



# Washington Crossing Council



## Scout-Speak 101

A guide to help you understand the various terms, phrases, program components and acronyms that are used in the BSA program.

### Organization

**COUNCIL** – A council is a voluntary association of citizens, including representatives of organizations that are chartered by the Boy Scouts of America, to promote the Scouting program within a geographic area. There are four major functions involved in achieving the purposes of a council: membership, fund development, program, and unit service. These four functions and all other responsibilities are accomplished in each council in a manner that is consistent with local conditions and circumstances.

**DISTRICT** – Unlike councils, which establish policies and programs, districts carry out the programs and policies of the council in their respective territories. For the purpose of unit service, program administration, membership, and fund development, the council territory is divided geographically into several districts, as determined by the executive board. The supervision of Scouting in each district is exercised by the council through a district committee consisting of all council members residing within the district, chartered organization representatives, and district members at large.

**KEY 3** - The Council Key 3 consists of the Council President, Council Commissioner, and Scout Executive. They meet informally as necessary to ensure proper coordination of the work of the council. They furnish liaisons between the commissioner staff and the various committees of the council. They may also provide proposals and recommendations to, but in no way usurp the authority of, the executive board or executive committee of the board.

## Council Support

The thinking here is that Scouts and volunteers see only 20 percent of what councils provide to members. Just like an iceberg, there's a whole lot more beneath the surface.

The Council supports the volunteers, so they have more time to enjoy the life-changing fun of Scouting.

What do councils provide? In other words: What's beneath the surface?

- **Volunteer and staff training**
- **Insurance coverage** to protect volunteers, chartered organizations, staff members and properties.
- **Support staff** for registration, publications and other program support.
- **Camp promotion** for Cub Scout day camps, Boy Scout summer camps, high-adventure bases and more.
- **Camp rangers** to keep the council camps up-to-date and ready for Scouts and families.
- **Camp equipment**, like tents, cooking equipment, camp vehicles, building repairs, canoes, equipment replacement and repair, and general upkeep of council camps.
- **Recognitions for leaders** who complete training, volunteer for special projects and help in many Scouting roles.
- **Professional staff** to work with volunteers to organize new units, manage fundraising programs, conduct training, assist membership recruitment, provide counsel and direct support for district, camps and programs.
- **Administrative needs**, including postage, computers and links to the National BSA computer system, copy machines, folding machines and a printing shop.
- **Service centers** to provide additional support to volunteers.
- **Audio-visual supplies** used in training, at camps and in volunteer meetings.
- **Postage** to mail materials to leaders, parents and youth members.
- **A council website** to keep you informed.
- **Reference publications** and resources, including program planning kits and to camping cookbooks.
- **Camp scholarships**, uniforms and registration fees for disadvantaged young people.

As you can see, there's more happening at your council than the average person sees.  
And it can't all happen without the support of volunteers like you.

## Council Officers

***COUNCIL PRESIDENT*** - Responsibility for conducting the affairs of the Boy Scouts of America is vested in volunteer Scouters. The Council President is the highest officer and volunteer leader. The Council President serves as chair at meetings of the council body, council executive board, and council executive committee, and serves as a council representative to the National Council and regional committee during his or her term of office.

***SCOUT EXECUTIVE*** - Although responsibility for Scouting is vested in volunteer leaders, a vital part of the movement is lodged in the comparatively small but well-trained group of professional Scouters. The Scout Executive is commissioned by the Boy Scouts of America, selected by the council executive board, and serves under its direction. He or she is the corporate secretary for all the council committees, although he or she may delegate this responsibility to members of the professional staff. He or she appoints and supervises all employees of the council, subject to the approval of the council executive board. He or she recognizes and is committed to the predominant and vital role of volunteer Scouters at all levels in fulfillment of their responsibilities. He or she maintains standards in the operation, program, and administration of the council.

