



Glossary of Troop 599 Terms

Adult Patrol:

When the Troop goes camping, all of the adults form their own patrol for meal planning, shopping, cooking, eating, and sleeping. The adults try and set a good example of how a patrol should operate and allow the Scouts to do the same, without interference. All YPT trained adults are welcome to come on the campouts and to camp with the Troop, as long as they do their part!

Advancement Review Questions (ARQ):

A set of Scout Skill questions that a Scout needs to know for his advancement to upper ranks within Scouting – Star, Life, Eagle. This set of questions can be found on the Advancement page of the Troop website. The purpose of these questions is to ensure that our advancing Scouts continue to retain the important information they learned prior to getting their first class rank. The ARQ also serves to provide feedback to the troop as to how we are doing with respect to teaching our Scouts these important skills.

Annual Planning Meeting:

The Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) meets to plan the next year's activities with input from the Scout Leaders within Troop 599 and the guidance of the Scoutmaster and his team of adults. This plan is then presented to the Troop Committee for approval to make sure the plan meets BSA guidelines and that necessary resources can be provided. This annual session normally takes place in mid-August.

ASM (Assistant Scoutmaster):

In Troop 599, we have more than 35 "trained" ASM's that assist the Scoutmaster in providing adult leadership to our Scouts. Only these trained Scouters may sign off on completed rank requirements.

In order to be an ASM in Troop 599, ASM's must complete five (5) required training courses:

- Youth Protection Training
- Fast Start – Boy Scout
- This is Scouting
- Scoutmaster Specific
- Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills

The first three courses can be completed on-line. The last two must be taken in "live" sessions.

ASPL (Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

In Troop 599, we typically have several ASPL's (called the "Staff"), including:

- ASPL for Outings
- ASPL for Patrols

- ASPL for Programs
- ASPL for Troop Guides
- ASPL for Special Programs and Membership
- ASPL's for Equipment (Quartermasters)

Be Prepared:

The motto of Boy Scouting.

Blue Card:

In order to work with a Merit Badge Counselor, a Scout must first obtain a Blue Card from our Merit Badge Coordinator. Blue Cards are the record of Merit Badge progress and are turned in to receive the Merit Badge after all the requirements have been met and the counselor has signed off the card. The Scout should keep his copy of the Blue Card until after he has reached the Rank of Eagle.

Board of Review:

As a requirement for each rank advancement a Scout must appear individually before a group of Troop adults (members of Troop Committee) to ensure that the Scout has met the requirements for that rank. Boards of Review take place after Scoutmaster Conferences for Rank Advancement and are typically held on the first Thursday night of each month of the Scouting year. Eagle Boards of Review are conducted at the district level.

Boy Scout Ranks:

In order of increasing rank:

- Scout
- Tenderfoot
- Second Class
- First Class
- Star
- Life
- Eagle
- Eagle Palms: Bronze, Gold, Silver

Buddy System:

Whenever a Scout needs to go somewhere at camp, hiking, Merit Badge Class, etc., it is always done in groups of at least two. A Scout always takes a "buddy" scout with him. Also used as part of the "Safe Swim Defense" program.

Camporee:

Campout sponsored by the District and attended by many of the Troops within the District. Usually, there are various competitions between the Troops/patrols attending.

Chaplain:

Adult member of the Troop Committee who provides guidance to Scouts related to observance of the twelfth point of the Scout Law – A Scout is Reverent. This adult works with the Chaplain Aide, a youth leader.

Chartered Organization:

The organization that is officially chartered by the Boy Scouts of America to carry out the scouting program. Our Chartered Organization is Memorial Drive United Methodist Church.

Class A or B Uniform:

Different types of activities require different uniforms. The “Class A” or Field Uniform, with khaki shirt and olive pants, is the complete, formal uniform. The “Class B” or Activity Uniform is the light blue Troop t-shirt, often worn for camp, overnight campouts or other activities, e.g. Food Drive.

Commissioner:

Adult volunteers working at the District or Council level. Unit commissioners are assigned to units, including Troops, and should be a friendly resource to the unit leaders.

