your Troop:

This will be either one of the greatest adventures of your life or you will decide that the Troop meetings are a waste of time and you will quit after a couple of months...it is up to you.

This is your Troop. It will function exactly as you and your fellow Scouts want it to. If you don't like something, present the idea to the other Scouts and STEP up to change it. If you want to do something, STEP up to lead it. Every month there is a planning meeting where ALL Scouts are welcome to come and share their ideas. It is called a Patrol Leaders Council or “PLC”, but you are welcome to come to any and all of them, to learn and to share your ideas.

A Boy Scout Troop is one of the few places where you will not normally be told by an adult what you are going to do and when. There are exceptions where adults need to step in, such as for safety reasons and for discipline reasons, but how far you go in Scouts, what you get out of it, and how long it takes you to advance, is up to you. The Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters do keep an eye on your progress, and your fellow Scout leaders will challenge you, but the real role of monitoring your progress belongs to you. You get to choose who

you ask for help (hopefully asking for help from your fellow Scouts first), but again, this is not like school....it is up to you.

You will need to learn the ropes (pun intended) of how you advance, and what you have to do to earn your ranks and merit badges. It is no one else's responsibility. That is where this Troop Handbook comes in handy.

Boy Scout Troops are run by the "Patrol Method." Every Scout is in a Patrol. The Patrol should have at the very least a Patrol Leader, an Assistant Patrol Leader, a Quartermaster (takes care of the equipment), a Grubmaster (takes care of the food and helps cook), and a Cheermaster (to provide cheerful service). If you need more jobs in your Patrol, go for it.... it is up to you.

A Troop is made up of Patrols. Troops belong to a District which in Troop 1776's case is the Timberline District, so our Troop is a Patrol of the District. Timberline District is part of the Denver Area Council, so the District is a Patrol of the Council (are you getting the concept here?). The Denver Area Council is part of the Western Region. The Western Region is part of the Boy Scouts of America headquartered in Irving, Texas. And, the Boy Scouts of America is part of the International Brotherhood of Boy Scouting to which about 180 countries belong. The purple patch above your left pocket on your Scout shirt signifies belonging to the International Brotherhood of Boy Scouting.

Scout Expectations:

- You are expected to have experiences you can have nowhere else and that you will remember for the rest of your life.
- You will think twice before you do something that affects the safety of you or your fellow Scouts. You will be sent home if you choose unsafe behavior. You will always follow the Buddy System.
- Bullying, hazing or any put-downs of others will not be tolerated.
- You are expected to get involved and make a difference.
- You are expected to manage your Scout Advancement and take responsibility for yourself.

You are expected to have tons of FUN!

"The Patrol method is not a way to run a Boy Scout Troop. It is the only way to run a Boy Scout Troop." Lord Robert-Baden Powell, the founder of Boy Scouting.

Parent / Adult Volunteer Expectations:

- You have a new title; you are a “Scouter.” You are expected to have experiences you can have nowhere else and that you will remember for the rest of your life.
- You are expected to get involved and make a difference.
- You are expected to receive Scout training applicable to your position.
- You are expected to be an advocate, not only for your own son(s), but for the entire Troop. You are expected to act and behave properly, and to the best of your ability be a positive role model.
- Please see the handout entitled Troop 1776 Volunteer Opportunities for further information and expectations.

Last and certainly not least, just like the Scouts, you are expected to have tons of FUN!

“I won’t do everything, but I will do anything for a patch.” Anonymous Scouter.

2) Stuff to get started

Visit to Scout Store:

Denver Scout Shop and Council and District Offices. 10455 W. 6th Avenue, Denver, CO 80215. It's a Denver postal address, but the location is actually in Lakewood on the north 6th Avenue Frontage Road between Simms and Kipling just east of Automotive Avenues. The Colorado Adventure Point is also at the Council office location. Check it out.

Phone # (303) 455-5522, Fax # (303) 455-4689.

Website: www.denverboyscouts.org

What you need to get:

1) Uniform

- Shirt (Short Sleeved or Long Sleeved) Brown (if you don't already have one from Cub Scouts)
- Neckerchief Slide
- Epaulets (for your Shoulder flaps)
- Purple International Scout Crest (may already be on the shirt)
- Denver Area Council Shoulder Badge

Optional:

- Timberline Patch (ask for it at front desk).
- Scout Belt
- Scout Green Shorts and or Scout Pants
- Merit Badge Sash
- Merit Badge Requirements Book – in here you can track what sections you have done on each badge. As you complete the sections and get them signed off on the “blue cards” (you will learn about this later), you will mark what sections you have completed in this book so you know where you stand at all times.

What you get from the Troop (for no charge):

Troop 1776 Neckerchief
Troop 1776 numbers for sleeve
Boy Scout Handbook

Second-hand trade-in's are possible:

Check with the Scoutmaster and Troop Quartermaster for any “trade-ins” that may be available. We sometimes have used shirts, packs, etc that the older Scouts have outgrown. The Council Scout office also has a trade box where you can take an outgrown shirt and see if you can trade it for a larger size. Call ahead to see if they have any – 303-455-5522.

