

TROOP 32 POMO DISTRICT, REDWOOD EMPIRE COUNCIL ADVANCEMENT POLICIES, V03.0

RANK ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS

First Class Rank and Below:

Rank advancement requirements may be signed off by the Scoutmaster, Patrol Mentor, or any Assistant Scoutmaster (ASM). Requirements may also be signed off by a **Life** or higher rank Scout **previously designated** by the Scoutmaster (SM) or Advancement Chair (usually the SPL, Instructor(s), Troop Guide(s), or Eagle Scouts). Parents or relatives do not sign off rank advancement requirements.

Star Rank and Above:

Advancement requirements shall be signed **only** by the Advancement Chair(s), who is not a parent or relative of the advancing scout. ASMs and Scouts cannot sign advancements for the higher ranks.

“Scout Spirit” Exception for All Ranks:

The “Scout Spirit” Requirement shall be signed **only** by the Scoutmaster or ASM as part of Scoutmaster Conference. **First Class** and above are signed **only** by the Scoutmaster.

SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCES

Scoutmaster Conferences shall be approved and assigned by Advancement Chair(s) signature only. Advancement Chair(s) will confirm that all requirements except Scout Spirit are completed and documented prior to coordinating for a Scoutmaster Conference.

Scoutmaster Conferences will **not** be given at Camps, on Outings, Courts of Honor or at Scout Activities of any kind. Scoutmaster Conferences are **only** available at **Troop Meetings**, following approval of Advancements Chair(s) with signature.

Uniform Check: Advancement Chair(s) will confirm the Scout is in proper uniform prior to approving a Scoutmaster Conference. **Class A Uniform** insignia of current rank **must** be securely stitched to the Scout's uniform at the time of Scoutmaster Conference. No pins, tape, velcro, etc. BSA standard insignia must be current and in the proper location.

Second Class Rank and Below:

May be given by any ASM assigned by the Advancement Chair(s) that is **not** the Patrol Mentor or the Scout's parent or relative. No Scout may give a Scoutmaster Conference, only SM or ASMs.

First Class Rank and Above:

Scoutmaster Conference shall be given **only** by the Scoutmaster, following approval of Advancement Chair(s) by signature. ASMs cannot give Scoutmaster Conference for the higher ranks.

Eagle Rank:

Scoutmaster Conference shall be given **only** by the Scoutmaster, following approval of the Advancement Chair(s) by signature. Scoutmaster Conferences for Eagle ranks are more formal and are scheduled outside of Troop Meetings.

TIME IN RANK

Time-In-rank requirements for **Star** rank and above are tolled from the **calendar date** of the Board of Review (BOR) when the rank was earned, **not** from the date of the Court of Honor when rank is awarded.

Time-in-Rank requirements for **Star** rank and above shall be signed off **only** by the Advancements Chair(s).

LEADERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Time-in-Leadership requirements are tolled “month-to-month” dating from semi-annual leadership change, or in the event of a change mid-period, from first of the month in which the leadership change occurred.

Leadership requirements for **Star** rank and above shall be signed off **only** by the Advancements Chair(s), with prior approval of the Scoutmaster. Approval of leadership requirements requires satisfactory performance of the duties of the post as determined by the Scoutmaster, in consultation with the SPL.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Qualifying Service Projects:

- Any Troop Activity requiring a sign-up sheet and parent permission that includes a service project (including outings where the project becomes known only during the outing);
- Any Troop Service Project;
- Any Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project;
- Any service project approved **in advance** by the SM or Advancement Chair(s) when accompanied by a **written statement of verification** from the organization benefiting from the project, and not signed by a parent, relative or ASM of the Troop. (Note: parents or ASMs may help organize and participate in non-troop sponsored

service projects, but **separate** verification of the Scout's participation by the benefiting organization is required).

For **Star** rank and higher, a minimum of two Service Projects are encouraged.

SCOUT ACTIVITIES

- Any Troop activity or outing requiring parent permission and sign-up;
- An Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project;
- Popcorn sales or other group fundraiser **previously approved** by the SM and Advancement Chair(s).
- A Service Project as defined above under "Service Projects", when not counted for Service Hours. (Note: a Service Project may be counted **either** as a Service Project for hours **or** as an Activity to satisfy Requirements **2nd Class #3a or 1st Class #3**. The benefits may not be combined.

Courts of Honor, Troop Meetings, or any other activity not listed above do not count for advancement.

CAMPOUTS

The following Outings **Do not count** for Camping Night credit for the Camping Merit Badge:

Overnights at indoor locations without camp cooking, such as Vertex Game Nights and similar outings. No overnights in cabins or motel rooms count, even if the Scout sleeps on the floor.

Camping may be only backpacking or car camping in tents or shelters. Only 6 nights (1 outing) of summer camp are allowed.

Questions? The Advancement Binder is available for review at all Troop Meetings.

BOARDS OF REVIEW (BOR)

Boards of Review (BOR) will consist of a minimum of three ASMs or ASM trained Committee members, none of whom are parents, relatives, or Patrol Mentors of the advancing Scout. No other persons, including parents, relatives, SM or Scouts may sit on Boards or Review.

Merit badge sashes are welcome but not required at Boards of Review for rank below Eagle Scout.

Except as noted above, Boards will be conducted in general accordance with "A Guide to Conducting boards of Review, by Ray Klaus, dated 3/1995, presented by Saddleback District, Orange County Council, <http://www.macscouter.com/Scoutmaster/BoR> "

COURTS OF HONOR (COH)

Troop 32 Courts of Honor are held four times a year, in March, June, September, and December. March and September dates are timed to coordinate with Semi-Annual Leadership changes and for the flood of advancing scouts that follows Summer Camps.

COH Uniform: Full Class A including merit badge sashes. Uniform pants and socks. Scouting is a uniform organization; all members of the Troop are encouraged to have and to wear full uniforms. Part of being your best is looking your best!

SCOUTS OF PARENTS WHO ARE ASMs OR SM

ASMs should avoid signing advancement requirements for their sons. ASMs should explain to their sons that Scouts of the SM, ASMs, or Advancement Chair(s) must see ASMs or Advancement Chair(s) that are not their parents for signing these requirements. This will avoid any hint of partiality and will support Troop 32's high reputation for quality scouting and rapid advancement.

Troop 32 is blessed with a large and capable team of Adult Leaders. Every Scout will be able to receive timely advancement in Troop 32 -- where all Scouts are "**EAGLE BOUND!**"