

# Troop 113 Sample Board of Review Questions

## What Every Scout Should Know

### Scout Oath:

On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.

### Scout Law:

As Scout is ...  
Trustworthy,  
Loyal,  
Helpful,  
Friendly,  
Courteous,  
Kind,  
Obedient,  
Cheerful,  
Thrifty,  
Brave,  
Clean,  
Reverent.

### Scout Motto:

Be Prepared.

### Scout Slogan:

Do a good turn daily.

### 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.

## Tenderfoot Rank

This is the Scout's first experience with a Board of Review. The process may require some explanation on the part of the Board of Review Chairperson.

The first few questions in the Board of Review should be simple. The Board of Review should try to gain a sense of how the Scout is fitting in to the Troop, and the Scout's level of enjoyment of the Troop and Patrol activities.

Encourage advancement to 2nd Class. Point out that the Scout may have already completed many of the requirements for 2nd Class.

The approximate time for this Board of Review should be 15-20 minutes.

### **Sample Tenderfoot Questions:**

1. When did you join our Troop?
2. How many Troop meetings have you attended in the last two months?
3. What did you do at your last patrol meeting?
4. Tell us about your last Troop campout.
5. How would the first aid skills you must know for Tenderfoot help on a campout?
6. Where did you learn how to fold the American flag? Tell us about your first experience with this skill.
7. How would you avoid poison oak (poison ivy, sumac)?
8. Where did you go on your hike? How did you choose the location?
9. If you were on a hike and got lost, what would you do?
10. Why do we whip or fuse the ends of a rope?
11. What is the "Buddy System" that we use in Scouting? When do we use it?
12. Why do you think there are physical fitness requirements (push-ups, pull-ups, etc.), and a retest after 30 days, for the Tenderfoot rank?
13. What does it mean to a Tenderfoot Scout to "Be Prepared"?
14. Do you feel that you have done your best to complete the requirements for Tenderfoot? Why?
15. What "good turn" have you done today?
16. Please give us an example of how you obey the Scout Law at home (school, church)?
17. What do you like best about our Troop?
18. What does it mean for a Scout to be "Kind"?
19. Do you have any special plans for this summer? The Holidays?
20. When do you plan to have the requirements completed for 2nd Class?

## More Tenderfoot Questions

- Personal Data
  1. When did you join the Troop?
  2. What grade are you in? What school?
  3. What hobbies do you have?
  4. Why did you join Boy Scouts?
- What Do You Think
  1. How do you live the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life? If you find it a challenge how do you overcome it?
  2. What is a good turn? What good turns have you done lately?
  3. What troop outings have you attended? What do you think of them?
  4. What does "On My Honor" mean to you?
  5. What do you think people expect from you as a Boy Scout?
- Teamwork
  1. Have you been able to make it to most of the troop meetings so far?
  2. What is the name of your patrol? Do you have a flag?
  3. Do you feel that you and your patrol are getting along?
  4. Is there anything you would like to see changed in the patrol or troop meetings?
- The Big Picture
  1. What do you like best about Scouting?
  2. How (or how not) has Scouting been what you thought it would be?
  3. Have you taken part in any recent service projects? Which ones?
  4. What are your long term plans in scouting?
  5. What are your plans for Second Class?

## 2nd Class Rank

This is the Scout's second Board of Review. The process should be familiar, unless it has been some time since the Board of Review for Tenderfoot.

Questions should focus on the use of the Scout skills learned for this rank, without retesting these skills. The Board of Review should try to perceive how the Scout's patrol is functioning, and how this Scout is functioning within his patrol.

Encourage work on the remaining requirements for 1st Class; many of the easier ones may have already been completed.

The approximate time for this Board of Review should be 15-20 minutes.

