

Position of Responsibility

SENIOR PATROL LEADER

Job Description: The Senior Patrol Leader is the highest-ranking youth leader in the troop. Elected by the Scouts to lead for a 6-month term, the SPL is responsible for leading the troop's program and youth leadership team, ensuring the troop runs effectively using the patrol method.



Reports To: The Senior Patrol Leader reports to the **Scoutmaster**.

Qualifications

To serve as Senior Patrol Leader, a Scout should ideally have the following:

- **Rank:** Star Scout or higher.
- **Training:** Completed **Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)**.
- **Experience:** At least two years of experience in a leadership position, such as Patrol Leader or Assistant Senior Patrol Leader.
- **Election:** Elected by a majority vote of the troop.

Key Duties

1. **Lead the Troop:** Plan, organize, and conduct all troop meetings, activities, and events, including a yearly program planning meeting.
2. **Lead the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC):** Organize and preside over all PLC meetings, delegating responsibilities and supervising Patrol Leaders to ensure the troop runs smoothly.
3. **Appoint and Supervise Leaders:** Appoint youth leaders, with the advice and counsel of the Scoutmaster, and provide them with the guidance and support needed to succeed in their roles.
4. **Promote Scout Spirit:** Foster a high level of **Scout Spirit** and enthusiasm within the troop by using the patrol method and living by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
5. **Serve as a Link:** Act as the primary communicator between the troop's youth leaders and the adult leaders, keeping everyone informed of troop plans and activities.
6. **Be a Role Model:** Wear the Scouting America uniform correctly and with pride. Stay focused and involved during all Scout activities, setting a positive example for all troop members.

7. **Conduct Conferences:** Schedule and complete regular Scoutmaster conferences to review personal progress and performance in the leadership position.

Advancement Expectations

To fulfill the "active service" requirement for a rank, the Senior Patrol Leader must complete the following duties during their six-month term:

- **Lead Program Planning:** Plan and lead the yearly program planning meeting, as well as all Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) meetings.
- **Execute Troop Activities:** Plan and lead all troop meetings, campouts, and activities, ensuring they are consistent with the troop's program goals.
- **Coordinate Events:** Plan and coordinate major yearly events, such as a Trail to Troop, Arrow of Light crossover ceremony, or summer camp.
- **Fulfill Duties:** discharge all responsibilities and performance expectations of the Senior Patrol Leader position.

Performance Expectations

In addition to their general responsibilities, the Senior Patrol Leader is expected to:

- **Appoint Youth Leaders:** Select, appoint, and empower qualified youth leaders to assist in running the troop. This includes a First Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and other key roles such as Quartermaster, Scribe, and Bugler, as needed.
- **Lead the PLC:** Conduct all Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) meetings and ensure a written plan is produced for each troop meeting and campout.
- **Promote Excellence:** Encourage patrols to earn the National Patrol Honor Award by promoting strong patrol spirit and effective teamwork.
- **Be a Presence:** Attend all troop Courts of Honor unless excused in advance by the Scoutmaster.
- **Complete Position Agreement:** Sign the troop's Leadership Position Agreement and read the Senior Patrol Leader Handbook.

To be signed at the Scoutmaster conference at the end of the SPL's term.

I confirm that this Scout has successfully fulfilled the responsibilities of Senior Patrol Leader.

Scoutmaster's Signature

Date