

Court of Honor Ceremony

(complete script-all ranks)

1) Call to Order

SPL: Good afternoon. Please be seated. Thank you. My name is _____, and I am the Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 93. Will Troop 93 please file forward to your assigned seats.

The troop approaches from the rear in two files between the two halves of the audience seating. They file into their chairs set up on either side of the room, but remain standing.

SPL: The _____ patrol will now bring forward our American flag, a symbol of our country and our freedom, as well as our troop flag, a symbol of our troop and a record of our accomplishment.

Flags are brought forward with the Am. flag on the right and slightly ahead and held higher than the troop flag. At the head of the room the troop flag pauses to allow the Am. flag to cross to the right hand stand (to the right of the speaker). Post the flags.

SPL or Patrol Leader: Scout salute! Please join me as we pledge our allegiance to our flag and country. *Repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.* Two! **SPL:** I now declare this Court of Honor in session!

2) Opening Prayer

SPL: Will our Chaplain Aide, _____, please come forward to lead us in prayer. *Prayer.* **SPL:** Thank you, _____.

3) Opening

SPL: Will _____ and _____ please come forward to lead our opening.

Opening ceremony-see other doc. Thank you, _____.

3) Events Since the Last Court of Honor

- | | |
|----|----|
| A) | A) |
| B) | B) |
| C) | C) |
| D) | D) |
| E) | E) |
| F) | F) |

4) Upcoming Events, Announcements, Program Updates

- | | |
|----|----|
| A) | A) |
| B) | B) |
| C) | C) |
| D) | D) |
| E) | E) |
| F) | F) |

5) **Rank Advancement**

Leader or SPL: Advancement is the process by which youth members of the Boy Scouts of America progress from rank to rank in the Scouting program. Advancement is simply a means to an end, not an end in itself. Everything done to advance and earn these ranks, from joining until leaving the program, should be designed to help the young person have an exciting and meaningful experience. Education and fun are functions of the Scouting movement, and they must be the basis of the advancement program.

A badge is recognition of what a young person is able to do, not merely a reward for what he has done. The badge is proof of certain abilities, and is not just a reward for the completion of a task. Each boy progresses at their own rate. Advancement is not a competition between individual young people, but is an expression of their interest and participation in the program. Will all uniformed Scouters please come to the front to assist in the presentation of our rank advancement awards.

Scout Award

Leader or SPL: Will the following boy(s) and their parents please come forward:

You have decided to become a Boy Scout. Millions of boys have gone before you to participate in a program designed to bring adventure, fun and achievement to their lives. In the process they learn new skills, make new friends, and develop self-reliance and leadership skills. Welcome to our family of Scouts and Scouters. We know you'll do well.

The Leader and SPL present the new Scout(s) with their books, badges and neckerchiefs.

All new Scouts repeat the following together:

Boy's, please repeat after me:

I am a Boy Scout. ***(pause)*** My badge is shaped like the north point of an old compass. ***(pause)*** It means that a Scout can point the right way in life. ***(pause)*** as truly as a compass does in the field.

Give each boy the MOTHER PIN to pin on his mother.

When all are done each boy shakes the hand of the boy and adult leaders up front.

Leader or SPL: Let's welcome this (these) boy(s) on their entrance into Scouting. *Lead applause.*

Tenderfoot Awards

Leader or SPL: Will the following boy(s) and their parents please come forward:

You have achieved the second rank in Scouting-Tenderfoot. The requirements for this rank offer a taste of some of the adventures you will enjoy in Scouting, and have given you some of the basic skills you will need to take part in those adventures. There is a lot of challenge in earning the Tenderfoot badge, and you might soon find yourself doing things you had only dreamed about before.

The leader and SPL present the new Tenderfoot Scout (s) with their new badges, pins and cards. Handshakes with the SPL and Leader only.

Each Scout in turn repeats the following:

_____ please repeat after me:

I am now a Tenderfoot Scout. **(pause)** My badge includes an eagle and shield symbolizing my freedom **(pause)** and our willingness to defend that freedom. **(pause)** The two stars stand for truth and knowledge.

Leader or SPL: Let's congratulate these boys with warm applause.