Committee Member (CM):

Any registered adult that is not an Assistant Scoutmaster (ASM). Committee Members may sit on Boards of Review, (which ASM'S cannot do) and may be Merit Badge counselors but they may not sign off on Scout requirements.

Council:

A group of Districts make up a Council. Our Sam Houston Area Council (SHAC) is the fourth largest Council in the United States.

Court-of-Honor:

An awards ceremony at which Scouts are recognized for their rank advancements, merit badges earned and other awards. We typically have regular Courts of Honor in the fall, winter and spring. There are separate Eagle Courts of Honor.

Cracker Barrel:

A scout term for a social gathering with refreshments after a meeting or activity. This is often an evening activity at camp before taps.

Den Chief:

A Boy Scout who helps a Cub Scout Den Leader direct the activities of a Cub Scout den. The Den Chief is one of the preferred Positions of Responsibility (POR) for all newly minted First Class Scouts.

District:

A subdivision of a Council. We are a member of the Mustang District.

Dutch Oven:

A large cast iron covered pot used to bake and cook in over a wood or charcoal fire.

E-Rock:

One of two annual campouts that will always be on our Scout Calendar, this trip to Enchanted Rock State Natural Area is held in January and welcomes Scouts, their parents and Thunderbird alumnae for a weekend of rappelling and climbing.

Fast Start Training:

This online training is a quick orientation for new leaders. Since there are several versions, Troop 599 Leaders must complete the Boy Scout version of Fast Start Training!

See <https://my.scouting.org/>

FCE Program:

Our "First Class Emphasis" (FCE) program meets each Tuesday at 6:30 PM in the Youth Lounge of the Family Life Center at MDUMC and helps newer Scouts complete their initial scout ranks (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class) in a fun, safe environment. This class is overseen by Adult Scouters and taught by older Scouts, called Troop Guides.

Food Drive:

Held in the fall and aimed at re-stocking the pantry at a local food pantry, associated with MDUMC. This program, an annual tradition, is recognized by SHAC as our contribution to the Scouting for Food: National Good Turn event.

Friends of Scouting (FOS):

Friends of Scouting is the annual fund raiser for Council. No part of an FOS donation stays with the Troop. Rather, those donations help fund the Council and its programs to bring the Scouting Experience to boys throughout the Houston area.

Good Turn:

“Do a Good Turn Daily” is the Scout Slogan. A good turn is something you do without being asked or expected to do it and for which you expect no reward.

Greenery Sales:

Troop 599's only mandatory fundraiser each year. Beginning in September of each year, all Scouts are expected to sell at least \$300 retail of high-end Holiday greenery to support the Troop's activities. The proceeds from those sales provide more than 50% of the Troop's annual operating budget. Some boys sell over \$1,000 of greenery each year and are recognized for that achievement!

Guide to Safe Scouting:

This booklet is the “Bible” when it comes to safety related issues in Scouting. Those items in **BOLD** print are rules that **MUST** be followed. Everything else in the booklet are recommendations that should be followed. Troop leaders consult this to see if planned activities are being done safely and within prescribed BSA policy.

Grubmaster:

The Grubmaster in a Patrol is responsible for planning meals, shopping for food, and preparing and/or overseeing the preparation of meals during campouts. It is the responsibility of the entire patrol to come up with menu ideas. The Grubmaster is responsible for making sure assignments on the duty roster for cooking and cleaning are getting done. Everyone in the patrol must do his share.

Grubmaster (Adult):

The Adult Grubmaster is specifically responsible for planning meals, shopping for food, and preparing and/or overseeing the preparation of adult meals during campouts. Generally, Adult Grubmasters oversee the preparation of at least one meal during a weekend and rely on the rest of the Adult Patrol to pitch in with the cooking and cleaning. Any adult can volunteer to be a Grubmaster and the Troop reimburses you for your food costs!

Individual History Report (IHR):

The Troop's record of a Scout's progress towards rank advancement. All Scouts should bring their IHR to a Scoutmaster Conference, prior to advancing to the next rank. IHR's are generated through TroopMaster and can be obtained on-line with a User ID and password, assigned by our Advancement Coordinator.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS):

A weekend training course for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters designed to teach them about the goals, philosophy, policies and techniques used in Boy Scouting and the skills to get a Scout to the First Class rank. This is an excellent program that is highly recommended and is required for all Troop 599 ASM's, even those who are Eagle Scouts.

