



# LASALLE COUNCIL – ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE



## Eagle Scout Board of Review Guidelines

The Boy Scouts of America National Court of Honor has placed the responsibility for deciding the method that will be used for the Eagle Scout Board of Review in the hands of the local Council. They have also laid down the following guidelines to be followed:

- A) The Board of Review for an Eagle candidate is comprised of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) members. Unit leaders, assistant unit leaders (i.e., Scoutmaster, Varsity Coach, or Venture Advisor), relatives, or guardians **may not serve** as members of a Scout's Eagle Board of Review.
- B) Because of the importance of the Eagle Award, the members of the review board must agree **unanimously** to recommend the applicant. If a unanimous decision is not reached, a new review may be convened at the request of the Scout, unit leader, or unit committee. The decision of the Eagle Scout Board of Review may be appealed. Please contact the Council Office for more specific details on appealing the result of the Eagle Scout Board of Review.
- C) If the appropriate Eagle Scout Board of Review does not recommend the applicant for the Eagle Award, its decision may be appealed to the next higher level (Council, then National). With all Eagle Award applications, the final decision rests with the National Eagle Scout Committee.
- D) Upon receipt of an appeal by an interested party, the district or council committee responsible for advancement shall promptly provide for a review to determine the facts. All parties are to be interviewed. This may be done collectively or individually, but a confrontation should be avoided. A written report with all the details shall be prepared for the committee responsible for a decision or for forwarding to the National Eagle Scout Committee, if necessary.

Those matters that are the responsibility of the Council Advancement Committee have been reviewed, and the LaSalle Council Guidelines on these matters are as follows:

- 1) Each District shall appoint from their Advancement Committee an individual to serve as the District Eagle Board of Review Chair.
- 2) A properly filled out Eagle Scout Rank Application, Eagle Scout Project Workbook, and certification of completion of project form is forwarded by the candidate and/or unit representative to the Council Service Center for verification of records. Personal reference letters (as listed on the Eagle Scout Rank Application) **must be mailed** to the Council Service Center (via the pre-addressed envelopes provided in the Life to Eagle packet).
- 3) The Eagle Board of Review Chair shall convene a Board of Review within six (6) weeks of receiving an application from the Council Scout Service Center.

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- 4) The Eagle Scout Board of Review is a district level board, with the option of a unit committee member participation. Presence of a unit committee member is two-fold: 1) to place the youth at ease and, 2) to hear suggestions that the Scout may have regarding their unit program. The District Board of Review Chair is intended to reduce the variability of “standards,” due to the lack of experience from the relatively infrequent need to meet. This is also recommended to maintain impartiality by separating the review from the strong personal relationships that develop with a unit and the unit committee. Lastly, in the occasional case of reviewing marginally qualified or unqualified candidates, the review process is most difficult for even experienced people and should be handled by a Board consisting primarily of people outside the unit.
- 5) The Scoutmaster may introduce the candidate to the Board of Review, but **may not** be present in the review, except that he may be called in to clarify a point.
- 6) As with all Scouting functions and ceremonies, parents may not be excluded from observing, **but are strongly discouraged to do so** as the Scout should be able to conduct himself appropriately and without assistance. If present, they **must remain silent** (generally out of the view of the Eagle Scout candidate), have no vote (not a member of the review board), may provide information only when directed for clarification. If observer(s) become disruptive, they will be asked to leave and/or the Board of Review will be terminated without resolution of rank.
- 7) The Board of Review should not spend a lot of time reviewing the specifics of the award, but should determine the fitness of the candidate to represent the spirit and ideals of Scouting. The award should be for merit, not for potential merit. The Board of Review Chair should seek clarification regarding questions concerning the Eagle Scout Rank Application prior to the review, if at all possible. The Board of Review’s recommendation must be unanimous.
- 8) The Board of Review should conclude the review by inspiring the candidate as he faces the future.
- 9) The Board of Review Chair has the responsibility to advise unsuccessful applicants of the reason for failure and, if possible, give recommendations for remedial action. A letter stating the reason(s) for failure and recommendation(s) should be sent out within two (2) weeks of the Eagle Scout Board of Review. He must also advise the applicant of the appeal procedure, if the candidate should elect to pursue it. The District Board of Review Chair must, in writing, forward reasons the Eagle candidate was rejected, including a copy of the recommendation letter, within **thirty (30) days** to the Council Advancement Chair.
- 10) All matters of dispute relating to the Eagle Board of Review may be appealed to the Council Advancement Committee by the submission of a written request setting forth details of the dispute within **sixty (60) days** of the District Board of Review. It shall be the responsibility of the Council Advancement Committee Chair to initiate the necessary actions to investigate the dispute within **six (6) weeks** of receiving the request.