

Boy Scout Rank Changes effective in 2016

Summary of Changes by Rank For
Boy Scouts to be phased in starting
January 1, 2016



Overview

Lower and All Ranks Have More

Physical Fitness

Safety

Service

Writing

Environmental Recognition

Considerable shuffling in lower Ranks

New Concepts in Rank Requirements

Duty to God

Electronics



Transitioning to the 2016 Boy Scout Requirements

BSA National has release an advanced copy of the 2016 Boy Scout advancement requirements. A comparison of current to new requirements starts on page three. The new requirements become effective January 1st, 2016. This information is released so unit leaders have adequate time to plan their Scouts' transition. Timing for the release and implementation of the new requirements will be as follows:

- **May 2015** New Boy Scout requirements released (at National Annual Meeting)
- **Summer 2015** New requirements will be reviewed in detail in Philmont Training Center conferences (schedule TBA)
- **Fall 2015** New requirement information shared via *Advancement News*, roundtables, and DAC advancement newsletters
- **January 1, 2016** New requirements become effective 2016 *Boy Scout Handbook* #34554 released
- **January 2016** *2016 Boy Scout Requirements* # 616334 book released (Units should purchase a copy each January)

Beginning work in the new requirements will be determined by the Scout's joining date or current rank as of January 1, 2016 as follows:

For 2016:

Boys joining on or after Jan. 1, 2016 MUST use the new requirements.

Boys who have joined prior to Jan. 1, 2016:

Who are working on the Scout badge MAY continue to work on the existing requirements, but MUST convert to the new requirements upon completion of the Scout badge.

Who are working on Tenderfoot through First Class MAY continue to work on the existing requirements, but MUST convert to the new requirements upon attaining First Class.

Who have completed First Class MAY complete the rank they are currently working on in the existing requirements, but then MUST convert to the new requirements for subsequent ranks.

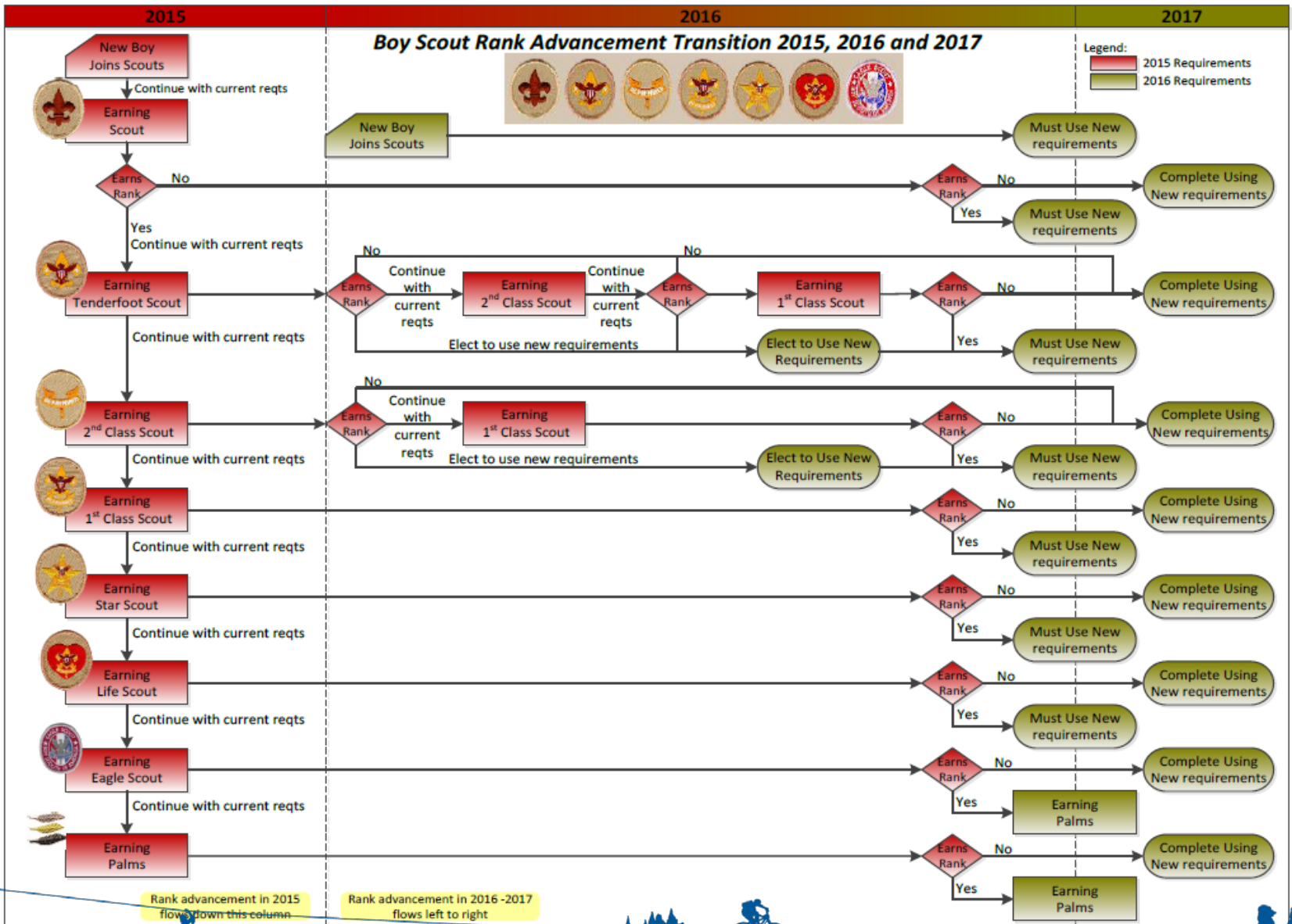
For 2017:

