# Scout Rank — Detailed Requirements & UX Notes (as of 2025‑10‑24)

**Purpose:** Give product‑ready, comprehensive requirement text for **Scout** rank (Scouts BSA), with plain‑language descriptions, acceptance notes, and official citations suitable for an Eagle Tracker UX. This version paraphrases the official requirements and links the current canonical sources.

## 1) Direct Answer (concise)

The **Scout rank** establishes a new member’s foundation in ideals, structure, safety, and basic skills. The official requirements (effective **Jan 1, 2024** and current as of **2025‑10‑24**) include learning the **Oath/Law/Motto/Slogan/Pledge**, understanding **troop & patrol** operations and **advancement**, basic **knots & rope care**, **pocketknife safety**, **personal safety awareness** with a parent/guardian, and a **Scoutmaster conference**. (Official PDFs and pages cited below.)

## 2) Requirement List with Detailed Descriptions (product‑ready)

**Use in UI:** Each bullet = one requirement card. Keep the wording below as the app’s display text; link each card to its source. Mark completion with date & initials per your data model.

1. **Ideals: Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan, Pledge**
   * **What to do:** Recite from memory the **Scout Oath**, **Scout Law**, **Scout Motto**, **Scout Slogan**, and the **Pledge of Allegiance**; in your own words, explain what each means.
   * **Why it matters:** Confirms shared values and the promise to live them.
   * **Acceptance notes:** Leader listens for accuracy and a sincere personal explanation (no verbatim script needed).
   * **Source:** *Scout Rank Requirements* (official PDF, 2024); *Scouts BSA Requirements 2025* (booklet).
2. **Scout Sign, Salute, and Handshake**
   * **What to do:** Demonstrate the **sign**, **salute**, and **handshake**; tell when each is appropriate.
   * **Why it matters:** Signals membership and respect in ceremonies and flag etiquette.
   * **Acceptance notes:** Correct form and situational use.
   * **Source:** Official Scout rank PDF (2024).
3. **Troop & Advancement Basics**
   * **What to do:** After attending at least **one troop meeting**, explain:
     1. How Scouts provide **leadership** in the troop;
     2. The **four steps of advancement**;
     3. What the **Scouts BSA ranks** are and how they’re earned;
     4. What **merit badges** are and how they’re earned.
   * **Why it matters:** Orients new members to the program’s structure, goals, and self‑paced progress model.
   * **Acceptance notes:** Conversation/demonstration with a designated leader; no written test required.
   * **Source:** Official Scout rank PDF (2024); *Guide to Advancement 2025* (sections on mechanics of advancement).
4. **Patrol Method**
   * **What to do:** Explain the **patrol method** and **describe patrol types** used in your troop (e.g., new‑Scout, mixed‑age, venture).
   * **Why it matters:** Patrols are the primary small‑group leadership lab.
   * **Acceptance notes:** Show understanding of how your troop actually organizes and operates patrols.
   * **Source:** Official Scout rank PDF (2024).
5. **Knots & Rope Care**
   * **What to do:** Tie a **square knot**, **two half‑hitches**, and a **taut‑line hitch**; explain when each is used. Show proper care of rope by **whipping or fusing ends** depending on rope type.
   * **Why it matters:** Core outdoor skills for securing gear, shelters, and lines safely.
   * **Acceptance notes:** Correct tying and appropriate use‑cases; show whipping/fusing on suitable rope.
   * **Source:** Official Scout rank PDF (2024).
6. **Pocketknife Safety**
   * **What to do:** Explain rules for **safe handling**, **sharpening**, **passing**, **opening/closing**, and **storage** of a pocketknife.
   * **Why it matters:** Tool use starts early; safety habits prevent injuries.
   * **Acceptance notes:** Discussion or demonstration; local units may also require **Totin’ Chip** later, but for Scout rank, a knowledge check suffices unless the unit sets a stricter policy.
   * **Source:** Official Scout rank PDF (2024).
7. **Personal Safety Awareness (with Parent/Guardian)**
   * **What to do:** With a parent/guardian, **complete the exercises** in *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide* and **view the Personal Safety Awareness videos** (with permission).
   * **Why it matters:** Confirms youth & family awareness of abuse prevention and online safety expectations.
   * **Acceptance notes:** Unit records completion date; specific video titles may be updated on the official site—link from the rank page.
   * **Source:** Official Scout rank PDF (2024); Scouting.org advancement resources hub.
8. **Scoutmaster Conference**
   * **What to do:** Participate in a **Scoutmaster conference** while working on Scout rank.
   * **Why it matters:** Provides mentoring, checks understanding, and plans next steps.
   * **Acceptance notes:** This is **not a retest** of requirements; it is a conversation. (See *Guide to Advancement* for policy.)
   * **Source:** *Guide to Advancement 2025*; Official Scout rank PDF (2024).