Camping Gear:

What you will need to have:

- Your daypack with your normal Ten Essentials Plus items, which are:
 - 1. Scout Handbook, Pen and small pad.
 - 2. Personal First Aid Kit (sufficiently stocked and up to date).
 - 3. Depending on the time of year and the weather – mittens, gloves, stocking hat.
 - 4. Cap / visor.
 - 5. Work gloves.
 - 6. Emergency blanket.
 - 7. Flashlight and extra batteries, plus a backup flashlight.
 - 8. Sunglasses / ski goggles. Be wary of snow blindness.
 - 9. Sunscreen / lip balm.
 - 10. Two water bottles / canteens – Wide mouth Nalgene's work better to keep the opening from freezing.
 - 10. Trail food.
 - 10. Personal hygiene kit.
 - 10. Large garbage bag (orange colored is the best). Becomes a personal shelter when needed.
 - 10. Compass (one that works).
 - 10. Plastic whistle and reflective mirror.
 - 10. Pocket Knife and Totin' Chip card (after you have earned your "Totin' Chip").
 - 10. Weatherproof matches / lighter and Firemen's Chit card (after you have earned your Fireman's Chit).
 - 10. Rain gear.
 -
- Good 3 to 4 season sleeping bag (we do a lot of winter camping). You can get a 3 season bag and enhance it with a fleece liner if desired.
- Sleeping pad
- Good warm coat
- Solid shoes/boots (more than tennis shoes)
- Rain Coat and Pants (Ponchos don't do the job well.)
- Duffle bag or something like that for your gear for the car-camping we do
- "Mess Kit" – Plate, cup and eating utensils (recommended that these are plastic (not metal).
- A pack for any backpacking trips
- If backpacking, then you will need good hiking boots
- For more ideas, see the gear exhibits at the end of this guide for backpacking, summer camping and winter camping.
- And, items look similar and can get lost, so when you go on an event or a trip, mark your name on anything you want back.

The Troop has, among many other things:

- Stoves, Propane
- Tents
- Cooking Gear
- Lanterns
- Trailer
- Water jugs
- Patrol Boxes
- First Aid Kit
- Backpacking Stoves

3) Activities

This is where the real fun is! We do great trips. We believe that camping and service are two of the foundations of a great Scouting experience. Where and when we go is up to you and your fellow Scouts.

Camping:

You will need to log all camping activities in your Boy Scout Event Log (one of the attachments). You will need to prove camping activities for rank advancement and some merit badges and it is just fun to look back at all you have done! Plus, camping nights count towards eligibility for being elected by your fellow Scouts to the Order of the Arrow, the Scouting service fraternity.

For all Troop activities, Scouts and adults need to have a current Annual Health and Medical Record form on file with the Troop Medical Forms coordinator.

In 2011, the Annual Health and Medical Record form replaced the former Colorado Boy Scouts camp form, also known as the Class 1 / Class 3 form. The Annual Health and Medical Record form is now required from all Scouts and Adult Helpers on an annual basis. The originals and one set of copies will be kept in a secure, locked location. (Copies should also be made and retained by Troop adults and Scouts before the original is turned into the Troop.) From this Troop inventory, copies will be pulled and used for Troop events. If it is a Council event, e.g. Summer Camp or Klondike, where they retain copies of the medical forms, an extra set of copies should be made for those going on the event so that the Adult Helper for the event has a set also. At the end of an event, the copies are accounted for and returned to the inventory. As new forms replace the prior year's forms, the old forms will be shredded.

The Annual Health and Medical Record form is being standardized across the United States, and subject to checking the rules, may be the same form being used by High Adventure Bases, e.g. Philmont, Boundary Waters or Sea Base.

Monthly Camping trips

These trips are open to do anything that you and your Scouts want to do. We try and have some sort of camping activity at least one weekend a month (yes even in winter – that is where you get to use lots of amazing gear and beat the elements). Where we go and when is up to you and your fellow Scouts. These trips are usually planned on a weekend in the fall – so if you have any ideas, you don't want to miss the annual Troop planning get together, or as talked about elsewhere herein, the monthly PLC (Patrol Leaders Council) meetings.

Summer Camps:

In 2013, the Troop attended Summer Camp at Tahosa Boy Scout Ranch, on the 75th anniversary of the founding of Tahosa as a Boy Scout Camp.

In 2014, the Troop attended Summer Camp at Camp Melita Island, located on an island in Flathead Lake in Western Montana.

In 2015, the Troop attended Summer Camp at the San Isabel Scout Ranch near San Isabel, Colorado.

In 2016, the Troop attended Summer Camp at the Camp Buffalo Bill Scout Ranch, west of Cody, Wyoming near the east entrance to Yellowstone.

In 2017, the Troop attended Summer Camp at Camp Alexander, west of Colorado Springs near Lake George.

In 2018, the Troop will be attending Summer Camp (again) at Camp Melita Island. The dates for the camp itself are July 15 – 21, 2018. The Troop will depart on Saturday July 14 and return on Sunday July 22.

The Denver Area Council owns two camps, Tahosa, near Ward, Colorado, and Peaceful Valley, near Elbert, Colorado. Other Colorado Councils own 4 additional summer camp locations, and there are camps all over the United States, so factoring in travel and cost, we could go just about anywhere.

Winter Camping:

Klondike is a district wide winter camping experience that is held in various locations. Troops from all over the Timberline District come to this weekend event. If the temperature falls below zero on one or both of the nights, you will earn the coveted "Polar Bear Badge." Klondike is available to all Scouts, even those who have just crossed over, but for brand new Scouts, a parent of the new Scout is encouraged to join us.

