



# my scout journey

## road to first class





my scout journey starts with membership which can take place at any age from 11 to 17. although preferably, my scout journey should start at 11.

next step on the journey is a 'trail to traveller', followed by a 'track to discoverer' and then the destination all scouts can achieve, the 'road to first class'.

once a scout becomes a first class scout, the 'path to springbok' is the final leg on the journey to achieving the springbok award and becoming a springbok scout. like any journey, the scout trail requires planning to ensure that you reach your final destination on time. destination springbok scout must be reached before the age of eighteen, but there are other recommended timelines for the achievement of all the advancement levels on route.

the following pages map out each leg of the journey along the scout trail to achieve each of the advancement levels, which will provide you with some direction to becoming a first class first class scout and, hopefully, a springbok scout. remember, prior planning prevents poor performance; so use these to your advantage to see what tasks are required and plan your scout journey accordingly.

advancement levels, your age, the number of tasks and timeline for completion of your scout journey. good luck and enjoy the scout trail!

start the journey membership	trail to traveller			track to discoverer		road to first class		path to springbok
on joining	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
1 month	27 months			21 months		21 months		15 months
6 tasks	54 tasks			29 tasks		26 tasks		18 tasks
" i have just joined the troop "	" i am learning to be a scout "			" i am learning to be an apl "		" i am learning to be a pl "		" i am a leader of scouts! "



## road to first class



### Road to First Class - "I am Learning to be a Patrol Leader"

The First Class Advancement Level allows you to learn to be a Patrol Leader, by providing you with many leadership opportunities such as planning and organising camps, hikes, and community service projects.

Not every Scout will become a Springbok Scout. But each and every Scout has the potential of becoming a *first class First Class Scout!* Yes, you can!

If you plan properly, you can definitely take the 'Road to First Class' and achieve your First Class Advancement level.

As the Founder Lord Baden-Powell himself said, "*A \*boy does not really get the full value of Scout training until \*he is a First Class Scout*"

(\*Remember, BP referred only to boys, as at that time there were no girls in Scouting)

While following your Scout Journey along your 'Trail to Traveller' and your 'Track to Discoverer', you will have learned all sorts of exciting new Scouting Skills.

Your Discoverer advancement led you to new discoveries about leadership, and so now is your chance to put that leadership and those Scouting skills learned at the Traveller and Discoverer level into practice as you start to train other Scouts and teach them the skills that you have learned as you continue your journey on the 'Road to First Class'.

The older you get and the more Scouting experience you get, the more challenging the journey becomes!

# road to first class



## adventure

- Mapwork
  - Mapping Training Exercise
- Expedition
  - Overnight Hike & Logbook
- Navigation Skills
  - 1 Interest badge (choice of 6)



## safety awareness

- Community
  - Safety scenario
- Home
  - Bullying discussion
- Self Defence
  - Master-at-Arms Interest badge



## living outdoors

- Outdoor Skills
  - 1 Interest badge (choice of 13)
- Camping
  - Overnight Camp
- Cooking
  - Conservation cooking
  - 3-Course meal



## Road to First Class

You will need to plan and take your Patrol on an Expedition of at least 20km. This expedition must be over two days with an overnight sleepover. It doesn't only have to be a hike, although a First Class hike is very popular.

You can make it even more exciting by adding an alternative element, like an expedition by canoe or by bicycle, the choice is yours. Afterwards you will need to write a report of at least ten-pages describing your exciting **Adventure**.

Put your leadership and training skills into action and plan and run a training exercise on Mapwork for three or more younger Scouts. By the time you are finished with My Scout Journey you are never going to get lost, as there are more Navigation Skills to be learned as you earn your next Interest badge. You will need to choose one of six options.

The 'Road to First Class' includes **Safety Awareness** in the community where you train your Patrol on some basic self-preservation techniques and how to survive an attack. You have the option of the Master-at-Arms Interest badge.

