

Eagle Scout Boards of Review

Scheduling

The Hightower Trail district holds Eagle Scout boards of review once a month – on the second Sunday. Time is 6:00 PM. Please have everyone in your party arrive 5-10 minutes before then, because we start promptly at 6.

Units must schedule an Eagle board with the district advancement chair at least one week prior to the date of the next board, so that a district advancement committee member can be arranged to sit on the board.

District Advancement Chair at advancement@hightowertrailbsa.com

Location

Location is Briarcliff United Methodist Church, on the corner of Briarcliff and Shallowford Roads.

Directions: From I-85S, take the Shallowford Road exit, then left onto Shallowford, left when the road ends onto Briarcliff, then an immediate right into the church parking lot. We meet on the ground floor, at the very back of the church. This is the same location as the district Roundtable.

Requirements

The unit needs to bring the following:

- **At least two adults (age 21 or older) to sit on the board.** They can be registered Scouters or not, but if not, they must understand the importance of the Eagle award. Reviewers are usually troop committee members. They cannot be the Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmasters, parents, or relatives.
- **The original Eagle packet that was sent back from the council, plus two copies of the entire packet for your reviewers to read through before your board begins.**
 - Note: If there are changes to the Eagle Scout Application that the council has requested after the original packet has been returned to you, please make these changes before coming to the board of review.
- **ALL letters of recommendation - unopened in their envelopes.** One of the adult leaders should have the letters and bring them with him/her to the board. Do not open them or make copies of them.
- **The candidate's *Boy Scout Handbook*.**
- **A good-looking Scout** - in full Class A uniform, including merit badge sash and OA sash (if applicable) and all patches sewn on (and sewn on correctly).
- **A well-prepared Scout!** Candidates should come prepared to show the reviewers what he knows and how Scouting has made a difference in his life.

Sample Questions

SCOUT OATH AND LAW

- The three aims of the Boy Scout program are to foster citizenship, character, and fitness. How has the program helped you in each of these areas?
- What has Scouting taught you about citizenship that your non-Scouting friends don't understand?
- What does "duty to country" mean to you?
- Why do you think that belief in God (a supreme being) is part of the Scouting requirements?
- What is the most important point of the Scout Law? Why? The least important? Why?
- What is the hardest point of the Scout Law to live by? Why?
- What point of the Scout Law is the most important to you? Why? Probe especially: trustworthy, obedient, cheerful, helpful.
- How do you "help other people at all times"?
- What does the phrase "on my honor" mean to you?
- Is "doing your best" a part of your everyday life? Why or why not?
- What does it mean to "be prepared?" How are you prepared/unprepared in your everyday life?
- What does it mean to "do a good turn daily?" Tell me about three good turns you did over the past week.
- What has Scouting taught you about service to others?
- What is your greatest strength? Your greatest weaknesses?
- Can you give me an example of someone who is a hero to you? (A real person, not a character in a book or movie.)

RANKS AND MERIT BADGES

- Why is it important to learn how to tie knots, and lash together poles and logs? To learn first aid?
- What rank requirement was the hardest for you to complete? Why?
- What merit badge did you enjoy working on the most? Why? The least? Why?
- Why do you think BSA has a number of required merit badges for the Eagle Scout rank?
- Name one Eagle-required merit badge that you think should not be required. What is it, and why?
- Name one elective merit badge that you think should be required for Eagle. What is it, and why?

OUTDOOR /CAMPING EXPERIENCES

- Why does Scouting stress camping and the outdoors so much?
- How would you describe your experiences with cooking?
- What camping experience have you had, that you wish every Scout could have?
- What was your overall feeling about your summer camp experiences?

- Did you attend any High Adventure camps (Philmont, Northern Tier, Sea Base) or the National Jamboree? Where and what did you enjoy about them? Describe the experience – especially his leadership.

