



B.-P. Service Association

A co-ed, inclusive and "traditional" scouting program for the US



What is Scouting?

- Scouting is an international movement!
- Founded by Lord Robert Baden-Powell (B.P.), 1907
- According to B.P., Scouting:
 - Aims (to improve):
 - character,
 - service,
 - health,
 - (outdoor) skills/craft
 - Methods:
 - system of progressive self-education
 - a uniform, promise and law
 - patrol system (small groups, youth led, ...)
 - learning by doing





What is "Traditional" Scouting?

- To perpetuate the principles, aims and methods of Scouting as laid down by B.P..
- Not historical reenactment; but an attempt to present Scouting as the program it was prior to the 1960's.
 - We make changes only for advances in health & safety, environmental concerns and light-weight camping technologies.
 - We adhere to the last set of Policy, Organization & Rules that B.P. had a hand in crafting (*circa 1938 PO&R, Boy Scout Assoc., UK*).
 - A focus on B.P.'s aims and methods and progressive training in outdoor skills and public service.



Whence the BPSA (US)?

- Originally established in 2006 by former members of USR, RSA and others.
- Re-formed and reorganizing since 2009.
- We are a traditional scouting association and affiliated with the World Federation of Independent Scouts (WFIS)
- Aims:
 - provide a co-ed, inclusive scouting program for the US
 - adhere to the traditional scouting method
 - keep costs and barrier to entry low; volunteer run
 - continued interaction and cooperation with other WFIS Associations (UK, Canada, Mexico, South America)





BPSA Program Sections

- Otter (ages 5-7) - Raft and Dens
 - Motto: "Busy and Bright"
 - introduction to out-of-doors, stimulate interest in scout activities, social integration & cooperation, community
- Timberwolf (ages 8-10) - Pack and Sixes
 - Motto: "Do Your Best"
 - Based on "Wolf Cub Handbook" and "Jungle Book"
- Pathfinder (ages 11-17) - Troop and Patrols
 - Motto: "Be Prepared"
 - Patrol Method, youth led, learn by doing and progressive training
- Rovers (ages 18+) - Crew and Patrols
 - Motto: "Service" - organized around a service goal





Scout Method

The Scout Method is defined as a "system of progressive self-education" through:

- A Promise and a Law
- Learning by doing
- Membership in small groups (Den, Six, Patrol) involving progressive acceptance of responsibility and development of character, competence, self-reliance, dependability and capacities to both cooperate and lead.
- Progressive and stimulating program of activities, including games, useful skills, service in community and all taking place largely in the out-of-doors.



A Promise and Law

Each program section has a promise and law.:

On my honor, I promise to do my best,
to do my duty to God* and my Country
to help other people at all times
and to obey the Scout Law

- or -

On my honor, I promise to do my best,
to render service to my Country
to help other people at all times
and to obey the Scout Law



* may replace with "my conscience"



Scout Law *(original 10 points)*

1. A Scout's honor is to be trusted.
2. A Scout is loyal.
3. A Scout's duty is to be useful and to help others.
4. A Scout is a friend to all and a brother/sister to every other Scout.
5. A Scout is courteous.
6. A Scout is a friend to animals.
7. A Scout obeys the orders of his parents, Patrol Leader, and Scouter.
8. A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties.
9. A Scout is thrifty.
10. A Scout is clean in thought, word, and deed.

Scouts learn the full phrase and not just 10, single words.



The Patrol System (*B-P Quotes*)



- “The Patrol System is the one essential feature in which Scout training differs from that of all other organisations, and where the system is properly applied, it is absolutely bound to bring success. It cannot help itself!”
- "The formation of the boys into Patrols of from six to eight and training them as separate units each under its own responsible leader is the key to a good Troop."
- "The Patrol is a unit of Scouting always, whether for work or for play, for discipline or duty."



The Patrol System (*B-P Quotes*)

- "An invaluable step in character training is to put responsibility on to the individual. This is immediately gained in appointing a Patrol Leader to responsible command of his Patrol. It is up to him to take hold of and to develop the qualities of each boy in his Patrol. It sounds a big order, but in practice it works."
- "Then, through emulation and competition between Patrols, you produce a Patrol spirit, which is eminently satisfactory, since it raises the tone among boys and develops a higher standard of efficiency all round. Each boy in the Patrol realizes that he is in himself a responsible unit and that the honour of his group depends in some degree on his own ability in playing the game."



