



Eagle Coach/Mentor Orientation

"An invaluable step in character training is to put responsibility on the individual." **Lord Baden-Powell**

Council Advancement Committee
Daniel Webster Council
May 2022



The Eagle Rank

Along the Eagle Trail and throughout life, the rewards from earning the Eagle Scout Award will be great. Fewer than 6 percent of all Scouts earn the Eagle rank - a testament to it's high standards.

The Boy Scout Handbook, 11th ed.

There are ways to help an Eagle Candidate along the Eagle Trail but let the chosen path be the Scout's own.



Today's Topics

- What is an Eagle Coach
- Where does an Eagle Coach fit in the process
- What is an Eagle Coach's biggest mistake
- Qualifications of an Eagle Coach
- What is an Eagle Board Liaison
- The Eagle Service Project Workbook
- Fundraising rules
- The Board of Review



What is an Eagle Coach?



The Eagle Coach/Mentor is:

- An adult who advises & counsels an Eagle Candidate through the overall process including developing & executing the Eagle Service Project.
- One who is familiar with and can effectively communicate with the Unit Leader.
- An important role but is not an official BSA leadership position.

The Eagle Coach/Mentor guides the Scout.



The Eagle Coach/Mentor Role



The Eagle Coach/Mentor assists the Eagle Candidate by:

- Demystifying the Life-to-Eagle Trail process;
- Providing information, advice, motivation and guidance;
- Describing how the process 'pieces of the puzzle' fit together;
- Recognizing & identifying project barriers and providing the Eagle Candidate with solutions, when asked;
- Communicating the importance of:
 - goal setting and establishing reasonable timelines;
 - developing a detailed Eagle Project plan;
 - utilizing multiple types of leadership during the project;
- Ensuring the Eagle Service Project is BSA-compliant and of value to the organization and/or the community.

The Eagle Coach/Mentor serves best by advising, coaching and mentoring.



Where Does the Eagle Coach Fit in the Process?



The Eagle Coach/Mentor is involved with:

- Eagle Project consideration & selection;
- Project proposal development;
- Detailed planning development;
- Reviewing money earning & funding requirements;
- Project performance to completion;
- Eagle Board of Review.

(Always remember to follow YPT rules)

The Eagle Candidate is solely responsible for the Service Project.



The Greatest Error of the Eagle Coach/Mentor-"Takeover"



- A "Takeover" occurs when the Scout struggles, stumbles or stops working. The Eagle Coach/Mentor needs to encourage the Scout to continue yet avoid assuming project control.
- Treat such moments as events which offer the opportunity for the Eagle Candidate's personal growth and to increase personal leadership abilities.
- The Eagle Coach/Mentor should motivate & guide by the use of open-ended questions and suggestions.
- Remember, seizing control deprives the Eagle Candidate of the single greatest Eagle Service Project experience:

A critical lesson in leadership!!!

Provide leadership training, not leadership itself!



Qualifications of An Eagle Coach



To be an Eagle Coach/Mentor an individual must:

- Be registered with the DWC as an adult Scouter;
- Have an interest in working with a Life Scout to guide through the overall process;
- Be available to devote the necessary time to regularly meet and communicate with the Scout;
- Possess a valid & current BSA *Youth Protection Certification*;
- Be very familiar with:
 - Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook;
 - Policies and personnel of the applicable district Eagle Board of Review.
- Review & understand the Eagle Coach function described in the *Guide to Advancement #9.0.2.9* .

A parent of the Eagle Candidate SHOULD NOT be their Eagle Coach/Mentor.



The Eagle Coach/Mentor

- Should Not be a representative of the local Eagle Board. The Eagle Coach/Mentor has no authority to alter arrangements or agreements made between the Scout & the Eagle Board.
- Does not grant any kind of permission for project deviations or modifications.
- Understands the Scout makes all the major decisions & is solely and completely responsible for the management of the entire Eagle Service Project!



Eagle Board Liaison

- The Liaison is a member of the Eagle Board assigned to interface with the Scout during the project. Some districts have this role, others do not. If a Liaison is not assigned, the Eagle Board Chair takes on this role.
- The Liaison approves minor project changes which may include changing a paint color or details of a fundraising flyer. However, major changes, like amending or removing a part of the project likely will require approval by all members of the Eagle Project Review Committee.
- When a substantial problem occurs which can't be easily resolved, the Scout should first try to solve it. If unable to, the Scout needs to contact the district *Eagle Board Liaison* or the *Eagle Board Chairman*.



