

The BSA rank requirements for Star, Life and Eagle require scouts to be active in their troop; 4 months for a Star and 6 months for Life and Eagle. The scout must also serve in a position of responsibility for these time periods.

During the May 2009 Parent Committee Meeting the definition of an active scout for our troop was clearly defined as follows:

- The scout must attend at least 50% of the troop meetings during their 4 or 6 month period.
- The scout must have attended 4 campouts, or 2 campouts plus summer camp in the past 12 months.
- Attendance at service projects or patrol outings or council outings may be substituted per the discretion of the Scoutmaster and the Troop Awards Chairman.

In addition to this, the Scoutmaster expects the scouts to perform their position of responsibility as they work toward their next rank. Many of the positions vary on work load; they are not all everyday or every week tasks. Each scout should know his position's expectations. If not, he should ask the boy leader for guidance as the duties have been assigned across the boy leaders; SPL, JASM, and ASPL.

There is a purpose behind all of this:

- The Parent Committee and Scoutmaster want to make sure the scouts are getting the most they can out of the program. Scouts who are not active are missing out on chances to learn leadership, practice fellowship, and practice their scouting skills.
- The scout has the chance to give back to the troop. We always need older scouts to come around and show the newer scouts how things are done. The hardworking adults in the troop also feel great appreciation when they see the scouts put the same effort back into the troop that was put into them attaining their rank.
- The scouts are earning their ranks. "Anything worth having is worth working for". The scouts will get more out of their rank advancements when they put in the maximum effort. Just putting a patch on the uniform will never have the same sense of accomplishment.

If nothing else, the scout should comfortable approaching the Scoutmaster about positions and expectations. The scout is expected to go through the defined escalation process; PL, ASPL and SPL before position or performance issues are brought to the Scoutmaster.