Patrol System - Key Points



- Patrols are THE unit of work, play at all times.
- Patrols are of 6-8 in size, mixed in age
- Patrol Leaders are appointed (not elected) by SM.
- Court of Honor consists of the Troop Leader and all Patrol Leaders.
- Court of Honor plan the program, meetings, activities and handle disciplinary issues as well.
- Scoutmaster is only an advisor and guide.
- Real responsibility is given to the Troop Leader, Patrol Leaders.
- There are NO troop elections. Court of Honor and SM handle appointments

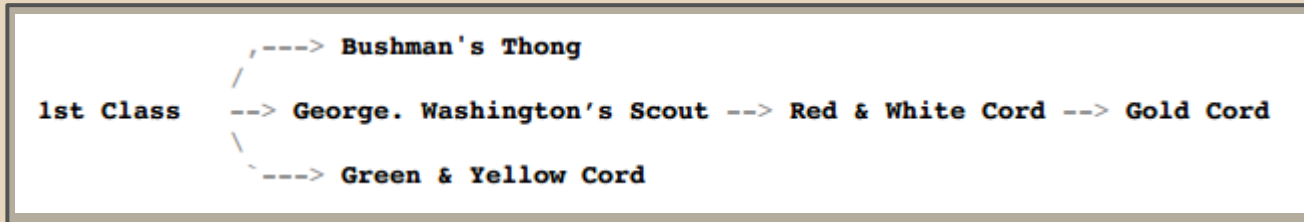
Progressive Training in Scoutcraft



- Proficiency badges show a scout's "*current*" skill level.
- Re-testing is important to keep current - failing to re-pass means you don't get to wear the badge.
- Proficiency badges are not ranks - i.e. *Patrol Leader, Troop Leader, Quartermaster*
- General Proficiency Badges:
 - Tenderfoot
 - Second Class
 - First Class
- There are approx. 50 Special Proficiency badges for scouts to earn. Two kinds, Scoutcraft and Public Service.