All Scouts MUST use the new requirements regardless of rank.

Transition paths for each rank are shown on the flow diagram below. It is important to monitor each Scouts rank progress and to strongly encourage them to complete any current rank requirements before January 1, 2017. Scouts who fail to advance will need to satisfy all of the new ranks requirements. This will require some rework and additional requirements to be met.

Note: Once Scouts transition to the **new** hand book it is important to communicate to the Scouts and their parents that the **current** handbook (rank requirement section starting at page 432) must be saved to document advancement of lower ranks. Scouts who seek the rank of Eagle Scout will need to produce signed evidence that each rank requirement has been met.

See *Guide to Advancement* <http://www.scouting.org/Home/GuideToAdvancement.aspx>.



Transition Summary

New Scouts use new requirements

Current Scouts have “category” transition

Tenderfoot to First Class as a category

All other ranks as a single category

(starting as Scout, First Class, Star, Life, Eagle)

Mixing old & new is not allowed

Everyone uses January 1, 2017



Requirement Summary

Following slides are main changes only

All other requirements have minor wording or clarification changes in wording

Suggest photocopying and pasting new requirements into current Scout handbooks for transition as appropriate. New Scouts do NOT buy current handbook.



Scout Rank

Don't buy 2015 Scout Handbook

- a. Explain Scout Spirit
- b. Repeat & explain Outdoor Code
- c. After joining & attending one Scout Troop meeting
 - Describe Troop leadership
 - Describe 4 steps in Boy Scout advancement
 - Describe boy Scout Ranks and how they are earned
 - Describe Merit Badges and how they are earned
- d. Explain Patrol Method and types of Patrols
- e. State Patrol name, flag, etc (was Tf)
- f. Tie two half-hitches, taught-line hitch (was Tf)
- g. Show how to whip & fuse rope (was Tf)
- h. Demonstrate pocketknife safety (This is NOT Toten' Chip)

Tenderfoot Rank

- a. Explain Outdoor Code and how they practiced them on a camping trip
- b. Demonstrate on a trip safety cleaning for cooking
- c. Earn Totem' Chip (was 2ndC)
- d. Explain prevention/reduction of camping injuries
- e. Make a personal first-aid kit (was 2ndC)
- f. Changed personal fitness requirements
- g. Make written plan for fitness improvement
- h. Track plan of fitness activity for 30 days (weekly record)
- i. Participate in 1 hour of Troop approved service
- j. Scout Spirit includes explaining duty to God
- k. Scout Spirit includes living 4 points of Scout law



