



## **Scouting America *Troop 81:* Patrol Leader Handbook**

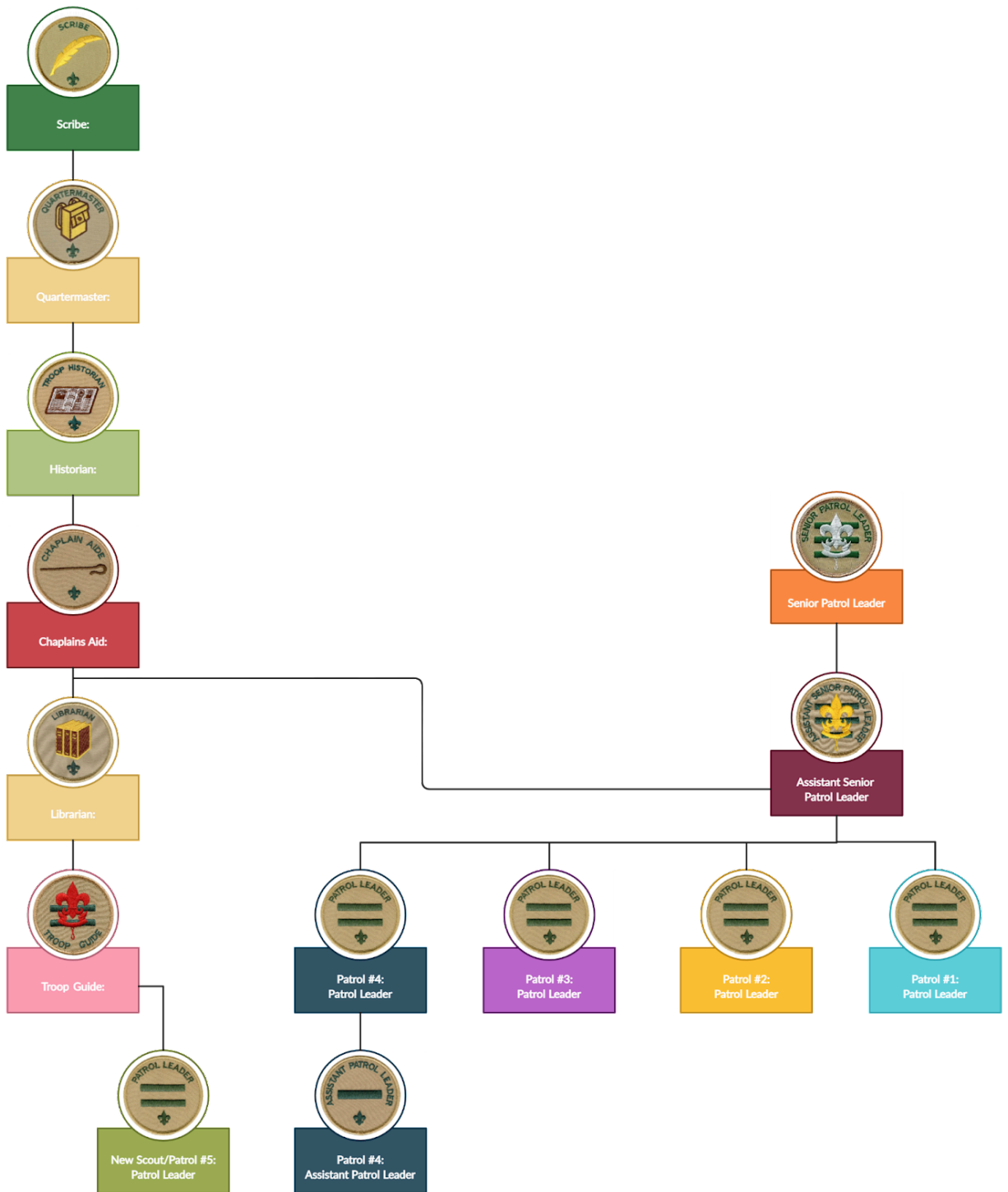
**Duties:** The patrol leader is the patrol's key leader, representing the patrol at all patrol leader's council meetings, and keeping patrol members informed of decisions made. They keep their patrol intact so they can work together and share responsibilities to get things done. It is incumbent upon them to be a good example for the members of their patrol and the rest of the troop. They must also hold a very close and tight bond with all members of their patrol, and represent the environment they want their patrol to be. The outcome and performance of their patrol for 6 months will be entirely based on the patrol leader's ability to lead and perform.

