

The Journey – Boy Scout Court of Honor Ceremony

Adapted by Helene Simmons. Troop 331 Omaha, Nebraska

Original source http://boyscouttrail.com/content/ceremony/new_scout_2-1280.asp

Call to Order

SPL: Good evening. My name is _____, and I am the Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 331.

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.

Presentation of Colors

Color Guard leader brings room to order. (Raise the Scout sign if needed.)

The Color Guard leader walks to the front of the room and face audience.

Color Guard leader: Please rise. *Give the audience time to rise.*

Color Guard leader: "Color Guard, Post the Colors. Scout salute."

Scouts carry the US & Pack flags walking double file.

Color Guard leader: "Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance."

Color Guard leader: "TWO."

Color Guard leader: "Please join us now in the Scout Law. Scout Sign. *A Scout is...*"

Color Guard leader: "Please join us now in the Scout Oath. *On my honor...*"

Color Guard leader: "TWO"

The color guard walks back out double-file to wait at the back of the room.

Color Guard leader: "Color guard, dismissed. Please be seated."

The Color Guard leader and color guard return to their seats.

SPL: I now declare this Court of Honor in session!

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Opening Prayer

SPL: Will _____ please come forward to lead us in prayer.

Reports

SPL: Will _____ please come forward for Reports.

A's

SPL: Will _____ please come forward for any A words.

Merit Badges and Certifications

SPL : 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.

As your name is read, please come forward to receive your Merit Badge. *(Names are read along with the Merit Badge(s) earned.)*

Wait for the Scouts to come forward

Adult Recognition

SPL: Will _____ please come forward for Adult Recognition.

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Rank Advancement

SPL: Will _____ please come to the front to assist in the presentation of our rank advancement awards.

Scout Award

Awards Coordinator/Leader: The following boy(s) and their parents will please come forward: *(names are read)*

Wait for the Scouts and families to come forward

SPL: The Scout Oath is a pledge to strive for a way of that has guided millions of boys and men before you. It is not a pledge to be taken lightly. The Oath begins, 'On my honor, I will do my Best.' Before I ask you to make this promise, think about what those first few words mean and if you are willing to give your word to do your best. *[Wait 5 seconds.]* Are you ready to give to make this promise to do your best?

Scouts, please give the Scout sign and join me in reciting the Scout Oath.

On my honor, I will do my best,
To do my duty to God and my country.
To obey the Scout Law.
To help other people at all times.
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight

The Leader presents the new Scout(s) with their badges and neckerchiefs

Give each Scout the MOTHER PIN to pin on his mother. Scouts are reminded to hug their mom. When all are done each Scout shakes the hand of the Scout and adult leaders up front.

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Tenderfoot Rank

Awards Coordinator/Leader: The following boy(s) and their parents will please come forward: *(names are read)*

Wait for the Scouts and families to come forward

SPL: Since you first joined this Troop, you said the words of the Scout Oath many times. You have learned many skills which will serve you well as you travel on you Boy Scout trail to become an Eagle Scout. You have learned some basic first aid skills and to tie knots and you have improved your physical fitness. But these skills are only the beginning. As you advance into other ranks, you will learn more knots, more first aid skills, how to use a compass, how to cook, and most importantly, how to lead others. The activities you participate in will become more challenging and more rewarding.

The Leader presents the new Scout(s) with their badges and neckerchiefs

Give each Scout the MOTHER PIN to pin on his mother. Scouts are reminded to hug their mom. When all are done each Scout shakes the hand of the Scout and adult leaders up front.

ASPL: Let's congratulate these Scouts with warm applause. *Lead applause*
You may be seated.

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Second Class

Awards Coordinator/Leader: The following boy(s) and their parents will please come forward: *(names are read)*

Wait for the Scouts and families to come forward

SPL: Once before, you stood before this Troop and were recognized as a Tenderfoot Scout. Time has passed since then, for some of you a short time, for others longer. You have used this time well in pursuing Scout activities and knowledge and have distinguished yourselves by qualifying for Second Class rank.

This rank of Second Class represents to you the opportunities for service to others. By living according to the Scout Oath and Law, you are adding your bit to the fires of good citizenship and world brotherhood.

