



BOY SCOUT TROOP 650
SAN ANTONIO TEXAS

Path to Eagle Process

Troop Committee Approval / Effective Date: 08/07/2016

Summary:

In keeping with Boy Scout tradition and policies, this troop specific process aims to provide guidelines for the Path to Eagle Scout.

Purpose:

The purpose of this process is to give guidance and to communicate how the troop provides an environment of success for the boy scouts that are a member of Troop 650 that wish to earn the Eagle Rank.

General facts of understanding:

1. Communications between a scout and adult leader will follow established BSA guidelines. No one-on-one communication will be allowed either in person or electronically.
 - 1.1. It has been seen where a scout will use the email "reply" feature versus "reply all" when replying to email communications. Adult leaders will re-establish the appropriate two-deep leadership names to the email on reply and coach the scout on what to do next time.
 - 1.2. Typical two-deep leadership to be used when communicating with a scout include:
Scoutmaster, patrol Assistant Scoutmaster and Life to Eagle Coordinator
2. Scouts pursuing the rank of Eagle are expected to show the highest level of participation and scout spirit and to live by the Scout Oath and Law. These scouts should be role models for the rest of the troop. Life rank scouts that are pursuing Eagle that fail to demonstrate these behaviors will not earn those rank requirements and will not earn Eagle.
3. A scout's youth journey ends when they turn 18. All requirements, merit badges and project signoff's should be completed at least 3 months prior to the youth's 18th birthday. This process guideline item is set in order to provide ample time for the scout and adult leadership to ensure adherence to the highest standards of the rank and to handle any unforeseen challenges.
 - 3.1. Any scout who earns Life rank inside of 9 months of their 18th birthday must have a meeting with his parents, the Scoutmaster, patrol Assistant Scoutmaster, Life to Eagle Coordinator and Troop Committee Chair to establish firm timelines for completion of all rank advancement requirements. All actions and timelines will be captured and agreed to in writing by all parties involved. Failure to meet any one established timeline will mean the scout does not earn the rank of Eagle.
 - 3.2. Any scout who earns Life rank inside of 6 months of their 18th birthday will not be allowed to pursue his Eagle. Life rank scouts must have 6 months of participation and leadership and this cannot be achieved sufficiently under this circumstance.
4. The Scoutmaster, Life to Eagle Coordinator and Committee Chair have final say over requirement signoff and project level approvals. All other adults and adult leaders are expected to work with these three adult leadership roles to ensure compliance with this process.



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Process:

In order for the above mentioned facts of understanding to be well communicated and understood by a scout and his parent(s), the following process will be used.

- ❖ The troop Advancement Coordinator will email the Life to Eagle Coordinator a Path to Eagle report from Troop Master monthly. The report includes:
 - A listing of all scouts that are 1st Class and above. Information on age, current rank requirements, and merit badges completed are in the report.
 - The Life to Eagle Coordinator will use the report to target conversations with scouts and to generally keep track of where each boy is along his path.
- ❖ When a scout is meeting with the Scoutmaster for his 1st Class Rank Scoutmaster Conference, the troop's Life to Eagle coordinator will attend.
 - The Life to Eagle coordinator will work with the Scoutmaster to establish the boy's thoughts towards earning the rank of Eagle. This is generally obtained via question and answer session during the conference.
 - The Life to Eagle coordinator will start a file on the scout with notes taken during the conference.
 - The Life to Eagle coordinator wants to establish early as part of the discussion what it means to be Eagle and what it takes to earn it.
- ❖ When a scout is meeting with the Scoutmaster for his Star Rank Scoutmaster Conference, the troop's Life to Eagle coordinator will attend.
 - The Life to Eagle coordinator will work with the Scoutmaster to establish the boy's thoughts towards earning the rank of Eagle as an update from when they met for 1st Class.
 - The Life to Eagle coordinator will update the file on the scout with notes taken during the conference.
 - At Star rank, the Life to Eagle coordinator will be asking the scout about a project and how the scout thinks he will complete merit badges, leadership requirement and his Life rank. Timelines will be discussed, especially if the scout is older or is involved with other extracurricular activities.
- ❖ When a scout is meeting with the Scoutmaster for his Life Rank Scoutmaster Conference, the troop's Life to Eagle coordinator will attend.
 - The Life to Eagle coordinator will work with the Scoutmaster to establish the boy's thoughts towards earning the rank of Eagle as an update from when they met for Star.
 - The Life to Eagle coordinator will update the file on the scout with notes taken during the conference
 - At Life rank, the Life to Eagle coordinator will be asking the scout more specifically about a project and how the scout thinks he will complete merit badges, leadership requirement and his Eagle rank. Timelines will be discussed, especially if the scout is older or is involved with other extracurricular activities. Refer to §3 above about some key dates based on the boy's age when earning Life Rank.





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- ❖ While the scout is Life rank, the Life to Eagle Coordinator will provide the following services:
 - Consulting and guidance on completing the Eagle project. This includes choosing a good project; finalizing the proposal; obtaining troop and district approval for the project; completing the project plan; executing the project as planned; and writing up and documenting final project results.
 - Consulting and guidance on completing Life rank leadership, participation and Scout Spirit. Refer to §2 and §4 above about these requirements and expectations.
 - Communicate with the Scoutmaster, patrol Assistant Scoutmaster and Troop Committee on progress for each scout monthly. The report will be broken up into three main sections: those scouts 1st Class and Star rank with general sentiments towards Eagle (based on conference notes), those scouts Life rank that have not officially started Life to Eagle and those scouts activity engaged in Life to Eagle with comments.

- ❖ At all times, these are the things the Life to Eagle coordinator will **not** do:
 - Directly or indirectly push a scout through the process. This is the scout's journey. The scout will know who the Life to Eagle coordinator is and can initiate a conversation at any appropriate time.
 - Talk to parents about a scout's path to Eagle. A parent being present during conversations with the scout is welcomed, but the conversation will be between the coach and scout.
 - Coach your boy from behind the scenes.
 - Help to give him the tools to do this on his own. There is nothing wrong with a gentle (or firm) reminder of things from a parent while at home.
 - Parent involvement is a cornerstone of scouting, however all communications, planning, progress and other activities on the path to Eagle must occur between the scout and Life to Eagle coordinator.