As a PL or Senior Scout, it is your responsibility to protect younger Scouts from abuse – so have a chat with your Patrol about bullying.

Earn an Outdoor Skills Interest Badge (from a choice of thirteen), run an overnight camp, demonstrate conservation cooking and serve a three-course meal, and you can put the **Living Outdoors** theme badge on your arm. *Why not do all of these on your First Class camp!?*



"i am learning to be a pl"



# road to first class



## service

### Community Service

- 10-Hour service project

### Movement Service

- 1 of : Cub Instructor / Event / Recruitment / PLTU staff

### Environmental Service

- Presentation on Environmental Agency



## scout skills

### First Aid

- First Aid Interest badge

### Skill Set

- 1 Interest badge (from Traveller Scoutcraft)



## {personal development

### Leadership

Complete 5 of the following:

- Conservation Scoutcraft badge
  - OR Mentor Patrol member
- Maintain Patrol/Troop logbook
- Static Scouting Display
- Lead a Campfire
- Attend a PLTC course
- 1 'Physical activity' Interest badge
- Friendship activity
- Succession planning



## Road to First Class

There are a few choices available to you as to the type of 10-hour Community Service Project that you can do with your Patrol for your **Service** theme badge. *Helping* a sick person, *Helping* at an old age or children's home, *Helping* prepare a food garden or *Helping* younger children who are disadvantaged. Service is all about *helping* other people!

You can choose to serve the **Movement** by helping at the Pack and earning a Cub or Meerkat Instructor Badge, or recruit more Scouts to the Scout Troop, or, if you have already successfully attended the course, you can staff on a PLTU.

Give a presentation to your Troop on an Environmental Agency and how Scouts could get involved with environmental service.

You have already completed the First Aid Scoutcraft badge, so now you can 'upgrade' and complete the requirements for the First Aid Interest badge. You will also need to upgrade the Scoutcraft badge you earned on the Traveller level to a further Interest badge in order to qualify for the **Scout Skills** theme.

Five Leadership activities will take care of your **Personal Development**.

Some of the options are; achieving a bronze Star Patrol Award OR leading your Patrol members to obtain a Patrol Activities Scoutcraft badge. Maintaining the Patrol/Troop logbook, setting a static public display on Scouting, running a campfire, attending a PLTC, earning a 'physical activity' Interest badge, leading a friendship activity with a Patrol from another Troop and/or implementing a plan to mentor the next Scout in line to you. *Wow! So many routes to choose from!*

Throughout your journey there a lot of choices on the various fun and exciting activities that you can do. Many different routes and directions to choose from!

*Take the scenic route, challenge yourself!*

Don't always take the easiest or direct route, sometimes the scenic route, although a bit more challenging, is more fun!



"i am learning to be a pl"

# road to first class



## Road to First Class

You're almost there! You can practically see the end of the road, the 'Road to First Class', just a few more adventures, more interesting things to learn along the way and lots more fun and excitement as you continue along your Scout Journey.

So, let's check! Tick off the tasks already planned / completed! ✓

*Adventure:* Mapwork  Expedition  Navigation Skills

*Safety Awareness:* Safety Awareness  Community  Home

*Living Outdoors:* Camping  Outdoor Skills  Cooking

*Service:* Movement Service  Community Service  Environmental Service

*Scout Skills:* First Aid  Skill Set

*Personal Development:* Leadership

And that is it! Nothing more to get to First Class!!

If you are successful in journeying along your 'Trail to Traveller', experiencing more exciting adventures on the 'Track to Discoverer' and taking Scouts along with you on the 'Road to First Class', you will easily become a first class First Class Scout and get the full value of your Scout training.

Please note that, unlike Traveller and Discoverer, you cannot start working on the next level, Springbok, theme badges. Before you start working on any of your Springbok theme badges, you will need to have completed your First Class, be sixteen years old, and register with National to become a Springbok Candidate.