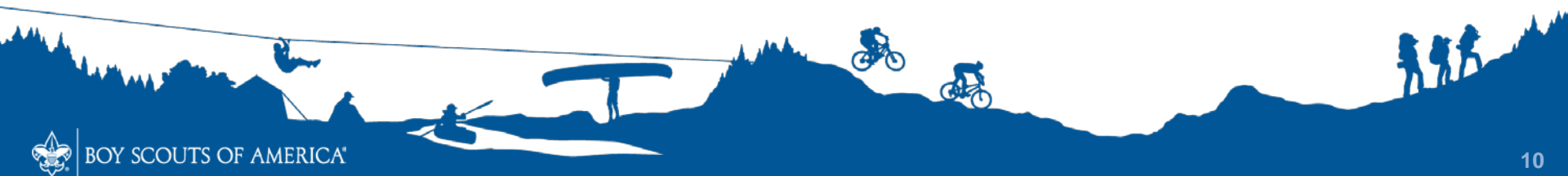
Second Class Rank p1

- a. Go on 5 activities, **3** of which include camping (no cabin camping)
- b. Demonstrate LNT on a camping trip (was 1stC)
- c. Demonstrate sheet bend knot, when to use it
- d. Demonstrate bowline knot (was 1stC)
- e. Describe of hiking injuries/hazards
- f. Explain prevention/reduction of hiking injuries
- g. Demonstrate day/night directions without compass (was 1stC)
- h. Explain what to do for emergency response in home & *backcountry (forecountry)*
- i. Track plan of fitness activity for another 30 days (weekly record)
- j. Develop written plan for including physical activity in daily life



Second Class Rank p2

- k. Develop written plan to earn specific amount of money
- l. Cost an item in at least 3 locations, change if desired, by the item
- m. Participate in 1 hour of Troop approved service
- n. Describe bullying & proper responses (was Tf)
- o. Scout Spirit includes explaining duty to God
- p. Scout Spirit includes living 4 points of Scout law (different points from Tenderfoot)



First Class Rank p1

- a. Go on 10 activities, **6** of which include camping (no cabin camping)
- b. Demonstrate Tread Lightly on a camping trip
- c. Demonstrate on a trip how to use a GPS or smartphone GPS on a 1-mile course (still use compass on course, can be concurrent)
- d. Identify ways to obtain weather forecasting for activities
- e. Describe 3+ indicators of impending hazardous weather
- f. Describe extreme weather conditions & risks and how to avoid
- g. Identify parts of a canoe, kayak, or a boat and paddle/oars
- h. Describe safe positioning in water craft
- i. Describe utility (gas, electric, sewer, water) service in home or meeting place and hazards, and how to respond in emergency
- j. Develop emergency action plan for home
- k. Explain how to obtain potable water in emergency



First Class Rank

p2

- l. Track plan of fitness activity for another 30 days (weekly record)
- m. Explain challenges in fitness activity and develop written plan for including physical activity in daily life
- n. Investigate an environmental issue in community. Explain what can be done by Scout.
- o. On a Scouting or family outing, log all trash. Before next similar outing, develop a plan to reduce/recycle waste.
- p. Participate in 3 hour of Troop approved service
- q. Scout Spirit includes explaining duty to God
- r. Scout Spirit includes living 4 points of Scout law (different points from Tenderfoot & Second Class)



Tread Lightly

Travel responsibly

Respect the rights of others

Educate yourself

Avoid sensitive areas

Do your part



Star Rank

- a. Earn the CyberChip award
- b. *Same- Leadership & Merit Badge requirements*
- c. *Same- Participate in 6 hour of Troop approved service*
- d. Scout Spirit includes explaining duty to God



Life Rank

- a. *Same- Leadership & Merit Badge requirements*
- b. Participate in 6 hour of Troop approved service, at least **3** hours must be conservation related
- c. Scout Spirit includes explaining duty to God
- d. EDGE training to other Scouts has different item selections



