

“CITIZENSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY” the following requirements need to be done ahead of time:

- 2 a - Have a map of the person’s community available, bring it with you.
- 2 b- Have a chart of Local or State Government and bring with you
- 3 a- Must attend or view on Municipal TV Channel of a town/city department meeting.
- 4 b- Follow instructions and do ahead of time and bring notes of interview.
- 5 – Watch an appropriate movie approved by Parent. I will accept the parents approved choice.
- 7 c –Follow instructions and do 8 hrs. of service to chosen organization that is non Scouting.
- 8 – Review requirement and prepare according to your choices.

“CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION” the following requirements need to be done ahead of time:

- 2- Choose two of the 4 requirements and complete beforehand, be prepared to review.
- 3- Watch the TV evening news for the 5 days, make notes and be prepared to review.
- 4- Review a through e and be prepared to review and show an understanding of the federal documents listed.

“CITIZENSHIP IN THE WORLD” the following requirements need to be done ahead of time:

- 7- A through E choose 2 and be prepared to support what you present.

“COLLECTIONS”

All the requirements are pretty straightforward. Don’t bring the whole collection if it is big. Bring a sampling and some photo’s.

ENGINEERING MERIT BADGE

Items #2 and #9.

COMMUNICATION

- 3. Write a 5-minute speech and come prepared to present during class.
- 4. Interview someone you know fairly well, like or respect because of his or her position, talent, career or life experiences. Listen actively and to learn as much as you can about the person.
- 5. Attend a public meeting where several points of view are given on a specific subject. Come prepared to discuss and report.

CHESS

Please read through these today and be ready for fun on Friday, August 11th in Chess MB class at Merit Badge Mania.

Each Scout earning this merit badge:

- * MUST have a Scoutmaster-signed blue card with the Scout's information on the blue card; this is your 'passport' into Chess MB.
- * MUST bring an inexpensive, unbreakable, chess set. (Nothing sentimental—so scour toy stores, thrift shops, etc. today!
- * Wear a Class A or Class B uniform to class.

PRE-REQS (do a, b or c before Merit Badge Mania weekend:

- a. Play AT LEAST three games of chess with other Scouts, Leaders or family members who play this game. Keep score each time and see where you might have played each game differently.
- b. Play in a scholastic (youth) chess tournament and use your score sheets from that tournament to replay your games with your merit badge counselor at Merit Badge Mania on Friday night, August 11. Discuss with your counselor how you might have played each game differently.
- c. Organize and run a chess tournament with at least four players, plus you. Have each competitor play at least two games.

BE READY TO...

Be ready to discuss the history of the game of chess and be able to talk about why this is considered a game of planning and strategy on Friday, August 11.

Be ready to show how you can teach the game of chess using Scouting's Teaching EDGE method on Friday, August 11. (You MUST know the name of each chess piece and which direction(s) they move including castling and *en passant* captures. Be sure you know how to set up a chessboard to play the game—when you enter the class your first order of fun is to find a seat and set up your chessboard.

Be ready to show how to keep score using the algebraic system of chess notation on Friday, August 11.

Be ready to discuss the differences between the opening, the middle game and the endgame on Friday, August 11.

Be ready to explain the four opening principles on Friday, August 11.

Please ready to explain the four rules of castling on Friday, August 11.

Be ready to demonstrate a 'scholar's mate' and a 'fools' mate' on Friday, August 11.

Be ready how to demonstrate on a chessboard four ways a chess game can end in a 'draw' on Friday, August 11.

Be ready to explain four of the following chess strategies: exploiting weaknesses, force, king safety, pawn structure, space, tempo and time on Friday, August 11.

Be ready to explain any five of these chess tactics: clearance sacrifice, decoy, discovered attack, double attack, fork, interposing, overloading, overprotecting, pin, remove the defender, skewer, *and zwischenzug*.

Be ready to set up your chessboard with the white king on **e1**, the white rooks on **a1** and **h1**, and the black king on **e5**. With White to move first, demonstrate how to force checkmate on the black king.

Be ready to set up and solve five direct-mate problems that I challenge you with.

You will find all of these details in the Chess MB book available at any Scout store or from your troop's merit badge book library—but read the booklet 1-2 times well in advance of Merit Badge Mania weekend so you can answer questions easily; looking them up in class doesn't count.

FAMILY LIFE

'Be Ready to...'

This is a very important email so please read it today to the end so your eagle-required Family Life MB class is fun and educational! We meet half-day on Saturday and half-day on Sunday at Merit Badge Mania. This is a VERY hands-on class so be on-time, well-rested and prepared!

- * Scouts earning this MUST have a completed Scoutmaster-signed blue card to start 'earning'. Please secure your Scoutmaster-signed blue card in a sandwich-size Ziploc bag and bring it to class!
- * Each Scout attending wears his Class A or Class B uniform to class.
- * I need confirmation if the Scout has/doesn't have food allergies to sealow@gmail.com (No food *dislikes*, please!) My classes are delivered in a *family-like atmosphere* so I need an early response from each Scout's family for planning purposes. A simple "Herman Jones is allergic to lemons, chores, and homework" is great—or if no allergies, "Herman Jones has no allergies". Thank you in advance for responding early.
- * This class can 'veer off' into mature discussions so Scouts under First Class are often easily overwhelmed by this MB... I'm not saying'... just saying'...

