



## Troop 714: Eagle Board of Review



The Board of Review for an Eagle candidate is composed of at least three but not more than six members. These members do not have to be registered in Scouting, but they must have an understanding of the importance and purpose of the Eagle Board of Review. Advancement Chair will serve as Chairman, if available. Unit leaders, assistant unit leaders, relatives or guardians may not serve as members of a Scout's Board of Review. At least one District advancement representative must be a member of the Eagle Board of Review if the review is conducted at a unit level. A Scout may request a District Board of Review which will consist of members of the District Advancement Committee and/or District members who have an understanding of the importance of the Eagle Board of Review. In no case should a relative or guardian of the candidate attend the review, either as a participant or observer. The contents of the Board of Review are confidential and the proceedings are not to be disclosed to any person who is not a member of the Board of Review.

The Board of Review is more than a summation of their knowledge. It should not be tie a knot or saying the Oath. You are looking for how Scouting has prepared the youth for their Adulthood. How Scouting has helped the youth overcome their adolescence. It is more about thought and leadership verses memorization. You are looking how they, the Eagle Candidate shows that elusive Scouting Spirit. You are looking to see if they appreciate Scouting and their Eagle. You are looking to see how they are going to Pay Forward verses Pay Back. Questions should be thought provoking.

### 1) BOARD:

- a. All conversations that take place in this review are confidential and not to be shared with any person who is not a member of the Board of Review.
- b. The person presenting the scout shall not speak on the scouts behalf, short of the introduction.
- c. Questions regarding race, religious beliefs (Do not challenge those beliefs, but you can ask about it) and sexual orientation are not allowed.
- d. The questions shall be directed towards the scout who is encouraged to answer fully. If clarifications are needed regarding an answer, probe the eagle candidate further.
- e. Please thank the scout. One, they have answered your questions. Two, so they know you are finished.
- f. These are by no means the only questions that may be asked. They are merely examples to be used as a springboard to other questions and further discussion. Please do not assume that you are to ask only these questions and consider the interview complete. The interview should come to a natural conclusion as each board member runs out of questions.

- 2) Board reviews eagle project, letters of recommendation, brag letter.
  - a. Once the Scout's Eagle Application, service project paperwork, letters of recommendation and these guidelines are reviewed, the Scoutmaster is asked to introduce the candidate to the Board (as a courtesy the Board members should stand). The Scoutmaster can be invited to remain as an observer and may be called upon to clarify a point in question.
  
- 3) Scout is summoned and is introduced to the Board.
  - a. At this point, the goal is to understand the Scout's full Scouting experience, and how others can have similar meaningful Scouting experiences. Scouting principles and goals should be central to the Scout's life; look for evidence of this.
  - b. Although this is the final rank, this is not the end of the Scouting trail; "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle". Explore how this Eagle Scout will continue with scouting activities, and continued service to his home, church, and community.
  
- 4) The Scout Leads the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath and Law.
  - a. Scout Oath
    - On my honor, I will do my best
    - To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
    - To help other people at all times;
    - To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.
  - b. Scout Law
    - Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient,
    - Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.
  
- 5) After the review, the candidate and his unit leader leave the room while the Board of Review will discuss the Scouts responses and make a final determination for the advancement to Eagle Rank. Because of the importance of the Eagle Scout Award, the decision of the Board of Review must be unanimous. If the candidate meets the requirements, he is asked to return and is informed that he will receive the Board's recommendation for the Eagle award.
  - a. Questions to consider
    - i. Did the candidate demonstrate leadership to others?
    - ii. Was he indeed the project director, rather than the doer?
    - iii. Was the project of real value to the school, church or community?
    - iv. Did the project follow the plan and was it successfully completed?
    - v. Do you feel this candidate is a good scout?
    - vi. Is this scout worthy of being Eagle?
  
- 6) If the candidate is found unacceptable, he is asked to return and told the reasons for his failure to qualify. A discussion should be held with him as to how he may meet the requirements within a given period. Should the applicant disagree with the decision, the appeal procedures should be explained to him. A follow-up letter must be sent to the Scout confirming the agreements reached on the action(s) necessary for the advancement. If the Scout chooses to appeal, provide the name and address of the person he is to contact.

- 7) The Scout is brought back in the room and stands before the board, who announce the final response to the scout.
  - a. (Candidates Name) this board has determined that you have earned the right to advance to Eagle Scout. Congratulations.
  - b. (Candidates Name) this board has determined that you have not yet earned the right to advance to Eagle Scout. Give reasons and ask that they re-schedule?
  - c. DON'T FORGET TO TAKE A PICTURE.

