

The Dulaney District Cub Advancement Committee News

8 August 2019

Most of the following items are excerpted from the March-August 2019 National Advancement News:

1. Youth from Other Countries:

In this day and age of a broader international community, more frequent global travel, and multi-national job reassignments to include military and other government-related personnel movements, it is not uncommon to have Scouts from another country joining a new or transferring into a BSA unit. In the case of Scouts who have earned rank advancements in another country's Scouting program and wish to have them credited into an equivalent BSA rank, BSA has established rules and requirements to be followed, which can be found in [Guide To Advancement 2019 topic 5.0.4.0 \(Youth from Other Countries\)](#).

This section provides guidance as to which youth are involved, registration procedures, and other specific details for determining the equivalency and/or applicability of requirements for determination of a BSA rank. For example, the procedures laid out in the topic apply to all ranks except Eagle Scout, which is not considered equivalent to any other Scouting association's rank.

Most importantly, the [GTA](#) also discusses the roles, responsibilities, and limits of a council's, district's, and receiving unit's advancement committees concerning these Scouts. Therefore, while BSA units can and should welcome youths from other countries who temporarily reside in the United States or have moved here, it is vital that everyone involved in these Scouts' advancement opportunities be familiar with the procedures discussed in topic 5.0.4.0. Of special note is that these procedures also apply to members of the BSA who, while living abroad, have earned advancement in another Scouting association.

2. Scoutbook:

a. Online Tool for Managing Advancement for all units:

As of January 1, 2019 Scoutbook, the Boy Scouts of America online tool for managing and tracking Scouting advancements is **Free**. What does this mean for your unit? Units will no longer need to utilize Internet Advancement to enter their advancement records. Rest assured, Internet Advancement will not be going away at this time. The Boy Scouts of America is however, encouraging all Units to setup and utilize Scoutbook as their main unit management tool. Any advancement entered via Internet Advancement will sync to Scoutbook and can be seen by the unit, parents, and Scouts.

BSA will begin upgrading Scoutbook this year. The initial change will include a profile, unit roster, advancement 'quick entry' feature, and reports. Additional modifications will be phased in throughout the year and users will have access to both the new and old features using their current login credentials. The current platform will continue to be supported and maintained. As changes are implemented, communication will be posted in the Change Logs on the Scoutbook Forums.

b. June 1 is significant:

Traditionally, June 1 of each year served as the date for Cub Scouts to begin the next rank in their advancement. With the widespread use of ScoutBook, leaders are an integral part of the process. Answers to a few questions that advancement administrators and others in a typical pack may be asking:

- **How do we move the Cub Scouts forward to the next rank?**

The leader/advancement chair/ administrators will need to mark the ranks for all the Scouts as “approved.” Once they are approved, they will show up on the “need purchasing report.” Once the adventure is awarded, that notation is made. Then the administrator will go in and update the records one-on-one or do a multi-update and update all the Scouts in the den at the same time.

- **When can the Scout start work on the next rank advancements?**

As the Scout’s progress is updated, they will then be able to begin working on the next adventure/rank.

- **If a Scout starts the next rank before approval, what is the consequence?**

If they start before June 1st, they can show progress – but things will not be “official” until leaders “approve” advancement

- **How is Cub Scout recording linked to the current rank for that Cub Scout?**

A Cub Scout is only able to work on the den details for which the membership in Scoutbook is active. For example, if the Scout is a lion, they will see “lion.” The leadership will need to move the Scouts into the next den in order to see the next advancements

c. Internet Advancement 2.0 Arrives:

A new tool to quickly input advancement data, *Internet Advancement 2.0* (previously known as **Scoutbook Lite**), is now live. This free solution replaces the previous Internet Advancement platform, which was retired (for all programs except Exploring) on June 10, 2019.

Internet Advancement 2.0 features a clean, new user interface for all of the functions found in the previous Internet Advancement platform and is optimized to whatever device you use: desktop, tablet, or smartphone.

It can be accessed by unit Key 3 users, unit Key 3 delegate users, and unit advancement chairs. End users will access *Internet Advancement 2.0* via one of the following locations using their www.my.Scouting.org credentials:

- Scoutbook.scouting.org
- From the Legacy Tools menu in my.Scouting.org
- A link in Scoutbook.com
- From the current Internet Advancement Platform

After initial release, the BSA IT team will continue to add additional features on a regular basis. Updates and new features will be communicated with the field as they are delivered.

For more information and answers to commonly asked questions, visit: <http://help.scoutbook.com>

3. The Learn Center: Home of Improved Online Training for Cub Scout Volunteers:

Wow! Go to [My.Scouting.Org](https://www.myscouting.org) and click on the Learn Center. You'll see an updated catalog of, simplified, succinct, topic-specific training modules for Cub Scout volunteers. In all, there are approximately 20 modules, and more may be added later.

