



# Scissortail District Roundtable



**Raegan Rethard**  
**Roundtable Commissioner**  
**23 January 2025**

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# Welcome to Roundtable

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Scout Oath**

**Scout Law**

**Outdoor Code**

**As an American, I will do my best to be clean in my outdoor manners, be careful with fire, be considerate in the outdoors, and be conservation minded.**

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# Hot Topic—Navigating the Eagle Process and Board of Review



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# Safety Moment--Winter Activity Safety

Keeping warm is the most important part of cold-weather camping and outdoor activities. Use the “C-O-L-D” method to stay warm.

**C = Clean:** Insulation is only effective when the insulating layers are kept clean and fluffy. Dirt, grime, and sweat can reduce the ability of a garment to keep you warm.

**O = Overheating:** Avoid overheating by adjusting the layers of your clothing to keep from sweating during warmer temperatures. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water or sports drinks. Avoid energy drinks.

**L = Loose layers:** A steady flow of warm blood is essential to keeping all parts of your body heated. Wear several loosely fitting layers of clothing and footwear that will allow maximum insulation without blocking your circulation. Having clothing that is brightly colored (orange or red) is also a good idea, so hunters and sportsmen can see you in snowy conditions. Always wear a hat.

**D = Dry:** Sweaty, damp clothing and skin can cause your body to cool very quickly, possibly leading to frostbite and/or hypothermia. Keep dry by avoiding clothes that absorb moisture. Always brush snow off your clothes before you enter a heated area. Keep the clothing around your neck loose so that body heat and moisture can escape instead of soaking through your layers.

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# Safety Moment--Winter Activity Safety

Eating the right type of food when camping or playing in the cold also is important.

One of the best ways to remember what is appropriate to eat when you are spending time outside in cold weather is to use good nutrition to build the fire within. Make sure your food consumption includes sugars, which act like a fire starter; carbohydrates and proteins, which act as kindling; and fats that produce the energy needed to keep the fire burning and your body running at peak performance. Hydration is as important in winter as in summer. Drink when thirsty. Plan on hydration stops hourly. Water or “sports” drinks that contain some sugar and electrolytes are good for hydration, but avoid “energy” drinks.

RESOURCE--Guide to Safe Scouting—Winter Activities



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# Upcoming



**Trainer's EDGE** 8 February 8:00-5:00 Gaylord Scout Center

**BALOO Training** 1-2 March CGT, 3-4 May JNSR, 4-5 October JNSR

**Wilderness First Aid** 1-2 March JNSR, 29-30 March JNSR

**IOLS Training** 8-9 March CGT, 12-13 April JNSR, 23-24 August JNSR, 8-9 November JNSR

**Cub Scout - Range Master Training** 9:00-2:00 15 March JNSR

**Wood Badge** 4-6 April CGT



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# Upcoming Events—January-February

25 January 9:00-1:00 **Key Leaders' Conference** Gaylord Scout Center

25 January 6:00-10:00pm **Wood Badge Reunion Banquet** Meinders Conference Center OCU



15 February 8:00-3:30 **Eagle Merit Badge College 2025** OSU-OKC Campus

20 February Scissortail District **Eagle Boards of Review**

21-23 February **Top Shot 2025** Diamond H Scout Ranch



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# Upcoming Events—March

28 Feb-1 March **Ma-Nu Lodge Trade-O-Ree** Gaylord  
Scout Center



14-16 March **2025 Ma-Nu Lodge Spring Experience** CGT

29 March 6:00pm **Scissortail District Awards Banquet**  
First Presbyterian Church



28-30 March **Camp Sasakwa Clean Up**



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# Upcoming Merit Badge Classes Scissortail Series--Gaylord Scout Center

29 January & 5 February 6:30pm **Crime Prevention & Fingerprinting Merit Badges**



8 February **8:30-5:00pm Aviation Merit Badge** Sundance Airport

4 March & 11 March 6:30pm **Citizenship In the Nation Merit Badge**

8 April 6:30pm **Weather Merit Badge**

May 6:30pm **Electricity Merit Badge**

June 6:30pm **Game Design Merit Badge**

6 September 9-1:00pm **Automotive Maintenance Merit Badge**

8 October 6:30pm **Space Exploration Merit Badge**

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# Recognition Corner—Polar Bear Award

The Polar Bear Award can be earned by any registered Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venturer, or Scouter. Scouts can earn the award multiple times to improve their winter survival skills. There is not a nationally recognized Polar Bear participation patch or award, and many councils have their own version of the patch and requirements.



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## Recognition Corner



As this is an unofficial award, requirements vary by Council and Troop.

