

Preparation Outline for Troop 57 Star 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 Life. 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 Star rank have been completed:
 - a) Be active in the troop and patrol for at least 4 months as a First Class Scout.
 - i) When did you become a First Class Scout?
 - ii) How have you been “active” in the troop and patrol since becoming a First Class 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 First Class Scout?
 - (2) What contributions have you made?
 - iv) What leadership role(s) did you complete for Star advancement?
 - (1) 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?

 - 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?

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- (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
 - (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?
- 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 Star candidate carefully review the First Aid chapter of the Boy Scout Handbook prior to the Scoutmaster conference.*
 - i) Sample questions **could** include:
 - (1) Describe the First Aid Method.
 - (2) What are the hurry cases? What are the symptoms of each? How do you treat each of them?
 - (3) What is happening in the body when a person is in shock? How do you treat for shock?.
 - (4) Explain the steps and procedures in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - (5) What are the symptoms of a heart attack? Does everyone have the same symptoms?
 - (6) How do you perform the Heimlich maneuver?
 - (7) 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.
 - (8) 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
 - (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

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- 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 one versus the other?
 - (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.)
 - 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?

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- (d) Types of “north.” What term describes the difference between true north and magnetic north? What in degrees in Palo Alto?
- (e) Which way does declination point 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.
- (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 nighttime 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 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?
 - (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 Life and 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?

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- 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?