OKPIK is a winter program held every weekend from the beginning of the year through the first week of March at Tahosa where Scouts learn winter survival skills and get to build and sleep in a Quinzee, which is similar to an igloo. It is for Scouts 13 and older.

High Adventure Trips:

- Tahosa High Adventure: An up to week long backpack through the Indian Peaks Wilderness. Some of the best scenery in Colorado and lots of time above timberline. We can do this each Summer if we want, and in fact Troop 1776 is planning an adventure this June. More information available, just ask.
- Boundary Waters Canoe Trip at the Northern Tiers National High Adventure Base. A 50 mile + wilderness canoe trip through the thousands of lakes that are on the border of Canada and the US up around Northern Minnesota, near Ely, Minnesota. A neighboring Troop, 737, has historically sponsored a trip every other year to the Boundary Waters and invites Scouts from all of the local Troops. Their next adventure is scheduled for June, 2019.

- Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico. The premier Scouting experience. 13 days of backcountry adventure in northern New Mexico. Not just backpacking, but stopping at various stations along the way and participating in great events like black powder rifle shooting, Tomahawk throwing, etc. Based on a lottery system. Troops typically make an application in the Fall of the Year for the second following Summer. Example, Fall, 2018 to attend in the Summer of 2020.
- Sea Base Camp at the Florida National High Adventure Sea Base. Snorkel, Scuba Dive, Sail and other cool stuff around the ocean off of Florida.

If you want credit, then you are strongly encouraged to track all of your camping trips and nights out in the activity log provided at the back of this document. Your activity log will help you with event tracking for rank advancement, some merit badges and for tracking camping nights for eligibility in the Order of the Arrow.

Service Projects and Tracking Logs:

You need service hours to advance in some of your ranks. It is your responsibility to track these in your Activity Log, so that you can prove to the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster that you have completed them.

Here are some examples of service projects we have participated in:

- Food collection for needy families.
- Eagle Scout projects.
- Mountain Foothills Rotary Chili Benefit for Crutches for Africa.
- Holiday presents for veterans at the VA Hospital.

Second Class = 1 hour of service

Star Scout = 6 hours of service (while First Class Scout)

Life Scout = 6 more hours of service (while Star Scout)

4) Meetings

Uniform:

You are expected to be in Scout Uniform if at all possible at the meetings (at least the shirt). If you are coming from some event and don't have it, it is better to have you at the meeting without your uniform, than not have you there so come anyway.

Monthly Theme:

Every month follows a certain theme which is decided upon at the Annual Planning Meeting. The theme is then discussed in detail at the monthly Patrol Leader's Council planning meeting.

Pre-Opening Ceremony:

Usually some sort of fun activity, like a game.

Opening Ceremony:

Flag Ceremony: We respect the Flag of the United States and face it always and salute it as it passes by (if we are in uniform). If you are not in uniform place your right hand over your heart.

Scout Oath and Law: We recite these every week. It is good to remember the words and make them a part of your life. Whenever you have a decision to make on what or how to do something...we like to say "Just run the 12". If you bounce off what you are about to do against the 12 points of the Scout Law, and it doesn't contradict any of them, you can be pretty sure it is a good thing to do. But you have to know them by heart.

Announcements:

Listen carefully for service project opportunities or up-coming events. Volunteer to help with some of these. You will have fun and your Troop will be a better place.

Remember when your Senior Patrol Leader (or anyone else) is talking, please be quiet and show respect. Someday when you are the Senior Patrol Leader you will appreciate that courtesy as well.

Skills Instruction:

Skills relevant to the monthly theme and the meeting's theme, such as Stretcher Races to practice a First Aid skill.

Patrol Meetings:

Every Scout is a member of a “Patrol” which is the basic structure of Boy Scouting.

As of 2018, Troop 1776 has three Patrols – the Wolverines, the Gorillas and the recently formed new Scout Patrol named the Flaming Bacon Patrol. Patrol Patches identify your Patrol. Patrol Meetings are a regular event at Troop meetings. Patrols can even plan their own events, with proper adult leadership, outside of Troop meetings or Troop events. These are good times with your buddies to talk over or plan what you will be doing on any upcoming event. You can also talk about how you can help each other in advancement.

Inter-Patrol Activity:

An activity where the Patrols show the skills they’ve learned, sometimes even competing against each other. Learning, positive reinforcement and fun are the goals here.

Advancement:

Any Star Scout or above can be asked by a younger Scout to show the successful completion of a particular requirement for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class or First Class, and get their book signed. As you will see in the Rank Advancement section, you must get the individual requirements signed off in your BSA Official Handbook. It is a good thing to go to an older Scout and ask for help on any of these to help you get mastery. But you must ask.

Come to each meeting with the goal of getting one or two items signed off. **It is up to you to seek out an older Scout and ask them for help.** They will be glad to help you as they were helped when they were in your position.

Closing and Scoutmaster Minute:

The official closing is the “Retrieval” of the Colors (the Flags). Retrieval is when you retrieve the colors at the end of a meeting or activity and properly store them. “Retirement” is a whole different thing and involves taking a flag, usually the American flag, out of service by properly disposing of the flag.

The Scoutmaster Minute is a chance for the Scoutmaster to hand out any awards or special recognitions from that evening and then impart his (or her) wisdom to the Scouts. Pay attention to the special messages delivered in these minutes.

