

Troop 282 requirements for “Scout Spirit” and “Being Active”

It is very difficult as Troop 282 Leaders and Committee Members to define what is “Scout Spirit” and “Being Active”. The Boy Scout of America does not enforce any guidelines and leaves it up to the individual Troops to define. Below are guidelines for defining “Scout Spirit” and “Being Active”. Remember, that as your Scout gets older and becomes a Life and hopefully an Eagle Scout, his life will become very complicated. There are many other activities that your Scout will become actively involved with, and it is important to understand that an Eagle Scout is the “BEST” and should perform the “BEST”. “Being Active” and demonstrating “Scout Spirit” is the way to become the “BEST”.

Scout Spirit:

All Scouts must wear the uniform 100% of the time spent in each rank. The Troop allows a Scout to miss wearing his uniform 10% of the time. A uniform consists of:

- A Scout Shirt, tucked in, not bloused*
- Troop neckerchief (Eagles may wear the Eagle neckerchief instead of the Troop 282 neckerchief)*
- Official Scout pants/shorts, or similar pants/shorts to the official Scout pants/shorts. No gym shorts or jeans.*

In addition to the above requirement “Scout Spirit”

- For each rank advancement, the scout needs to have demonstrated four new applications of the Scout Law.*
- As the scout advances, he will have gone through the 12 scout laws twice.*
- As part of our regular meetings (or at outings), just before the scoutmaster minute, the scouts will be asked for examples of how they have demonstrated scout spirit this past week (or, for outings, this past day).*
- “Scout Spirit” (How the scout is doing)*
 - The concept of “Scout Spirit” applies to how a Scout lives and conducts his daily life. It refers to a Scout living his life by the Scout Oath and Law on a continual daily basis. Showing “Scout Spirit” means being a good example to one’s peers. “Scout Spirit” is not to be interpreted as having to attend a certain percentage of Scouting events or outings but rather how the scout brings out the best in others as a reflection of his own character and attitude.*
 - Scout spirit applies to how you live and how you conduct your daily life – that is, your life both in and out of scouting activities.*

You show Scout spirit by being a role model, living by the Scout Oath and Law. Scout spirit is not based on how many Scouting events or outings a Scout attends, but rather by how he helps bring out the best in others as a reflection of his own character and attitude.

Some ways to do this are:

- *telling the truth,*
- *sticking up for the kid being picked on,*
- *handing out papers for the teacher,*
- *letting everyone play a game,*
- *saying thank you to the clerk at a store,*
- *helping a kid that dropped his books instead of laughing at him,*
- *playing fair to have fun rather than to win no matter what,*
- *looking for a little fun in every job you have to do,*
- *using your boring old cellphone for another year because it still works,*
- *asking your buddies to not use bad language around you,*
- *listening to music that doesn't promote hate, violence, and other trash,*
- *taking 5 minutes once in a while to just quietly sit outside and think about where you're heading in life*

(that was a simple example of each of the 12 points in the Scout Law)

- *There is documentation that the Troop 282 Scout must use to keep track of his Scout Spirit from rank to rank. See Scoutmaster or Advancement Chairman for these documents.*

Being Active:

A Scout must attend the weekly meeting and attend outings on a consistent basis. For weekly meeting, a Scout in Troop 282 must attend at least 75% of the meetings between each rank of Scouting. Some excuses are accepted, such as illness, homework, school exams and school activities that the entire school(Troop) must attend. If your Scout is in other activities such as sports or band then he will not advance if he does not attend weekly meetings and outings. It is up to the Scoutmaster and Committee to review this requirement.

Outing requirements for being active between Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class are in the Scout Handbook. They are: requirement 2 for Tenderfoot, requirement 3a for Second Class and requirement 3 for First Class.

First Class to Star Rank:

To fulfill the participation requirement between the rank of First Class and Star a Scout must "be active in your unit (and patrol if you are in one) for at least four months as a First Class Scout". In Troop 282 he must also attend 5 Activities/Outing which includes:

- 1. A minimum of 2 Troop overnight camping trips as a First Class Scout*
- 2. 1 Scouting overnight camping trip. Examples: OA ordeal, Scout Training camp, Lockin or a 3rd Troop overnight camping trip can be substituted.*
- 3. 2 Troop activities. Examples: Eagle Service Project, Troop bike day trip.*

Star to Life Rank:

To fulfill the participation requirement between the rank of Star and Life a Scout must “be active in your unit (and patrol if you are in one) for at least six months as a Star Scout”. In Troop 282 he must attend 7 Activities/Outings which includes:

- 1. A minimum of 3 Troop overnight camping trips as a Star Scout*
- 2. 1 Scouting overnight camping trip. Examples: OA ordeal, Scout Training camp, Lockin or a 4th Troop overnight camping trip can be substituted.*
- 3. 3 Troop activities. Examples: Eagle Service Project, Troop bike day trip.*

Also, as a Star Scout you must teach the EDGE method (Explain, Demonstrate, Guide and Enable). For this requirement you will need the Scoutmaster approval before starting.

Life to Eagle Rank:

To fulfill the participation requirement between the rank of Life and Eagle a Scout must “be active in your troop and patrol for six months as a Life Scout”. In Troop 282 he must attend 7 Activities/Outings which includes:

- 1. A minimum of 3 Troop overnight camping trips as a Life Scout*
- 2. 1 Scouting overnight camping trip. Examples: OA ordeal, Lockin, Scout Training camp or a 4th Troop overnight camping trip can be substituted.*
- 3. 3 Troop activities. Examples: Eagle Service Project, Troop bike day trip.*

To obtain the ranks of Star, Life and Eagle, a Scout will need a Leadership position. If the Leadership position requires Patrol Leadership Conference attendance, he must attend a minimum of 3 PLC's between First Class and Star and 4 PLC's between Star and Life and Life to Eagle in order to advance.