

LEADERSHIP EXPECTATIONS for First Class, Star, and Life Scouts

The goals of Boy Scouting are:

- Develop character
- Promote fitness
- Foster citizenship

These elements should be part of the structure for the PLC planning process

To achieve these goals, Boy Scouting uses these techniques:

- Scouts perform planning
- Scouts perform leadership
- Adult leader resources - interaction with adults
- Troop meeting
- Outdoor program
- Boy Scout handbook
- Merit badge program

The closer we come to achieving the first two of these techniques, the more scouts will develop those leadership, character building steps to which Boy Scouting aspires.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

- Reached First Class
 - Developed a basic skill set of First Aid, Citizenship, Pioneering, Navigation, and Scoutcraft
 - Need to continue to review and refine these skills so that you can use them for effective leadership

TO REACH STAR, LIFE, AND EAGLE the elements are similar:

- Earn a number of merit badges
 - In reality a specialized skill set
 - Benefits the individual scout
 - Working with adults, often unknown previously
- Be active in your troop
 - Attend 50% of the outdoor activities
 - Attend 75% of the troop meetings
 - Requires balancing your other duties and obligations
 - Scouting is a longer term commitment
 - You set your goals and priorities
- Serve actively in a leadership position
 - No leadership credit for just wearing the badge
 - If you cannot commit at present, plan ahead
 - Not a race to Eagle, you have plenty of time

- Don't let the Troop and other scouts down
- Be critical of your leadership
- Seek advice
- Not everyone can be or wants to be SPL
- Plenty of leadership positions critical for a strong troop
- Perform a service (Star/Life) or leadership (Eagle) project
 - Approved in advance - part of your planning responsibilities
 - Star/Life - can be mundane work
 - Eagle - demonstrate leadership and lasting value
- Demonstrate Scout Spirit
 - Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan (Outdoor code for good value!)
 - In your everyday life
- Scoutmaster conference
- Board of Review

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT YOU?

- Remember what scouting is trying to develop
- Program is designed to provide opportunities for advancement
- Program is designed to provide opportunities for leadership
- Leadership is the key element at these ranks for both you and the troop
 - Principles of good leadership involve:
 - Communication
 - Communication, and
 - Communication - in that order
- Specific job responsibilities
- Establish objective criteria and milestones
- Don't be afraid to fail
- Don't expect credit not earned - you are cheating yourself

BOTTOM LINE

- I would be remiss in developing your character and leadership if you were not held to these ideals
- You would not be getting out of scouting the opportunities to learn leadership and character building skills and to develop as a young man
- I want you to have these opportunities and if you choose to earn your path to the rank of Eagle scout.
- I want you to hold yourself responsible to achieve this goal - not your mom or dad.
- Remember it is Boy Scouts of America and if we do this right, you will achieve your goals, learn lifelong skills and leadership, appreciate the values scouting pursues, and together make 396 and stronger and better troop through your contributions

Paul Smith

3 May 2000

BoyScouts:Leadership:LeadershipExpectations.wpd