Leave No Trace:

Help with clean up, putting away the flags, putting away items in the Troop storage (garage or storage cabinets), sweep / mop, pick up trash, and make sure

you have all of your personal belongings. In other words, “Leave No Trace” and generally leave the place better than when you arrived. This applies to normal meeting locations, but also applies to anywhere the Troop has an event or an activity.

General Notes:

Sometimes meetings are more unstructured and this can give you time to talk with your buddies and just catch up. However, you will not be permitted to do anything that endangers your fellow Scouts (like throwing things). You will not also be permitted to do anything that damages the Church that is our host. Use your head.

Tracking Attendance:

Although the Troop does not have a mandatory attendance requirement, attendance and participation is needed if a Scout does want to advance. So it is the Scout’s choice, but remember, what you put into Scouting is probably what you’ll get out of it. In terms of tracking attendance, it is the responsibility of each Patrol for tracking its attendance and reporting attendance to the Troop Scribe. At rank advancement Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review, especially for Star, Life and Eagle, you may need to prove that you attended a certain number of meetings and/or events to prove that you were an active member of the Troop, so your proof involves using your activity tracking sheet as well as making sure that your Patrol Leader knows you were at a meeting and that he in fact turned in your Patrol’s attendance. If your Patrol Leader is not at the meeting, the responsibility falls to the Assistant Patrol Leader or other members of the Patrol.

You would really kick yourself if you thought you had everything done for Eagle, but you couldn’t prove enough participation in the Troop.....by then it may be too late.

5) Rank Advancement

You start off by becoming a Scout. Starting in 2016, “Scout” became an actual rank. It used to be a badge; similar to earning Bobcat in Cub Scouts, but now it is an official rank.

So these are the 7 Ranks in Boy Scouting:

- Scout
- Tenderfoot
- Second Class
- First Class
- Star
- Life
- Eagle (and Eagle Palms)

You have to progress through each rank in order, but since there are many requirements for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class, a Scout can also do and pass Second and First Class requirements while they are working on their Tenderfoot. And, a Tenderfoot can also do and pass First Class requirements while they are working on their Second Class. But, a Scout cannot start on Star requirements until they are a First Class Scout, Life requirements until they are a Star Scout, and likewise Eagle requirements until they are a Life Scout.

Merit Badges (which you can start earning right from the beginning) are another part of advancement and will be explained in the next chapter.

Signoff on Requirements for Rank Advancements

For a young person brand new to the Troop, the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters will help him (and her in the future) in earning the Scout Rank. It will also be explained at this time what is involved with advancement in Boy Scouts.

Though the Troop helps, from that point forward, when it all comes down to it, a Scout is responsible themselves for completing and then getting a signoff for the individual requirements as listed in your Scout Handbook. Note that there are two places in your Scout Handbook where rank advancements for each rank are listed. The first is in the main part of your Scout Handbook where there are individual sections for each rank advancement. Then, the actual signoffs are done near the back of the book in the special signoff sections.

It is a good thing to go to an older / more experienced Scout and ask for help on any requirement you need to help you master the skill or skills, before you go to an adult. But you must ask.

In addition to the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster, any Star, Life or Eagle Scout still active in the Troop can be asked by a Scout, Tenderfoot, or

Second Class Scout to show the successful completion of a particular requirement for Tenderfoot, Second Class or First Class, and get their Scout Handbook initialed.

Come to each meeting with the goal of getting one or two items signed off. **It is up to you to seek out an older / more experienced Scout, or Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster and ask them for help.** The older Scouts will be glad to help you as they were helped when they were in your position.

Scoutmaster Conference

When you have all of the requirements signed off in your Scout Handbook for a rank advancement, starting with becoming a Scout, and then such as moving from Scout to Tenderfoot, you will need a “Scoutmaster Conference” followed by a “Board of Review.” It is up to you to request a Scoutmaster Conference. You will start this process by telling the Scoutmaster you think you are ready for a Scoutmaster Conference. You will then go to the Troop website – www.boyscout1776.com – click on ‘Resources and locate the Scoutmaster Conference form. There is one for Scout, there is a second one for Tenderfoot, 2nd Class and 1st Class advancements, and there is a third form for Star and Life advancements. Pick the correct form, fill it out as best as you can, and print a copy for yourself if you want. Work with the Scoutmaster to arrange a time for your Scoutmaster Conference, and then the Scoutmaster will advise the Troop Committee of the need for a Board of Review. The Scoutmaster Conference may be either with the Scoutmaster, or with one of the Troop’s Assistant Scoutmasters. We also have hard copies available of these forms at the Troop Meetings so if you are unable to download a form, just ask for one at a Troop meeting.

REMEMBER: WEAR YOUR CLASS A UNIFORM SHIRT AND BRING YOUR SCOUT HANDBOOK FOR YOUR SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE. NO SHIRT, NO BOOK, NO CONFERENCE. AND, REMEMBER TO TAKE CARE OF FILLING OUT THE SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE FORM IN ADVANCE OF THE CONFERENCE.

Although you may be asked to discuss or describe what you have learned, the purpose of the Scoutmaster Conference is not necessarily a ‘test’ since you have already demonstrated that you can do what is required. It is more of a ‘check-in’ and a chance to share with the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster your feelings on how things are going in the Troop, what you would like to see happen differently, and if there are any issues that need to be addressed (like bullying). What you say is confidential and your honest sharing is encouraged.