**Chain of Command:** The Patrol leader has all members of their Patrol reporting to them, with the exception of the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Troop Guide. Patrol Leaders will report directly to the Senior Patrol Leader, whom they will work closely with throughout their entire term.

## Responsibilities:

- **Live by the Scout Oath and Law:** As a Scout, living the Scout Oath and Law is an essential part of being a responsible and respectful member of the scouting community. Here are some ways you can live the Scout Oath and Law:
  1. Know the Scout Oath and Law: Take time to memorize and understand the Scout Oath and Law. This will help you keep them in mind and live by them.
  2. Practice the Scout Law: The Scout Law outlines 12 traits that every scout should strive to embody. Make a conscious effort to practice these traits in your daily life, whether you are at a scout meeting or interacting with others in your community.
  3. Be trustworthy: Always be honest and truthful in your words and actions. Keep your promises and be someone that others can rely on.
  4. Be helpful: Look for ways to help others, whether it's volunteering in your community or assisting fellow scouts during camping trips.
  5. Be respectful: Respect others, regardless of their backgrounds or beliefs. This includes respecting others' opinions, cultures, and traditions.
  6. Be obedient: Follow the rules and guidelines set by your scout leaders and other authority figures. This demonstrates your responsibility and commitment to the scouting program.
  7. Be prepared: Always be prepared for any situation, whether it's by bringing the right gear on a camping trip or studying for a school test.
  8. Be courageous: Face challenges with bravery and determination, and stand up for what is right, even in difficult situations.
  9. Be clean: Keep your body and mind clean, and take care of yourself physically, mentally, and emotionally.
  10. Be reverent: Show respect for your own beliefs and the beliefs of others. This includes respecting nature and the environment.
- **Show Scout Spirit:** Showing Scout Spirit is an important part of being a Scout, and it involves embodying the values and principles of the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life. Here are some ways you can show Scout Spirit:
  1. Participate actively: Attend scout meetings, events, and activities, and actively participate in discussions, games, and service projects.
  2. Wear your uniform: Wear your Scout uniform proudly and properly, as it represents your commitment to the scouting program and its values.
  3. Demonstrate leadership: Take initiative and lead by example. This can involve helping to plan and organize activities or offering to help fellow scouts when needed.

4. Be respectful: Show respect to your fellow scouts, scout leaders, and other adults you interact with. This includes using good manners, being polite, and listening to others.
  5. Follow the Scout Oath and Law: Live by the values and principles outlined in the Scout Oath and Law, and strive to embody the 12 points of the Scout Law in your daily life.
  6. Promote Scouting: Share your positive experiences with others and encourage them to join the scouting program.
  7. Be a good citizen: Be an active and responsible member of your community by volunteering, helping others, and making a positive impact in your local area.
- **Keep Patrol Members Informed:** Pull patrol members aside after each PLC and inform them of what went on at the meeting.
  - **Assign each Patrol Member a Specific Duty:** This occurs in activities where members are required to perform actions such as a campout or other troop activity.
  - **Represent their Patrol at the Patrol Leaders Council, and Annual Calendar Planning:** After pulling the patrol aside to bring them up to speed on PLC goings on, ask what each member of the patrol wants from the troop, and make their opinions heard at the next PLC.
  - **Prepare their Patrol to participate In Troop Activities:** Ensure that everyone knows what they are doing, or what they can do during each meeting and troop activities.
  - **Work with other Troop Leaders to ensure the Troop runs well:** Be present at the PLC meetings and work for the benefit of the troop, ensure that you are in the loop.
  - **Know the abilities of each Patrol Member:** Be present at troop meetings and events in order to learn and understand the limits and capabilities of each patrol member. This is important when assigning duties, as well as better understanding the positions of each patrol member as to better represent them at the PLC.



**Edits:**

8/27/2024 by Riley Ramey; changed to use Scouting America instead of BSA and removed gender specific pronouns.

2022 Coen Segerstrom: Started document and made responsibilities, and summary.