I know that you will wear the Second Class badge with honor and distinction.

The Leader presents the new Scout(s) with their badges and neckerchiefs

Give each Scout the MOTHER PIN to pin on his mother. Scouts are reminded to hug their mom. When all are done each Scout shakes the hand of the Scout and adult leaders up front.

ASPL: Let's congratulate these Scouts with warm applause. *Lead applause*
You may be seated.

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First Class

Awards Coordinator/Leader: The following boy(s) and their parents will please come forward: *(names are read)*

Wait for the Scouts and families to come forward

SPL: The First Class rank represents a significant step in scouting. It represents the 'Complete Scout', having demonstrated all the basic scouting skills. In qualifying for First Class rank, you have demonstrated skills making it possible for you to live in the outdoors for weeks rather than hours. You have the skills to survive in the wild, and more importantly the knowledge to prevent the need to survive by planning well and making sound choices.

The next phase of scouting lies before you. Some scouts pick up all the scouting skills and get very good at tying knots, and building fires. But unless you grow past Scout 'camper' to Scout 'leader', you have experienced the true Scouting life. As you watch other leaders and learn leadership skills, you will understand that a leader is actually a servant. Serving and leading go hand in hand. As a First Class scout, you are expected to lead other scouts up the trail with you. Make their path safe, fun, and memorable so one day they can stand here where you are while you move on to greater things.

The Leader presents the new Scout(s) with their badges and neckerchiefs

Give each Scout the MOTHER PIN to pin on his mother. Scouts are reminded to hug their mom. When all are done each Scout shakes the hand of the Scout and adult leaders up front.

ASPL: Let's congratulate these Scouts with warm applause. *Lead applause*
You may be seated.

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Star

Awards Coordinator/Leader: The following boy(s) and their parents will please come forward: *(names are read)*

Wait for the Scouts and families to come forward

SPL: Scouts, in receiving your Star rank, you are taking another important step toward Eagle. You have advanced in a way that obligates you to give less experienced Scouts the service and experienced have received. Today you leave that group which receives Scouting. You are now admitted to a smaller group whose privilege and duty it is to give to Scouting – to give leadership, guidance, and inspiration to younger Scouts who will follow your lead. Your willingness to do so will be a pledge of service and a sign that your understanding of the ideals of Scouting is growing.

The Leader presents the new Scout(s) with their badges and neckerchiefs

Give each Scout the MOTHER PIN to pin on his mother. Scouts are reminded to hug their mom. When all are done each Scout shakes the hand of the Scout and adult leaders up front.

ASPL: Let's congratulate these Scouts with warm applause. *Lead applause*
You may be seated.

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Life Scout

Awards Coordinator/Leader: The following boy(s) and their parents will please come forward: *(names are read)*

Wait for the Scouts and families to come forward

SPL: In receiving your Life rank tonight, you have fulfilled your last step before taking on your Eagle requirements. You have shown that you can lead your troop through serving and guiding others. You have shared your scouting experience with younger scouts following after you. You have helped your patrol and troop grow in strength and character.

Tonight, you enter that small group directly working towards their Eagle rank. In doing so, you must not only give service, you must also lead others in performing a service project of your choosing. Your willingness to do so will be a pledge of service and a sign of your understanding of the ideals of Scouting. When you are finished with the requirements, you will be worthy to join those few who are Eagle Scouts.

The Leader presents the new Scout(s) with their badges and neckerchiefs

Give each Scout the MOTHER PIN to pin on his mother. Scouts are reminded to hug their mom. When all are done each Scout shakes the hand of the Scout and adult leaders up front.

ASPL: Let's congratulate these Scouts with warm applause. *Lead applause*
You may be seated.

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Special Awards and Announcements

SPL: Will the following Scout(s) please come forward: ...(announce names and award earned)

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

Scoutmaster Minute

Closing Prayer

SPL: Will our Chaplain's Aide, _____, please come forward to lead us in prayer.

Prayer.

SPL: Thank you, _____.

Retrieve the Colors

Please stand for the retiring of the colors.

After the colors are retired

I declare this Court of honor completed.