Advancement beyond First Class

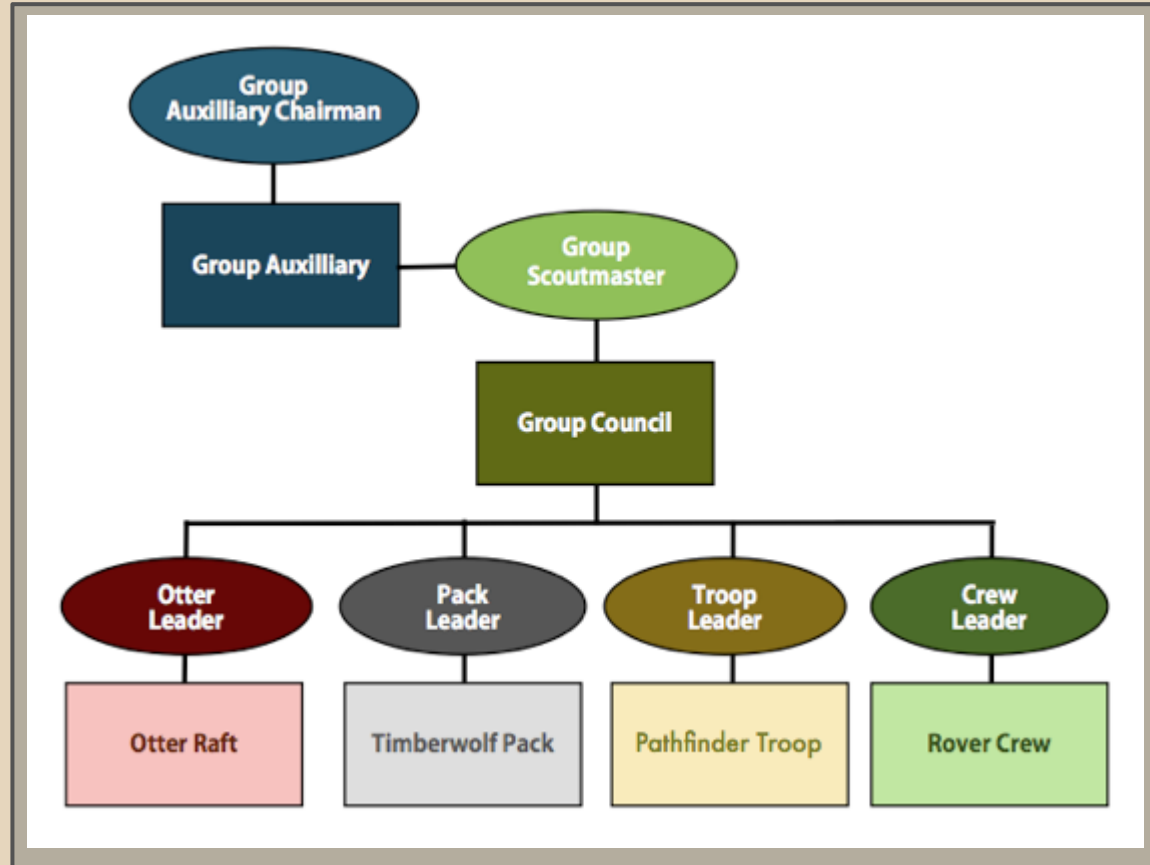


- All of these badges continue to be worn on the Scout Section Uniform. However, this requires the Scout to maintain "current proficiency" for these badges, which is tested as often as once a year.
- All badges represent Public Service skills OR Scoutcraft skills.
- No Service Project or "Position of Responsibility" requirements.
- No Boards of Review



Organization of a Scout Group

A BPSA Scout Group contains one (or more) of each program section operating together as a cohesive organization.





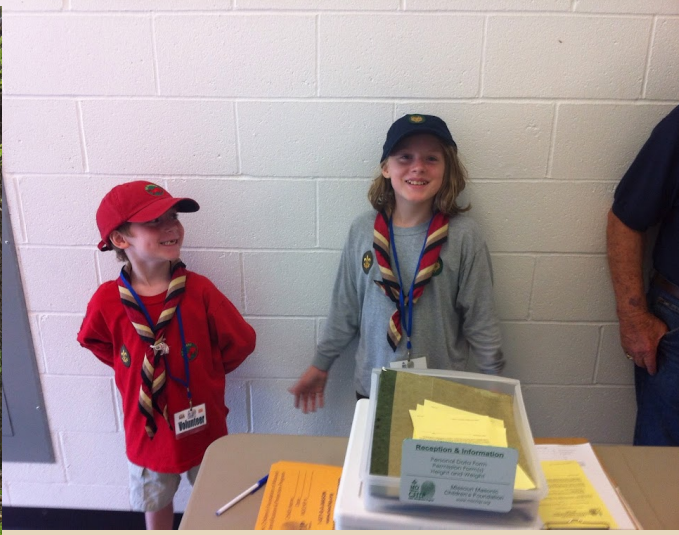
Scout Group Operations

- The **Group Scoutmaster (GSM)**, and the **Group Council** run the Scouting Group. All uniformed Leaders belong to the group Council. The Group Council should meet once a month, separate from the Group Auxiliary, to report on their Sections progress and activities, and to discuss future plans
- The **Group Auxiliary** is to be comprised of parents from each training section, former Pathfinders, well-wishers, and representatives of the sponsoring authority and others interested in the well being of the Group. Size may vary, but it should not be too large. Six to eight persons is the average size.
- The GSM is also a member of the Group Auxiliary. The other leaders in the Group should not be involved with the Group Auxiliary at all. Leaders are there to operate their sections efficiently, and are not to get involved in the logistical support side of the association.



Important Points

- BPSA provides a Code of Ethics and Youth Protection Guidelines (*required for ALL volunteers*)
- BPSA follows two-deep leadership and uses the Safe Swim Defense in water activities.
- BPSA requires that all volunteer leaders attend and pass a Brownsea Training Course within their 1st year.
- BPSA requires that all Scout Groups submit background checks on ALL adult leaders registered with the group.
- BPSA recommends obtaining group insurance or using the Liability Waiver/Medical Release form for each member.



Any Questions or Comments?

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