

**Proposed Program Ad Hoc Committee Resolutions
Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, November 16, 2017**

Resolution # 1: Internet Advancement Reporting

Whereas, one of the Methods of Scouting is “Advancement”, and

Whereas, reporting advancement is a requirement of the Boy Scouts of America, and entering it directly into the BSA system through an Internet portal is the most straightforward way to get it done, and

Whereas, reporting advancement electronically and directly into the BSA system:

- Eliminates a backlog in advancement records,
- Alleviates time-burdening paperwork and data entry for council staff and volunteers,
- Ensures that advancement records are accurate and complete for every Scout,
- Ensures that advancement is reported only for Scouts who are properly registered with the BSA,
- Prevents the reporting of advancement for Scouts who are not registered with the BSA, and

Whereas, the Executive Board of the Heart of Virginia Council recognizes the benefits of and need to keep and maintain accurate advancement records for every Scout, reporting advancement at least monthly, and the only way to ensure this for every Scout Unit is to use Internet Advancement as the sole means of reporting advancement:

Benefits of Internet Advancement Reporting include:

- Provides straightforward and direct method of reporting.
- Eliminates issues with deciphering handwriting.
- Helps in local council verification of Eagle Scout Rank Applications.
- Records ranks, badges, and awards in accordance with BSA advancement rules.
- Consolidates data files to reduce or eliminate record gaps when Scouts transfer units.
- Provides important information for evaluating unit health.
- Supports national data analysis for advancement statistics.
- Assures advancement is counted in the Journey to Excellence.

Then, therefore, let it be resolved that the Executive Board recognizes the need for Internet Advancement to be the mandatory manner for each Cub Scout Pack, Boy Scout Troop, Venturing Crew and Sea Scout Ship to record its advancement in the Heart of Virginia Council. **Effective January 1, 2018, every Heart of Virginia Council unit shall be required to only record advancement online through Internet Advancement.** This requirement will bring the Heart of Virginia Council in-line with dozens of other councils that have already eliminated paper advancement forms to bring Scout records up-to-date. When purchasing all rank badges, except for the rank of Eagle Scout, the Scout Shop will only accept printouts from Internet Advancement. Online tools are available, and resources will be provided on HOVC.org. Mandatory Internet Advancement for all units will support the council's incentive for those Gold JTE units that perform an FOS presentation to be able to receive cloth rank badges free of charge from the Scout Shop.

Resolution # 2: The Outdoor Program and Unit Camping

Whereas, one of the Methods of Scouting is “Outdoor Programs”, and

Whereas, Scouting is designed to take place in the outdoors, and

Whereas, the outdoor, camping, and high-adventure programs of the BSA are the most popular programs available to young people today, and

Whereas, Scouting's Outdoor Program, the excitement and adventure of camping and the great outdoors, is what is promised to and why a youth joins a Scout unit, and

Whereas, every Scout, whether Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venture Scout, or Sea Scout should be given the opportunity to be part of the Scouting's full Outdoor Program, including unit camping which includes Day Camp, Family Camp, and Resident camp for Cub and Webelos Scouts, as well as, monthly camping and a long-term camping experience, including summer camp and high-adventure experiences for Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, and Sea Scouts, and

Whereas, unit camping and the Outdoor Program are essential components of Scouting's advancement program, not only in Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venturing, and Sea Scout rank advancement, but also in the Cub Scout Adventures and Boy Scout Merit Badge Programs, and

Whereas, the minimal expectation of every Boy Scout Troop as noted in Section 3 of the Heart of Virginia Council's By-Laws states, "Council Scouts are given the opportunity to have a year-round outdoor program totaling at least 10 days and nights of hiking, overnight camping, camporees, and summer camp experiences.", and

Whereas, Troops, Venture Crews, and Sea Scout Ships that plan and attend a unit-based, long-term camping or high adventure

experience should report such events and Outdoor Program successes to their district, and

Whereas, the Executive Board of the Heart of Virginia Council recognizes that a unit's Outdoor Program is a leading indicator of the health of a unit. Units that plan and execute an Outdoor Program with unit camping opportunities and a summer camping experience will both recruit and retain more Scouts.

Then, therefore, let it be resolved that the Executive Board recognizes the need for all Heart of Virginia Scout Units to afford the opportunity for every Scout to experience the BSA's Outdoor Program:

1. Every Pack should afford its Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts the opportunity to attend camping events such as Day Camp, Family Camp, and Resident Camp.
2. Every Troop should afford its Boy Scouts the opportunity to experience and be a part of a year-round outdoor program totaling at least 10 days and nights of hiking, overnight camping, camporees, and summer camp experiences, which may include troop-based, long-term camping and high adventure experiences.
3. Every Troop, Venture Crew and Sea Scout Ship should report their unit-based, long-term camping or high adventure experiences and Outdoor Program successes to their district.

Resolution # 3: Troop Involvement with the Order of the Arrow

Whereas, the Order of the Arrow is an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America, and

Whereas, the Mission of the Order of the Arrow is "to fulfill its purpose as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults", and

Whereas, the Purpose of the Order of the Arrow is to, 1) Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition; 2) Promote Camping, responsible outdoor adventure and environmental stewardship in the unit, year-round and at summer camp; 3) Develop leaders, youth and adult, with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their unit, our Brotherhood, Scouting and ultimately our Nation; and 4) Crystalize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others, and

Whereas, the Executive Board of the Heart of Virginia Council recognizes the almost 100 years of faithful, Cheerful Service that our Order of the Arrow Lodge, Nawakwa Lodge, has given our council in countless hours of cheerful service; the outstanding contributions to camp facilities and unwavering support of council units, programs and service projects across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Then, therefore, let it be resolved that the Executive Board hereby strongly encourages that each Boy Scout Troop and its Scouts, Unit Leaders, Committee members and Chartered Organizations in the Heart of Virginia Council:

1. Embrace and cause to provide every eligible First Class Scout

- the opportunity to be elected to the Order of the Arrow by his peers.
2. To afford their youth members the opportunity to experience and grow within the Brotherhood of Honor Campers, that which is the Order of the Arrow, by conducting, in cooperation with the chapters of the Lodge, a Troop election in the spirit and mindfulness of the purpose of the Order in the first quarter of the new year and each first quarter of every subsequent year in which the Troop has at least one eligible Scout.
 3. That every eligible Troop establish, as available, an Order of the Arrow Troop Representative and Troop Representative Adviser to help conduct the business of the Lodge, it's chapters and to strengthen the bonds of Brotherhood and Cheerful Service within the Troop and therefore within the Council.
 4. To strive to earn the Order of the Arrow Unit of Excellence Award, which recognizes Troops that invite the lodge to conduct quality unit elections, participate in lodge events and meetings, and operate a complete Order of the Arrow Troop Representative program.

Resolved this 16th day of November 2017

Gordon W. Fruetel
Council President

Bradford M. Nesheim
Scout Executive