### Sample 2nd Class Questions:

1. How many patrol meetings have you attended in the last 3 months?
2. What did your patrol do at its last meeting?
3. Tell us about a service project in which you participated.
4. Where did you go on your last Troop campout? Did you have a good time? Why?
5. Why is it important to be able to identify animals found in your community?
6. Tell us about the flag ceremony in which you participated.
7. What is in your personal first aid kit?
8. What have you learned about handling woods tools (axes, saws, etc.)?
9. How are a map of the area and a compass useful on a campout?
10. Have you ever done more than one "good turn" in a day? Ask for details.
11. Have you earned any merit badges?  
If "Yes": Which ones? Why did you choose them? Who was your counselor?  
If "No": Encourage getting started, and suggest one or two of the easier ones.
12. Did you attend summer camp with our Troop last summer?  
If "Yes": What was your best (worst) experience at summer camp?  
If "No": Why not?
13. Do you plan to attend summer camp with our Troop next summer?  
If "Yes": What are you looking forward to doing at summer camp?  
If "No": Why not?
14. What suggestions do you have for improving our Troop?
15. How do you help out at home, church, school?
16. What class in school is most challenging for you? Why?
17. One of the requirements for Tenderfoot is to participate in a program regarding drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse. Tell us about the program in which you participated.
18. How is it possible to live the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life?
19. What does it mean to say, "A Scout is Trustworthy"?

20. When do you expect to complete the requirements for 1st Class?

### More Second Class Questions

- Personal Data
  1. How old are you?
  2. Do your friends at school know you're in Scouts?
  3. Do you ever take the time and just talk with members of your family? If so, who?
  4. Do you have a hero? If so, who and why?
- What Do You Think
  1. In the Scout Oath, what does "I will do my best" mean to you?
  2. Do you ever do more than one Good Turn Daily? What kinds?
  3. What point of the Scout Law is the most important to you? Why?
  4. Do you have a favorite youth or adult leader? If so, what makes that person a good leader?
  5. The Scout Motto is "Be Prepared". What does it mean to you?
  6. What do you think it means to be a Second Class Scout? What should people expect of you?
- Teamwork
  1. What did you do for you one (1) hour of service required for Second Class? What did you think of the project? What other service have you done?
  2. What type of service projects would you like to work on?
  3. Does your patrol have patrol meetings? Do you find them helpful? Is there something the troop can do to help your patrol have productive patrol meetings?
  4. Is there any part of the patrol program that you would like changed? How would you make these changes? What is the benefit of these changes?
- Your Progress
  1. What requirement for this rank was the hardest? Easiest?
  2. Have you started earning any merit badges? Which ones interest you, and why?
  3. Do you have any difficulty setting goals for yourself?
  4. Have you had a chance to cook outdoors? What did you like about it?
  5. What outdoor skills do you like best?
- The Big Picture
  1. What are your plans for First Class?
  2. Is there anything the troop can do to help you?
  3. What are your long term plans in scouting?
  4. What part of scouting interests you the most?
  5. Are you enjoying Scouting? Why or Why not?
  6. What is the first Patrol Leadership position you plan to run for?

## **1st Class Rank**

By this point the Scout should be comfortable with the Board of Review process.

The Scout should be praised for his accomplishment in achieving 1st Class (particularly if he joined Boy Scouts less than a year ago). In achieving the rank of 1st Class, the Scout should feel an additional sense of responsibility to the troop and to his patrol.

The 1st Class rank will produce additional opportunities for the Scout (Order of the Arrow, leadership, etc.).

Merit badges will begin to play a role in future advancement to the Star and Life ranks. Encourage merit badge work if it has not already begun.

The approximate time for this Board of Review should be 20 minutes.

