

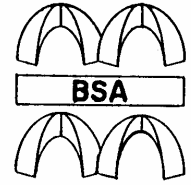


U.S.A.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

TROOP 313

DES PERES, MISSOURI
Since 1944



Procedures and Policies Regarding Boards of Review

1. Responsibilities

For each rank of Tenderfoot through Eagle, a Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review are required to complete the rank. It is the responsibility of the **Scout** first to contact the **Scoutmaster** and request his Scoutmaster Conference when he has completed all of his other rank requirements but before his Board of Review. It is the responsibility of the **Scout** to then contact the **Committee Advancement Chair** and request a Board of Review. (Note that both the Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review may occur on the same day.)

It is the responsibility of the **Scoutmaster** to be available for the Scoutmaster Conference. It is the responsibility of the **Committee Advancement Chair** to respond to a Scout's request and recruit adults to sit on the **Scout's** Board of Review.

2. Procedures

Normally, Boards of Review are conducted at the second Troop meeting of each month (fourth Wednesday of the month). Exceptions to this can be made at the discretion of the **Committee Advancement Chair** when, for example, there is no second Troop meeting of the month because of holidays or when summer camp or a high-adventure trip make it impractical or impossible to follow the normal schedule. A **Scout** may request a Board of Review for another time but must realize that it is dependent upon the availability of necessary adults to conduct the Board of Review.

In any case, the **Scout** must contact the **Scoutmaster** *at least one week in advance* of the date of the Scoutmaster Conference. Likewise, the **Scout** must contact the **Committee Advancement Chair** *at least one week in advance* of the date of the Board of Review. If the **Scout** fails to appear for his Board of Review, he will be required to wait until the next regularly-scheduled time for Boards of Review.

A Board of Review may be conducted by three or more adults from the Troop. Normally, these will include both registered Scouters and other parents. For Troop Boards of Review for Eagle Scout candidates, a recent Eagle Scout, either still a youth member or a young adult (18-21) will usually be added to others on the Board of Review. Parents and other relatives may not sit on the Board of Review for a Scout to whom they are related.

3. General Guidelines for Boards of Review

Boards of Review are responsible for determining the readiness of the **Scout** for the rank to which he is about to advance. The Board of Review is not an inquisition, but a review.

The **Scout** is responsible for appearing before the board at the appointed time and date, and presenting himself in full Class A uniform (including neckerchief, belt, socks and appropriate footwear).

The Board of Review will verify that all rank requirements are signed off in the **Scout's** Boy Scout Handbook. The **Committee Advancement Chairman** will provide the Board of Review with documentation that the **Scout** has fulfilled any required time in rank, service hours and leadership position(s).

For the lower ranks (Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class), the Scout is expected to know at least the Scout Oath and Law and preferably also the Motto and Slogan. For higher ranks, the **Scout** is expected to know the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Motto, the Slogan and the Outdoor Code. By custom, the Board of Review will open with the **Scout** standing and repeating the Oath and Law for the Board.

Members of the Board of Review may ask the **Scout** about his experiences in fulfilling the requirements for his rank and questions about his Scouting experiences in general. The purpose is not to re-test the **Scout** on requirements already signed off but to verify that he has, indeed, fulfilled those requirements. The Board of Review should encourage detailed answers by asking leading questions, not the sort amenable to a simple "yes" or "no" answer. The Board of Review should also discuss the **Scout's** contributions to the Troop and community in service and leadership. They should encourage the **Scout** to continue his advancement.

The usual duration for a Board of Review is fifteen to thirty minutes, with lower ranks falling at the shorter end of this scale and higher ranks (Star, Life) at the higher end. When the Board of Review is satisfied that all of their questions have been

answered, they will ask the **Scout** to leave the room so they may discuss whether he is deemed ready for advancement. The decision of the Board of Review must be unanimous. When the Board of Review has reached its decision, they will invite the **Scout** back into the room and advise him of their decision. Should there be deficiencies that the Board of Review feel need to be addressed before the **Scout** is permitted to advance, the Board of Review must address these specifically to the **Scout** and provide guidance on how he should proceed to remedy the deficiencies. It is sometimes appropriate and necessary to say “no,” but saying “no” carries with it the responsibility of giving the **Scout** guidance on how to correct whatever issues prevent his advancement.

The Board of Review will then inform the **Troop Advancement Chair** of their decision. If the **Scout** is permitted to advance, the **Troop Advancement Chair** will sign his Scout Handbook and record the date of the Board of Review as the date of record for the **Scout’s** rank advancement. (*Note: The date of the Board of Review, not the date of the Court of Honor where the **Scout** receives his new badge of rank, is the date of record. In the case of an Eagle Scout candidate, the date of record for his reaching Eagle is the date of his District Eagle Board of Review, not his Troop Board of Review.*)

There are a number of resources available to guide Boards of Review. Normally, the **Troop Advancement Chair** will provide members of the Board of Review with copies of questions appropriate to Boards of Review for each rank. Example web sites with additional information and guidance are:

<http://www.macscouter.com/Scoutmaster/BoR/>

http://www.buckskin.org/Resources/Boy_Scouts/boards_of_review.htm