

Troop 313 Board of Review Guidelines

Guide for Board Members

When a Scout has completed all the requirements for a rank, he appears before a board of review composed of members of the Troop Committee and Parents. Their purpose is not to retest the Scout, **but to make sure he has met all the requirements for the rank, and to chat with him a while to learn how he feels he's doing with the Troop and with Scouting.** With this knowledge, the Troop leaders can shape the program to meet most Scouts' needs and interests.

The session gives the Scout a chance to bring up any questions or problems he may have, and a chance for the board to talk with him about such important matters as goals, Scout spirit, and personal growth. And, of course, to congratulate him on his progress and urge him to keep going or, if necessary, to frankly discuss with him his lack of progress, and try to help him get back on track.

A further benefit of the board is the opportunity it gives a Scout to meet and talk face-to-face with adults he doesn't know very well. To an 11-year old they may seem 10-feet tall, and primed with questions he won't be able to answer. Instead he finds warm and friendly people who listen to what he says and only want to help him have a good experience with Scouting.

At the end of his review, the Scout leaves the room while the board discusses his qualifications. He is then called back and told that he has qualified, or what additional action he must take to qualify.

Some Review Guidelines.

1. Review background of applicant but not in his presence.
2. Introduce applicant to all members of board, indicate the desire of the board to help, and try to put him at ease if possible.
3. The chairperson should let the Scout know that the purpose of the board is to review what he has done for the advancement in rank and has he done what he was supposed to do in order to progress to the next rank. Also, board members should find out how good an experience the Scout is having in the Troop; let him be honest with his views, not just saying what he thinks the board wants to hear.
4. Review his Scout Handbook and records to determine that he has met all the requirements. [The Advancement Committee has a summary record available for the board members to review.] He should be told there are 3 parts to advancement: Scout skills, Scout participation in activities other than skills, and Scout spirit/attitude.
5. The object of the questions asked is to get the Scout to talk about his experiences in advancing. No one group of questions is right for every boy nor for every rank.
6. Any questions by board members may be asked, however, the chairperson will determine when to close the review.

Some Suggested Questions.

- What rank have you finished the requirements for?
- What merit badges did you earn for this rank or since your last review?
- Why did you choose that merit badge for this rank or at this time?
- What did you find easiest about working for this progress award?
- What did you find hardest about working for this progress award?
- What was the reason you finished requirements for this rank?
- Who influenced you most?
- Who helped you most?
- How is your attendance record for Troop meetings? campouts? hikes? outings? service projects?
- Do you wear your uniform to all scouting functions?
- How do you feel about wearing your uniform?
- What is a good turn? What good turns have you done lately?
- Have you taken part recently in any service projects? Who was with you and what did you do? Would you like to do it again? How do you think this helped other people?
- What is your Patrol name? How many boys are in it? Do you think you get along well together?
- Do you have some boys in your Patrol that are not really part of the group?
- What can you do to help them feel more a part of the Patrol?
- What do you mean when you say "On my honor, I will do my best"?
- How do you keep yourself physically strong?
- What do you do that shows the Scout Oath and Law at work?
- What part of scouting do you like best? Least? Would you do anything different? If you can change something, what would you suggest? What does "Duty to God" mean to you as a Boy Scout?
- What do you think "Show Scout spirit" means? How have you shown it?
- What Patrol or Troop leadership position do you hold or would you like to hold? What plans do you have for further advancement?
- Is there any special project or activity that you would like to see or do in the future?
- What do you believe you can do personally to help make your Troop a better Troop?
- Would you like to say anything about this board or review?
- Would you please do your best in saying the Scout Oath? [or] Scout Law?

SCOUT OATH

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.

SCOUT LAW

A Scout is: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

SCOUT SLOGAN: Do a Good Turn Daily.

SCOUT MOTTO: Be Prepared.

The board of review should be a growth experience for all concerned: Scout, Troop Committee member and Parent. If any participant discovers anything that can benefit the Troop during this process, they are encouraged to discuss and make recommendations to the Troop leadership.