

### **How does a Scout advance towards Eagle?**

The first thing he'll need is the Boy Scout Handbook that the Troop provides on joining. The handbook has all the information the Scout needs for rank advancement from Tenderfoot through Eagle. When he completes a requirement, he'll need to seek out his Patrol Leader or Troop Guide and have the higher ranking Scout sign. Most requirements are successfully completed on camping trips, therefore the more trips he attends, the faster he advances. Merit badges are required for advancement after First Class. There are over 100 merit badges a Scout can select from. There are 21 total merit badges needed for Eagle of which 11 are required. A Scout can work on different ranks at the same time, however he must complete ranks in progression. He can't earn Second Class before Tenderfoot.

### **Once my son earns a merit badge, and the badge is presented to him, what should he do with the "blue card"?**

Keep it in a safe place. Those blue cards are your Scout's personal record of achievement. Although it's rare, occasionally a merit badge may be called into question during an Eagle Board of Review. It is imperative that your son be able to present this record to the Council or appointed counselors. A three-ring binder with plastic card storage sheets work well for storing these cards.

### **My son has all of his rank requirements signed off except for his Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review. What are those?**

After a Scout has successfully completed the requirements for each rank, he then has his Scoutmaster Conference during which he and the Scoutmaster talk about the Scout's likes and dislikes of Boy Scouts, what he would like to see happen in the troop, how he is doing in school, and what (at this stage of his life) his goals are. Then he schedules his Board of Review where 3 or more registered adults talk with the Scout about his experiences with Scouting. They are not there to grill the Scout on requirements. Once he completes the Board of Review he is awarded the rank at the next Court of Honor.

### **How do I know what is going on in the Troop and with the Scouts?**

Get involved. The **BEST** way to know what is going on is to get involved, either on the Scout side of the Troop, the Committee side of the Troop or both.

We have monthly parent meetings and all parents are strongly encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity for parents learn what is happening from the Troop Committee and the Scoutmasters, to ask questions and to offer ideas.

Visit our website, click on the Boy Scout logo: [www.overbrookscouting.com](http://www.overbrookscouting.com)

We have a GoogleGroup email distribution system. You are able to sign up for this group once your son has joined the Troop.

### **When are Troop meetings?**

Almost every Monday night at 7p.m. We meet at Overbrook Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Crowell & N. High Street in Clintonville, just North of the Park of Roses.

Uniforms and handbooks are strongly encouraged at Troop meetings.

### **What if I need more information than is in this brochure?**

Please email our Troop Committee Chairman, Bill Burchfield: [WBurchfield@schlegelconstruction.com](mailto:WBurchfield@schlegelconstruction.com)  
Or our Scoutmaster, Tim McCoy: [Tcoy@aol.com](mailto:Tcoy@aol.com)

### **BOY SCOUT TROOP 474**

Chartered by Overbrook Presbyterian Church  
for over 50 Years  
4131 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43214  
614-261-1040



**BOY SCOUT TROOP 474**

**IMPORTANT  
PARENT  
INFORMATION**



### **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.

### **How are Boy Scout Troops structured?**

Boy Scout Troops are made up of Scouts, ranging in age from 11-18, a Scoutmaster and several Assistant Scoutmasters. The Scouts are assigned to a patrol of 8 to 10 boys, the number of patrols in a Troop will be dependant on the number of Scouts in that Troop. The Patrol members elect a Patrol Leader who brings their ideas of what they would like to do to the Patrol Leaders Council. Ideally, patrols meet once a month outside of the Troop meeting.

## **What is the Patrol Leaders Council?**

The Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) is comprised of all the Patrol Leaders, the Senior Patrol Leader, the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, the Troop Guides and other Scout officers of the Troop. They meet once a month with the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters to plan the next month's meetings and camping trips

## **Who Leads the Troop?**

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is like the COO of the troop and like all Troop officers, is elected by the Troop members once a year. He is responsible for running the PLC meetings as well as the Troop meetings.

The Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL) helps the SPL with his job and can act as SPL when the SPL is unavailable. He also steps in as an acting Patrol Leader on campouts when needed.

A Troop Guide is a senior Scout who is appointed by the Scoutmaster. His job is to guide new Scouts through their first year in the troop. He acts as their Patrol Leader until they elect one of their own (usually 2 or 3 months). He helps them develop the skills needed to become a good patrol and good Scouts.

## **Are there adults helping Scouts?**

Yes. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters have all been trained in the patrol method and assist Scouts where necessary in leadership and Scout skills.



## **What is a Court of Honor?**

A Court of Honor is an awards ceremony, we hold 3 a year; the first Monday's of October, February, and June. This is an opportunity for parents, relatives, friends and fellow Scouts to honor those who have advanced or earned merit badges since the last Court of Honor.

An Eagle Court of Honor, however, is a special and solemn ceremony. It is generally scheduled by the family of the Eagle Scout and it is strongly encouraged that all Scouts in the Troop attend this event.



## **What does my Scout need for overnight camping trips?**

He should pack his Handbook, in the handbook are lists for camping gear. Typically your Scout will need a mess kit, extra socks, a change of clothes, a flashlight with spare batteries, toothpaste and brush, rain gear and a sleeping bag. This list will vary on the weather, time of year and activity.

If medications are needed, they **MUST** be given to the Scoutmaster or other adult prior to departing clearly labeled with instructions and the Scout's name. We travel in our Class A uniforms.

## **What is a Class A uniform?**

A Scout Shirt, Neckerchief, Scout or Scout-like pants and Scout Belt. Class A uniforms are required for travel, flag ceremonies and Boards of Review, they are strongly encouraged for Troop meetings. Class B uniform is a Troop T Shirt.

## **How often does the Troop camp?**

We usually go on one campout a month. We typically leave on Friday evening from Overbrook Church and return Sunday afternoon. Extra drivers are usually needed and you **may** be asked to help out with transportation.

## **How much do camping trips cost?**

Cost is typically \$5.00 for Scouts, and \$10 for adults, this is to cover the cost of food. On some trips there is an additional cost and it is used to pay for an activity related to that campout. We usually camp at Boy Scout camps or State Parks because the cost is lower, however when we do stay at a private camp the increased costs are shared by the Troop and the Scout. The cost will always be printed on the permission form available two weeks or more before the campout.

## **What about fundraising?**

The Troop holds one major fundraiser a year, this is the annual garage sale that takes place the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in August. Planning and preparation, however, start in March and go strong throughout the summer. The funds from this event are used to pay for the Troops entire year of programming and participation by Scouts and families is required.

There are other fundraising opportunities take place throughout the rest of the year as well. Most of the money raised during these fundraising projects (75-100%) goes straight to the Scout by way of a Personal Scout Account (PSA). The more he earns, the more he has in his account to pay for Scout needs and activities. If he has money in his account and needs a new Scout related item, the family can purchase the item and turn the receipt into the PSA Administrator, who will then submit the receipt to the Treasurer for reimbursement. The Scout can also use the money in his PSA to cover the cost of camp fees, summer camp or special trips. Participation in these fundraisers is voluntary.