

# Rank Advancement

A Scout's achievements are recognized by receiving badges of rank. The progression of ranks are Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. Reading the *Boy Scout Handbook* will provide guidance through these ranks.

- 1. Learn by Reading the Boy Scout Handbook:** Use the chapters towards the front of the book to learn and experience the requirements as directed.
- 2. Test Yourself:** Rank requirements sections in the back of the handbook are used by the Scout and the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster's, or designated Life Scouts to test the skills learned. The second to last step in rank advancement is the Scoutmaster Conference. The Scout makes a phone call to the Troop Scoutmaster to request and schedule a Scoutmaster Conference. Sometimes, upon referral of the Scoutmaster, an Assistant Scoutmaster may hold this conference with the Scout.
- 3. Review Through a Board:** The final step of rank advancement as listed for each rank in the *Boy Scout Handbook* is a Board Of Review (BOR). The Scout makes a phone call to the Advancement Chair (Mr. Greer) to request and schedule a Board of Review. The panel is made up of three troop committee members. The Scout is presented to the board (panel) by the Scoutmaster or an Assistance Scoutmaster. The panel usually sits behind a table and the Scout stands or sits facing the panel. The purpose of the BOR is to review the work the Scout has learned and completed; to check to see what kind of experience the Scout is having in his patrol and troop; and to encourage the Scout to advance to the next rank. The Scout should be in his Class A uniform (neat in appearance and correctly placed badges/patches) and in possession of his *Boy Scout Handbook*. The board/panel reviews and decides whether the Scout is ready to advance.
- 4. Recognize the Advancement:** At last, the Scout is recognized for his rank advancement with a badge of rank and a pocket card. Although immediate recognition may be done at a regular troop meeting, a more formal recognition is made at a quarterly Court Of Honor (COH). Troop 11 Courts of Honor are held in March, June, September, and December.
- 5. Update Scout Uniform:** After all this learning, testing, reviewing, and recognizing for a rank advancement, updating the Scout uniform is VERY important to the Scout and his fellow Scout mates. The inside front and back covers of the Boy Scout Handbook have helpful diagrams of proper badge placement. The Boy Scout Uniform Inspection Sheet also displays the official placement of insignia. This document can be found on [www.troop11.org](http://www.troop11.org).

**Special Note:** A Scout may request a Scoutmaster Conference at any time. Together, they will determine if the Scout has completed all the requirements for the intended rank. Only then is the Scout adequately prepared to request a Board of Review. Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review may be conducted at any time between Courts of Honor. The Scout does not have to wait just prior to a Court of Honor to make his requests. Immediate recognition of his advancement will be made at a regular troop meeting. In addition, formal recognition will be made at the next Court of Honor. Lastly, a Scout may request the respective Scoutmaster Conference and/or Board of Review via telephone, e-mail, or in person. Contact information is available via our Troop 11 website. Please refer any questions regarding this process to the Advancement Chair (Mr. Greer).