When all are done, each boy shakes the hand of the boy and adult leaders up front.

2nd Class Award

Leader or SPL: Will the following Scout(s) and their (his) parents please come forward:

Scout Spirit doesn't just happen. It is developed and built up by the way you do things, including your efforts to be trustworthy, to be helpful, and to live up to the other points of the Scout Law. Scout Spirit is the most important thing in Scouting. All through your life you may never find any more meaningful words than, "On my honor, I will do my best."

Previously, you stood before this court and became a Tenderfoot Scout. Time has passed since then. You have used that time well in pursuing Scout activities and knowledge. You are now qualified to assume the title and duties of Second Class Scout. I know that you will wear this Second Class badge with honor and distinction. May you bring only honor and credit to it, and to your troop.

The leader and SPL present the Scouts with their badges, pins and cards. Handshakes with the leader and SPL only. Have the boys pin the MOTHER PIN on their mother.

Each Scout in turn repeats the following:

_____ please repeat after me:

I am a 2nd Class Scout. (*pause*) My badge is a scroll inscribed with the Scout motto, "Be Prepared." (*pause*) Suspended from this scroll is a knot, reminding me to do a good turn every day. Thank you.

Leader or SPL: To prove that you know how to wear this award honorably, you will recite together the Scout Law. Scout sign!

Scouts repeat together: A Scout is trustworthy... (*recite the Scout Law together with leader or SPL assisting as needed*).

Leader or SPL: Two! I present to you our new 2nd Class Scout(s). *Lead applause.* We'd like you to shake the hand and receive congratulations from each of our uniformed leaders. *Scout(s) shake the hand of all leaders assembled up front.* You may be seated.

First Class Awards

Leader or SPL: Will the following Scout(s) and their parents please come forward:

By the time a Scout achieves his 1st Class Rank he should have mastered all of the skills in the Scout Handbook (*hold a handbook aloft*). Wearing the 1st Class badge does not just show that he has passed certain tests. (*With Emphasis*) There should be no past tense implied. On the contrary, the badge strongly declares, “I can, right here and right now!” So what can our 1st Class Scouts do? First, He is an outdoorsman. He knows how to camp, swim, hike, use woods tools safely, build a fire, use a campstove, and find his way with a map and compass. He’s spent at least 20 days and nights camping out in a tent he pitched on a site he selected. Many of those times he planned his own menu and cooked his own food. He can tie the knots and lashings necessary to build his camp.

The 1st Class Scout is comfortable with Nature. He can identify local animals and plants, including poisonous plants. He understands the causes of water, land and air pollution, and has worked to safeguard the environment.

The 1st Class Scout has begun to learn about citizenship-something that will be stressed further if he works on his citizenship merit badges. He knows what it means to be part of a family, a community, and a nation. he knows how our Nation came to be, and understands it’s symbols. Importantly, he has discussed his rights and responsibilities as a citizen. He understands how to treat, handle, and respect the flag.

The 1st Class Scout embodies the Scout motto, “Be Prepared”. He knows how to treat fractures, head injuries, hypothermia, convulsions, lacerations and abrasions, frostbite, burns, muscle cramps and knocked out teeth.

Finally a 1st Class Scout is now in a position to lead his troop and fellow Scouts.

The leader and SPL now present the badges, pins and cards to the new 1st Class Scout(s).

Each Scout in turn repeats the following:

_____ please repeat after me:

I am a First Class Scout. (*pause*) My badge includes the Tenderfoot and 2nd Class badges put together. (*pause*) I am now a complete Scout. (*pause*) I am committed to continuing to lead my life (*pause*) using the Scouting ideals such as the Law and Oath as my guide.

First Class Scout Award (cont.)

Leader or SPL: To show that you know how to wear this badge with honor you will repeat the Scout Oath. Scout Sign!

1st Class Scouts(s): (*With Scout Sign*) On my honor....

Leader or SPL: Two I now present to you our newest 1st Class Scouts! Lead applause. You may now shake the hand of your Scouting leaders.