***COUNCIL COMMISSIONER*** - This is a person of good character and standing in the council with organizational, administrative, communications, and leadership abilities, preferably with wide and practical experience in Scouting. Familiarity with contemporary technology is a valuable asset. Working with the Scout Executive as a member of the council Key 3, the Council Commissioner provides leadership to the commissioner corps in effectively serving the packs, troops, teams, ships, and crews in the council. He or she serves with the Council President as a local council representative to the National Council and regional committee.

## District Officers

Positions mimic those on the Council Level and are referred to as the District Key 3.

Positions are District Chair, District Executive and District Commissioner.

Within the District there are the various committees that operate to support the District functions.

The functions are Program, Finance, Membership and Unit Service.

The Program functions consist of Activities, Advancement, Camping and Training.

## Scouting Programs

The Scouting experience is divided into five programs according to age and activities.

***Cub Scouts*** – Youth Grades K-5. Cub Scouting is fun for the whole family. In Scouting, boys and girls start with their best right now selves and grow into their very best future selves. It's fun, hands-on learning and achievement that puts kids in the middle of the action and prepares them for today – and for life. Cub Scout activities are centered around earning badges that are specific to each school grade level.

Each badge represents a rank. **Ranks are: Lion, Bobcat, Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos.**

***Scouts BSA*** – Youth 11-17 years old. Scouts BSA is the traditional Scouting experience for youth in the fifth grade through high school. Service, community engagement and leadership development become increasingly important parts of the program as youth lead their own activities and work their way toward earning Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout.

**Ranks are: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life And Eagle.**

***Venturing*** – Co-ed 14 – 20 years old. Venturing is an inclusive program through the Boy Scouts of America for males and females aged 14-21 (or 13 and completed the 8th grade). It's operated through Venturing Crews, units of youth and advisors that meet on set schedules and plan activities and events for youth. The first step in any journey is the courage to begin. The Venturing awards program is designed to help Venturers grow in the areas of adventure, leadership, personal development, and service. Awards serve as benchmarks that give Venturers a structure for developing their own personal vision into manageable goals that lead to recognition by their peers, mentors, and the larger community.

**Awards are: Venturing Award, Discovery Award, Pathfinder Award and Summit Award.**

***Sea Scouting*** – Co-ed 14 – 20 years old. Sea Scouting is a subset of the Venturing program for young men and women. For over 100 years Sea Scouting has promoted better citizenship and improved members' boating skills through instruction and practice in water safety, boating skills, outdoor, social, service experiences, and knowledge of our maritime heritage. Sea Scout units– called ships- are established across the country on oceans, bays, rivers, and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges that you won't find anywhere else. Sea Scouts is a place to grow and learn, find adventure, and build long lasting friendships.

**Ranks are: Apprentice Rank, Ordinary Rank, Able Rank and Quartermaster Rank.**

***Exploring*** – Co-ed 10 – 20 years old. Exploring provides students with an opportunity to learn about a wide variety of career fields and to network with professionals already working in those fields. You get hands-on experience to determine whether or not a particular career field is right for you. You develop valuable networking contacts with professionals working in your selected career fields, and you get to know other youth with same interests and aspirations.

## Cub Scout Activities

***Cub Scout Day Camp***—The Cub Scout Day Camp program is designed to teach skills and develop attitudes that make a Cub Scout more self-reliant, and more at home in the outdoors. They will have a great time with a goal. Scouts are placed in dens by age and gender and stay with the same den and leaders for each day of the week. Campers will rotate through a variety of stations each day: team sports, games, nature, crafts, archery, and den time. The activity at each station will be different each day of camp.

***Cub Scout Resident Camp*** – A similar program to Day Camp, this a 6-day, 5-night experience designed for those Scouts ready to stay a whole week or a 3-day, 2 night adventure camp for those wanting to “try it out”.

***Family Camp Weekend*** – Whether you are an avid camper or have never slept in a tent, family camp is the perfect opportunity to enjoy all that Ockanickon Scout Reservation has to offer! Come to OSR for 2 nights as a full Pack or as a family. Enjoy a variety of activities such as making crafts, cool science experiments, swimming in the pool, reaching the top of the climbing tower, going fishing, shooting, archery, and so much more. Between activities, come to Foster Dining Hall where all your meals will be provided. We will have tents available to use for the entire weekend.