Eagle Rank

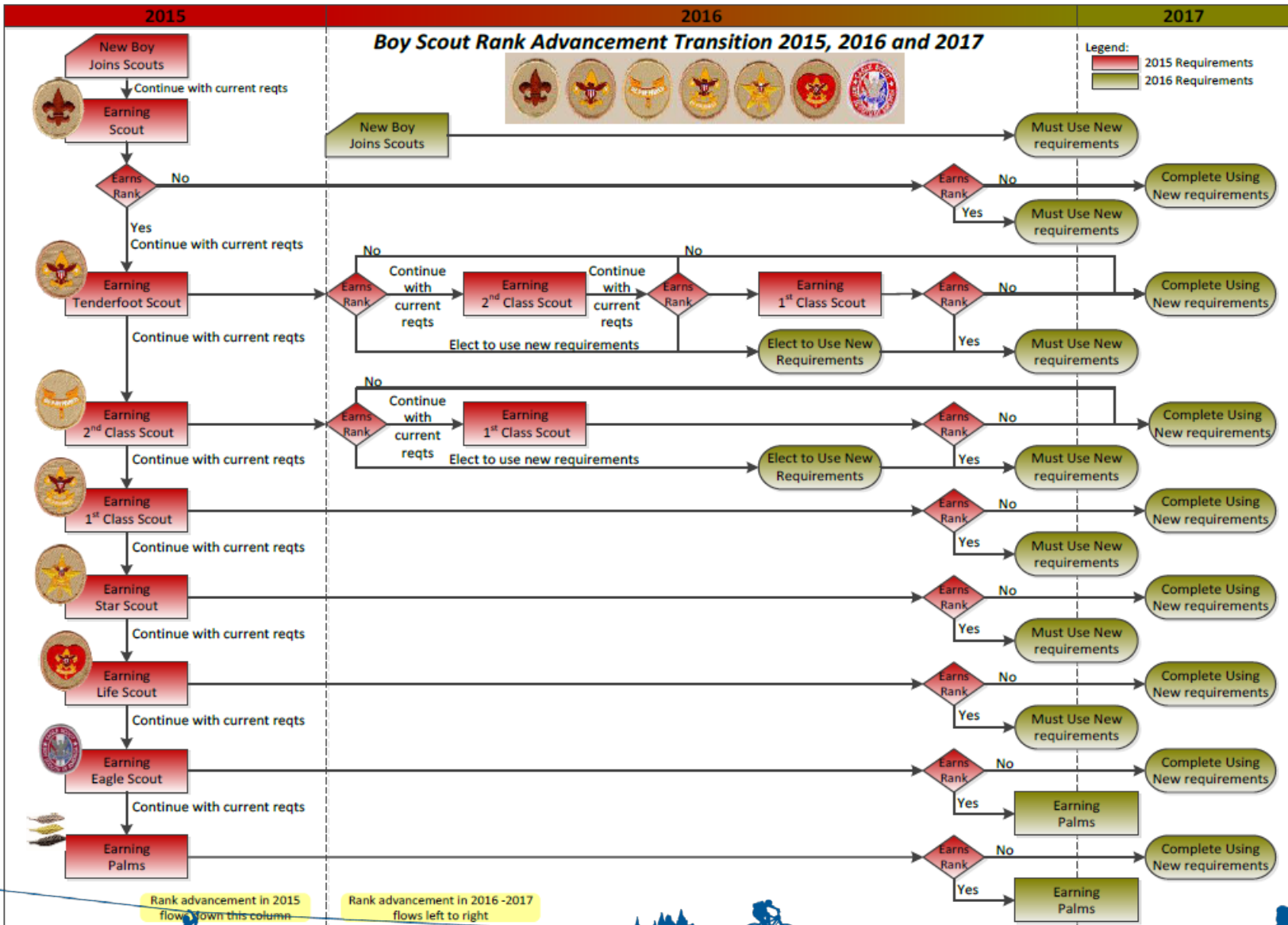
- a. *Same- Leadership & Merit Badge requirements*
- b. *Same- Project requirements, etc*
- c. Scout Spirit includes explaining duty to God (effectively in current requirements now)



Eagle Palm Rank

- a. *Same- Leadership & Merit Badge requirements*
- b. Scout Spirit includes explaining duty to God





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