### **Sample 1st Class Questions:**

1. On average, how many Troop meetings do you attend each month?
2. What part of Troop meetings are most rewarding to you?
3. What is the Scout Slogan? What does it mean for a 1st Class Scout?
4. Tell us about your last campout with the Troop. Where did you go? How did you help with meal preparation? Did you have a good time? (If "No", why not?)
5. If you were in charge of planning and preparing a dinner for your next campout, what would you select?
6. As a 1st Class Scout, what do you think the Star, Life, and Eagle Scouts will expect from you on an outing?
7. Does your family do any camping? What have you learned in Scouts, that you have been able to share with your family to improve their camping experiences?
8. Why do you think that swimming is emphasized in Scouting?
9. Why is it important for you to know how to transport a person who has a broken leg?
10. Why is it important for you to be able to recognize local plant life?
11. What did you learn about using a compass while completing the orienteering requirement?
12. What does it mean to say, "A Scout is Courteous"?
13. Why are merit badges a part of Scouting?
14. How frequently do you attend religious services? Does your whole family attend?
15. What is your most favorite part of Scouting? Least favorite?
16. How does a Scout fulfill his "Duty to Country"?
17. How do you define "Scout Spirit"?
18. What is the Order of the Arrow? What is the primary function of OA?

19. Who was Lord Baden-Powell?  
20. When do you think you might be ready for Star Scout?

### **More First Class Questions**

- Personal Data
  1. What grade are you in?
  2. What do you like about school? What is your favorite subject?
  3. What do you tell your friends about the things you learn and do in Scouts?
- What Do You Think
  1. To you, what does it mean to "Do my duty to God"?
  2. What point of the Scout Law is the hardest for you to live up to?
  3. What more does "Be Prepared" mean to a First Class Scout, than to a Second Class Scout?
  4. What does "On my Honor" mean to you?
- Teamwork
  1. How does your Patrol function as a team? What part do you take in helping your Patrol?
  2. What was the last project your patrol worked on as a unit?
  3. How do you apply teamwork in your home? With friends?
  4. Have you had a chance to teach the younger Scouts any of your recently earned scout skills? What did you teach?
  5. What do you think Shared Leadership is?
- Your Progress
  1. What merit badges do you have?
  2. Which merit badge was the most valuable to you? Why?
  3. For this rank you met with a civil employee and discussed your constitutional rights and obligations. Who did you meet with, and what (if anything) did you get from your talk?
  4. What was the most challenging requirement (rank or merit badge)?
  5. Do you think that your first aid knowledge will actually help you? How? Have you had an opportunity to use any of it?
- The Big Picture
  1. What are your plans for your progress toward Star? Do you have a goal date when you would like to make Star by?
  2. If you had the opportunity to add or delete one (1) requirement for this rank, what would it be and why?
  3. What effect has Scouting had on your life?
  4. Do you have a long term goal for your Scouting career?

## **Star Rank**

With the Star rank, emphasis is placed upon service to others, merit badges, and leadership. Scout skills remain an important element for the Star Scout; however, the emphasis should be on teaching other Scouts these skills.

Explore how the Star scout can assist with leading his patrol and troop. Attempt to understand how the Scouting philosophy is becoming part of the Scout's life.

Often the Star rank is a place where Scouts "stall out". Encourage the Scout to remain active, and participate fully in his patrol and troop. If the Scout appears to be looking for additional opportunities, suggest leadership positions such as Den Chief or Troop Guide.

The approximate time for this Board of Review should be 20 minutes.

### **Sample Star Questions:**

1. How many Troop outings have you attended in the last three months?
2. Tell us about the last service project in which you participated.
3. What does it mean for a Star Scout to "Be Prepared" on a daily basis?
4. How have the Scout skills that you have learned helped you in a non-Scouting activity?
5. How many merit badges have you earned? What was the most difficult (fun, challenging, expensive, etc.)?
6. Which is more important: Becoming a Star Scout, or learning the skills prescribed for a Star Scout?
7. Why do you think a Scoutmaster's Conference is required for advancement in rank?
8. What is the most important part of a Troop Court of Honor? Why?
9. What leadership positions have you held outside of your patrol? What challenges did they present? What are your personal leadership goals and objectives?
10. How would you get a Scout to do an unpleasant task?
11. What extracurricular activities do you participate in at school?
12. What responsibilities do you have at home?
13. What is our "Duty to God"?
14. What does it mean to say "A Scout is Loyal"?
15. How are the Scout Oath and Law part of your daily life?
16. What is the Outdoor Code? Why is it important?
17. If the Scout is a member of the Order of the Arrow:

When did you complete your "Ordeal", "Brotherhood"?  
What does membership in the OA signify?