Jamboree:

An extended (up to two weeks) Scout meeting or camp out on a grand scale, with thousands of Scouts and Scouters attending. National and international jamborees are typically held only every three to four years.

Junior Assistant Scoutmaster (JASM):

A youth between 16 and 18 who has already held major leadership positions within the Troop and is appointed by the SPL and the Scoutmaster to help in guiding the Troop and mentoring youth leaders. In Troop 599, a JASM must be an Eagle Scout who has previously served as Senior Patrol Leader or as an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader.

King Ranch Weekend:

Perhaps the most beloved of all our annual campouts, this November outing, held the weekend before Thanksgiving, has been held for more than 47 consecutive years and is hosted by the family of one of the Troop's founders, Pat King, on the King Ranch near Lockhart, Texas.

Leadership Handbook:

The Leadership Handbook is a T599 document that provides an overview of the Troop structure, leadership positions, duties and requirements for the Scouts and Adult leaders of the troop. A copy of the Leadership Handbook can be found on the Troop website.

Leadership Training:

A troop level training class taught by the adult leaders to help newly elected and appointed youth leaders understand their responsibilities of their leadership positions and how to successfully fulfill them. These sessions, normally taught in September and January. This is different from National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT), which is a national BSA program.

Leave No Trace (LNT):

A set of guidelines that set standards for outdoor activities that are environmentally sound and considerate to others using the same area. Now a part of Outdoor Ethics.

Managing Committee (MC):

The Managing Committee consists of the Troop Committee Chairman, the Scoutmaster and the Chairs of Development, Outings and Programs. The MC meets regularly to handle the day-to-day issues that arise within the Troop. The Management Committee prepares the Troop Calendar, Troop Budget and Troop Policies for presentation to and approval by the Troop Committee.

Merit Badge Sash:

As Scouts earn Merit Badges they are sewn on a Merit Badge Sash (available at the Scout Shop). The Merit Badge Sash is normally worn only for formal occasions such as a Board of Review or a Court-of-Honor.

Order of the Arrow (OA):

A national brotherhood of Scout honor campers of the Boy Scouts of America. Members are elected by their peers after meeting basic requirements of rank and camping experience. Youth (under are 21) are elected to the OA by the Scout members of the Troop. Adults may be nominated by the Troop. The OA motto of "Cheerful Service" indicates their purpose. They are often found improving scout camps, running council events, and providing service to the scouting community.

OA Ordeal:

The initiation experience and induction ceremony for new OA members generally involving personal introspection, service to improve camp or trail and ceremonies based on Indian legend or lore.

Online Sign-up:

For every Troop outing there will be an online sign-up posted on the Outings page of the Troop website at least two weeks prior to the outing. The sign-up form will include information about the outing, dates, times, location, any associated costs or special forms required as well as an opportunity to provide any special requirements and/or transportation needs of the Scout or Adult. It is the Scouts responsibility to make sure he has signed up online by the stated deadline, which is usually the Sunday night before the outing.

Patrol:

The Patrol is the basic unit within a Troop. Made up of 8 to 12 Scouts, who camp, cook and eat together. They work as a team at various activities and events. They elect their own leader.

Patrol Adviser:

The Patrol Advisor is an Assistant Scoutmaster whose primary focus is on a specific patrol. He/she demonstrates Scout Spirit and actively encourages, monitors and mentors the Patrol Leader and the participation, enthusiasm and advancement of the patrol members. Generally, the Patrol Advisor is the first Adult Leader that a Scout should confer with if he has a problem or question that cannot be solved by one of the youth leadership.

Patrol Equipment:

The Patrol Equipment consists of tents, stoves, lanterns, and cooking equipment. The Patrol is responsible for the storage and upkeep of this equipment under the guidance and leadership of

the Patrol Quartermaster. This equipment, excluding tents which are provided by the troop and assigned to a pair of Scouts to share for the scout year, is stored and transported in Patrol Boxes which need to be cleaned after each outing.

Patrol Leader (PL):

The elected leader for the patrol. The Patrol Leader is considered a leadership position for rank advancement typically held by a Life or, in some cases, a Star scout.

