



Frontier District Advancement Committee

EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR GUIDELINES

The purposes of an Eagle Scout Court of Honor are:

- ❑ To honor the Eagle candidate
- ❑ To charge the Eagle candidate with his new responsibilities as an Eagle Scout
- ❑ To encourage young boys to join a Boy Scout troop
- ❑ To inspire other Scouts to continue their advancement along the Eagle Scout trail

Some units have a specific ceremony that always is used, while others leave it entirely up to the scout and his parents. There are excellent publications on the Internet, please see enclosed website listings. Planners should check with their Unit to see what it usually does.

Outline of Major Steps: The key word is **PLANNING**. Sufficient time (**at least two (2) months after the Board of Review**) must be allowed for National Headquarters to process the application. The Court of Honor cannot be held before the Council receives official notification of the Eagle Scout Rank award from National Headquarters.

The major planning steps are:

1. Establish a date and location as soon as possible. (Check the Unit/District calendar and family members for conflicts).
2. Order invitations. Mail to dignitaries or send letters as soon as possible.
3. Reserve lighted Eagle Box from the District, if desired.
4. Establish what type of ceremony will be used. It should be 30-60 minutes in length, not counting the reception.
5. Recruit ceremony participants, including technical support (projector operator, lights, sound, etc). Don't forget to include helpers other than parents and family to serve refreshments; family members should be hosts, not workers.
6. Establish and order necessary props, such as the Eagle Ring, the NESA neckerchief, refreshments etc...
7. Start a scrapbook promptly.
8. Determine the program and get it printed. Use a word processor to set type.
9. Attend other Eagle Scout Courts of Honor for ideas. You don't need an invitation, but the Eagle Scout should be in uniform.
10. Pass out scripts and have several extra set sets available.
11. Have a practice just prior to the event and a final rehearsal two (2) hours before the ceremony. Go through every detail to make sure everyone knows what to do, and where to walk and stand. **Staging is critical for a good ceremony!** The Unit leader or Committee chairperson should run this practice, not the parents.
12. Once the ceremony starts, parents and family are observers.

Errors and mistakes in the ceremony will not be noticed by the audience, so don't worry about them and don't discuss them afterwards.

It is customary to hold a reception immediately after the ceremony.