18. Have you received any special awards or accomplishments in school, athletics, or church?
19. Baden-Powell's first Scout outing was located on an island off the coast of Great Britain; what was the name of that island? [Answer: Brownsea Island]
20. When do you plan on achieving the Life rank?

## More Star Questions

- Personal Data
  1. What do you do with your spare time?
  2. What other activities do you participate in? (ie. sports, music, social/religious groups, etc.)
  3. How many younger siblings do you have? What sort of impression do you think you give them and others about Scouting?
  4. Do you keep a small sewing kit in your backpack? Have you ever had a need to use it while on an outing (ie. tent zipper, clothes rip, massive wound, etc)?
  5. Who makes sure your uniform is clean and the patches are all sewn on for you to wear?
  6. How do you help out at home? Do you do it to "chip in" or earn money?
- What Do You Think
  1. What should the statement, "A Scout is Trustworthy" mean to a Star Scout?
  2. What do you think the role of a Star Scout is in relationship to younger scouts?
  3. How does the Scout Oath affect the life of a Star Scout differently than it would the life of a Tenderfoot Scout?
  4. What do others have a right to expect of a Star Scout?
  5. What point of the Scout Law is the most important to you? Why?
  6. How do you feel that you live the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life?
  7. What is the Scout Slogan? {answer: "Do a Good Turn Daily"} What type of "Good Turns" do you do?
- Teamwork
  1. What part do you take in the Troop Meetings? Are you a leader or a follower?
  2. Do you hold a leadership position in the troop now? If so, which one and what are your responsibilities? If no, which position(s) have you held? Tell me a short story about your time as a leader.
  3. What service project did you work on to earn your required hours for this rank? What was your job on the project?
  4. How do you feel your patrol functions as a team?

5. Have you ever tried to instill a change (long or short term) in your patrol? What was it? How? Did you get the results you wanted?
- Your Progress
    1. How would you describe the change in your thinking, actions, and performance since earning First Class? Were they through conscious effort?
    2. Which six (6) merit badges did you earn for this rank? Which was the most important to you? Why?
    3. What was the most interesting and/or unique requirement you have had in a merit badge?
    4. While working toward your Star did you learn anything that you would like to pass on to the younger Scouts? What?
    5. What have you learned that might help you as an adult?
  - The Big Picture
    1. What is your goal for reaching Life Scout?
    2. What is your long term goal for Scouting?
    3. What do you feel the troop can do most to help the younger Scouts so they will make it to Star and beyond?
    4. If you could make one (1) change in the merit badge program (ie structure, format, add a badge). What would you do?
    5. What type of career interests you? Have you looked into earning a related merit badge?

## **Life Rank**

The Life rank is the final rank before Eagle. The Life Scout should be fully participating in the Troop, with emphasis being placed on leadership in the unit, as well as teaching skills and leadership to the younger Scouts.

Merit Badge work should be a regular part of the Scout's career. Scouting values and concepts should be an integral part of the Scout's daily life.

At this point, the Scout is starting to "give back to Scouting" through leadership, training of other Scouts, recruiting, keeping Scouts active in the program, etc.

Explore suggestions for improving the program.

The approximate time for this Board of Review should be 20 - 30 minutes.

