



A successful troop is “Boy Run”. Troop 921 is a “Boy Run” troop in accordance with the principles of the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America. The Troop Officers, collectively known as the Leadership Corps, therefore provide the leadership for the Troop. A core group of these officers make up the membership of a planning committee known as the Patrol Leader’s Council (PLC). The PLC is the primary group responsible for the organization, planning and carrying out of troop activities as well as providing the initial layer of discipline for the Troop with guidance from the adult leaders. The offices of the troop are considered positions of service, not power or prestige.

An important step in this process is the Patrol Elections. It is during the elections the scouts will choose who will represent and lead them for the upcoming year as members of the Leadership Corp. The highest leadership position in the troop is the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL). SPL’s are elected to office for 1 year, unless they receive a majority vote of no confidence from all active scouts on the roster. In this case an election for a new SPL will be held. Scouts will also choose who will lead their individual patrols as Patrol Leaders (PL). PL’s are elected to office for 6 months, unless they receive a majority vote of no confidence from all active scouts on the roster in their patrol. In this case an election for a new PL will be held. If a new SPL or PL is elected he will serve the remainder of the term. The remainder of the Leadership Corp will also maintain their positions until the term is over.

Scouts need to understand this is not a popular vote. They need to choose who will be leading them, representing them, choosing their activities, and in general being responsible for the Troop’s actions. The SPL and PL will also choose their members of their leadership corp. In the table below is a list of who is assigned by each leadership position. All scouts must fill out an application form for any position listed below.

Troop Positions

Elected Positions	Positions assigned by SPL	Positions assigned by PL	Positions assigned by SM
Senior Patrol Leader *	Assistant SPL*	Assistant Patrol Leaders	Troop Guide
Patrol Leaders *	Troop Quartermaster *	Patrol Quartermaster	Order of the Arrow Rep
	Troop Scribe *	Patrol Scribe	Instructor
	Troop Chaplain Aide	Patrol Chaplain Aide	Den Chief
	Troop Librarian		Troop Bugler
	Troop Historian		

* See section on Attendance

Election Night:

Elections are held during regular troop meetings and are announced well in advance. Elections in Troop 921 are the last Tuesday in August and the last Tuesday in February. Two adult leaders, either committee members or Scoutmasters, oversee the process. First the whole troop votes for the SPL. Then each patrol holds a patrol meeting to elect their respective PL. Following this the remainder of the positions are filled starting with the Troop level positions. Scouts may hold only one position. Based on the number of scouts in the troop not all position may be filled.

Attendance:

Junior Leadership Training Attendance - The Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Scribe, Troop Quartermaster and all Patrol Leaders are required to attend Junior Leadership Training to properly learn how to perform their duties. All other positions will receive on the job training as needed. Junior Leadership training consists an 8 hour day where the new officers will learn the proper way to conduct their position. They will also begin planning the troop calendar for the next 6 months. Additional details will be provided after all members of the Leadership Corp are elected and/or appointed.

PLC (Patrol Leader Council) Meeting Attendance - The Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Scribe, Troop Quartermaster and all Patrol Leaders attend this monthly meeting held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00. All other officers need not be present at the PLC, but will submit a monthly report, prior to the PLC meeting, to the ASPL, who will in turn, incorporate those notes into his PLC report. Each leader is required to attend 4 of 6 monthly PLC meetings to obtain credit for the position. If a Leadership Corp officer can not



attend they should have their assistant attend in their place. If the Leadership Corp is informed 1 week ahead of time on the absence AND the assistant attends for them the absence will be considered excused.

Any leader missing more than 3 unexcused leader meetings will be removed from the leadership position. A new leader will be elected or selected by the Scouts. If a leader is removed from a leadership position he is allowed to appeal the decision. This appeal will be made in person to a committee consisting of one Scout from each patrol and two adults. The committee will decide if the Scout is allowed to continue as a leader or run for a position at the next election.

The PLC is advised by the ASM(s) and the Scoutmaster. In general, major activities requiring travel or money expenditure need to be cleared with the (adult) Troop Committee.

Weekly Meeting and Campout Attendance - Leaders are expected to attend 75% of the weekly meetings and 75% of the campouts. This is 3 meetings/month and 4 campouts in six months. It is not possible to be an effective leader when you are not in attendance.

Campaigning:

Before an election, each candidate gives a brief presentation outlining his experience and qualifications for the job. This is his chance to introduce himself to Scouts in the troop that may not know him very well. He may also outline any initiatives he wants to champion, such as new activities or program ideas. Campaign presentations should be positive, explaining why he would do a good job in the position. He should not compare himself to any previous leader. Comparisons almost always end up as criticisms. "Negative" campaigning is not in keeping with the Scout Law and is inappropriate at any time.

It is also inappropriate to trade votes, offer favors for votes, or campaign at any other time. Scouts should present themselves well on election night and then respect the will of the majority. There will always be a new election. In the meantime, there are other leadership positions in the troop where they have a chance to demonstrate through actions, not words, that they would be a good elected leader.

