

Preparation for the First Eagle Board of Review

What to Wear to the Eagle Board

You must wear your complete Scout uniform when appearing before the Board. This includes your Scout shirt with all patches sewn on including the Life rank, neckerchief, your merit badge sash, scout belt, and scout shorts (with short or long socks) or scout pants. Wear brown or black shoes. Do NOT wear tennis shoes.

Be Prepared to state Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan

Before the Board begins a discussion with you, the Chair of the Board **may** ask you to stand, show the scout sign (right hand raised at a 90 degree angle with the three fingers of the Scout sign), and repeat the Scout Oath, the 12 points of the Scout Law, the motto, and the slogan. Some Boards do not ask for this at the first Board of Review, but almost all Boards **DO** ask for this at the final Board of Review.

Purpose of the First Eagle Board of Review

The purpose of the first Eagle Board of Review is to review and approve your proposed Eagle project. **ONLY** after the Board has approved your project may you begin to work on it.

The Board wants to ensure that you have thoroughly planned your project and thought it completely through. They will add their suggestions to help you. Write these ideas down. They will add comments in your Eagle Project booklet that should follow to complete the project to the Board's satisfaction.

After you have completed the project and come back to the Board for final approval (see the comments on Preparation for the Final Eagle Board of Review), you do **NOT** have to meet with the same Board. In fact, the Chair of the Boards for the night you request will likely assign others to your final Board meeting.

Members of the Board of Review are adult volunteers in our New Horizons District. They have been trained to conduct these Board of Reviews. Each Board consists of three adults, one of whom is the Chair.

Read the Life to Eagle Instructions

The Greater St. Louis Area Eagle Scout Association has prepared an excellent packet of materials to help you become an Eagle Scout. You received this packet when you became a Life Scout. Read through this material and become

familiar with it. In particular, study the Life to Eagle instructions for the **Eagle Project**. If you follow these instructions, you can't go wrong.

Guideline for a Successful Approval of Your Project

If one could create a single guideline that will help you gain approval of your project, it would be this: Write your project plan using the approved booklet so that if you were absent, another Scout could read the plan and implement it.

This means the plan has a lot of detail. For example, when you say the plan calls for screws, you need to specify how many, what kind, what size. When the plan calls for screwdrivers, you need to specify it that means a flat-head or a Phillips head screwdriver.

Look at Other Project Plans That Were Approved

Barry Bingham, Assistant Scoutmaster, Life to Eagle, has several examples of approved plans. These can serve as a model of what is needed, how much detail is required, and the format of the project writeup.

Include Pictures Before the Project is Done If Possible

Pictures tell a thousand words. If you are building something, show detailed drawings and plans. You don't have to use sophisticated equipment to draw these plans. Hand drawn plans by you are best. If you are doing a project like Alex Gavenda did for the Pond Athletic Fields where he installed rocked walkways and landscaping, show the board what it looks like before you begin the project. Use drawings to show what it will look like after the project is complete.