Additionally, “Be Prepared” to discuss several examples of how you have demonstrated “Scout Spirit” during the time of your particular rank. This is a very important portion of the Scouting experience and is the only requirement that shows up on every rank advancement. In our Troop, we take this seriously and you should expect that if you can’t discuss how you have showed behavior that aligns with the 12 points of the Scout Law, you may be asked to spend the next week looking for ways to be helpful, cheerful, friendly, brave, loyal etc. and come back to the next meeting with some specific examples to finish your Scoutmaster Conference.

Successfully completing and getting signed off on a Scoutmaster Conference for a rank makes you eligible for the final step of each rank advancement – the “Board of Review.”

Board of Review

The final part of the rank advancement is the Board of Review. The Board of Review is held after the Scoutmaster Conference. It is conducted by Troop Committee members or parents, usually 3 per review, and not by any Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster. This is chance for you to tell a group of adults what you would like to accomplish in the Troop and how you can help make the Troop a better place and what you are going to do about it. The Board of Review form that will be used as part of your review is part of the Scoutmaster Conference Information Sheet, a copy of which is attached at the end of this Troop handbook.

AGAIN, REMEMBER, WEAR YOUR CLASS A UNIFORM SHIRT AND BRING YOUR HANDBOOK FOR YOUR BOARD OF REVIEW. NO SHIRT, NO BOOK, NO BOARD OF REVIEW.

Once you complete your requirements and pass both your Scoutmaster Conference and your Board of Review, you have then achieved your next rank. Rank advancements and earned Merit Badges are passed out on a regular basis, or if we are close to a semi-annual Court of Honor we may wait until the Court of Honor. Please sew your rank badge on your uniform as soon as you can (left pocket) and wear it proudly.

Courts of Honor

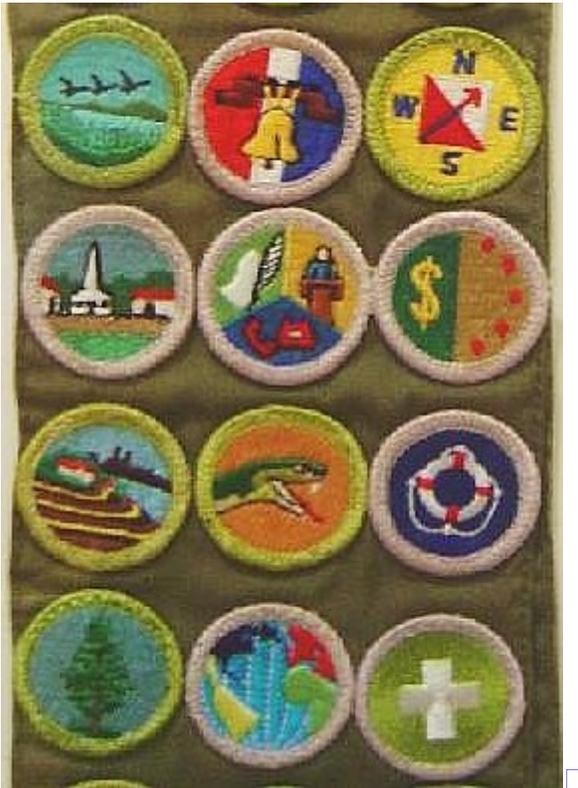
Two times per year, our Troop holds a Troop Court of Honor (Spring and Fall). This event is a formal ceremony where the Troop will recognize your rank advancements and merit badges that you have achieved since the last Court of Honor. Any Ranks or Merit Badges finished within a month or so of an upcoming Court of Honor will be most likely held for presentation at that ceremony. It is cooler that way.

Come dressed in your "Class A" uniforms. This means get as dressed up as you can with Uniform shirt, neckerchief, pants (Khaki or Green), Scout Belt (if you have one), Merit Badge or Order of Arrow Sashes etc. However, since the program and the paperwork need to be done ahead of time, there may be an announced cut-off prior to a Court of Honor for any Merit Badge or Rank that will be presented at the Court of Honor....so plan ahead!! If you don't have it completed before the cut-off, then it will slide to the next Court of Honor, 6 months away!!

Whenever you get an official Rank Advancement or Merit Badge card, you must keep these in a very safe spot. These cards are your official documentation. They might be required and reviewed when you get in front of an Eagle Board of Review. Your signed book may not be enough. The badges themselves may not be enough. You MUST keep these cards.

Eagle Courts of Honor: These are special Courts of Honor held when a Scout has reached the coveted Eagle Rank. They can be held at any time and are usually planned by the Eagle Scout and the Eagle Scout's parents / guardians.

6) Merit Badges



What Badges do I need for Star, Life and Eagle?

You probably will want to start earning Merit Badges right from the start because Merit Badges like Swimming and First Aid become the basis for other Merit Badges, as well as helping you with certain rank advancements, but you don't actually have to earn any Merit Badges until the Star Rank.

To earn your Star Rank, in addition to the rank advancement requirements, you will need to have earned a minimum of six (6) Merit Badges, four (4) of which need to come from the list below of Eagle required Merit Badges.

To earn your Life Rank, in addition to the rank advancement requirements, you will need to have earned a minimum of eleven (11) Merit Badges, or 5 more in addition to what you earned for Star, seven (7) of which to that point need to come from the Eagle list below, or 3 more required ones than what you already earned for Star.

