

ADVANCEMENT INFORMATION FOR SUMMER CAMP LEADERS 2022

Firstly, thank you all for taking your time to lead Scouts on these trips. I am sure everyone is looking forward to being outdoors and having some fun! I wanted to send you guys some information pertaining to advancement records for your trips. For those of you taking boys to MB camps, this is especially important, but this is relevant for ANY scouts wishing to work on MB on trips. Scoutbook makes some things easier, and some things harder. I am trying to make this as seamless as possible for all of us.

1. Leaders – all summer camp adults should complete ASM training, including YPT. Once you have completed your training, please contact me and I will give you your leader kit and order your name tag.
2. Merit Badge Blue Cards - not all camps use blue cards, and those that do may require you to bring your OWN blue cards (just let me know, I have these). **Please ask your camp how they handle MB record keeping.** Some camps will provide electronic records for you to bring back. These are fine. If you have any questions, please just let me know. **Please do not subscribe to the ‘ask forgiveness later’ model.**
3. Initial unit leader signatures - Scouts should ask their PASM for initial leader signatures. These should be logged by the PASM in Scoutbook. These must be obtained BEFORE they start/leave for camp.
4. Scouts are responsible for determining whether the MB they wish to begin is a COMPLETE or a PARTIAL. They should have this information BEFORE they come to you asking for approval. This is generally available on the camp website as well as within the camp literature provided to families.
 - a. If the MB is a COMPLETE, the Scout does not need to do anything further.
 - b. If the MB is a PARTIAL (not all reqs covered during the camp program OR has any announced pre/post-reqs), the Scout MUST find a T55 MBC willing to help them begin/finish BEFORE they attend camp. Please keep a record of who they choose as MBC to help them with the partial and let me know. I can then go in and link the scout to the MBC within Scoutbook so that it is easier for everyone when they want to start/get back and need to finish up.
 - c. If a Scout does not complete all items expected, he will need to complete them when he gets back. All items must be completed, as written, in order for a Scout to earn the MB.

5. MB work - Scouts will work on MB reqs during camp. If Scouts need to change MB during camp for any reason, just let me know. It happens - bad weather, illness, MBC no-shows, etc.
6. Second unit leader signatures - as Camp ASMs, you are required to meet with each scout BEFORE you leave the camp property to make sure the records you have match what the Scout thinks he has completed and resolve any issues at that time. If the MB is COMPLETE, you may have the second signature conversation while you are standing there and indicate as such as in your records. **If the MB is a PARTIAL, please make sure the records you have from the camp are a clear and accurate reflection of the work completed. Some camps will also indicate which requirements are missing.**
7. Final report - when you get back, you will need to drop off your ORGANIZED collection of paperwork and any electronic records/spreadsheets for processing. Please try to deliver as soon as you can upon your return. It is a lot easier for me and for the camps to resolve any issues when things are fresh then after weeks have gone by...
8. So, what should you send me now?
 - a. Dates/location of your trip
 - b. Name(s) of trip leader(s)
 - c. Name and contact information of the leader assigned to track advancement for your camp
 - d. Names AND patrols of the Scouts attending
 - e. Which MB(s) each Scout intends to work on, along with whether each MB is intended to be COMPLETE or PARTIAL
 - f. Name of MBC Scout has contacted to assist in completing each PARTIAL.
 - g. Whether Scout has initial leader signatures for all MB requested logged in Scoutbook – if you can't see this, just ask me to check for you. I am happy to do so once you have a complete list.
9. Once I have the camp leader information, I will send the designated advancement tracker a sample spreadsheet. I added dropdowns for the patrol name and C/P (complete vs partial) columns to make your life a little easier.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about any of this, or how I can help you prepare for your trip, advancement-wise.

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