***Gold Rush*** – A Gold Rush is an annual event held by some districts during the winter months and is based on the concept of the older, Scouts BSA, Klondike Derby. The event varies by district, but the typical Gold Rush consists of several stations where packs participate in fun and informational activities, earning points, (gold nuggets) towards a total score.

***Pinewood Derby*** – A Pinewood Derby is an event within Cub Packs. The pinewood derby is a racing event for unpowered, unmanned miniature cars. With the help of adults, Cub Scouts build their own cars from wood, usually from kits containing a block of pine wood, plastic wheels, and metal axles.

## Scouts BSA Activities

***Camporee*** – A camporee is a local or regional gathering of Scouting units for a period of camping and common activities. Typically, the camporee involves patrol-based competitions, with events such as: hiking preparedness, fire building, knot tying, first aid, emergency preparedness, pioneering, citizenship, patrol mystery event (team building), outdoor cooking, camping or orienteering. Some camporees also integrate work on merit badges.

***First-Aid-O-Ree*** – A First Aid-O-Ree is a fun competition where patrols from various troops in the district compete against each other by solving and acting out different first aid scenarios. It is a great opportunity for Scouts (and adults) to reinforce their first aid knowledge by practicing their skills in several real-life scenarios. Scouts in each Patrol will take turns demonstrating their leadership under challenging and unexpected conditions. The goal is that each Scout would leave at the end of the evening with more knowledge and skill in first aid, and confidence in their abilities.

***Indoor Rally*** – Open to all Scouts BSA Troops. This is a fun troop team-building activity, especially for the younger Scouts. Skills targeted include first aid, knots, fire building, The Wall and Tug of War.

***Klondike Derby*** – A Klondike derby is an annual event held by some districts during the winter months and is based on the heritage of the Klondike Gold Rush. The event varies by district, but the typical Klondike derby consists of several stations where patrols/units must test their Scoutcraft skills and their leadership abilities, earning points towards a total score. Often, one or more races are included while the Scouts navigate between stations. The patrols must transport their gear on a homemade sled pulled by the Scouts. Districts may have specific guidelines for the construction of sleds.

***Swim-O-Ree*** – A fun competition where Scouts compete individually and by patrol in various swimming events.

## Training

### *Every Youth Deserves a Trained Leader*

Common sense tells us that training is important, and research shows the importance of trained leaders. A trained leader is knowledgeable and more confident in the role being performed. Trained leaders exhibit a knowledge and confidence that is picked up by people around them. Trained leaders impact the quality of programs, leader tenure, youth tenure, safety, and a whole lot more. A trained leader is better prepared to make the Scouting program all it can be!

*The Washington Crossing Council's long-term objective is to have 100% of registered adult leaders complete and maintain all training for their registered position(s). All existing and newly registered direct-contact leaders shall complete their position-specific training within 6 months of assuming their new role. Position-specific training not offered online (e.g., Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters) shall be completed within 12 months of assuming the new role.*

## Training Courses

***YOUTH PROTECTION*** - True youth protection can be achieved only through the focused commitment of everyone in Scouting. It is the mission of Youth Protection volunteers and professionals to work within the Boy Scouts of America to maintain a culture of Youth Protection awareness and safety at the national, regional, area, council, district, and unit level. Youth Protection Training (YPT) training is available online and **MUST** be completed every 2 years in order to maintain BSA registration. In Pennsylvania, all organizations, including all Boy Scout units, functions and events, require criminal and child abuse background clearance. An adult cannot become a volunteer until these are completed.

- Adults accompanying a Scouting unit who are present at an activity for 72 total hours or more must be registered as a leader, including completion of a criminal background check and Youth Protection Training. **The 72 hours need not be consecutive.**
- New leaders are required to take Youth Protection Training prior to completing the registration process.
- Units cannot re-charter unless all unit leaders have completed YPT within two years.
- Adult Youth Protection Training is required for adult program participants 18 years or older. Adult program participants (Venturing, Order of the Arrow, Exploring) must complete adult Youth Protection Training before submitting their adult application.