Star Scout Awards

Leader or SPL: Will the following Scouts and their parents please come forward:

A leader is a person who is going somewhere-but not going alone. He takes others with him. The skill that makes people willing to follow him and ready to work with him is a precious skill called leadership. This skill is made up of many qualities-thoughtfulness and consideration for others, enthusiasm, the ability to share responsibility with others, accountability, and many other traits that Scouting experiences encourage. To be a Star Scout these young men must have shown leadership in our troop. Your service to the troop is appreciated, and we look forward to more from you.

Service to others has always been central to Scouting. During World War 1, Boy Scouts throughout the country collected paper and metal for recycling, and sold bonds to raise money for the war effort. In 1916, the United States Congress showed its thanks by granting the Boy Scouts of America a special congressional charter.

Scouts today carry on this tradition of service in their homes, communities and nation. You as new Star Scouts have been a part of carrying that tradition forward as you completed the service requirement for this badge.

The leader and SPL now present the badges, pins and cards to the new Star Scouts.

Each Scout in turn repeats the following:

_____ please repeat after me:

I am now a Star Scout. *(pause)* I am committed to showing Scout Spirit at all times *(pause)* by living my life according to the Scout Oath and Law. *(pause)* I am ready to accept even more responsibility for the function of the troop. *(pause)* I am committed to working with and serving our younger members *(pause)* to help them fully enjoy their Scouting experience.

Leader or SPL: Thank you. Let's congratulate our new Star Scouts! *Lead applause.*

I invite you to shake the hand of your Scouting leaders. You may now be seated.

Life Scout Awards

Leader or SPL: Will the following Scout(s) and their parents please come forward:

To the boy who can come up with the solution, a problem is a stepping-stone. Life for every young man is a series of opportunities, of doors into the future, doors that open only to the key of Preparedness. The Scout Motto, Be Prepared, is more than an idle phrase. Scouting is the best all-around training for young men that we know of. As a new Life Scout you have further demonstrated your willingness to lead and serve, while acquiring more life skills through the merit badge program. You now stand at the threshold of a great opportunity; an accomplishment which will only be achieved by 4% of those boys who join Scouting. That opportunity is the chance to become an Eagle Scout. All of us here congratulate you on your latest accomplishment, and wish you well as you look up the steepest part of the Scouting advancement trail.

*The leader and SPL now present the Scout with their badge, pin and card.
Have the boys put the MOTHER PIN on their mothers.*

Each new Life Scout will recite the following:

New Life Scouts, please repeat after me:

I am now a Life Scout. (*pause*) I appreciate all that the adult and boy leaders of the troop did for me as I came up in Scouting. (*pause*) I commit myself once again to do my part to lead the troop, (*pause*) serve my community, (*pause*) and assist those Scouts who come behind me. I ask for your support as I consider my next step in Scouting.

Leader or SPL: Thank you and congratulations! Let's applaud Troop 93's latest Life Scout!
*Leads applause. Scout(s) shake the hand of all leaders assembled up front.
and dismisses the assembled uniformed leaders.*

You may be seated.

6) Merit Badges and Certifications

SPL and ASPL: The BSA merit badge program allows boys and young men to explore many fields, helps them round out their Scouting skills, and perhaps introduces them to subjects that will become lifelong interests and rewarding careers. In addition, advancement establishes a pattern of setting positive goals, and then working to achieve those goals—a critical life skill.

Will the following boys of the ___*see separate sheet*___ patrol come forward to receive their merit badges earned since our last Court of Honor.

The SPL and ASPL work together to announce and present the MB's to each boy. Each boy is given a chance to describe what they may have learned in the process, or to state which badge they found the most fun. Go ahead and ad lib. Each patrol is called up in turn.

7) Special Awards and Announcements:

Leader or SPL: Will the following Scout(s) please come forward: ...

And now I will turn the floor over to _____ for the Scoutmaster Minute.

8) Scoutmaster Minute

9) Closing Prayer

SPL: Will our Chaplain Aide, _____, please come forward to lead us in prayer. *Prayer.* **SPL:** Thank you, _____.

10) Retreat the Colors

Please stand for the retiring of the colors.

Scouts Attention.

Color guard advance.

Color guard retrieve the colors.

Color guard retreat.

Two.

I declare this Court of honor completed.