

Court of Honor—Ceremony 2

- Rank advancement is an important part of the Scouting program. It gives the Scout opportunity to learn new skills and have new adventures. Presenting the Scout with a new rank lets him show off completion of these skills and adventures and, hopefully, encourages him to continue the Trail to Eagle Scout.

Second Class:

- “Were you ever lost?” someone once asked Daniel Boone. “No,” he replied, “but once I was confused for about five days over where I was.”
- A Scout who has completed the Tenderfoot requirements is not confused about where he is. He’s following Scouting’s path, the Trail to Eagle.
- Tonight we have **[number]** Scouts who have completed the Tenderfoot requirements and are ready to receive their Second Class rank.
- Call **[Scouts]** and parents forward.
- Baden-Powell believed that four basic steps lead to Boy Scout advancement through the ranks of Tenderfoot to Eagle:
A Scout learns.
A Scout is tested.
A Scout is reviewed.
A Scout is recognized.
- These three Scouts have learned, tested and reviewed. Now they’re being recognized as Second Class Scouts.
- What was the toughest requirement? How did you complete it?
- When Colonel Baden-Powell entered the capital city of the Ashanti people in 1890 he was met by one of the Chiefs who came to him holding out his left hand. Baden-Powell held out his right in return, but the Chief said: "No, in my country the bravest of the brave shake with the left hand." So began the "left handshake" of the world-wide brotherhood of Scouts.

Congratulations.

First Class:

- The First Class Badge joins together the Tenderfoot and the Second Class badges. When you have earned the right to wear it, you will have completed the training you need to take part in most of Scouting's activities and adventures.
- **[Number]** Scouts have completed that training.
- Call **[Scouts]** forward.
- When Baden Powell began the Scouting movement he had a clear vision of what to accomplish. These are some excerpts from an interview with Baden-Powell by the *Listener* Magazine in 1937:

When I was a boy at Charterhouse I got a lot of fun out of trapping rabbits in woods. If and when I caught one, which was not often, I skinned him and cooked him and ate him—and lived.

In doing this I learned to creep silently, to know my way by landmarks, to note tracks and read their meaning, to use dry dead wood off trees for my fire, and to make a tiny non-smoky fire.

Somewhere about 1893 I started teaching Scouting to young soldiers in my regiment. When these young fellows joined the Army they had learned reading, writing, and arithmetic in school but not much else. They were nice lads and made very good parade soldiers, obeyed orders, kept themselves clean and smart and all that, but they had never been taught to be men, how to look after themselves, how to take responsibility, and so on.

They had not had my chances of education outside the classroom.

I wanted to make them feel that they were a match for any enemy, able to find their way by the stars or map, accustomed to notice all tracks and signs and to read their meaning, and able to fend for themselves away from regimental cooks and barracks. I wanted them to have courage, from confidence in themselves and from a sense of duty; I wanted them to have knowledge of how to cook their own grub; in short, I wanted each man to be an efficient, all-round, reliable individual.

The scheme worked. The men loved the training and Scouting became very popular in the regiment.

I later made the discovery that boys, when trusted and relied on, were just as capable and reliable as men.

- Shortly after this discovery in 1917, Baden-Powell wrote a book: *Scouting for Boys*. He wrote:

When you are acting as scout to find the way for a party you should move ahead of them and fix your whole attention on what you are doing, because you have to go by the very smallest signs, and if you get to talking and thinking of other things you are very apt to miss them.

- As a Second Class scout, you fixed your whole attention on what you were doing, you noticed the smallest signs, and you've now advanced to the rank of First Class.
- What was the toughest requirement? How did you complete it?
- Congratulations.