***BASIC LEADER REQUIREMENTS*** - Need to know what the requirements are to be trained for your unit leadership role.

***BASIC ADULT LEADER OUTDOOR ORIENTATION (BALOO)*** - This one-and-a-half-day course is designed as an introduction to the Cub Scout outdoor program for leaders interested in adding a camping component to their Pack activities. BALOO training consists of an online pre-requisite component in addition to an overnight hands-on practical experience. BSA's Cub Scout level camping policies will be taught along with the discovery of the necessary tools to help units carry out a successful camping experience. Completion of this course is mandatory for a **MINIMUM OF ONE** adult on a Pack overnighter.

## Training – (continued)

***INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS ( IOLS )*** - Working as patrols, this hands-on course provides adult leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. Upon completion, leaders should feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills required to obtain the First-Class rank. Along with Scoutmaster Specifics this course is required of all direct contact leaders registered in Boy Scout Troops in order to be considered “trained”.

***NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING ( NYLT )*** - National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed for councils to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home troops. Courses are provided at a Council Level.

***PHILMONT LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE (PLC)*** - A six-day adult leadership training program of Scouting BSA. It is intended for adults who have completed the Wood Badge course and is held once or twice each year in the back country of the Philmont Scout Ranch.

***POWDER HORN*** - Powder Horn is a skills resource course for Venturing and Scouts BSA leaders of the Boy Scouts of America. Powder Horn is also described as a "hands-on resource management course" designed to give Scouting leaders "the contacts and tools necessary to conduct an awesome high-adventure program" in their Scouting unit. The goals of Powder Horn are to help Scout leaders safely conduct outdoor activities of a fun and challenging nature, provide an introduction to the resources necessary to successfully lead youth through a program of high adventure, and familiarize participants with the skills involved in different high adventure disciplines.

***UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING*** - University of Scouting (U of S) offers an assortment of classes in the areas of Administration, Program Enhancement, and Outdoor Activities. Whether you are a veteran Scouter or brand new to the program there is information for everyone. Dive deep into the required job-specific training for leaders or work towards one of the degree programs.

***WOOD BADGE*** - Wood Badge is an advanced, national leadership course open only to Scouting volunteers and professionals. Scouters from Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts, and Explorers, and district and council Scouters all are welcome and belong here.

Position Trained requirements for Packs, Crews, Posts, and Ships:

[https://bsalearn.learn.taleo.net/files/pdf/PositionTrainedRequirements\\_AllPrograms\\_10\\_25\\_16.pdf](https://bsalearn.learn.taleo.net/files/pdf/PositionTrainedRequirements_AllPrograms_10_25_16.pdf)

Position Trained requirements for Scouts BSA Troops and Merit Badge Counselors:

[https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/BoyScout\\_PTR.pdf](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/BoyScout_PTR.pdf)

## Adult Awards

***Cub Scout Leader of the Year*** – All registered members of the Pack Committee, the Committee Chair, the Cubmaster, Den Leaders, Assistant Leaders and Webelos Leaders are eligible for this award. Nominations are submitted from Volunteer Scouters within the District. One Cub Leader will be recognized for the District.

***Scouts BSA Leader of the Year*** – All registered members of the Troop Committee, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Chairman and members of the Committee are eligible for this award. Nominations are submitted from Volunteer Scouters within the District. One Scout leader is recognized for each District.

***Commissioner of the Year*** – All registered Assistant District Commissioners, Unit Commissioners, Roundtable and Assistant Roundtable Commissioners are eligible for this award. Nominations are submitted from Volunteer Scouters within the District. One Commissioner is recognized for each District.

***District Scouter of the Year*** – All registered members of the District Committee are eligible for this award. Nominations are submitted from Volunteer Scouters within the District.

***District Award of Merit*** - Presented to registered Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level. Nominations are submitted from Volunteer Scouters within the District.

***Silver Beaver*** – Highest award presented to Scouters on the Council level. Presented to registered Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature to the Council. Nominations are submitted from volunteer Scouters within the Council.

