

Preparation Outline for Troop 57 Life Scoutmaster Conference:

- 1) Format for conference.
 - a) You should arrive at Scoutmaster conference in full Class A uniform, including sash, Scout shirt, pants, neckerchief, and belt.
 - b) You should also bring your [Individual Advancement Plan](#) for advancement to Eagle. If you do not have a current plan, please work with your Patrol ASM to develop one before your Scoutmaster Conference.
 - c) Goals of the conference:
 - i) Review of your experience in Scouting and knowledge gained.
 - ii) Overall goal is assessment of preparedness for advancement to Star rank.
 - iii) Assessment of troop and patrol leadership goals, personal goals and timetable for Eagle.
 - d) Depending on the outcome of the meeting, you may be asked to come back for follow up meeting on some specific areas.
 - e) Answer any questions you may have before we begin.

- 2) Confirm that all requirements for Life rank have been completed:
 - a) Be active in the troop and patrol for at least 6 months as a Star Scout.
 - i) When did you become a Star Scout?
 - ii) How have you been “active” in the troop and patrol since becoming a Star Scout?
 - (1) Outings: examples of outings attended; outings led.
 - (2) Meetings: how often present; active at meetings?
 - (3) Leadership: specific examples
 - (4) Community service: specific examples
 - iii) Sample follow-up questions
 - (1) How is the troop better off because of your participation as a Star Scout?
 - (2) What contributions have you made?

 - b) Demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath and Scout Law in everyday life.
 - i) Recite Oath:
 - (1) What is the purpose and meaning of the Scout Oath?
 - (a) What does it mean to be “mentally awake”? “Morally straight”?
 - (2) Specific examples of how Scout has lived Oath in everyday life
 - (3) What does duty to country mean? Give some examples.
 - (4) What do you do to keep yourself “physically strong” and “mentally alert”?
 - ii) Recite Law:
 - (1) What is the purpose and meaning of the Law?
 - (a) Have do you define words in the law. There is the book definition and the Scout’s own definition (the later more important as long as consistent). An example – what is the meaning of “loyal”? Loyal to what? Conflicts?
 - (2) Should provide specific examples of how you have lived at least three elements of the Law in everyday life
 - (3) Sample follow-up questions include:
 - (a) What does “a Scout is reverent” mean to you?
 - (b) What is more important – the Scout Law or the Scout Oath?
 - iii) Recite the Outdoor Code
 - (1) Is it applicable to any T57 outings and activities?
 - (2) What are the key principles of Leave No Trace hiking and camping?
 - (3) How does LNT compare to the Outdoor Code?
 - (4) What are two important ways to practice Leave No Trace and the principles of low impact camping and hiking

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- (5) Give examples of how low impact principles are applied differently on trips into the Wilderness and on trips to established campgrounds.
- iv) Recite the Scout Slogan
 - (1) What good turn has the scout done today?
- c) Leadership: while a Star Scout, serve actively for a period of 6 months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility: Patrol Leader, Troop Guide or Scribe, Den Chief, APL/Scribe, Librarian, APL/Instructor, Quartermaster
 - (1) Which leadership role(s) did you complete for Star advancement?
 - (2) What did you learn in each of these positions that will help you become a better leader?
 - (3) Sample follow-up questions include:
 - (a) What were your accomplishments in this role?
 - (b) What did you learn about leadership while in the position of responsibility?
 - (c) What was most challenging about this leadership position? How did you overcome this challenge?
 - (4) Why is leadership a requirement for advancement in Scouting?
 - (5) What leadership position would you like to try next?
- 3) Assessment of basic Scout knowledge and skills. This assessment will focus on the areas set forth below. *Note that the questions are examples of the types that may be asked in the Scoutmaster conference and are not intended as a complete listing.*
 - a) First aid: *Note that it is strongly recommended that the Life candidate carefully review the First Aid chapter of the Boy Scout Handbook and (if Scout has earned them) the requirements for the First Aid and Emergency Preparedness Merit Badges prior to the Scoutmaster conference.*
 - i) Sample questions **could** include:
 - (1) Describe the First Aid Method.
 - (2) What are the differences with First Aid in a city versus First Aid in the backcountry?
 - (3) What are the hurry cases? What are the symptoms of each? How do you treat each of them?
 - (4) What is happening in the body when a person is in shock? How do you treat for shock?.
 - (5) What do you do at the scene of a serious accident, or in any situation where there may be life-threatening injuries?
 - (6) Explain the steps and procedures in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - (7) What are the symptoms of a heart attack? Does everyone have the same symptoms?
 - (8) How do you perform the Heimlich maneuver?
 - (9) How do you determine the best method of moving a sick or injured person? Under what conditions would you do this, and what are your options? Describe the various carries.
 - (10) Describe the symptoms and proper first aid procedures for the following conditions:
 - (a) Hypothermia and frostbite.
 - (b) Dehydration, heat exhaustion and heat stroke
 - (c) Sunburn
 - (d) Minor scrapes and lacerations
 - (e) Convulsions
 - (f) Sprains
 - (g) Broken, chipped or loosened tooth
 - (h) Muscle cramps
 - (i) Dehydration
 - (j) Severe nose bleed
 - (k) Severe laceration to the leg