**Sequencing Note:** Work on **Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class** requirements **simultaneously**, but ranks are **awarded in sequence** (you must be approved for Scout before Tenderfoot, etc.). (Official Scout rank PDF notes.)

## 3) Acceptance & Policy Notes (for implementers)

* **Who may test & sign off:** The unit leader authorizes who may test and pass a Scout on requirements; records must reflect who signed and when. (*Guide to Advancement 2025*.)
* **Current text lives online:** Printed books/pamphlets can lag; **scouting.org** holds the latest requirements. If there is a conflict, defer to the website and current **Scouts BSA Requirements** PDF. (2025 edition.)
* **No Board of Review for Scout rank:** A BOR is **not required** for the Scout rank; it begins at Tenderfoot. (*Guide to Advancement 2025*.)
* **Parent/Guardian safety modules:** The titles/hosting for the **Personal Safety Awareness** videos may change; link out rather than embedding static titles.

## 4) Data Model Suggestions (UX)

* Fields per requirement: status, date\_completed, signed\_by, notes, evidence\_link (optional file/photo), source\_url.
* Global rank fields: start\_date, scoutmaster\_conference\_date, awarded\_date (read‑only until export), version\_checked (e.g., “2024‑01 requirements, verified 2025‑10‑24”).
* Validation: prevent “rank complete” unless all requirements are marked complete and conference date is set.

## 5) Uncertainty Box

* **Unknowns:** Mid‑year edits to online requirement text or hosting for safety videos.
* **Assumptions:** The **2024 Scout rank PDF** and the **2025 Requirements book** reflect the same requirement set; scouting.org is the source of truth.
* **Data Quality:** High; all citations are official Scouting America sources.
* **What reduces uncertainty:** Re‑check the official rank PDF/page prior to release; include a remote‑config message that updates the “version\_checked” field app‑wide.
* **Confidence:** **High** (last checked **2025‑10‑24**).

## 6) Citations (minimal template)

1. Scouting America. *Scout Rank Requirements (official PDF — effective Jan 1, 2024).* 2024‑01. https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2024-Scout-Rank-Requirements.pdf
2. Scouting America. *Scouts BSA Requirements — 2025 edition (3321624).* 2025‑04. https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/3321624-Scouts-BSA-Requirements.pdf
3. Scouting America. *Guide to Advancement 2025 (33088).* 2025. https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf
4. Scouting America. *Advancement & Awards — Scouts BSA (hub).* 2025. https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/

## 7) Evidence Table (claims → sources)

| # | Claim | Source(s) | Pub date | Checked | Notes |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | The eight Scout‑rank requirement domains above accurately paraphrase the current official requirements. | 1, 2 | 2024–2025 | 2025‑10‑24 | Text paraphrased; defer to official pages for exact wording. |
| 2 | Scout rank includes Personal Safety Awareness with a parent/guardian. | 1 | 2024‑01 | 2025‑10‑24 | Cyber Chip retired; videos requirement persists per PDF. |
| 3 | No BOR for Scout rank; Scoutmaster conference only. | 3 | 2025 | 2025‑10‑24 | BOR begins at Tenderfoot. |
| 4 | Leaders designate who may test/sign off; website is the live source of truth vs. print. | 2, 3 | 2025 | 2025‑10‑24 | Policy/recency guidance. |

### Ready to proceed

If this meets your needs, I’ll produce **Tenderfoot** next in the same format (detailed requirements, UX notes, and citations).