

GLOSSARY OF SCOUTING TERMS

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advancement. The process by which a Boy Scout meets certain requirements and earns recognition.

Arrow of Light Award. Highest award in Cub Scouting. May be earned only by Webelos Scouts. The only Cub Scout badge that may be worn on the Boy Scout uniform.

assistant patrol leader (APL). A Boy Scout in the patrol appointed by the patrol leader to help him and to take his place in his absence.

assistant Scoutmaster (ASM). A commissioned volunteer Scouter, 18 or older, who helps the Scoutmaster by working with the troop and with a new-Scout patrol or Venture patrol.

assistant senior patrol leader (ASPL). A troop youth leader, usually in larger troops, who helps the senior patrol leader with details of his job.

Baden-Powell, Robert Stephenson Smyth. Founder of the worldwide Scouting movement. Known as Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, Chief Scout of the World, and B-P.

Be Prepared. The motto of Boy Scouting.

board of review. A review held to determine if a Boy Scout has satisfactorily completed rank requirements.

Boy Scout. A registered youth member of a Boy Scout troop or one registered as a Lone Scout. Must have completed the fifth grade and be 11 years old, or have earned the Arrow of Light Award but not yet be 18 years old.

Boy Scouts of America (BSA). A nationwide organization founded February 8, 1910, and chartered by the U.S. Congress June 15, 1916. *Boys' Life* magazine. The magazine for all boys, published by the Boy Scouts of America.

Bronze Palm. An Eagle Scout may receive this recognition by earning five additional merit badges and completing certain other requirements.

BSA Mission Statement. It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and, in other ways, to prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath and Law.

buddy system. One part of the Safe Swim Defense plan. Swimmers of like ability are paired, check in and out of the water together, and stay within 10 feet of each other during a swim. The buddy system is also used in other Scouting activities for safety reasons.

bugler. An appointed youth position in a Boy Scout troop.

campcraft. Skills for living in the outdoors, such as shelter construction, fire building, cooking, and field sanitation.

camporee. A district or council troop activity to demonstrate the techniques of living in camp.

campsite. A troop or patrol outdoor home for an overnight or long-term camp.

charter. The Boy Scouts of America was granted a federal charter in 1916 to provide a program of character development, citizenship training, and mental and physical fitness for all boys. The BSA issues charters annually to approved community organizations to operate Scouting units.

chartered organization. A religious, civic, fraternal, educational, or other community organization that has applied for and received a charter to operate a Scouting unit.

chartered organization representative (COR). A manager of Scouting in a chartered organization who also represents the organization in the local council and district.

charter presentation. A formal ceremony at which the charter, Scouter commissions, and membership certificates are presented to organization authorities and members of the unit.

charter renewal. An annual meeting attended by the chartered organization representative, head of the chartered organization, troop leaders, and unit commissioner for the purpose of completing the charter application and making plans for the charter presentation.

Chief Scout Executive (CSE). The top-ranking professional Scouter of the Boy Scouts of America.

council. An administrative body chartered to be responsible for Scouting in a designated geographic territory.

council service center. The business center for the local administration of Scouting.

court of honor. A recognition ceremony for those who have met the requirements of any one of the Boy Scout ranks, merit badges, or other awards.

den chief. A Boy Scout or Varsity Scout who helps direct the activities of a Cub Scout den.

Direct Service Council. The national office center through which U.S. citizens in other parts of the world retain membership and affiliation with the Boy Scouts of America.

district. A geographic administrative unit within a council.

District Award of Merit. A recognition for Scouters who give noteworthy service to youth at the district level.

Eagle Scout. The highest rank for Scouts.

Eagle Scout Award. The highest recognition for Scouts.

Firem'n Chit. A recognition given to Scouts who know and understand fire safety rules.

First Class rank. The rank above Second Class and below Star in Boy Scout advancement.

God and Country program series. A series of religious emblems presented to Scouts of the Protestant faiths.

Gold Palm. An Eagle Scout who holds the Bronze Palm may receive this recognition by earning five additional merit badges and completing certain other requirements.

Good Turn. A single act of service to others. A distinctive feature of Scouting is its emphasis on service to others. The Good Turn habit is one that all Scouts endeavor to acquire.

Heroism Award. A lifesaving award presented to a registered youth member or adult leader who has demonstrated heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save life at minimum risk to self.

Historic Trails Award. An award that may be earned by members of a troop for hiking a trail listed in Nationally Approved Historic Trails and completing a project related to the trail.

Honor Medal. A lifesaving award presented to Scouts and Scouters who have shown heroism, resourcefulness, and skill in saving or attempting to save life at great risk of their own. May be presented with crossed palms in cases of exceptional skill or resourcefulness and extreme risk to self. Presented by the National Court of Honor.

junior assistant Scoutmaster (JASM). An appointed office open to Scouts 16 years of age and older. There is no limit to the number of junior assistant Scoutmasters a troop may have.

Leave No Trace. A commonsense set of guidelines that allows Scouts to camp, hike, and take part in related outdoor activities in ways that are environmentally sound and considerate to others using the same areas. A Leave No Trace Awareness Award is available to Scouts who fulfill certain requirements.

Life Scout rank. The rank above Star and below Eagle Scout in Boy Scout advancement.

Lone Scout. A Boy Scout who, unable to join a troop because of unusual conditions, follows the program as an individual under the leadership of a Lone Scout friend and counselor.