# ***SAMPLE QUESTIONS***

## **Personal Data (good ice breaker)**

- What is your full name?
- How old are you?
- With whom do you live?
- What do you do to make your home a pleasant place to live?
- Who do you feel is responsible for you being before us today?
- What are your hobbies? What do you do in your spare time?
- What do you consider to be your strongest attribute? Why?
- What do you consider to be your greatest weakness? What are you doing to overcome this weakness?
- Have you ever entered into a competition that you knew you would win "hands-down", only to come out second in the end? Any competition, sports...band...individual events. How did you handle it?
- If you had the opportunity to meet and talk for an hour with any person in the world (alive or dead)... who would it be and what would you ask that person?

## **Understanding and adherence to the Scout Oath and Scout Law**

- What is the hardest point of the Scout Law for you live by and why?
- What point of the Scout Law is the most important to you and why?
- What does "Scouting Spirit" mean to you and why?
- What do the various points of the Scout Law mean to you?
- What does "duty to God" mean to you?
- What does "duty to Country" mean to you?
- How do you "help others at all times"?
- How do you feel about wearing your uniform in public?

## **Scouting Experience**

- How does Scouting influence your interactions with people?
- Now that you have gone through the scouting program. How are you different now, from when you joined Scouting?
- Is there anything Scouting did not give you that you feel could be beneficial to the program to help other young men develop?

### **What Do You Think**

- {Please stand, give the Scout Sign, and SLOWLY recite the Scout Oath and Law... as you do contemplate each point carefully} Of the twelve (12) points in the Scout Law, which one (1) is the most important to you? Why?
- Let's say BSA decided to shorten the Scout Law, and you had to eliminate one (1) of the twelve (12) points. Which would you eliminate and why? If you could, what would you replace that point with?
- What is "Honor"? What does it mean when you say "On My Honor"?
- What does "A Scout is Reverent" mean to you?
- What does it mean to be an Eagle Scout? What burdens and responsibilities come with being Eagle? Once an Eagle... An Eagle for life...Are you prepared for this?
- What is an Eagle Scout's duty to his country?
- How do you feel that becoming an Eagle might affect your life?
- What constitutes a "Good Turn" for you? Tell me about a Good Turn you've done recently.
- How do you keep yourself "Mentally Awake"? "Morally Straight"?

### **Teamwork**

- Have you been carrying any additional responsibilities in the Troop since you became Life? What have you done? How did you go about it?
- What strengths and weaknesses have you noticed in the various Patrols? What would you suggest to correct the weaknesses?
- What do you think of the Patrol Method? How has the Troop performed in giving the Patrols the support they need?
- How can the Troop improve on its training of youth leaders?
- How do you see your role in the Troop changing after becoming an Eagle?

### **Your Progress**

- Now that you have at least 21 merit badges, do you think that any one you have earned might lead you into a life's career? Which one?
- What was the hardest merit badge for you to complete? Why was it so hard? Could the Troop have helped you to make it any easier? Should the Troop have helped you?
- What do you think you can pass on to the younger Scouts in the Troop? Have you ever thought of looking into becoming a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster (JASM) or as an adult an Assistant Scoutmaster (ASM)?
- If a Tenderfoot asked you for help in working on a merit badge, would you help him, send him to someone else, or tell him to concentrate on the skills needed for Second Class? Why would you advise him this way?
- In the different Scouting leadership positions you have held, do you feel that you did your best at all times to make that job operate the best that you could? If not, what would you do differently?

### **The Eagle Project**

- Tell me a little about your Eagle Project.
- Did you have any difficulty planning your project? How did you choose your project?
- Once your project was approved, did you have to modify it - what did you learn from that experience?
- If you could do your project over, what would you do differently?
- How did you demonstrate Leadership during your project?
- What problems did you encounter, and how did you overcome them?
- What help did you require in completing your project?
- What did you learn about yourself while supervising the project?
- What problems did you incur while completing your project?
- Every scout feels his project was "special" - how was your project "special"?
- Thirty years from now when someone else asks you what you did for your Eagle project, what will stand out in your mind?
- What suggestions do you have for other eagle candidates looking to start the Eagle Project process?

### **The Big Picture**

- What do you consider to be the purpose of the merit badge program?
- Do you think Scouting has more positive points, or negative points? Why?
- What is your most memorable Scouting experience?
- Do you think that you will be able to remember the obligation of a Scout "to help others at all times" as you grow into an adult? What will help you remember this fundamental?
- Have you ever felt that any one person (youth or adult) epitomized (typical example of) leadership? What made this person such a strong role model for leadership?
- If you could send one message to every Scout, what would it be?
- If for any reason this Board were not to pass you today, what would you do? Assuming you pass, where will you go from here?

\*\* Do you have any questions or concerns of us your board? \*\*