

## **New Scouts: What to Learn Now**

### **The Uniform**

The Scout uniform should be obtained as soon as you register as a Scout and should be worn at every Scout meeting and function. See membership guide for what your uniform consists of.

**The appropriate uniform is not just encouraged, it is required.**

**Consider the Scout uniform a "ticket" for admittance to a Scout function.**

**No ticket, no admittance!**

**The first rank you will earn is the rank of SCOUT. You must know the following:**

### **Scout Oath/Promise**

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.

### **Outdoor Code**

As an American, I will do my best to—  
Be clean in my outdoor manners  
Be careful with fire  
Be considerate in the outdoors  
Be conservation-minded

**Scout Motto: *Be Prepared***

**Scout Slogan: *Do a Good Turn Daily***

### **Scout Law**

#### **A Scout is:**

Trustworthy Loyal Helpful Friendly Courteous Kind Obedient Cheerful Thrifty Brave  
Clean & Reverent

**Trustworthy** - A Scout tells the truth. He keeps his promises. Honesty is a part of his code of conduct. People can always depend on him.

**Loyal** – A Scout is true to his family, friends, Scout leaders, school, nation & world community.

**Helpful** – A Scout is concerned about other people. He willingly volunteers to help others without expecting payment or reward.

**Friendly** - A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other scouts. He seeks to understand others. He respects those with ideas and customs that are different from his own.

**Courteous** – A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He knows that good manners make it easier for people to get along together.

**Kind** – A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. He does not harm or kill anything without reason.

**Obedient** – A Scout follows the rules of his family, school and Troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey.

**Cheerful** – A Scout looks to the bright side of life. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.

**Thrifty** – A Scout works to pay his way and help others. He saves for the future. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

**Brave** – A Scout can face danger even when he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.

**Clean** – A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He goes around with those who believe in living by these same ideals. He keeps his home and community clean.

**Reverent** – A Scout is reverent towards God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the belief of others.

### **Rank and Merit Badges**

**What are the ranks of Scouting?** Scout, Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class, Star, Life, Eagle

**Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class** = A Scout advances through the first three ranks by learning Scout skills, some of which require overnight camping.

**Star, Life and Eagle** = Each of these ranks requires a combination of 4 things:

- \* Troop leadership; service to the community; participating at meetings and on outings; and

- \* Merit badges (Merit badges are awarded to Scouts for fulfilling requirements in specific fields of interest and cover such areas as hobbies, careers, sports, science, and Scouting skills. There are over 110 merit badges to choose from; A total of 21 merit badges are necessary to apply for Eagle rank and 13 of those are Eagle required merit badges)

**What are reasonable advancement objectives?**

An active Scout can obtain his First Class rank in his first year of Scouting; however, it is more common to reach this rank during the second year. An industrious Scout can earn

three to five merit badges at summer camp and one to two at Merit Badge Universities. The troop also offers opportunities during the scouting year to work on merit badges during meetings.

Some badges (Environmental Science, for an example) are more challenging than others. Personal Management, Personal Fitness, and Family Life each require a minimum of 90 days to complete and it is suggested that Scouts work on these after reaching First Class rank. A reasonably attainable advancement schedule is:

End of Year	Rank	Number of Merit Badges	Leadership Position	Scout Spirit
1	1 <sup>st</sup> class	2	Y	Y
2	Star	7	Y	Y
3	Life	13	Y	Y
4	Life	19	Y	Y
5	Eagle	21	Y	Y

**\*\*This is a suggested target. All scouts are encouraged to work at a reasonable pace.**

### **Can I work on merit badges before I reach my First Class rank?**

As a younger scout your focus should be on acquiring skills, but we encourage you to become familiar with and enthused about the merit badge program. You should complete First Aid and Swimming your first year of summer camp!

### **What is OA?**

The Order of the Arrow is national brotherhood of honor scouts whose emphasis is on camping traditions, and service to Scouting and the community. Elections are held annually at the Troop level for Scouts and adult leaders who meet specific requirements and are elected by their peers.

## **Ten Needs of A Boy (anon.)**

1. To climb a mountain and to look afar.
2. To sit around an embered campfire with good friends.
3. To test his strength and his skill on his very own.
4. To be alone with his own thoughts and with his God.
5. To be able to reach out and find the hand of an understanding man ready and willing to help.
6. To have a code to live by - easily understood and fair.
7. A chance to play hard just for the fun of it - and to work hard for the thrill of it.
8. To have a chance to fail - and to know why.
9. To have and to be a good friend, and a chance to prove both.
10. To have a hero and a vision to measure him by.