An Effective Eagle Coach/Mentor is knowledgeable



Please obtain, read, and understand the contents of:

- *The Council letter; Life-to-Eagle instructions; and Eagle Scout Application.*
- *The current Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, (BSA #2021C - 2/5/2021), which includes:*
 - Project Proposal & Service Project Plan;
 - Project Fundraising Application;
 - Project Final Report.
- *The Guide to Safe Scouting, (BSA document #34416).*
- *The Guide to Advancement, (BSA document #33088).*

Documents are available on-line at www.nhscouting.org.



The Service Project Workbook

The Eagle Service Project Workbook details the project phases:

- **Project Selection:**

- What constitutes an Eagle Service Project;
- Any restrictions, permits or governmental approvals;

- **Project Proposal: (Eagle Board approval required):**

- States how the project meets the requirements for an Eagle project;
- Indicates how the project is both feasible and realistic;
- Presents any potential safety issues and how such matters are to be treated;
- Presents key steps to help ensure a successful project.

- **Project Plan:**

- Contains detailed steps; work processes; material lists; funding; expenses; project planning; & one-page summary form;

The Project Plan provides the structure for constructing the detailed planning essential for project success and leadership development.

- **Project Fundraising Application: (Eagle Board approval required)**

- The Eagle Board require this form to be filled out and approved by the Board. Note: once collected, all money raised must be turned over to the beneficiary or the Unit until it is needed for the project!!!! Guide to Advancement - #9.0.2.10

- **Project Final Report:**

- Prepared after the Eagle Service Project is completed & summarizes how the project proceeded; any approved changes; staffing numbers; and leadership demonstration.



Fundraising Rule

- Consistent with the CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA (June 2019, page 19), which states: "Youth members shall not be permitted to serve as solicitors of money for chartered organizations, for the local council, for the National Council, for corporate sponsors, or in support of other organizations," District Eagle Boards shall not approve Eagle projects that utilize systems or platforms, electronic or otherwise, that are to be used for the purposes of **soliciting** money.



Project Fundraiser Flyer: Unacceptable!



Please donate to Scout John Doe's car wash to benefit Nashua Children's Home Renovation.





Proper Fundraising Flyer



Car Wash tickets for sale to benefit the Nashua Children's Home Renovation



*Eagle Project fundraiser for Scout John Doe, Troop 99.
Material and supply donations welcome!*



Eagle Coach/Mentor & the District Eagle Board



The Eagle Coach/Mentor should be present at the Eagle Candidate's meetings with the district Eagle Board involving both the:

- Eagle Service Project Proposal;
- Final Eagle Board of Review.

The Eagle Candidate does all presentations. After introductions, the Eagle Coach/Mentor remains silent unless requested to contribute by the Eagle Board of Review members.

The Eagle Coach/Mentor is a resource for the Eagle Candidate to understand communications between the Eagle Board Liaison & the Eagle Board.



Eagle Coach/Mentor- Final Board of Review Preparation



Review with the Eagle Candidate:

- Completion of the Eagle Scout Application Form. Ensure the form is NEAT and all detailed information is accurate. BE SURE all the appropriate signatures are included!
- Make sure the Eagle Candidate's Statement of Life Purpose document is attached. This is part of Requirement #6.
- Confirm the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook Report is completed in detail with electronic or printed pictures and diagrams.
- Suggest he/she fill out the Eagle Service Project Summary Form.

These are all downloadable at: <https://nhscouting.org/advancement/life-to-eagle/life-to-eagle-forms/>



Eagle Coach/Mentor- Eagle Board of Review Preparation



Regarding the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook:

The completed workbook is presented to the Eagle Board. Some Eagle Boards prefer that it be sent to them prior to the meeting, usually electronically. Some Boards prefer that it be brought to the meeting with sufficient copies for each board member. The Eagle Board Chair should communicate this preference to the Scout when the final Board of Review is scheduled.



Questions???



Thank You!



Thank you for playing a key role in helping our Scouts along the trail to Eagle Scout - building young men and women of strong moral character and strong leadership abilities.



Message by Lord Baden-Powell

"A Scout is encouraged to educate himself instead of being instructed."