## Resources

Council Service Center One Scout Way Doylestown Pa 18901 Phone: 215-348-7205

Council Website: [www.bsawcc.org](http://www.bsawcc.org)

National Website: [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)

Guide to Advancement: <https://www.scouting.org/resources/guide-to-advancement/>

The current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* is the official source for administering advancement in all Boy Scouts of America programs: Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts.

Guide to Safe Scouting: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>

The current edition of the *Guide to Safe Scouting* is an overview of Scouting policies and procedures that cover policy on how to deliver the Scouting program in a safe manner.

Sweet 16 of Scouting: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/sweet16/>

As an aid in the continuing effort to protect participants in a Scout activity, the BSA National Health and Safety Committee and the Council Services Division of the BSA National Council have developed the “Sweet Sixteen” of BSA safety procedures for physical activity. These 16 points, which embody good judgement and common sense, are applicable to all activities.

Language of Scouting : <https://www.scouting.org/resources/los/>

This reference is the Boy Scouts of America’s definitive resource on terms and style specific to Scouting and this organization.

Organizational Structure and Functions: <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/mission/pdf/33071.pdf>

A council is a voluntary association of citizens, including representatives of organizations that are chartered by the Boy Scouts of America, to promote the Scouting program within a geographic area. There are four major functions involved in achieving the purposes of a council: membership, fund development, program, and unit service. These four functions and all other responsibilities are accomplished in each council in a manner that is consistent with local conditions and circumstances.

## Position Acronyms

- ACM – Assistant Cubmaster ^^
- AC – Activities Chair ^^
- ADL – Assistant Den Leader ^^
- APL – Assistant Patrol Leader ++
- ASE – Assistant Scout Executive \*\*
- ASM – Assistant Scoutmaster ^^
- ASPL – Assistant Senior Patrol Leader ++
- CC – Committee Chair ^^
- CD – Camping Director \*\*
- COR – Chartered Organization Representative ^^
- CSE – Chief Scout Executive \*\*
- DC – Director of Camping \*\*
- DE – District Executive \*\*
- DFS – Director of Field Service \*\*
- DL – Den Leader ^^
- FD – Field Director \*\*
- JASM – Junior Assistant Scoutmaster ^^
- MBC – Merit Badge Counselor ^^
- PD – Program Director \*\*
- PL – Patrol Leader ++
- PLC – Patrol Leaders' Council ++
- PRD – Public Relations Director
- SDE – Senior District Executive \*\*
- SE – Scout Executive \*\*
- SM – Scoutmaster ^^
- SPL – Senior Patrol Leader ++
- TC – Training Chair ^^
- WDL – Webelos Den Leader ^^

\*\* Paid Professional Scouter

++ Youth Position

^^ Adult Volunteer

## Program Acronyms

- B-P – Baden-Powell -- Founder of Scouting
- BSA – Boy Scouts of America
- COPE – Project COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience)
- FOS – Friends of Scouting ( Annual Council fund-raising Campaign )
- KISMIF – Keep It Simple, Make It Fun
- LNT – Leave No Trace
- NCS – National Camping School
- NDC – National Distribution Center
- NESAs – National Eagle Scout Association
- NJLIC – National Junior Leader Instructor Camp
- NLATS – National Lodge Adviser Training Seminar ( Order of the Arrow Training )
- NLTC – National Leadership Training Conference
- NYLT – National Youth Leadership Training
- NOAC – National Order of the Arrow Conference
- OA – Order of the Arrow (The Order of the Arrow (OA) recognizes Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.)
- OA LEC – Order of the Arrow Lodge Executive Committee
- OSR – Ockanickon Scout Reservation Our Local Council camp.
- PTC – Philmont Training Center
- TAY – Total Available Youth

See “Common Scoutspeak Terms” section for further details on acronyms.

# Common Scoutspeak Terms

## Advancement

Advancement is simply a means to an end, not an end in itself. It is one of several methods designed to help unit leadership carry out the aims and mission of the Boy Scouts of America.

