Old Dominion District & Internet Advancement

BSA Internet Advancement

Internet Advancement is for reporting Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Sea Scout ranks; Venturing advancement awards; Webelos activity badges; merit badges; and various other awards available in all BSA programs.

Assumptions:

- Scouts are advancing in rank, earning merit badges and gaining recognition for their accomplishments.
- Scout leaders are interested in recording their Scout's achievements.
- A common method of recording and reporting achievement toward advancement promotes equity for all scouts

Guide Posts:

- Internet Advancement is a unit responsibility.
- Each unit ensures a Scout's progress is included in both his unit database (e.g., Troopmaster, Scoutbook) AND reported to BSA Internet Advancement.
- A unit's Internet Advancement will include all updated information by the end of the calendar year.
- For Webelos – the Arrow of Light award is entered into Internet Advancement shortly after award, but no later than when the scout bridges to a Boy Scout troop.

Success means:

- All ODD units are registered with BSA Internet Advancement
- Unit Advancement Coordinators are reporting Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Sea Scout ranks; Venturing advancement awards; Webelos activity badges; merit badges; and various other awards available in all BSA programs.
- Each unit updates Internet Advancement monthly.
- Scouts' records are accurate and up to date when they submit Eagle rank applications or transfer from one unit to another within the Council
- Commissioners, other district and council volunteers, and the National Council have access to accurate records due to consistent and timely reporting by units

How Internet Advancement works:

- You can get Internet Advancement Training *http://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Internet_Advancement_Update.pdf*
- The unit assigns a Scouter, usually the unit Advancement Coordinator, who is also known in Internet Advancement terms as the "unit advancement processor", to record advancements.
- The NCAC assigns each unit with a "unit ID". If you do not know your unit ID number, contact the NCAC Program Department at 301-214-9197 to reset your unit profile.
- The unit advancement processor can use the Internet Advancement Training material (noted above) or takes a class through at the annual NCAC University of Scouting.
- The Internet Advancement website allows the unit advancement processor to upload advancement information from third-party platforms or manually enter information using the web page forms.

What can Internet Advancement do for a unit and the District?

- Units will be able to print reports without needing to contact the DE or NCAC Registrar. These reports include:
  - Unit Roster showing active youth and adult leaders
  - Unit Advancement Summary showing ranks, merit badges, and awards in the record of each current unit members.
  - Unit Advancement Report listing new ranks, merit badges, and awards for each youth member. (This report also serves as the official Unit Advancement Report to be used at the Scout Shop to procure rank patches.
  - Unit Advancement Update Summary listing any ranks, merit badges, and awards that were updated online.
  - Membership Cards (unofficial) that can be used to show that the youth or adult is registered in the unit.
- Your unit Advancement Chair is the key to successfully providing information to Internet Advancement.
  - If you unit uses a program such as Troopmaster, there is a way to upload information to Internet Advancement.
  - This becomes especially important when a Scout has an Eagle Scout Rank Advancement form. What is in the Internet Advancement file controls the success of getting an ESRA form approved.

What else goes in Internet Advancement besides rank advancement and merit badges?

- The following is an example of possible entries for a troop. For Cub Scouts and V3 units, go to your Internet Advancement website for more information.

B. S. A. Lifeguard	National Outdoor Awards - Camping Award
Boardsailing B. S. A.	National Outdoor Awards - Hiking Award
BSA Physical Fitness Award (Youth)	National Outdoor Awards - Riding Award
Cyber Chip	Nova Boy Scouts: Shoot!
Den Chief Service Award	Nova Boy Scouts: Start Your Engines
Emergency. Preparedness BSA - Scout /Varsity	Nova Boy Scouts: Whoosh!
Fifty-Miler Award	Nova Boy Scouts: Designed to Crunch
Firem'n Chit	Outdoor Ethics Action Award
Historic Trails Award	Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award
Interpreter Strip	Paul Bunyan Woodsman
Kayaking BSA (Youth)	SCUBA BSA (Youth)
Leave No Trace (Youth-BS/Vent.)	Snorkeling B. S. A.
Mile Swim	Stand Up Paddleboarding BSA (Youth)
National Medal-Outdoor Achievement	Supernova Boy Scouts: Dr. Harris-Bronze
National Outdoor Awards - Adventure Award	Supernova Boy Scouts: Edison-Silver
National Outdoor Awards - Aquatics Award	Totin' Chip
	World Conservation Award

Quality Assurance

- The District Executive provides monthly Internet Advancement reports to the District Advancement Chair to assess ODD unit participation in use of Internet Advancement.
- The ODD Advancement & Recognition Chair reports participation and compliance issues to the ODD Commissioner for resolution by the respective unit commissioner.
- Unit Advancement Coordinators (or their designated representative) provide the unit's Internet Advancement report to the Scout Store when they are procuring rank advancement patches.
- By definition, when an Eagle Scout Rank Application form is submitted to NCAC for certification, if no issues are identified the unit is complying with the Internet Advancement process.
- When a Scout departs a unit, especially if moving to another council, the unit should provide the Scout with a copy of his Internet Advancement report as BSA does not have a method to report Internet Advancement records between councils.

John Selstrom
ODD Advancement & Recognition Chair
John.selstrom@outlook.com
c-703-598-7502
h-703-866-4742