

Troop 272 Scout Participation Agreement

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT – To promote a general sense of fairness and to encourage scouts to learn the positive benefits of a “contributors attitude”, this document details what the minimal troop expectations are for those who approach the Scoutmaster to get a sign-off for general “be active in your troop” rank participation requirements, to get a sign-off for “active service in a position of responsibility”, and/or to qualify for popular scouting trips each year.

INSTRUCTIONS: Every scout is required to read and sign this document acknowledging his understanding and intent to abide by these expectations. Each scout should also initial sections as indicated.

WHAT MAKES YOU AN ACTIVE TROOP PARTICIPANT? To meet the requirement of active participation in Troop 272, you must be registered in the unit and be in good standing -- meaning you haven't been dismissed for disciplinary reasons. In addition, you are expected to meet our unit's “reasonable expectations” as detailed below for each month that you expect to receive credit for being active.

GENERAL RANK ACTIVE REQUIREMENT: Requirements for Star, Life, and Eagle include phrases that require a scout to be **generally active** during his last rank period. For example: Star Scout REQUIREMENT #1: *Be active in your unit (and patrol if you are in one) for at least four months as a First Class Scout.*

A month of general “active” participation is defined to be:

- Attend at least 50% of weekly troop meetings that month
- If one is available, attend at least one troop activity during that month which can be any of the following: a troop or patrol campout, troop service project, Scouting Sunday service, Troop Leadership Training (TLT), a program planning meeting, a PLC meeting, or an Eagle Scout project.

For each month at your current rank that you fulfill these requirements, you can credit yourself with 1 month of active service at that rank. To be fair to you, general “active” months in the troop don't have to be contiguous. You may piece together months you have been active and still qualify.

POSITION ACTIVE REQUIREMENTS: In addition, requirements for Star, Life, and Eagle have requirements for **active service in a position of responsibility**. For example for Star Scout: *While a First Class Scout, serve actively in your unit for four months in one or more of the following positions of responsibility (or carry out a Unit Leader-assigned leadership project to help the unit):*

A month of leader position “active” participation is defined as: **SCOUT INITIALS**_____

- During the month, be working toward a minimum of two (2) S.M.A.R.T. position-specific **Unit Leader-approved** goals during the month of service.

- If required for your position, attend any planned monthly PLC meetings held during that month OR make a best-effort (via email and phone) to ensure that someone will attend as your replacement to that meeting.

For each month in your leadership position that you fulfill these requirements, you can credit yourself with 1 month of active service for that troop position.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCOUT TRIPS:

To promote fairness, ensure safety, prevent miscommunication, and ensure desired program delivery, all scouts attending an upcoming trip are required to be *generally active* for the 2 calendar months directly before the event takes place and during the month that the event takes place. In addition, trip leaders (and the adults helping them) are required to attend PLC meetings in the 2 calendar months directly before the event to reports on trip planning checklist status.

A month of general “active” participation is defined to be:

- Attend at least 50% of weekly troop meetings that month
- If one is available, attend at least one troop activity during that month which can be any of the following: a troop or patrol campout, troop service project, Scouting Sunday service, Troop Leadership Training (TLT), a program planning meeting, a PLC meeting, or an Eagle Scout project.

PROVING YOUR MONTHLY ATTENDANCE: To ensure your success and to prevent misunderstanding, please be ready to present your own legible written record of your monthly attendance to the unit leader when asking for a sign-off or permission to attend a trip. To help you, you can use the tables located at the rear of your scout handbook to record your own attendance at troop events and service projects or you can build your own.

IMPORTANT NOTES: General “active” months in the troop don’t have to be contiguous. You may piece together months you have been active and still qualify. In addition, active months don’t expire if they are followed by inactive months. For example, if a star scout is active in Sept, October, and November and then not again until the following September, October, and November, he now has accumulated the required six active months needed to advance. He can then approach a scoutmaster *with his documentation* about getting a signoff for his active requirements for Life.

In the event that you are holding an optional junior leadership position, (e.g. Scribe, Quartermaster, Patrol Leader) and after coaching you have not met any position-specific active requirements for a period of 3 months, you may be asked to step down from the position until you have more time to dedicate to your leadership role.

Scout Signature: _____

Scout Parent Signature: _____

Unit Leader Signature: _____