## Arrow of Light

This is the highest award a youth can earn in Cub Scouting. Also, the only non-religious award from Cub Scouts which can be worn on a Scouts BSA Uniform.

## Boy's Life

A Scouting magazine for Scouts to help broaden their horizons in the Scouting community.

## BALOO

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation training course. The BSA requires that you have at least one BALOO-trained adult on every Cub Scout den or pack overnight outdoor event. That include pack camping and Webelos den overnight events. BALOO consists of two components: online and hands-on. You'll need to complete both — in order — to qualify as a "Trained" outdoor leader and receive the BALOO recognition patch.

## Buddy System

Two Scouts pairing up for safety and accountability. This system is used during camping and hiking trips, outdoor activities, outings, etc. For example, during aquatics activities swimmers of like ability are paired. They both check in and out of the water together and stay within 10 feet of each other during the swim.

## Charter

Formal permission from Scouts BSA allowing a unit to organize.

## Chartered Organization

An organization that sponsors the unit. Weekly/monthly meetings are usually held in a building owned by that organization.

## Chartered Organization Representative

An adult representative of the group or organization that currently holds the BSA charters. Reports information to and from the chartered organization. The Chartered Organization Representative (COR) is a voting member of the District and Council committees.

## Commissioner

A district level volunteer Scouter who works with packs, troops, and crews to help the unit succeed.

## Committee

This is a group of adult volunteers who "run" the unit. However, any interested adult is welcome to attend Committee meetings.

## Committee Chair

The adult leader of the unit committee. Provides the motivation and direction to the committee to get the unit program resourced and implemented.

## Council

A geographical area made of up districts for administration of the Scouting BSA programs. We are part of the Washington Crossing Council. See further definition in "Organization" section.

## **Cub Scout**

Any of a million or so youth between the ages of 5 and 11 who get together and have fun at Den and Pack meetings. Marked by curiosity, easy laughter, speed, and blue uniform. Likes to eat Ding-Dongs and drink lots of Bug Juice.

## **Cubmaster**

The Cubmaster is the chief adult volunteer leader of a Cub Scout pack. The Cubmaster runs the monthly pack meetings and advises other leaders.

## **Den**

A Cub Scout group of 6-8 youth who meet at regular intervals and are all members of the same Pack.

## **Den Chief**

A Scouts BSA member who helps direct the activities of a den.

## **Den Leader**

Amazing adult who enjoys doing all kinds of stuff with boys, even if it involves large quantities of patience. Easily smiles, asks others for help, and uses all kinds of resources to keep smiling--like Roundtables.

## **District**

Each council is divided into several districts. The districts of our Council are Hunterdon Arrowhead, Mercer Area, Tamanend, Teen Programs and Tohickon.

## **District Executive**

A professional commissioned Scouter who is responsible for the achievements of the district.

## **Fast Start**

Program for new leaders to help them until they can attend BALOO(Cub Scouts) and/or IOLS(Scouts BSA).

## **Fleur de Lis**

International Scout Emblem. Also used by the NFL New Orleans Saints football team!

## **FOS**

Friends of Scouting. Annual fund-raising appeal to support the council's camps, materials, special events, and the professional coordinators who help make Scouting possible.

## **High Adventure Camps**

There are four BSA high adventure camps: Philmont Scout Ranch (New Mexico), Northern Tier (Minnesota), The Summit Bechtel Reserve (West Virginia), and Sea Base (Florida)

## **I**

Word used with great pride by Scouts, as in "I did it!"

## **IOLS**

The Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) course builds and expands on the concepts and themes introduced in Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training and provides Scouters with the confidence to take youth into the outdoors. Specifically, this hands-on program gives adult leaders a practical introduction to the patrol method of a Scout-led troop by teaching many of the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. In addition, the teaching methods, activities, and games model the variety of teaching used in effective and engaging Scouting programs.

## Leader

Person who is trained and volunteers to help Scouts grow to be young adults of character. Sets the example by giving back to the community.

## Meeting

Semi-chaotic gathering of Scouts where much fun and some learning happens, usually helped along by Scouters (defined further down the list).

