

DOING ADVANCEMENT RIGHT

By Three Fires Council Commissioner Brian Caputo

As a unit leader, when you get rank advancement patches for your Scouts which of the following should you do?

1. Go to the Scout Shop and just pick up your unit's patches.
2. Fill out an Advancement Report form (Pack, Troop, Crew, Ship), bring it to the Scout Shop, submit the completed form to the shop, and pick up your unit's patches.
3. Enter the Scout advancement data into Scoutbook Plus, print out the Unit Advancement Report, bring the report to the Scout Shop, submit the report to the shop, and pick up your unit's patches.

The correct answer is either 2 or 3. The key point is that unit leaders should submit an advancement report to the Scout Shop.

Submitting the Advancement Report form (available at <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34403.pdf>) or Unit Advancement Report from Scoutbook Plus to the Scout Shop ensures that your Scouts' records with the council are accurate and helps your unit achieve the Advancement metric in My.Scouting. (To achieve the Advancement metric, at least 30% of the Scouts in a pack or troop must have advanced at least one rank within the previous 12 months.)

You will find that the staff of the Norris and Naperville Scout Stores will no longer provide patches to unit leaders without the submission of an Advancement Report or a Scoutbook Plus Unit Advancement Report.

There is one more important point: unit leaders may obtain rank advancement patches for their Scouts from the Norris and Naperville Scout Shops at no charge when an advancement report is presented. The council fee paid upon a Scout's initial registration or individual renewal covers the cost of rank advancement patches.

Let's take care of our Scouts and our units by doing advancement administration right.

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