



TROOP 153
Committee Meeting Agenda
February 29, 2024 – 7:00pm

1. Call the meeting to order

2. Reports

- **Treasurer** - Marisa – Account Balances,
- **Advancement** - COH Rank and Badge Status (Patches, badges, Parent Pins, Ribbons,etc) (Will Tomas be tasked with getting these items?). Is everything updated online?
- **Scoutmaster** – How are boys doing? Any issues in conferences?
- **Eagle Updates**
 1. Emmet D. – Status
 2. Andre S. - Status
 3. John B. – To propose Service Project to Committee

3. Old Business

- **February Trip** – Outstanding. -Propose that we thank and recognize Lisa at COH next week.
- **Luca D.** – We cannot get money back from Council, we will have to eat it. Since he is on roster, we should keep parents on e-mail list in case he has a change of heart.
- **Derek B.** – Appears to have dropped out, but believe he is paid, so should stay on e-mail list through December unless parents request otherwise.
- **Alpine Scout Camp** – Booked for next year – paid by SB. \$349
- **Comments on old business?**

4. Ongoing Business

- **Board of Review Meetings** – How did they go? Any Feedback from Scouts? What else can we do to help them succeed?
- **Cit. in Community Badge** – 7 Scouts earned badges. Couple more will shoot for next COH. – Jen B. to report next meeting.
- **Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Sales Prizes** – SB Has Prizes for 3 top sellers (Andre S., Ryan M, & Andy R. – To be presented at COH.
- **March Campout** – 3/15-3/17. Reserved for 3/15-3/17. – SB - Horseback won't work – not open until April, and not enough horses for full group. Other ideas?
- **Patrol Boxes and Camp Stoves** – Terry H - Has Sketched plan for boxes. Need to plan dates for buying materials and starting project with scouts. – Mr. Dean presented checklist example to add to box to keep items in order and replenish supplies. Mr. Miller found Nesting pots and pans.

- **Meeting Structure** – Thoughts? How is it working? We have 9 rank-ups next week, so it seems to be working. Still a few falling behind, need to encourage them. Let's identify boys that need help (Rank Report Attached). Need schedule for end of meeting activities. Ideas?? Who can put schedule together?
- **Fishing Trip** – Keeping on Agenda to remind us to start promoting in April.
- **Comments on ongoing business?**

5. New business

- **Summer Camp** - \$100 Deposit Due by March 27th. \$450 Balance Due by May 22nd. (Price goes up \$50 per scout if whole troop is not PIF by 6/1). Do we want to add a little extra \$ for Wednesday cookout or, maybe a trailer rental?
- **Committee Secretary Position** – Sadly, with Andre aging out at the end of March, Paula will be resigning her position as Committee Secretary. We will need to discuss potential replacements for the position.
- **Life to Eagle Training (3/20)** – How do we promote this to parents and scouts? Does it deserve a special e-mail outside of Paula's weekly update? Who will send it?
- **Merit Badges** – Committee to discuss easier merit badges for younger scouts to pursue – per Paula's suggestion at last meeting. (Suggestions Attached)
3/8/2023
- **Snacks** – Pick Comm Member to manage snack schedule.
- **Campout Cellphone policy** – For discussion. Set policy for March Campout.
- **Other New Business?**

6. Announcements

- **Next Committee Meeting** – March 21, 2024 – 7pm

Troop 153 Roster Ranks as of 2/29/2024

First	Last	Rank		Date Completed
Thaddeus	P	Scout	1	3/8/2023
Tyler	H	Tenderfoot	2	10/22/2022
Kurt	G	Tenderfoot	2	3/8/2023
Derek	B	Tenderfoot	2	5/31/2023
Nathaniel	B	Tenderfoot	2	10/18/2023
Camryn	C	Tenderfoot	2	10/18/2023
Nathan	M	Tenderfoot	2	2/15/2024
Nicholas	G	Tenderfoot	2	2/23/2024
Andrew	R	Tenderfoot	2	2/23/2024
Gianni	V	Tenderfoot	2	2/23/2024
Giovanni	B	Tenderfoot	2	2/28/2024
Louis	Sc	Second Class	3	5/30/2021
Luca	D	Second Class	3	10/26/2021
Dylan	J	Second Class	3	5/31/2023
Peter	S	Second Class	3	10/18/2023
Michael	D	Second Class	3	2/23/2024
Ryan	L	Second Class	3	2/23/2024
Ryan	M	First Class	4	1/17/2024
John	C	Star Scout	5	3/1/2023
Emmett	D	Life Scout	6	10/26/2021
John	B	Life Scout	6	2/15/2023
Andre	S	Life Scout	6	2/15/2023
Peter	B	Life Scout	6	10/18/2023
Louis	Sm	Life Scout	6	2/28/2024

Which Merit Badges Are Best For New Scouts?

To gain a solid foundation for your Scouting career, I'd suggest starting 5 specific Eagle-required merit badges before taking on any others. Learning these key skills will make your outings much safer and more fun! Here's my list of the most important merit badges for younger Scouts to learn:

- **First Aid:** Although very unlikely, if a Scout gets injured it's important that their fellow Scouts know how to provide treatment — fast. That's why First Aid should always be one of the first badges earned (maybe that's why they call it "first" aid 😊)
- **Cooking:** Being able to contribute to your patrol by whipping up a delicious meal is such a great skill to have! Plus, knowing food handling safety to prevent sickness is a *must* for camp cooking.
- **Swimming (or Hiking/Cycling):** Earning any one of these badges will really help a Scout to become physically prepared for most high adventure activities and troop functions.
- **Camping:** Being able to camp safely and comfortably in a range of conditions will help any Scout to gain confidence and enjoy their troop campouts even more.
- **Emergency Preparedness/Lifesaving:** Scouting is all about being adaptable and ready to handle any sort of emergency. Once you've earned EPrep or Lifesaving, you'll be ready to take on every other badge!

While most of these badges are on the easier end of my [merit badge difficulty rankings](#), you should still expect that they'll take quite a few months to earn. For instance, the Camping badge requires you to camp for a total of 20 nights! Just recognize that it'll probably be a slow process, and that's ok.