To earn your Eagle Rank, in addition to the rank advancement requirements, you will need to have earned a minimum of twenty-one (21) merit badges before you

reach the age of 18 to achieve the Eagle Rank (plus having done and completed your Eagle project which you will learn about as you go through Scouting). Many Scouts earn more than the required 21 Merit Badges as they realize that this is a great way to explore interests and learn about things you would not otherwise get a chance to.

Required Merit Badges:

There are seventeen (17) Eagle required Merit Badges and you have to earn at least thirteen (13) of them. You can earn all 17, of course. These Eagle required Merit Badges are specially selected to teach you the skills you need to become a man who is a valuable contributor to society. You will learn about how your government works, how your family works, how to deal with finances, how to build an exercise program for life, how to survive in the wilderness, how to stand up in front of a crowd and speak, how to save someone's life and many more.

These 17 required badges, of which you must earn at least 13, are:

1. **Camping**
2. **Citizenship in the Community**
3. **Citizenship in the Nation**
4. **Citizenship in the World**
5. **Communications**
6. **Cooking**
7. **Environmental Science or**
8. **Sustainability**
9. **Family Life**
10. **First Aid**
11. **Lifesaving or**
12. **Emergency Preparedness**
13. **Personal Fitness**
14. **Personal Management**
15. **Swimming or**
16. **Cycling or**
17. **Hiking**

You get to 13 because you can do Environmental Science or Sustainability; and you can do Lifesaving or Emergency Preparedness; and you can do Swimming, Cycling or Hiking.

Since you need a minimum of 21, the additional 8 can come from the additional required Merit Badges, plus however many more you need from the following list of elective Merit Badges. Every once in a while a new elective Merit Badge gets added to the list, so you'll just never know what might pop up, but look at the following list and we are sure that you'll find many that interest you:

Elective Merit Badges as of 2018 (119 of them):

American Business	American Cultures	American Heritage
American Labor	Animal Science	Animation (new in 2015)
Archaeology	Archery	Architecture
Art	Astronomy	Athletics

Automotive Maintenance	Aviation	Backpacking
Basketry	Bird Study	Bugling
Canoeing	Chemistry	Chess
Climbing	Coin Collecting	Collections
Composite Materials	Crime Prevention	Dentistry
Digital Technology	Disabilities Awareness	Dog Care
Drafting	Electricity	Electronics
Energy	Engineering	Entrepreneurship
Farm Mechanics	Fingerprinting	Fire Safety
Fish & Wildlife Management	Fishing	Fly Fishing
Forestry	Game Design	Gardening
Genealogy	Geocaching	Geology
Golf	Graphic Arts	Home Repairs
Horsemanship	Indian Lore	Insect Study
Inventing	Journalism	Kayaking
Landscape Architecture	Law	Leatherwork
Mammal Study	Medicine	Metalwork
Mining in Society	Model Design and Building	Motor Boating
Movie Making	Music	Nature
Nuclear Science	Oceanography	Orienteering
Painting	Pets	Photography
Pioneering	Plant Science	Plumbing
Pottery	Programming	Public Health
Public Speaking	Pulp and Paper	Radio
Railroading	Reading	Reptile & Amphibian Study
Rifle Shooting	Robotics	Rowing
Safety	Salesmanship	Scholarship
Scouting Heritage	SCUBA Diving	Sculpture
Search and Rescue	Shotgun Shooting	Signs, Signals and Codes
Skating	Small Boat Sailing	Snow Sports
Soil & Water Conservation	Space Exploration	Sports
Stamp Collecting	Surveying	Textile
Theater	Traffic Safety	Truck Transportation
Veterinary Medicine	Water Sports	Weather
Welding	Whitewater	Wilderness Survival
Wood Carving	Woodwork	

This makes a total of about 136 Merit Badges that are offered by the Boy Scouts right now. Could you earn them all? Of course, you could, and some Scouts do.

In 2010, the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouting, 4 special Historical Merit Badges were re-offered and Scouts in 2010 had the chance of earning Carpentry, Path finding, Signaling and Tracking, so find a Scout who was active in 2010 and ask him if he earned any of these historical badges.

How can I find out about Merit Badge requirements?

- 1) Individual Merit Badge guide books or pamphlets, purchased at the Scout store or borrowed from the Troop Librarian, that teach you what you need to know on each badge to accomplish the requirements.
- 2) The "Boy Scout Requirements" book (latest version is out for 2017) that summarizes all of the rank advancements and merit badge requirements.
- 3) Lots of websites, with one of the more popular – www.meritbadge.org – that also has merit badge requirements, in downloadable word or pdf formats, and lots of other information on all types of Scouting.

For each Merit Badge that you are working on, a “Blue Card” or a Merit Badge application needs to be filled out. It is up to you to select the badge that you want to do, and then find and call the Merit Badge Counselor and do the appropriate study / research to complete the requirement and then make an appointment to review what you have done with the Counselor to get signoff. No one but you will monitor this. No one but you will manage this. This is not like school where you will have a teacher checking up on you to see if you have done your requirements. Scouting is like real-life. It is up to you and if you don't take the initiative, it won't get done.

What are Merit Badge Counselors and Who are they?