### **Sample Life Questions:**

1. What is the most ambitious pioneering project with which you have assisted? Where?
2. What has been your worst camping experience in Scouting?
3. How many patrol meetings has your patrol held in the last three months? How many of them have you attended?
4. Have any of the merit badges you have earned lead to hobbies or possible careers?
5. What are your hobbies?
6. Of the merit badges you have earned, which one do you think will be of greatest value to you as an adult? Why?
7. Why do you think that the three "Citizenship" merit badges are required for the Eagle Rank?
8. What is your current (most recent) leadership position within the Troop? How long have you held that position? What particular challenges does it present? What is Leadership?
9. Do you have any brothers or sisters who are in Scouts (any level)? What can you do to encourage them to continue with Scouts, and to move forward along the Scouting Trail?
10. How do you choose between a school activity, a Scout activity, and a family activity?
11. Why do you think that Star and Life Scouts are required to contribute so much time to service projects? What service projects are most rewarding to you? Why?
12. Why do you think that a Board of Review is required for rank advancement?
13. How has Scouting prepared you for the future?
14. What does it mean to say, "A Scout is Reverent"?
15. What does "Scout Spirit" mean to a Life Scout?

16. Why do you think that Scouting for Food is referred to as a "National Good Turn".
17. The Scout Oath refers to "Duty to Self"; what duty do we have to ourselves?
18. If the Scout is a member of OA:
  - What role does OA play in Scouting?
  - What honor do you hold in OA?
  - What is the difference between Scout "ranks" and OA "honors"?
19. In what year was Boy Scouts of America founded? [Answer: February 8, 1910 - BSA Birthday]
20. Have you begun to think about an Eagle Service Project? What are you thinking about doing? When?

### **More Life Questions**

- Personal Data
  1. How are you doing in school? What do you like the most about it?
  2. Do you feel it took you a long time to get here?
- What Do You Think
  1. How does Scouting influence your interactions with people?
  2. Have you ever felt you had to defend yourself because someone knew you are in Scouts?
  3. Outside of Scouting, tell me about a time when you have had to be a leader. How did it make you feel afterward?
  4. Other than your parents, who do you think has influence your life the most? Why? Who's life do you think you have the most influence over? Why?
  5. Name one thing you hate doing, but you do it anyway because you know it will please someone. How do you feel afterward?
  6. What does "A Scout is Brave" mean to a Life Scout?
  7. In this fast paced time of great stress, what should "Be Prepared" mean to a Life Scout?
  8. How can you personally help keep up the Scout Spirit in the Troop?
  9. What does "Duty to God" mean to a Life Scout? How do you fulfill your duty?
  10. What should others be able to expect from you as a Life Scout?
  11. What does "On My Honor" mean to you?
  12. What is the most difficult part of the Scout Oath and Law for you to live up to in your daily life? How do you over come it?
- Teamwork
  1. How many outings have you been on in the last year? Which did you like the most and why?
  2. What have you done since becoming a Star Scout, in caring out additional responsibilities in the Troop? Patrol?

3. Which service projects did you work on for the rank of Life? What did you do?
  4. What do you like most about the Patrol Method? Least?
  5. What role do you play in your Patrol?
  6. What is "Shared Leadership"? How do you see it in your Patrol and in the Troop?
  7. What do you think is the most important skill for a leader? Why?
- Your Progress
    1. What additional merit badges did you earn for Life?
    2. What was the most difficult merit badge for you to earn? How often did you meet with your counselor on that one?
    3. Which merit badge did you enjoy the most? Why?
    4. What was the most important thing you learned while working toward Life Scout?
    5. Who helps you or coaches you in preparing for merit badges?
    6. Which merit badges are you working on now?
    7. Have you found any merit badges that you think are too hard for scouts to earn? Which ones? What makes them so difficult?
    8. What leadership position did you hold for this rank? What was your biggest challenge? How did you handle it? What, if any, leadership position would you be most interested in holding?
  - The Big Picture
    1. Have you thought about what you will need to do for Eagle?
    2. What do you think you can do to help younger Scouts?
    3. Which scouting skill do you like the most? Why? Least? Why?
    4. What do you think about the Order of the Arrow program?
    5. Is the Troop's Outdoor Program adequate to develop skills and maintain the interest of the Scouts? What changes would you make?