

STAR-LIFE-EAGLE BOARDS OF REVIEW: GUIDELINES FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT PROCESS
BSA TROOP 22
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OHIO

To attain the last three ranks of Boy Scouting (Star, Life, Eagle), a Scout must pass an adult Board of Review. In much the same manner as the peer-led review process to advance from Scout-Tenderfoot-Second Class-First Class, the purpose of an adult Board of Review is to:

1. ensure that a Scout is participating in his unit's program to the fullest extent possible;
2. provide the opportunity for a Scout to recognize, reflect on, and evaluate his own experiences in Boy Scouting; and
3. ensure that the learning/testing process is occurring within the Patrol and Troop.

At the beginning of an adult Board of Review, this purpose may be explained to a Scout as follows:

"We are not here to re-examine or re-test you. You have been working on the requirements for (specific rank) in your Patrol and in the Troop, and we have confidence in your leaders. In discussing your progress in the Troop, we want to be sure that the ideals of Scouting -- the Scout Oath and Scout Law, mean something to you. We need to be sure that Scouts are learning what they should learn in order to be awarded their next rank. We want to discuss your experiences with you and ask you a few questions about what you have learned and done to make certain that the Troop is running properly. ... We may ask you to state an opinion or take a position about what is correct action or conduct. We may ask you to explain why you state that opinion ... this is not to embarrass you ... there may be no single "right" or "magic" answer ... we just ask you to tell us what's on your mind. OKT'

At the level of Star-Life-Eagle, an adult Board of Review is a serious endeavour, both for the adult members of the Board, and for the Scout involved. Board members, with a designated Chairperson, will meet beforehand to review the Scout's progress and determine appropriate questions to ask the Scout that pertain to the requirements for the rank being reviewed. The Board of Review usually will last around 45 minutes. For a successful Board of Review, a Scout should prepare in the following ways:

1. Read Chapter 6 (from the new handbook). Think about, and be able to talk about the definition of Scout "Spirit". How have the principles of Boy Scouting been used in daily life? Be able to recite and talk about the Scout Oath and Laws. The Board of Review is interested to see how the Scout Laws have translated into a Scout's lifestyle. A Scout may be asked to reflect on areas of strength and difficulty.
2. Come to the Board of Review in full uniform. A clean, neat appearance indicates respect for the process. Iron the uniform. Sew on all badges earned. A Scout being reviewed for rank attainment should look like he is proud of his achievements.

3. Bring the Leadership "Ticket" to be able to demonstrate, and capably discuss, progress as a Boy Scout Leader Since the last rank achieved.

Questions from Board of Review members will concern these areas. Preparation is important!

Leadership Qualities:

1. What has the leadership position been? How effective has the Scout been as a leader? What has the Scout learned from areas that were not successful?
2. How many campouts has the Scout attended of those offered Since attainment of last rank? 3. How many Scout meetings has the Scout attended of those held Since attainment of last rank? 4. How many Service hours has the Scout earned of those available Since attainment of last rank? In Troop 22, Service to others is very important.
5. If a patrol leader, how many members of the Scout's patrol have advanced Since the Scout was in leadership? What lessons (positive and negative) have been learned from this experience? 6. If a patrol leader, how many patrol meetings were held and how many did he attend? What sorts of activities were planned for the patrol members?
7. Did the Scout participate in fundraising opportunities for the troop?

Communication

1. Can the Scout communicate with the Board of Review members in a mature manner? Does the Scout's level of communication reflect preparation in leadership/Communication Badge work?
2. Can the Scout provide clear explanations to questions asked of him?
3. Does the Scout use proper "body language" (i.e. use of hands, eye contact, posture, etc.)? 4. Does the Scout Show respect for the Board of Review members and process?
5. Does the Scout demonstrate attainment of the rank in question? Would this Scout do well before an Eagle Board of Review (especially' for those scouts Seeking Life rank)?

The foregoing is intended to Serve as guidelines for the Board of Review process for Scouts in Troop 22. Working towards the standards Set and communicated by this Troop ensure success for both the Scout and Troop 22. If there are any questions about the foregoing, please contact Scouts/adults in leadership, Board of Review members, or the Scoutmaster. Troop 22 is proud of its Boy Scouts, and Boy Scouts in Troop 22 can be proud of themselves.