HIS TROOP

- What patrol are you in?
- What is your patrol yell?
- What do you usually do in your patrol meetings?
- Which patrol in your troop is the strongest? Weakest? Why?
- How do you know when a Scout is "active" in his unit?
- What's one piece of advice you'd give to a new patrol leader? Senior patrol leader? Adult leader? Your Scoutmaster?
- You were (or were not) senior patrol leader. Why?
- Scouting is supposed to be a boy-run program. How well does your troop do in this regard?
- What are some of the things you like most about your troop? Things you dislike and would like to see changed?
- How did you personally make your patrol and troop a better place?

EAGLE PROJECT

- Please walk the Board through your project from beginning to end.
 - The planning phase
 - The organization of personnel
 - Directing the project to completion
- Who did you get involved in helping you with your project - scouts, adults from his troop, members of the benefiting organization?
- Did you have any problems directing adults in their work - how did you feel about that?
- How much of a role did your parents and family play in your Eagle project? (Note: Council guidelines recommend keeping family assistance to a minimum.)
- How did you work with your troop Eagle advisor? How attentive were you to his comments and suggestions? What did you learn from this experience?
- Describe the changes you had to make to your Eagle project. What did you learn from them?
- How did you demonstrate leadership during your Eagle project?
- What did you learn from writing the Eagle project synopsis?
- What did you learn by going through the Eagle Scout project process?
- What part of your Eagle service project was the hardest or most challenging? Why?

- If you were to manage another project similar to your Eagle service project, what would you do differently to make the project better or easier?
- Thirty years from now when someone else asks you what you did for his Eagle project, what will stand out in your mind - how will you answer that question?

LEADERSHIP

- What leadership positions have you held?
- What were your responsibilities in each position?
- What specifically did you do in each of these leadership positions?
- How would you rate your performance? How could you improve? What did you learn?
- What leadership position do you hold now?
- What has been your favorite leadership position as a Scout? Why? Was it particularly hard and challenging or easy? Why?
- How did you demonstrate leadership at summer camp?
- If the Scout went on a High Adventure outing, what was your crew leadership position? What specifically did you do? How do you think you did? What did you learn? How could you improve the next time?
- During your Scouting career, what did you learn about managing or leading people? What are the qualities of a good leader?
- If the Scout is a member of the Order of the Arrow: what have you done in the OA to provide cheerful service back to Scouting?

THOUGHTS /RECOMMENDATIONS

- What was your most enjoyable experience in Scouting? Least enjoyable?
- If you could change one thing to improve Scouting, what would you change?
- What do you think is the single biggest issue facing Scouting in the future? How would you propose to handle it?
- What changes would you like to make in your troop?
- What one piece of advice would you give the adult leaders in your troop?
- Who has been the most influential person in your Scouting career?
- What is one lesson from Scouting that you will carry with you forever?

FUTURE PLANS

- If you earn his Eagle rank tonight, how do you intend to repay Scouting, your troop and your leaders?
- What are your plans for the future - college, Armed Forces, trade school, etc.?
- When you turn 18, you assume some new responsibilities. What are they? (sign up for the draft, register to vote, able to drink legally, responsible for his actions in the eyes of the law, etc.)
- What do you plan to do in scouting in the immediate and long-range future?
- What legacy will you leave your troop? What will others in the troop say about you once you leave?

OTHER

- Who was the founder of the Boy Scout movement? [Answer: Robert Baden-Powell]

WRAP-UP

- You have been in Scouting for many years; sum up all of those experiences in one word. Why that word?
- What is the single biggest reason why you want to be an Eagle Scout?
- If you did not pass your board of review, how would you handle the disappointment?
- What do you believe our society expects from an Eagle Scout?
- The charge to the Eagle requires that you give back to Scouting more than Scouting has given to you. How do you propose to do that?
- It's often said that there's no end to the Eagle trail and that becoming an Eagle Scout is a beginning and not an ending. What do those statements mean to you?
- It is sometimes said that an Eagle Scout is a "marked man." What do you think this means?
- Do you think you deserve to be an Eagle Scout? Why?