Volunteers can now complete their training at a time and location (at home!) that is most convenient for them. The courses themselves are separated into tracks: one for den leaders and assistants; one for Cubmasters; and one for pack committee members. The modules are of varying lengths, some taking only a few minutes to complete. They can be taken individually, or, time permitting, one right after another. They can be accessed via computer or mobile device, including a smartphone. Completion of the required modules in each track will be recorded in the training record of each volunteer within the Learn Center. Completion of the track will qualify the volunteer to wear the "Trained" patch for their volunteer position.



Here is an example scenario: A new den leader or assistant who wants to know what to do before that all important first meeting can click on *Before the First Meeting*. There they will see several training modules that will be helpful, including *How to Conduct a Cub Scout Den Meeting*. Subsequent modules pertain to den management, how to involve adults to assist in Cub Scouting, childhood development, Cub Scout pack finances, keeping Cub Scouting safe, how to conduct a Cub Scout pack meeting, and many more.

4. Foundations of Cub Scout Day Camp:

There have been a number of Cub Scout National Camping School changes in 2019 resulting from requests to a volunteer committee that has been hard at work incorporating feedback from local councils. Specifically, a number of Scouters asked to see if there were ways to lower the cost and reduce the time away for camp directors and program directors attending National Camping School.

Key national staff and volunteers from different areas across the country gathered together to create a new plan that divided the existing course syllabus into three components:

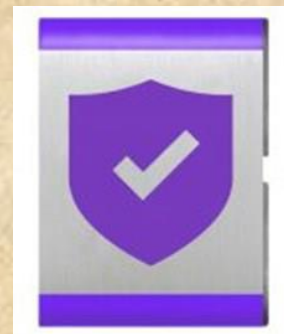
- An online, self-guided course with 11 segments
- An in-person, local council-led course with 10 segments
- A Cub Scout National Camping School, using traditional locations and faculty with 31 segments.

Individuals will not be certified until they fully complete all three mandatory components of the course. Completion of the components and included segments will be tracked through My.Scouting, using the person's profile feature. Therefore, it is important that each local council registrar updates the My.Scouting person profile of each person working to be certified.

5. Preview Adventures and Den Meeting Plans

Attendees at the National Annual Meeting in Denver in May, 2019 saw some exciting new announcements in the world of Cub Scouting unveiled. Here are two of the most exciting.

In Cub Scouting, adventures are the activity path to advancement. Some are required for each Cub Scout rank – Tiger through Arrow of Light — and some are elective at each rank. All of them are currently contained in the *Cub Scout Handbooks*. At the national meeting, new ways for adventures to be introduced was unveiled. These preview



adventures can be tried by our youth as well as introducing ways for them and their leaders to gauge the effectiveness, interest, and appropriateness of each adventure. All of these are online at www.scouting.org/programs

The first of these new preview adventures pertain to youth protection and are called the *Protect Yourself Rules Adventures*, designed for Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and Arrow of Light. BSA has partnered with the Barbara Sinatra Foundation on the content and delivery of this adventure. The others are titled *Yo-Yo Adventures* (described in more detail in the next article). The development of this adventure set was sponsored by Duncan Yo-Yo. If these are successful during the preview time period, they will be considered for inclusion in the next edition of the *Cub Scout Handbooks*.

Another major update is for Cub Scout leaders. A number of den meeting plans which have been in development, testing, and limited use for many years have been adapted for the current editions of the *Cub Scout Handbooks*. Available online, these plans enable the tracking of adventure completion and Cub Scout advancement, and also give parents access to see their child's progress, as well as giving them suggestions for enrichment activities at home. Use of the den meeting plans will help den leaders plan and conduct their den meetings more easily. The goal is to increase membership retention by making the den meeting experience consistent across the country, well-organized, and aligning with the full content of the Cub Scout program.

Yo-Yo Preview Adventure: Check It Out!



One of the first Preview Adventures is available online now, for a limited time. Cub Scouts can try them to see how they like it. This is the Yo-Yo Preview Adventure. Feedback is requested — just use the feedback button found at the bottom of the webpage.

The Duncan Yo-Yo company is proud to sponsor this activity, which is an elective adventure that can be accomplished in a single den meeting for Wolves, Bears, Webelos, and Arrow of Light Cub Scouts. All the resources to accomplish the fun can be found on site. This includes the adventure requirements, den meeting plans, videos with examples (so the den leader does not need to be a yo-yo aficionado), as well as information to order adventure belt loops and activity pins.



Click on the link to review this new elective – available ONLY ONLINE – for a limited time:
[Yo-Yo Preview Adventure](#)

Of Special Note:

This elective adventure for the included ranks can be found on Scoutbook; den meeting resources are only available on the Preview Adventure web-site. Belt loops and pins must be ordered; they will not be available in Scout shops.

Yours in Scouting;

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