"i am learning to be a pl"



**This could be YOU! A first class First Class Scout**

When you get to the end of the 'Road to First Class' you will not only be presented with your First Class badge to put in pride of place on your uniform, but you will also be presented with a First Class certificate that you can display proudly on your wall to show everyone that you are a *first class First Class Scout*.

The First Class is the biggest step towards reaching that goal of independence and reliability. To reach this, you will have demonstrated your skill to find direction and guide others - both with and without a compass.

By wearing the badge of a First Class Scout, you are telling all Scouts that you are ready, able, and willing to lead them through difficult situations, to help them learn their skills, and to befriend them as a fellow Scout.

**THIS COULD BE YOU! A first class First Class Scout!!**

So, where to from here? Is this it? Is your My Scout Journey over?? Or . . . Do you want to take another trip? Do you want to broaden your horizons and gain further Scouting experience, have more fun, more adventures and really prove to yourself and to others that you can make the full journey, *the Springbok Journey!*

Are you going to sign-up and become a Springbok Candidate and work to achieve your **Springbok Award**, the highest accolade that a Scout can achieve in South Africa, and **become a Springbok Scout!!?** *The choice is yours!*

You must be sixteen and have successfully completed your First Class advancement level before starting your Springbok Journey.

If you are not yet sixteen, you can take on some additional challenges before registering for Springbok!

There are four types of Challenge Awards, namely; the *Airman's Cord*, the *Bosun's Cord*, the *Bushman's Thong*, and the *Service Cord*. The achievement of any one of these Challenge Awards is an opportunity to further your Scouting skills and better prepare yourself for your Springbok Journey.

Are you ready to take up the challenge?









**"i am learning to be a pl"**












"I am learning to be a pl" the first class advancement level allows you to learn to be a patrol leader, by providing you with many leadership opportunities such as planning and organising camps, hikes, and community service projects. become a first class first class scout!

theme badge	activity	requirement	target date	date completed
 <b>adventure</b>	<b>1. Mapwork</b>	Plan and run a training exercise for at least three younger Scouts on three aspects of mapping skills, as agreed upon by your Scouter.		
	<b>2. Expedition</b>	Plan and take your Patrol on an expedition, is a hike /walk / non-motorised form of transport expedition of at least 20km (or equivalent). This expedition must be over two days and have an overnight component. THEN Write a report of a minimum of ten pages that will be submitted to your Scouter within three weeks after completion of the expedition.		
	<b>3. Navigation skills</b>	Complete ONE of the following Interest badges: a. Advanced Navigation Scout Interest Badge b. Air Navigator Scout Interest Badge c. Charting Scout Interest Badge d. Guide Scout Interest Badge e. Mapping Scout Interest Badge f. Voyager Scout Interest Badge 		
 <b>safety awareness</b>	<b>1. In the community</b>	Research ONE of the following scenarios and, after discussion with your Scouter, prepare an imaginative training exercise, chosen from the list below, designed to provide your Patrol members with practical advice on how to survive a scenario with the least risk of harm. Run the exercise and discuss the results with your Scouter: a. An armed robbery; b. A gang battle; c. A hijacking; d. A home intrusion; e. Any other similar topic approved by your Scouter.		
	<b>2. At home</b>	Lead a discussion in your Patrol on abuse and bullying at school or on the internet, including how to protect younger Scouts or friends from abuse.		
	<b>3. Self defence</b>	Learn some basic self-preservation techniques / strategies and train your Patrol in these. OR Earn the Master-at-Arms badge. 		
 <b>living outdoors</b>	<b>1. Outdoor skills</b>	Earn ONE of the following Interest badges: a. Air Meteorologist b. Astronomer c. Camp Quartermaster d. Charting e. Forester f. Hike Leader g. Ornithologist h. Survival i. Voyager j. Water Biologist k. Wave Rider l. Weathercaster m. Woodcrafts 		
	<b>2. Camping</b>	Within the limits of your Troop equipment, plan and run an overnight camp for at least three younger Scouts away from your Troop meeting place.		
	<b>3. Cooking</b>	i. Be able to explain to younger Scouts the importance of conserving wood resources by building and demonstrating the successful use of two of the following: a. Camp fridge, b. Conservation wood stove, c. Hay box or wonder box, d. Reflector oven, e. Solar box, f. Solar water heater for showers, g. Solar water sterilizer, h. A similar device, approved by your Scouter.  ii. Lead your Patrol in planning, cooking and serving a hot three-course meal to at least six people, including a guest who will be your examiner. The meal must be cooked from raw ingredients and cooked on an open fire. Demonstrate an understanding of the essential components of a balanced and healthy diet and explain how your meal meets these criteria.		



