

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)

The top youth leader of the troop.

OVERVIEW

The Senior Patrol Leader is the highest-ranking youth position in the troop. The SPL runs troop meetings, leads the Patrol Leaders Council, and represents the scouts to the Scoutmaster. This is the most demanding youth leadership role — and the most rewarding.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1 Run troop meetings and Courts of Honor
- 2 Preside over Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) meetings
- 3 Set the tone for troop culture and expectations
- 4 Assign duties to junior leaders
- 5 Represent troop scouts in communication with adult leaders
- 6 Mentor Assistant SPL and patrol leaders

TIME COMMITMENT

3–5 hours/week including meetings, PLC, and prep

IDEAL FOR

A First Class or above Scout who leads by example and communicates clearly

WORKS WITH

Scoutmaster

Assistant SPL

Patrol Leaders

Troop Guide

TIPS FROM LEADERS WHO'VE DONE IT

Run a tight PLC — agenda in advance, start on time, end on time.

Delegate. You can't do it all yourself and it's not your job to.

Know every patrol leader's name and how their patrol is doing.

Your Scoutmaster is your coach, not your boss. Use them.