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- (l) Broken arm, shoulder blade, wrist and leg
 - (m) Object in eye
 - (n) Bite of a suspected rabid animal
 - (o) Poisonous snake bite
 - (p) Puncture wounds from a splinter, nail, fishhook
 - (q) Insect stings
 - (r) All classes of burns
 - (s) Blisters
 - (t) Bandages for injuries to the head, upper arm, collarbone
 - ii) What steps do you take if you are first on the scene at an automobile accident or other emergency?
 - iii) What are the different categories of burns? How do they differ from one another, and how do you treat each type?
 - iv) What are the different types of fractures? Are there differences in the first aid of each?
 - v) How do you evacuate an unconscious person from a smoke filled room?
 - vi) How do you decide whether or not to evacuate a person who likely has a neck or back injury?
- b) Outdoor skills: sample questions
- i) General skills
 - (1) What are the Ten Essentials?
 - (2) What does STOP mean?
 - (3) What factors should you consider when selecting a campsite and a tent site?
 - (4) What do you do to “properly pitch a tent”?
 - (5) What are the rules of safe hiking, both on the highway and cross country and during the day and night?
 - (6) What are signs of pending inclement weather?
 - (7) What do you do in the case of lightning?
 - ii) Demonstrate how to tie and when to use basic knots, including:
 - (1) two half hitches.
 - (2) taut-line hitch.
 - (3) timber hitch and clove hitch.
 - (4) bowline knot.
 - (5) Square knot
 - (6) Demonstrate whipping and fusing. When do you use each?
 - (7) What is the difference between a knot and a hitch?
 - (8) Be prepared to demonstrate all the lashings in the book
 - (a) Square lashing
 - (b) Diamond lashing
 - (c) Shear Lashing
 - (d) Tripod Lashing
 - (e) Round Lashing
 - (f) What is a frap? What is a wrap?
 - (g) When is it appropriate to do lashings?
 - iii) Name at least two common local poisonous plants.
 - (1) Are there seasonal changes in their appearance?
 - (2) How do you tell poison oak from blackberry?
 - (3) (see <http://www.bahiker.com/plantpages/poisonous.html> for examples.)

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- iv) Orienteering and Navigation
 - (1) Demonstrate how a compass works
 - (a) Take a bearing off a local landmark
 - (b) Describe how you can use landmarks and a compass to follow a trail
 - (2) Demonstrate how to read a topo map.
 - (a) What are lines on a topographical map called?
 - (b) What is the difference between them called? What does it mean?
 - (c) Are all the lines equal? How do they differ?
 - (d) Types of “north.” What term describes the difference between true north and magnetic north? What in degrees in Palo Alto? In Yosemite?
 - (e) Which way does magnetic north point, relative to true north, in Boston? In Chicago?
 - (3) Map symbols and colors
 - (a) What do map colors mean? White; green, blue, black, brown?
 - (b) Describe basic map symbols.
 - (c) Suppose you are the leader for an Oljato weekend hike, camping out on Saturday night.
 - (i) How would you use a map to prepare for the hike? What key things would you take note of on the map, and what responsibilities would you give to other scouts?
 - (4) Finding your way.
 - (a) Describe at least one method of finding directions during the day and night without using a compass.
 - (b) What are the alternative methods of night time navigation?
 - (c) Describe the shadow-stick method for finding directions. The equal-length shadow method. Do these work using the moon?
 - (d) How do you measure the height and or width of a tree, tower, canyon, ditch or stream?

- v) Water Safety
 - (1) Describe the elements of Safe Swim Defense
 - (2) Describe the elements of Safety Afloat
 - (3) What are the water rescue methods and how to you decide which to use?
 - (4) What is the big risk when rescuing a panicky drowning person? How do you prevent?

- c) Cooking and Meal Preparation
 - i) Discuss when it is appropriate to use a cooking fire and a lightweight stove including safety procedures for using each.
 - (1) What kind of stove would you use for high elevation camping and hiking, and why?
 - (2) Describe what risks are posed by Coleman car camping stoves? Jetboils? Other white gas backpacking stoves? How do you prevent?
 - ii) Briefly explain how you would plan both a breakfast and a dinner for your patrol on an outing, including estimating the amount of food and how much it would cost.
 - iii) Describe the food guide plate and the importance of good nutrition
 - iv) How do you filter water?

- d) General Scout Knowledge
 - i) What are the components of the Scout Badge?
 - (1) What do the two stars symbolize?
 - (2) What does the shape of the badge symbolize?

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- (3) What do the three points of the trefoil stand for?
 - (4) What does the knot, at the bottom of the badge, symbolize?
 - ii) Demonstrate how to fold the American Flag.
- 4) Looking Forward
- a) Be prepared to review your Individual Advancement Plan (IAP) with the scoutmasters:
 - i) What leadership position would you like next, and when do you think you can serve?
 - ii) What would be a good time for you so that there is minimal conflict with sports participation or other major activities in which you participate?
 - iii) Which merit badges do you expect to earn for Eagle advancement?
 - iv) Which Eagle-required badges? When do you expect to earn them?
 - b) Do you intend to become an Eagle Scout? What does it mean to be an Eagle Scout?
 - i) What does it take to become an Eagle Scout?
 - ii) What will be the hardest requirement for you over the next 2-3 years, on your path to Eagle?
 - c) Do you think you will try to earn any Eagle Palms? Why, or why not, do you care about these?
 - d) What do your friends say about your being a Boy Scout?
 - e) What would you say to someone considering Scouting?
 - f) What is the single best thing you have achieved through Scouting?
 - g) What activities have you enjoyed the most? Which ones have been the most valuable to you personally?