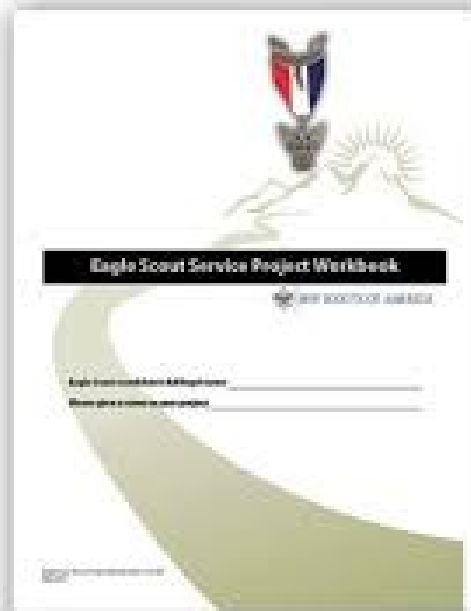
General criteria often include:

- camping for at least 24 consecutive hours in freezing temperatures (32°F or below)
- sleeping in a tent, tarp, lean-to, or improvised shelter,
- cook at least three meals outside
- hike at least 1.5 miles each way carrying all food and equipment
- camping between November 1 and March 31

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# Hot Topic—Navigating the Eagle Process and Board of Review—Bill Hensley



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# Questions and Open Discussion



# Scouting America™

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# Navigating the Eagle Project and Board of Review

## Scissortail District Roundtable

**Bill Hensley**  
**Scoutmaster, Scouts BSA Troop 15**  
**23 January 2025**

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# Scouts BSA Eagle Rank Process

- **Sea Scouts and Venture Scouts can also earn Eagle Rank**
- **Multiple level process**
  - ~ **Unit/Beneficiary**
  - ~ **District**
  - ~ **Council and National**

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# Scouts BSA Eagle Rank Process

- **Governed by BSA Guide To Advancement (GtA)**
- **All requirements must be met, and no requirements may be added or deleted by the unit or District**
- **GtA lays out processes for additional time and Scouts with special needs**
  - ~ Time extension approvals at Council level
  - ~ Special needs approvals at National level
- **Appeals are also addressed**

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# Scouts BSA Eagle Rank Process

- **Scouts MUST complete all requirements before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, EXCEPT their Board of Review**
  - **Leadership role (6 months)**
  - **Merit Badges**
  - **Time in Life Rank (6 months)**
  - **Eagle Scout Service Project** Note
  - **Scoutmaster Conference**
  - **Living by the Oath and Law**
  - **Note: Beneficiary must be willing to approve the project as completed**

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# Scouts BSA Eagle Rank Process

- **Scouts can complete the following either before or after they turn 18**
  - **The Eagle Project report** Note
  - **Letters of reference requested and received**
  - **Statement of life goals**
  - **Eagle Scout Rank Application**
  - **Eagle Scout Board of Review**
  - **Council and National signatures**
    - **Note: Beneficiary must be willing to approve the project as completed**
- **Scouts can complete their EBOR up to 24 months after turning 18**

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# Scouts BSA Eagle Rank Process

- **Things to keep in mind**
  - **Time extensions are for Life Scouts ONLY**
  - **Key dates are the Scouts 17 year and 364<sup>th</sup> day, the date of rank of earning Life, and date of rank of earning Star**
  - **The project beneficiary expectations**
  - **District project review schedule**
  - **Ensuring advancement is in ScoutBook**

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# The Eagle Scout Service Project

*While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community.*

- The project must be planned and executed while a Life Scout
- The project must be approved by the beneficiary, the unit, and the District

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# What Is An Eagle Project?

- **A benefit to the community, but not on Scouts BSA property**
- **A challenge to the Scout**
- **The Scout leads others (including adults)**
- **The Scout plans and prepares the project, including needed approvals**
- **There are no minimum-number-of-hours requirements**

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# Special Considerations

- **Routine labor cannot be a significant part of the project. Routine labor is described as normal maintenance.**
  - ~ Removing and replacing a fence is routine labor, and isn't an Eagle Project
  - ~ Removing a fence and building a new one around a new garden area would be an Eagle Project
- **A business cannot be a beneficiary, unless the business is a community institution such as a museum**
- **Fundraising as a goal is not an Eagle Project, although performing fundraising to execute an Eagle Project is permitted**
- **One Scout can receive credit for a particular Project; not teams**

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# Special Considerations

- **An Eagle Project is a Scouting activity. Safety oversight and two-deep leadership must be followed**
- **The Scout and leaders must be aware of tool use rules in Guide to Safe Scouting.**
- **Fundraising to execute a project that is not from the beneficiary, the candidate, the chartered organization, the candidate's parents, guardians, or relatives, or the unit or individuals in the unit must be approved in advance by the Council**

~ **Asking a business for material donation is not fundraising**

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# Five Tests for a Potential Project

- **These are applicable to the unit and the District project evaluators**
  - ~ **1. The project provides sufficient opportunity to meet the requirement.**
  - ~ **2. The project appears to be feasible.**
  - ~ **3. Safety issues will be addressed.**
  - ~ **4. Action steps for further detailed planning are included.**
  - ~ **5. The Scout is on the right track with a reasonable chance for a positive experience.**