Many parents and adults in the Troop have signed up to be Merit Badge Counselors. They have agreed to teach and monitor those areas where they have some experience. Talk to the adult Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator for a list of current Merit Badge Counselors, or for their help in locating a Merit Badge Counselor. And, if the Troop doesn't have a current Counselor for a specific Merit Badge, call the Council Office and they will help you find one from another Troop or from the Timberline District.

7) Leadership

Expectations:

A huge part of growing up is learning how to lead. Leading people is tough work. You will quickly learn that no one does what you want them to do just by telling them or by yelling at them when they don't do what you want. This is the real world. You need to learn how to make people want to follow you. This is one of the secrets to a successful life. It only comes by being willing to try and making mistakes, and then learning from those mistakes. It comes first by being willing to help others and put them first.

Boy Scouts is one of the finest chances you will get when you are young to learn this critical skill. Don't miss this opportunity to try it out. Don't be afraid of mistakes – that is how you learn. The only real mistake is not to try.

Look for ways to help younger Scouts. Once you are a Star Scout, ask them if they would like some help with advancement. Then teach them and sign off on their accomplishment. You will feel good and the young Scout will feel good as well.

If you just stay in your own age groups (like you do at school) at the meetings and campouts, you will miss this great opportunity. Step outside of yourself. It is uncomfortable, but that is how you grow.

Scout Event Planner:

Every camping or service activity needs a Scout Event Planner, or S-E-P. The S-E-P (and assistants if applicable) is the one that is responsible for making sure all the logistics are covered (food, driving, place is available, etc). Since we do at least 12 of these events per year, it is expected that each of you step up to run at least one event every year – and more if possible. See the Scout Event Planner duties attached at the back of this guide.

Requirements:

As you get into the upper ranks of Scouting, you will need 6 months of being in a leadership position. You will not advance as a Scout unless you raise your hand and get involved.

Opportunities:

- Order of the Arrow (BSA Camping and Service oriented Honor Society)
- Den Chief
You can actually go to some Webelos meetings and let them know about the Troop and make new friends there as you teach knot tying and cool camping stuff you have learned in Boy Scouts. This is one of the most

important leadership positions in the Troop as it is the best way to help new Scouts feel comfortable to join the Troop.

- **Troop Guide**
When you get to be a Star Scout, be sure to sign up for this. You will be one of the go-to guys for the new younger Scouts. You can help them learn the skills of Scouting and sign off in their books.
- **Instructor**
If you have a particular skill or area of interest, like camping, climbing, music, biking or anything, you can become an instructor to the Troop.
- **Patrol Leader**
It expected that each Scout be a Patrol Leader at least once in his Scouting career.
- **Senior Patrol Leader**
Every Scout should aspire to become a Senior Patrol Leader when they are old enough and far enough in Scouting that they can take on the senior leadership position of the Troop. In terms of managing what the Troop does and when, the SPL has much more influence than the Scoutmaster. The Senior Patrol Leader has the opportunity to lead the Troop and learn the key aspects of leadership (what works and what doesn't)
- **Many others:**
The Troop has many more leadership opportunities and it is expected that each Scout be in some leadership position in the Troop and/or the Scout's Patrol every 6 months.

8) Adult Helpers

The adults in this Troop are not the leaders... they are only mentors and helpers. The boys, the Scouts, are the leaders.

Take control, and take charge and take responsibility. If you don't, the Troop will die, and certainly won't be much fun as we will all sit around and stare at each other.....

So you can know who is available to help you here are the names of the adult helpers who can be resources for you.

2018 Adult Helpers:

- Scoutmaster – Burke Benton (303) 884-4004, bbenton7@q.com.
- Troop Committee Chairman – Mike Coff, (720) 838-8810, snoopmo2@gmail.com.
- Treasurer – Michele McDonald (303) 670-4604, michelemcd@live.com.
- Scribe: Ellen Williams (405) 812-5667, familywilliams@ymail.com.
- Advancement: Beth Hilquist (847) 648-3878, bhilquist@gmail.com.
- Assistant Scoutmasters – Kent Harris, David McDonald, Michael Morlock, Steven Williams, Eric Goslau, Sarah Krzanowsky, Dan Osborn, Patrick McDonald, Patrick Morlock, Andrew Adamowski, Ed Hilquist, Kit Swenby, Jeni Warnken, David Edgar.
- Committee Members – Holly Richardson, Allen Richardson, Laura Sapienza, Christine Thompson, Melody Elder, Greg Konigsbauer, James “Buster” Myers, Tanya Myers, Alex Eves, Harold Linke.
- Troop 1776's Unit Commissioner – Barb Quatermass (720) 299-1300, barbyq22@yahoo.com.
- Timberline District Executives (the paid staff), Cheyann Thunberg & Tim Purvis (303) 455-5522.
- Chartered Organization (Troop Sponsor): Rotary Club of the Mountain Foothills, Mr. Med Durel, Chartered Organization Representative (303) 674-2378.

9.) DICTIONARY OF BSA TERMS AND ACRONYMS

- ADC – Assistant District Commissioner – District level position working with the District Commissioner and Unit Commissioners.
- APL – Assistant Patrol Leader.
- ASM – Assistant Scoutmaster.
- ASPL – Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (Troop Leadership Position).
- BALOO – Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (Adult Leader Training for Cub Scout Leaders).
- Bighorn – The DAC name for NYLT – National Youth Leadership Training. It is a Council wide advanced Scout junior leader training held in the Summer at Tahosa. Also see NAYLE.
- Blue Card – Merit Badge tracking system.

