

Major Features

- Recognitions and commitment goals are established on the troop's charter year.
- Each troop signs up at the beginning of its charter year and qualifies for the award at the close of its charter year.
- During the charter renewal meeting, a review is conducted by a council representative, usually a commissioner, to determine if the troop qualifies as a Quality Unit for the past year and to make commitments for the coming year.

Recognition—Units with December charter expirations are the first to use the new year's forms and recognitions.

For troops: Pennant streamer for flagpole or room display (no charge), and plaques for selected adults.

For individuals: All Boy Scouts and adults of a troop qualifying for the National Quality Unit Award are eligible to wear a recognition emblem on their uniform and a quality pin on civilian clothing. (Emblems, pins, plaques, and streamers can be ordered from the local council service center.)

INTERPRETATION OF COMMITMENTS FOR THE QUALITY TROOP AWARD

Aim to achieve a "yes" on all 10 commitments. You need six to qualify for the Quality Troop Award. This includes all of the four starred (*) items plus a minimum of any two additional items.

- *1. **Training.** Trained leaders are an essential part of quality troop operation. The new Scoutmaster must complete Boy Scout Leader Fast Start Training within 90 days of selection and registration. The Scoutmaster must have completed Basic Leader Training (or the Scoutmastership Fundamentals course). If the unit had a trained Scoutmaster during most of the charter year, but a new Scoutmaster was selected too late to complete basic training before charter renewal, the council may still approve this item.
- *2. **Two-Deep Leadership.** The troop must have two-deep leadership. At least one assistant Scoutmaster must be active, registered, and trained as indicated in (1) above. A registered adult in the troop must be assigned responsibility to promote Youth Protection training and coordinate appropriate awareness for parents and youth members.
- *3. **Outdoor Activities.** A quality troop must attend a long-term camp approved by the local council. Troops are encouraged to have an outdoor activity every month. At least six highlight activities are required, in addition to long-term camp.
- *4. **On-Time Charter Renewal.** See that the charter renewal application and fees reach the council service center before midnight of the last day of the troop's charter year. Most units will want to submit their renewal at least 15 days before charter expiration to allow adequate time for processing and any unforeseen delays.
5. **Planned Program.** The patrol leaders' council conducts the annual program planning conference. After the Scoutmaster obtains the troop committee's commitment of support for the program, copies are shared with everyone related to the troop, including parents.
6. **Service Project.** Consider your chartered organization as your first preference. A community service program is another choice. Or, if you would like to help Scouting in other countries, funds can be transmitted to your local council for the World Friendship Fund. Also, fill in the total number of hours devoted to community service efforts and projects by all youth members of your unit during the past 12 months.
7. **Advancement.** Set objectives for advancement using the spaces on your commitment sheet. Additional Boy Scouts enrolled during the year are not figured in the percentage. Only those Boy Scouts listed on the charter application at the beginning of the charter year are counted at the end of the charter year.

Examples:

___ 30 ___ Boy Scouts registered at the beginning of the troop charter year.
___ 18 ___ of these Boy Scouts advanced a rank during the year.
___ 60 ___ percent of these Boy Scouts advanced a rank (commitment is met).

OR

___ 25 ___ percent advanced a rank last charter year.
___ 40 ___ percent advanced a rank this charter year.
___ 15 ___ percent increase in number of boys advancing over a year ago (commitment is met).

(Note: Those Scouts who are already Eagle Scouts may be counted as achieving a rank advancement.)

8. **BOYS' LIFE.** Set objectives for *Boys' Life* magazine on this commitment sheet. It is recommended that 100 percent of your troop families subscribe. Part of the troop's annual budget should include *Boys' Life* magazine.
9. **Membership.** Conduct a membership inventory and personally invite Boy Scouts who are missing meetings. Plan a program to invite new boys and Cub Scouts as they reach Boy Scout age. Use the spaces on the commitment sheet to set objectives for the troop charter year.
10. **Patrol Method.** The purpose of the patrol leaders' council is to plan and run troop activities and to train the patrol leaders. In a Quality Troop, the Scoutmaster places a top priority on both training and monthly meetings of the patrol leaders' council. Use the *Scoutmaster Handbook* and the *Scoutmaster's Junior Leader Training Kit*, No. 3422.

STEPS

1. Attach the council copies of both the achievement and commitment forms to the Quality Unit Recognition Order Form, No. 14-238S, and submit to the local council service center.
2. Include National Quality Unit Award program on your troop committee agenda each month to check progress.