PRE-REQS SCOUTS DO AFTER THEY HAVE A SCOUTMASTER-SIGNED BLUE CARD.... (Work or projects performed before the bluecard date will not qualify.)

- * List several reasons why you are important in your family; discuss this list with your family before coming to Merit Badge Mania. Bring your written list to class and discuss it.
- * *After* you have a Scoutmaster-signed Family Life blue card, make a list of your regular home duties or chores (you must have *at least* five) and do those regularly for 90 days. Record how often you do each. Be prepared to discuss in class how your actions (doing those five or more tasks) benefit your family. NOTE: chore list begins after the Scout's Family Life blue card is signed by his Scoutmaster.
- * **Personal Project.** With the approval of your parents or guardians and your Family life MB counselor, decide on and carry out a project that you would do around the home that would benefit your family. Is there a closet that REALLY needs organizing? Perhaps a huge stack of toys and games that no one ever plays with anymore? Maybe the garden is overwhelmed by weeds? After getting approval, take before and after pictures of your work (have someone photographing you doing some of it). Be ready to talk about how this work benefitted your family. Bring prints of your work to Family Life class. (Sorry... we cannot pass around a cell phone or tablet to view these for any reason.) NOTE: project may not be performed before the Scout's Family Life blue card has been signed by his Scoutmaster.
- * **Family Project.** Plan and carry out a project that involves the participation of your family. After completing the project, be ready to discuss the following in Family Life MB class: What was the objective or goal of the family project? How did individual members of your family participate? What were your end results of the project? Bring prints of the family project to Family Life class. (Sorry... we cannot pass around a cell phone or tablet to view these for any reason.) NOTE: project may not be performed before the Scout's Family Life blue card has been signed by his Scoutmaster.
- * **Family meeting!** Family meeting! When does your family have a family meeting? Often? Never? When something exciting or bad happens? Family meetings held often usually make for a smooth home life. Hold a family meeting (or two... you have a LOT of material to cover) and include the following subjects:
 1. Avoiding substance abuse, including tobacco, alcohol, and drugs, all of which negatively affect your health and well-being
 2. Understanding the growing-up process and how the body changes, and making responsible decisions dealing with sex
 3. How your chores in requirement 3 contributed to your role in the family
 4. Personal and family finances
 5. A crisis situation within your family
 6. The effect of technology on your family
 7. Good etiquette and manners

To get the maximum benefit out of your time in this class read the Family Life MB book available at any Scout store or perhaps from your troop's merit badge book library.

COMMUNICATION

This is an important email; please read today to the end so your eagle-required MB class is fun and educational! We meet half-day on Saturday and half-day on Sunday at Merit Badge Mania. Class is VERY hands-on so be on-time, well-rested and prepared!

- * Scouts MUST have a Scoutmaster-signed blue card with them to earn. Please secure your Scoutmaster-signed blue card in a sandwich-size Ziploc bag and bring it to class!
- * Scouts attend in Class A or Class B uniform.
- * Please confirm whether or not your Scout has ANY food allergies (no *food dislikes*) to sealow@gmail.com. Thank you in advance!

PRE-REQS

3. Write a five-minute speech; practice this several times at home and be sure you can be heard 'in the back of the room'. It REALLY must be five minutes long; bring your speech to class on August 12 and present to all!
4. Interview someone you know fairly well, like, or respect because of his or her position, talent, career, or life experiences. Listen actively to learn as much as you can about the person. Then prepare an *introduction* of the person you interviewed. Be ready to introduce this person in our August 12 class as though he or she were going to be a guest speaker in our Communication MB class; be sure to include reasons why the other Scouts in your class would *want* to hear this person speak. Be ready to show you would call to invite this person up to speak.
5. After obtaining your Scoutmaster-signed Communication blue card, attend a public meeting (city council, school board, debate) **preapproved by your MB counselor** where several points of view are given on a single issue. Practice active listening skills and take careful notes of each point of view. While the meeting is fresh in your mind... prepare a report that includes all points of view that were expressed, and bring your notes to class on August 12.
6. Send 1-2 ideas to me of a skill you would like to teach OR a subject of something you'd like to talk about in Communication MB class on August 12. The skill or subject must be Scout like to be approved. Email this to me early (sealow@gmail.com) as often too many Scouts want to teach the same skill or talk about the same subject—so if asked to choose another skill or subject, you'll need time to get another choice approved. Prepare teaching aids for your plan if you're teaching something (e.g., teaching a knot? Bring at least 3-4 hanks of rope as your teaching aids). Carry out your plan on August 12 in class. (NOTE: any skill that takes >6-7 minutes **will not be approved**—musical instruments, karate, and sign language come to mind.) In class, we'll determine whether the person(s) you taught learned what you intended.
8. After you have a Scoutmaster-signed Communication blue card, plan a troop or crew court of honor, campfire program, or interfaith worship service. Have your PLC approve it, write a script and prepare the program; and serve as master of ceremonies. Bring your details to class on August 12 or 13 and share with us!

To get the **maximum** benefit out of this class be sure to read the Communication MB book available at any Scout store or perhaps from your troop's merit badge book library.