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# Project Flow

- **Scout and beneficiary select a project**
- **Unit reviews the project and provides feedback, Scout coordinates feedback with beneficiary**
  - ~ While the Scout must be doing the majority of the work, they can direct others, or seek input
- **Project documented in Eagle Project Workbook**
  - ~ Proposal section is required
  - ~ Other sections information can be filled as if information is known (e.g. materials list)
- **Proposal section completed and signed by Scout, beneficiary rep, Scoutmaster, and Committee Chair**

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# Project Flow

- **Scout schedules project review by the District**
  - ~ Sign up from calendar at [scoutingrocks.tv](http://scoutingrocks.tv)
  - ~ Reviews are 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month
- **Review team needs three printed copies of the project workbook**
- **Project will be reviewed and Scout interviewed**
- **Project will be fully or conditionally approved, or not, and feedback provided**

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# Project Flow

- Scout updates project workbook with feedback, then completes detailed planning
- The Scout executes the project
  - ~ There are no time limitations (except 18<sup>th</sup> birthday)
  - ~ Any deviations from the presented plan must be documented in the workbook
  - ~ The Scout should be working closely with the beneficiary; the beneficiary must be willing to certify the project complete
- The project is documented in the Project Report section of the workbook
- The Project Report is signed by the Scout, beneficiary, and Scoutmaster

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# Eagle Board of Review Process

- **Scout and unit leadership ensure all requirements are complete, and updated in ScoutBook**
  - ~ Scoutmaster tip: Close out the final POR a couple days before the app is filled out; you can start the same POR for the next day
  - ~ Also, ensure all advancement records in ScoutBook are marked as “Leader Approved”
- **The Scout fills out the Eagle Scout Rank Application**
  - ~ By hand, or filled in PDF, or ScoutBook Eagle Application are acceptable
  - ~ The ScoutBook version shows what the Council verifies, so it’s a good check to ensure no surprises

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# Eagle Board of Review Process

- **Double-check Merit Badge dates**
- **The Scout identifies four or more people willing to write a letter of recommendation for earning the rank of Eagle, and contacts them to request the recommendation**
  - ~ Letters should be written, sealed in an envelop, and returned to the Scout
  - ~ The Scout is responsible for bringing the letters to the Board of Review
- **Double-check the Position(s) of Responsibility**

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# Eagle Board of Review Process

- **Fill in the project name, hours worked, and date (if not already filled in from ScoutBook)**
- **Double-check Scoutmaster Conference date**
- **Scout, Scoutmaster, and Committee Chair sign the application**
- **Take the application to the Scout office for an Eagle Application verification, and Council verification signature**

**If the Scout is not yet 18, the verification can take from 30 minutes to a couple days; otherwise it goes to National for verification, which takes a week or so**

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# Eagle Board of Review Process

- **Scout schedules a Board of Review with the District, using the calendar at [scoutingrocks.tv](http://scoutingrocks.tv). Boards are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month**
- **The Scout brings to the Board:**
  - ~ **Eagle Scout Rank Application and verification from Council**
  - ~ **3 copies of the Eagle Project Workbook**
  - ~ **The Scout's statement of their life ambition(s) and goals**
  - ~ **Letters of recommendation**
- **The Eagle Board of Review is held**

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# Post-Eagle Board of Review Process

- **After a successful Eagle Board of Review, the Board Chair signs the Eagle Scout Rank Application, and the candidate is officially an Eagle Scout!**
- **The Scout takes the signed application and Council verification to the Council office**
  - ~ This is typically just a drop-off and go
- **The Council Executive signs the application, and the application is sent to National**

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# Post-Eagle Board of Review Process

- **National generates an Eagle congratulatory package for the Scout and returns it to the Council**
  - ~ Certificate, wallet card, letter from National Chief Scout
  - ~ Usually takes a couple of weeks
- **Time for the Scout's Court of Honor**

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# Closing

- **All relevant documents are online and are occasionally slightly revised**
  - ~ **Guide to Advancement**
  - ~ **Eagle Project Workbook**
  - ~ **Eagle Scout Rank Application (but ScoutBook version is very convenient)**
- **The process seems complicated but it mirrors many corporate processes**
- **The complexity is meant as a challenge to the Scout**

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# Who Does Eagle Project Reviews and Boards?

- **Volunteers in Scissortail District**
- **That can and should include unit Scouters, parents, and community friends of Scouting**
- **We train: Rusties are paired with Rookies**
- **It's only an hour or so a week**
- **You don't have to serve every month, or consecutive months**
- **Your qualification is a desire to help guide youth in earning Eagle**
- **The experience will help you guide your Scout when the time comes for them to work towards Eagle Scout rank**
- **Contact any of the Scissortail District team**

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# Questions and Open Discussion



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