Patrol Leaders Council (PLC):

The PLC is made up of the youth leadership of the Troop, which includes the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, Patrol Leaders, and Troop Guides. They meet once a month to plan the following month's activities, reflect on past activities and annually to plan the upcoming year.

Patrol Method:

The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in a small group outside the larger Troop setting, working together as a team and sharing the responsibility of making their patrol a success. Patrols are the building blocks of a Boy Scout Troop. ***The Patrol Method is not a way to run a Scout Troop; it is the only way.***

Patrol 1-Page Roster:

This is a 1-Page overview listing of the Scouts by Patrol assignment, which includes the name and contact numbers for each Scout, Patrol Advisor and most unit Adult Leaders. It also indicates which Scout holds what Position of Responsibility. This form is updated throughout the year and a copy can be obtained by asking the Scoutmaster or Committee Chairman.

Permission Form:

In order to go on many outings the Scout must have a Permission Form signed by his parent. Troop 599 includes a universal Permission Form within its annual re-registration package that every Scout Parent must fill out. However, certain activities and outings during the year require a specific Permission Form be filled out and provided to the Troop. Usually these Permission Forms are posted on the Outings page of the Troop website. It is the Scout's responsibility to make sure they have the appropriate Permission Form signed and turned in by the due date noted on the Permission Form.

PFD:

A Personal Floatation Device (PFD) is otherwise known as a life vest. Those used in scouting must be approved by the United States Coast Guard.

Philmont:

A high adventure Boy Scout camp located in the northeast corner of New Mexico, comprising more than 140,000 acres (219 square miles).

Position of Responsibility (POR):

To advance in the more senior ranks a Scout must hold a "Position of Responsibility" for a specific period of time. These POR's must be approved by the Scoutmaster/Patrol Advisor. (See the Leadership Handbook for further explanations)

Re-Charter:

The annual process of chartering the Troop, Scouts and Adult Leaders. The Committee Chairperson usually oversees the Troop re-charter process, including collecting all Scout re-registration and membership fees in September/October, completing the re-charter application in November and submitting the re-charter to Council in December.

Safe Swim Defense:

An eight-step plan for conducting swimming activities in a safe manner.

Safety Afloat:

Guidelines for safe Troop activities utilizing water craft.

Scouter:

Any registered adult leader, including Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, Committee Member or Merit Badge Counselor. Troop 599 has about 100 registered adult leaders, including more than 30 ASMs and more than 50 CMs.

Scoutmaster (SM):

Adult leader who trains and guides the youth leaders in carrying out the Scouting program. One or more Assistant Scoutmasters (ASM) help the Scoutmaster and are often assigned specific roles and duties. Adam White is our current Scoutmaster.

Scoutmaster Conference:

A formal meeting that takes place at a Troop meeting or activity between a Scout and the Scoutmaster, or an ASM designated by the SM, to review a scout's progress. A Scoutmaster Conference must take place at advancement time prior to a Board of Review, and may occur when a Scout requests it or if the Scoutmaster feels the Scout needs it. For rank advancement conferences, a Scout is required to bring his IHR, Scout Handbook and be prepared to discuss the ARQ.

Scoutmaster-Specific Training:

The basic and introductory Adult Leader Training for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters. This is an excellent training program for any adult wanting to become more involved in the Boy Scout program, or who just wants to learn more about how the program works. See also IOLS.

Scouting Skills:

The specific skills that a Scout will learn and demonstrate proficiency in for rank advancement including: knots, lashings, camping, fire building, first aid, backpacking/hiking, Leave No Trace, plants/animal identification, compass, orienteering, and others.

Scout Spirit:

The way a scout tries to live up to the Scout Oath, Law, Slogan, and Motto in his everyday life.

Sea Base:

A high adventure Scout camp located in the Florida Keys and the Bahamas.

Silver Beaver:

The Silver Beaver Award is the highest form of recognition that a local council can bestow on a volunteer and is for distinguished service to youth within the council. Very few adult leaders are given this award: typically, our Council (SHAC) grants only about 30 Silver Beaver Awards per year.