Medal of Merit. An award presented to Scouts who put into practice the skills and ideals of Scouting through some great act of service; need not involve a rescue or risk to self.

merit badge. A recognition given to a Scout for completing the requirements for the badge.

merit badge counselor. A registered adult volunteer who is expert in a merit badge field, has the ability to work effectively with Scouts, and certifies that requirements are met.

Mile Swim, BSA. A recognition given to Scouts to encourage their development of physical fitness and stamina through swimming.

National Camping Award. A recognition awarded to a Boy Scout troop or Varsity Scout team for completing a certain number of days and nights of camping on either an annual or a cumulative

basis. The award also recognizes cumulative achievement in number of campouts by individual Scouts and Scouters.

National Council. The corporate membership chartered by the United States Congress to operate the program of the Boy Scouts of America; made up of all elected members of the National Executive Board, members of regional executive committees, elected local council representatives, elected members at large, and elected (nonvoting) honorary members.

National Eagle Scout Association (NESA). This group provides an opportunity for all Eagle Scouts to retain identification with Scouting through service to the local council in which they live.

national office. The administrative offices of the Boy Scouts of America. Address is 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079. Phone number is 972-580-2000. Web page address is <http://www.scouting.org>.

National President's Scoutmaster Award. Awarded by the National Eagle Scout Association to Scoutmasters who make a significant contribution to boys' achievement of the Eagle Scout rank.

new-Scout conference. The Scoutmaster meets with each new Scout in the troop to get acquainted, discuss Scouting, and welcome the boy into the troop. Held as soon as possible after the boy joins.

orienteering. A cross-country race to reach a destination and certain checkpoints along the way with the use of a map and compass.

patrol. A group of five to 10 boys who belong to a troop and work together in and out of troop meetings. There are usually several patrols in one troop.

patrol leader (PL). The youth leader of the patrol, elected by its members.

patrol leaders' council (PLC). Each patrol leader, representing his patrol, meets with the other patrol leaders and the senior patrol leader to plan their troop program. The Scoutmaster acts as an adviser.

Quality Unit Award. Recognition given each charter year to troops that commit to and meet six of 10 national standards pertaining to leader training, service, advancement, camping, and membership growth.

rank. There are six ranks for Boy Scouts: Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle Scout.

registration. The payment of an annual registration fee; one of the requirements for membership in the Boy Scouts of America.

Safe Swim Defense. A plan with eight defenses for safe swimming.

Safety Afloat. Guidelines for safe troop activity afloat in craft less than 26 feet long.

Scouter. A registered adult member of the BSA who serves in a volunteer or professional capacity.

Scouting Anniversary Week. The week, beginning on Sunday, that includes February 8, Scouting Anniversary Day.

Scouting movement. An idea started by Lord Baden-Powell, based on the conviction that boys can live up to a code of conduct and can develop themselves physically, mentally, and spiritually through a program of activities and advancement challenges in association with other boys under the leadership of adults.

Scoutmaster. The commissioned volunteer leader, 21 or older, of a Boy Scout troop; appointed by the chartered organization.

Scoutmaster conference. A distinctive feature of the troop advancement plan in which a Scoutmaster helps a Scout accept responsibility for his own growth toward each rank.

Scoutmaster's Minute. A part of the closing ceremony of a troop meeting or campfire in which the Scoutmaster uses a brief story to inspire Scoutlike conduct.

scribe. An appointed officer in the troop or patrol who keeps the troop or patrol records.

Second Class rank. The rank above Tenderfoot in Boy Scout advancement.

senior patrol leader (SPL). The elected boy leader who runs the troop meetings and the patrol leaders' council meetings, with the guidance of the Scoutmaster.

Silver Palm. An Eagle Scout who holds the Gold Palm may receive this recognition by earning five additional merit badges and completing certain other requirements.

Snorkeling, BSA. A recognition given to Scouts to encourage the development of aquatics skills that promote fitness and recreation.

Star rank. The rank above First Class and below Life in Boy Scout advancement.

swimmer test. A specific set of tests to ascertain a minimum level of swimming ability required for deep-water swimming.

Tenderfoot rank. The first rank in the Boy Scout advancement program.

Totin' Chip. A recognition given to Scouts who subscribe to the Outdoor Code and understand and can demonstrate the proper handling, care, and use of woods tools.

tour permit. Permit designed to assist troops in planning safe, healthful, and enjoyable trips and to ensure that proper procedures will be followed in case of emergency.

troop. The unit that conducts Boy Scouting for the chartered organization.

troop committee. The committee appointed by the chartered organization to administer the affairs of the troop.

troop instructor. An older troop member proficient both in a Scouting skill and in the ability to teach that skill to others.

uniform. Distinctive clothing worn by Scouts and Scouters.

unit. Term used to designate any one of the following: patrol, troop, squad, or team.

volunteer. A registered individual who donates service, time, and/or funds to support the program of the Boy Scouts of America.

Webelos den chief. An older Scout who has been appointed to help direct the activities of a Webelos den.

Webelos-to-Scout plan. The preparation and passage of a boy from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting.

World Conservation Award. An award emphasizing the importance of our natural resources and our interdependence with other countries in fulfilling our mutual needs.

World Friendship Fund. The means by which Scouts and Scouters in the United States can provide material and equipment to help Scouts and Scouting around the world.

World Scout Crest. An international award earned by participating in a meaningful international Scouting experience. May be obtained through the local council.