

Moving from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts

WELCOME TO TROOP 505!

Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), Troop 505 and the great adventure of Scouting. We are happy to have you as a member of our Troop. This should be a very exciting time in your life.

There are some significant changes between Cub Scouts and Boy Scout. Change can also be a little scary. So we are here to help. This pamphlet will help you understand some of those changes

A BOY-RUN TROOP

Boy Scouts are not “Webelos 3”. Cub Scouts is a family program where adults plan and run everything. Boy Scouts is a boy lead origination. That’s right, you are in charge of the troop. Look at the chart below. Jobs that were handled by adults in Cub Scouts are handled by the scouts in Boy Scouts. It is run by the scouts, for the scouts, with the adults playing a (considerable) supporting role.

Cub Scouts	Boy Scouts
Den Leader	Patrol Leader (scout)
Cubmaster	Senior Patrol Leader (scout)
Unit Committee (planning functions)	Patrol Leaders Council (scouts)
None	Scoutmaster
Unit committee (administrative functions)	Unit Committee

You are now in a troop that is run by the Senior Patrol Leader. A scout that is just a bit older than you. Instead of a den you are in a patrol that is run by a troop guide. An older scout that will act as your patrol leader and help guide you through your first year in the troop

What about the Scoutmaster? In the words of Lord Baden-Powell, “The chief task of the Scoutmaster is to help the scouts run their troop”. The central goal of all adult leadership is to empower the scouts to take up the leadership of the troop.

Meetings

Troop meetings are held every Monday night at 7:30 pm. You need to be there early, in uniform and with your Scout Handbook. You need to act like a scout and be ready to learn and have some fun.

Scoutmaster Conference

This is a meeting with the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster to make sure you have completed all requirements and get some of the final things signed like Scout Spirit. It is also a time to set goals for your next rank.

Board of Review (Final step)

This sounds scary, but it is really simple. Board of Reviews are normally at the weekly scout meetings. Sign up in the book that is located by the mailboxes. Make sure you are in uniform and looking good. Have your Scout Handbook and know your Scout Oath and Laws.

You meet with 3 older members of the troop. First you will be asked to stand with the scout sign and give the Scout Oath and Laws. By the time you say reverent the hard part is over. The rest is just a time to talk. You are not being tested. This is a good time for you to ask any questions as all these old guys have a lot of experience and are willing to help.

Court of Honor

Scouts receive their rank, merit badges and special awards at the Court of Honor. They are usually held 4 times a year: May, September, November and the Family Dinner in Feb/March. All family members are encouraged to attend, even if your scout is not receiving an award.

Eagle Court of Honor

The Eagle Court of Honor is a celebration recognizing Scouts who have attained Scouting's highest rank; it is one of Scouting's greatest moments. Troop 505 Eagle Courts of Honor are typically held on Saturday or Sunday at Knox Presbyterian Church from 2 to 4 pm. Although they can be on other days and at other locations.

All scouts and parents are invited and highly encouraged to attend all Eagle Courts of Honor. Scouts must be in their best possible uniform. Please arrive half an hour early to help setup and if so honored be part of ceremony. If you are lucky enough to be asked to be part of the ceremony please take it very seriously as this is a very important day for the Eagle Scout and his family.

This is also a good time to imagine what your Eagle Court of Honor. It is never too early to dream of being an Eagle Scout. And remember we always have cake.

Eagle Projects, Services Projects and Work days

Eagle projects, services projects and work days are a great opportunity to grow as a scout. Not only do you earn service hours required for advancement but you learn to work with others and see what it takes to run an Eagle project. Even the youngest and smallest scouts can help. There is a group of 7 Eagle Scouts that meet from time to time and they fondly remember their time working on projects for others. They have learned that hard work can be very rewarding.