Scouts who have questions, concerns, or want advice about running for office should ask the Scoutmaster for a brief conference. The Scoutmaster is always happy to talk with them about the qualifications and duties of each leadership position and to help them prepare a presentation for election night.

Election Process – on Election night:

All Candidates: Class A Uniform and a prepared written speech or notes. If the scout is not in his Class A uniform, or does not show up with a prepared speech he may not run for office that evening. In the event that a boy is unable to be present at the elections (required school activity, required sporting activity), he may, in some cases, still be eligible to run for an office, but he must (1) get prior approval from the Leadership Corps and (2) turn in a speech to either the Scoutmaster or Leadership Corps prior to the beginning of the meeting. He will also miss the question and answer section of the election which could be the deciding factor in the election. In the event of an unforeseeable emergency (death in the family, medical emergency, personal or family illness) elections can be postponed, IF and only IF the scoutmaster is contacted prior to the start of the Troop meeting.

Senior Patrol Leader Election:

- The Scoutmaster or another adult leader gives a brief speech about the Senior Patrol Leader job description and how it is important to vote for whom you think will do the best job of leading the troop.
- Each candidate gives a brief presentation to the troop outlining his experience & qualifications for the job. (see campaigning section above)
- After the presentations, the rest of the troop may ask and are encouraged to questions the candidates.
- Every Scout present casts a secret ballot for the candidate of their choice.



- The votes are opened and counted by two adult leaders, if possible by leaders who do not have a son running in the election.
- If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a runoff is held between the two with the most votes.
- If the runoff is a tie, the winner is secret vote by all present registered adult leaders.
- An adult leader announces the winner.
- The SPL will appoint the ASPL.

Patrol Leader Election:

- After the Senior Patrol Leader election each patrol elects their Patrol Leader.
- The Scoutmaster or another adult leader gives a brief speech about the Patrol Leader job description and how it is important to vote for whom you think will do the best job of leading the patrol.
- The patrols break out to patrol corners so each patrol can hold their election at the same time.
- Each candidate gives a brief presentation about why he would be a good Patrol Leader. (see campaigning section above)
- Patrol members may ask and are encouraged to question the candidates.
- Every patrol member present casts a secret ballot for the candidate of his choice.
- The votes are opened and counted by the SPL and ASPL with an adult leader watching.
- If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a runoff is held between the two with the most votes.
- If the runoff is a tie, the winner is secret vote by all present registered adult leaders, SPL and ASPL.
- The new Senior Patrol Leader announces the winners.

Leadership Corp appointments:

- After the Patrol Leader election the SPL will have the opportunity to review the applications for the leadership corp positions. He will be given 1 week to review applications and ask questions of the candidates.
- The patrol leader will then have the opportunity to appoint his leadership corp positions.

Leadership Corp appointments:

- After the Patrol Leader election the SPL will have the opportunity to review the applications for the Leadership Corp positions. He will be given 1 week to review applications and ask questions of the candidates.

Job Descriptions:

Available upon request from the Scoutmaster. Scouts need to make sure they know what they are applying for and are required to ask for job descriptions prior to applying. They are available in Adobe Reader format and can be emailed. Scouts must meet the requirements for the position prior to applying. Exceptions on the requirements will be based solely on the Leadership Corps decision with the input of the SM.

Rank Requirements:

As the scouts progress in rank they will find they need to complete some type of leadership position. They should look forward to the future and apply for a position now to begin to gain experience. The following ranks have requirements for leadership Star, Life, and Eagle.





Troop 921 Leadership Position Application

Each Scout in Troop 921 who wishes to run for elected office or be appointed to any leadership position is required to submit this application to the Troop Scribe or Scoutmaster at least 2 weeks prior to the election or week of appointed position selections. The scout shall be responsible for providing all information, which is subject to verification. Each application will be reviewed by the Leadership Corps and a determination shall be made if a scout is eligible for the requested leadership position(s) based on requirements for training, experience, attendance, and active participation in troop events in addition to overall adherence to the Scout Law and Oath and demonstration of Scout Spirit.

Name:	Age:
Current Rank:	Current Patrol:
Current Leadership Position(s):	
Previous Leadership Position(s) (List position and date):	
Leadership and Other Training Courses Attended (Course and Date):	
Recent Fundraising Participation:	
Number of night camped during the past year:	

Top Choice(s) for leadership positions in order of preference (#1 is most preferred):

1st Choice:	2nd Choice:	3rd Choice:
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For your first choice, use this space to tell why you want this job, how you would do the job, and why you are the best choice for this position. You may use an additional attachment if needed. **Write neatly.**

Reminder: **Troop Leadership Training is required for all leadership positions and you must attend the announced training session to receive credit for service.**

Scout's Agreement:

I have obtained, read and understand the job descriptions for these positions. I understand the duties and responsibilities and if selected will carry them out to the best of my ability.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Support Agreement:

I agree with the commitment my son is making. I promise to support him in attending training, troop meetings, and troop activities as well as with encouragement at home. I realize that once selected his presence is necessary for the smooth functioning of the troop.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Received by (Troop Scribe/Leader initials): _____ Date: _____