- **Board of Review – Meeting between the Scout and three or more members of the Troop Committee done at every rank advancement starting with Scout. The Eagle Board of Review must include an adult representing the Timberline District or the Denver Area Council.**
- **BSA – Boy Scouts of America.**
- **BSLST – Boy Scout Leaders Specifics Training (Adult Helper Training – Also called Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Specifics).**
- **BSR – Boy Scout Ranch.**
- **Buddy System – What every Scout has to learn and abide by.**
- **Chaplain – Adult Helper that is part of the Troop Committee that helps the Troop with its religious activities and training.**
- **Chaplain’s Aide – Troop Leadership Position – Scout responsible for helping other Scouts with religious activities and training.**
- **CO – Chartering Organization – Sponsoring organization required for every Scouting unit – Pack, Troop, Crew, etc.**
- **COH – Court of Honor.**
- **COPE – Ropes team course held in the summer at Tahosa.**
- **COR – Chartering Organization Representative.**
- **Council Commissioner – Top Commissioner position in the Council.**
- **Den Chief – Troop Leadership Position – Works with Cub Scouts, primarily Webelos Dens, to get them ready for Boy Scouting.**
- **DAC – Denver Area Council.**
- **DE – District Executive (Professional that works for the District).**
- **Dietler, or Camp Dietler – One of the camps at PV, Peaceful Valley.**
- **DC – District Commissioner – District level position that supervises all of the Assistant District Commissioners and Unit Commissioners.**
- **Dobbins, or Camp Dobbins – One of the camps at PV, or Peaceful Valley.**
- **Green Bar Patrol – Named for Green Bar Bill, a famous Scouter. The Troop Leadership Patrol.**
- **Historian – Troop Leadership Position – Manages Troop History and keeps track of events.**
- **IH – Institutional Head of the Chartering Organization.**
- **IIC – Investment in Character, f/ F.O.S. – Friends of Scouting - Annual fundraising campaign at the District and Council level.**
- **Instructor – Troop Leadership Position – Usually an older Scout that helps teach advancement skills to new Scouts and new Patrols.**
- **ILST – Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops, f/ JLT – Junior Leader Training and before that - TLT – Troop Leader Training. This is the Scout Leader training done by the Troop.**
- **IOLS – Introduction to Outdoor Leaders Skills (Adult Helper Training).**
- **JASM – Junior Assistant Scoutmaster (Troop Leadership Position).**
- **JTE – Journey to Excellence. Tracked by the Troop’s Unit Commissioner. Meeting the minimums of this program qualifies the Troop for free rank advancement badges from the Scout Store.**
- **Librarian – Troop Leadership Position – Manages Troop library.**
- **Magness, or Camp Magness – One of the camps at PV, or Peaceful Valley.**
- **MBC – Merit Badge Counselor.**
- **Mountain Foothills Rotary – Our Troop’s very supportive Chartered Organization.**
- **NAYLE – National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience. Next step beyond Bighorn. Advanced national level training held each Summer at Philmont.**
- **OA – Order of the Arrow (Camping Fraternity in the Boy Scouts).**
- **OKPIK – Winter Camping Survival Course held at Tahosa.**

- OTJ – On the Job Training.
- Philmont – Philmont BSR – Cimarron, NM.
- PL – Patrol Leader.
- PLC – Patrol Leader’s Council – Monthly Troop Planning Meeting.
- PV – Peaceful Valley BSR – Elbert, CO.
- QM – Quartermaster (Patrol and Troop Leadership positions).
- Re-charter – Annual process which (re)registers Scouts and Adult Helpers with the Council and National offices. Is reviewed and approved by the CO, which in Troop 1776’s case is the Mountain Foothills Rotary.
- Roundtable – Monthly District Wide Meeting, usually held on the 1st Thursday of the month for the Timberline District.
- Scout Barn or Shed – Where the gear and equipment is kept.
- Scout Hut – The Church or the designated place where the Troop meets.
- Scouter – What every adult, registered or not, gets to call themselves.
- S-E-P – Scout Event Planner.
- SM – Scoutmaster.
- Scoutmaster Conference – Meeting between the Scout and the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster done at every rank advancement.
- Scout Show – The Denver Area Council Scout Show that takes place on a Saturday every April.
- Scribe – Troop Leadership Position – Takes notes at PLC and other meetings.
- SPL – Senior Patrol Leader (Troop Leader).
- Tahosa – Tahosa BSR – Ward, CO.
- TD – Timberline District.
- This is Scouting – Introductory Adult Helper Training.
- TTT – Timberline Training Team.
- Troop Committee – Group of Adult Helpers / Parents that help keep the Troop organized and running.
- Troop Guide – Troop Leadership Position – Usually an older Scout that works with new Scouts and new Patrols.
- UC – Unit Commissioner –Volunteer Adult Helper that is a liaison between the Troop and the District.
- UOS – University of Scouting – Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Venturing Leader trainings that takes place on a Saturday every October. In 2009, replaced Pow-Wow for Cub Scouting and Chautauqua for Boy Scouting.
- WeBeLoS – 4th and 5th Grade Cub Scouts – Stands for We’ll Be Loyal Scouts.
- WLOT – Webelos Leaders Outdoor Training (Adult Leader Training).
- Wood Badge – Advanced Adult Leader Training held by the Council.
- YPT – Youth Protection Training (Adult Helper Training).