theme badge	activity	requirement	target date	date completed	
 <b>service</b>	<b>1. Community service</b>	Identify a need in the community and plan and run a community service project. By yourself or with your Patrol, spend a minimum of ten hours over a period of at least one month in meeting this need. The project may include one of the following, or another project that is approved by your Scouter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Caring for a sick person (e.g. doing the shopping and looking after their garden).</li> <li>b. Helping at an old age or children's home.</li> <li>c. Helping prepare a food garden.</li> <li>d. Helping younger children who are disadvantaged or who have disabilities with reading or homework (or other ongoing activities).</li> </ul>			
	<b>2. Movement service</b>	Complete ONE of the following, or a similar event approved by your Scouter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Attain the Cub Instructor badge.</li> <li>b. Recruit two new Scouts or Cubs.</li> <li>c. Organise and run a recruitment drive or a Scout marketing event.</li> <li>d. Be a full time staff member of a recognised PLTU course, with the approval of the Course Director for that course. (This option is normally for those that have attended a PLTU course themselves as a participant.)</li> </ul>			
	<b>3. Environmental Service</b>	Give a presentation to your Troop on a National or International wildlife / environmental agency that has branches in South Africa. Discuss one of their local projects and how Scouts could get involved with environmental service.			
 <b>scout skills</b>	<b>1. First Aid</b>	Complete the First Aid Interest badge. 			
	<b>2. Skill set</b>	Complete a second Interest badge or an Interest badge from the skill set obtained in the Traveller advancement level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Air Glider Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>b. Air Traffic Controller Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>c. Boatman Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>d. Canoeist Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>e. Cook Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>f. Food for Life (Silver)</li> <li>g. Helmsman Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>h. Home Maintenance Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>i. Pioneer Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>j. Rock Climbing Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>k. Veldcraft Scout Interest Badge</li> </ul> 			
 <b>personal development</b>	<b>1. Leadership</b>	Complete FIVE of the eight requirements.			
		i. Lead your Patrol to obtain a bronze Star Patrol Award or higher.			
		OR Lead your Patrol to obtain a Patrol Activities Scoutcraft badge. (two Patrol Members have been attending Scouts for longer than a year).			
		ii. Contribute to or maintain the Patrol/Troop log book or blog for a term. This should include at least five entries.			
		iii. Set up and man a static public display for the public on Scouting. This can be done at your Scout hall or other venue for at least one day.			
		iv. On your own or with another Scout, plan and lead a campfire that is at least 40 minutes long.			
		v. Attend a PLTC course.			
		vi. Complete ONE of the following Interest badges, or one of the other 'physical activity' Interest badges as approved by your Scouter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Archer Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>b. Athlete Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>c. Canoeist Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>d. Hike Leader Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>e. Master-at-Arms Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>f. Physical Fitness Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>g. Sports Scout Interest Badge</li> <li>h. Wave Rider Scout Interest Badge</li> </ul> 			
vii. Plan and lead a friendship activity with a Patrol from another Troop.					
viii. Discuss with your Patrol the concept of succession planning. After approval from your COH or Scouter, develop and implement a plan to mentor the next Scout in line to you.					

good luck on the  
**scout journey**

enjoy your  
**scouting trail**  
and have **fun!!**