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL):

The top elected youth leader of the Troop. The SPL is in charge of the Troop at all functions and activities. He appoints, with the approval of the Scoutmaster, one or more Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders (ASPLs) to help him in running the Troop. The SPL is elected by the Scouts for a one-year term and works closely with the Scoutmaster, as his mentor.

This Is Scouting:

An introductory online training course which focuses on the aims of scouting and the various scouting programs. See <https://my.scouting.org/>

Thunderbird(s):

The proud mascot and nickname of Troop 599 Scouts.

Totin' Chip:

A certification that enables the bearer to use knives, axes, and saws. It must be earned by the Scout through educational and hands-on safety sessions led by an adult leader or older scout

appointed by the scoutmaster. If a Scout is observed doing something unsafe with a sharp tool, his card may be taken away, and must be re-earned.

Tour Permit:

A document that must be filed with the council office before any outing or activity outside of Houston can take place. Special permits are required for travel out-of-state, over 500 miles, or for activities that require air travel.

Troop Committee:

The Troop Committee is comprised of the Committee Chairman and all registered Committee Members. Troop 599 also allows its SM and ASMs to participate and encourages all parents to attend its meetings. The Committee provides oversight, assistance, and guidance to the Scoutmaster in carrying out the Scouting program within the Troop. The Troop Committee is responsible for providing the necessary resources requested by the PLC and Scoutmaster that are required to carry out the scouting program.

Troop Committee meetings are normally held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Scout Lodge.

Troop Committee Chairman:

A registered adult appointed by the Chartered Organization to chair the Troop Committee. This person presides at Troop Committee meetings and works closely with the Chartered Organization Representative (COR) and Scoutmaster (SM) to ensure the scouting program meets BSA guidelines. The Chairman of our Troop Committee is Walter Brookhart.

Troop Committee Challenge:

A training course for Troop Committee Chairs and Committee members.

See <https://my.scouting.org/>

Troop Guide:

An older Scout, (a Life or Eagle Scout or sometimes a Star Scout) assigned to the FCE program, who guides new Scouts through the Scouting program during their first year in the Troop.

TroopMaster:

Troop 599 uses TroopMaster software to record and track a Scout's advancement. Overseen by our Advancement Coordinator and his Advancement Team, TroopMaster is a web-based program, accessible to Scouts and Families that maintains a variety of records pertaining to all aspects of a Scout's career at 599. TroopMaster is also used to record and track adult training and to prepare various youth and adult leader rosters. Scouts and Families can use the hotlink on the Troop website to access TroopMaster for limited information only. See IHR.

Two-Deep:

Two-Deep Leadership is a Boy Scout Policy for all trips and outings. A minimum of two registered adult leaders, or one registered leader and a participating Scout's parent, or another adult is required for all trips and outings. One of these adults must be at least 21 years of age or older. This is part of the BSA Youth Protection Guidelines.

“What are you going to get signed off tonight?”

Refers to having an ASM approval (sign off) for a specific task related to rank advancement during a Tuesday evening FCE Class. As a Scout progresses through the FCE program, this is an especially important question that a parent should ask the Scout prior to each FCE class. This question is intended to provide the Scout with a goal and some structure as he attempts to advance in rank.

“Who is your SPL?”:

A great thing for an adult to say to a Scout when asked a question about the Troop. This encourages him to use the Patrol Method, seek out Boy-generated answers and not rely on an Adult to “fix” things for him. Also, “Ask your Patrol Leader.” See Patrol Method.

Wood badge:

Advanced Training for Boy Scout adult leaders. Any adult who has taken Basic Leader Training (See above for a list of the required training) can attend this advanced training course to expand their knowledge of the Scouting program and be of more help to the Troop. Wood Badge is taught over two or three weekends or in an intensive full week course. It also includes the setting of a number of personal goals related to the participant's Scouting activities and the subsequent completion of those goals during the ensuing two years.

Youth Protection Training (YPT):

The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. To maintain such an environment, we have procedural and leadership selection policies and provide parents and leaders with resources for the program.

All registered Adult Leaders in Troop 599, any Adult who attends our overnight outings, and all Scouts who attend a High Adventure must take Youth Protection Training (YPT) every 2 years.

See <https://my.scouting.org/>