## Merit Badge

Scouts can learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers as they earn merit badges. Currently, there are 16 Eagle required (a Scout must earn 13 of them) of the 137 merit badges with 121 of the 137 merit badges being elective merit badges.

## NCAP

The purpose of the National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP) is to help councils elevate camps to new levels of excellence in delivering Scouting's promise to youth.

## OA

Order of the Arrow. An honor group of Scouts who give cheerful service helping others and learn to enjoy the outdoors. Arrowmen also present dramatic and exciting ceremonies at campfires and special awards meetings.

## Pack

The unit that conducts the Cub Scout program for the chartering organization. Cub Packs are made up of dens.

## Patrol

A Patrol is a group of Scouts who belong to the same troop and who are probably similar in age, development, and interests. The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in a small group outside the larger troop context, working together as a team and sharing the responsibility of making their patrol a success.

## Philmont

Philmont or the Philmont Scout Ranch is one of four BSA high adventure camps located near Cimarron, New Mexico along the southern tip of the Rocky Mountains. The land was donated by oil baron Waite Phillips. The ranch is owned and operated by the BSA.

## PLC

The Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) plans the yearly troop program at the annual planning conference. It then meets monthly to fine-tune the plans for the upcoming month. The PLC is made up of the senior patrol leader, who presides over the meetings, the assistant senior patrol leader, all patrol leaders, and the troop guide.

## PTC

The **Philmont Training Center** (PTC), located at the Philmont Scout Ranch near Cimarron, New Mexico, has been the National Training Center of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) since 1950. The PTC offers week-long training conferences from June through September for council, district, and unit volunteers, BSA professionals, and youth leaders with several conferences taking place each week.

## Promise

What leaders try to deliver. To do their Best, to help others, and to help Scouts learn to Do Their Duty to God, Country, Family, and self.

## Quiet

Unknown concept.

## Rechartering

Scouts BSA, in turn, grants charters to sponsoring (chartered) organizations who must report to Scouting annually to renew their local charters. Rechartering is the process where a unit renews its charter as an official part of Scouts BSA.

## Roundtable

Roundtables are a monthly gathering of Pack, Troop, Team, Crew, and District leaders. Roundtables are put on by the District Commissioner staff to give leaders hands-on experience and provide a forum for leaders to offer and receive help from their fellow Scouters.

## Scout

A Scout is between the ages of 11 and 17 and belongs to a troop.

## Scouter

An adult who may or may not have kids in Scouting, but just really loves the program and gets satisfaction from helping youth grow into young adults with character.

## Scouts BSA

Scouts BSA is a nationally chartered organization that encompasses Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venture Crews, Sea Scouts, and Explorers. (Prior to 2019 known as Boy Scouts).

## Scoutmaster

A volunteer Scouter, 21 or older, appointed by the chartered organization to lead a Scout troop.

## Training

Available in many varieties to help everyone **Do Their Best** to be a good leader. Fast Start, Basic, and Youth Protection are common online training. BALOO, IOLS, Wood Badge, and PLC are training opportunities that are attended and last from one day up to a week.

## Troop

The unit that conducts Boy Scouting for the chartered organization. Capitalize only when used with the troop number. Combinations: "Scout Troop" or "Troop 100."

## Webelos

**We'll Be Loyal Scouts.** Also, youth in 4th and 5th grade. Sometimes wear the khaki Boy Scout uniform (means they outgrew the blue one). Works on Activity Pins, camps, goes on hikes, prepares to be a Boy Scout. Old hand at this Cub Scout business--can build a Pinewood Derby car blindfolded.

## Wood Badge

Wood Badge is an advanced, national leadership course open only to Scouting volunteers and professionals. **The purpose of Wood Badge is to develop skilled leaders who can strengthen Scouting units in achieving the mission of Scouting BSA.** When we accomplish the mission of Scouting, we do it in the units. Therefore, the short form of the purpose is, the purpose of Wood Badge is to strengthen units.

## Youth Protection

Required training for ALL adults in the BSA program. Training is available online and is good for 2 years. Youth Protection **MUST** be kept current in order to be registered in the BSA Program.