

# INDUCTION CEREMONY FOR NEW SCOUTS

## EQUIPMENT

1. Table
  2. US Flag
  3. Troop Flag
  4. Stenders both flags
  5. Electrical simulated candle device
  6. Script
- Scout Badge

## SETTING

The room is dark except for the single pilot candle. The Scoutmaster stands behind the table containing the candles. The senior patrol leader has taken the candidates from the room and stands ready with them outside the door. The scouts being inducted are in uniform, if possible.

## THE PROCEDURE

SCOUTMASTER: "Senior patrol leader, bring the candidates forward."

(SPL does so)

(The Scoutmaster calls them by first and last name)

"You have presented yourselves before this troop and asked to be made Scouts. Is this your wish?"

CANDIDATES: (They respond)

SCOUTMASTER: "In this ceremony you will be received into this troop and in the world brotherhood of Scouting. Before you stands a single lighted candle. It represents the spirit of Scouting. As you become Scouts you will learn more of the spirit of Scouting.

The law of the troop is the Scout law. It is known and followed by millions of Scouts. You will learn and follow this law too. The SPL will now recite for you the parts of the Scout law. Listen to them closely, for I will soon ask you whether you accept this law as your own.

(SPL lights the first candle on his right. As he does so he recites the first point of the Scout law.)

SPL: "A Scout is trustworthy."

VOICE: "A Scout tells the truth. He keeps his promises. Honesty is a part of his code and conduct. People can depend on him."

(As the reader completes his assignment the SPL lights the second candle from his right.)

SPL: "A Scout is loyal."

VOICE: "A Scout is true to his family, Scout leaders, friends, school and nation."

(SPL and readers continue with all 12 points. After through reading the Scoutmaster speaks.)

SCOUTMASTER: "You have heard the 12 points of the Scout law. Do you accept this law as a Scout and do you promise to do your best to live by this law?"

CANDIDATES: "We do."

SCOUTMASTER: "Scouts also live by another code. It is the Scout Oath or Promise. The Scout Oath describes three duties that every Scout must accept: his duty to God and country, his duty to other people, and his duty to himself. I want you to make this promise publicly for the first time. Repeat after me this Oath as I light three candles to represent these three duties."

## UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING

## CEREMONY INGREDIENTS

1. Contains some element of rededication to the ideals of scouting.
2. Build Scout spirit, or improving Scout participation.
3. Include some element of patriotism, or appreciation of the American way of life.
4. Include enthusiasm and sincerity.
5. Be impressive and brief.
6. Tolerate neither horseplay nor embarrassment.
7. Avoid suggestions of initiation.
8. Be planned by boys or committee that include boys, to ensure maximum boy appeal and perhaps greater effectiveness.
9. Start on time and end as close to the announced time as possible.
10. Avoid discomfort such as poor visibility, inability to hear speakers, long periods of standing at attention, and poor ventilation.
11. You may choose to honor one scout at a time to ensure special recognition.
12. Ensuring that the recipient is facing the audience, not the presenter.

## PLANNING FOR CEREMONIES

1. Know when prospective Scouts are of age to join the troop.
2. List participants that will be involved with your ceremony.
3. Make certain that all that are to be invited are invited.
4. List your props.
5. Predetermine room arrangements.
6. Rehearse your ceremony.

## SUGGESTED SCOUT MATERIALS TO BE PRESENTED AT CEREMONY

## NEW SCOUT

- |                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Scout Badge  | 4. Neckerchief Slide (optional) |
| 2. Patrol Patch | 5. Scout Handbook               |
| 3. Neckerchief  |                                 |

## BOY LEADER

1. Leadership Patch
2. Boy Leaders Handbook

SM CONT. "On my honor I will do my best (pause)  
 To do my duty to God and my country (pause)  
 And to obey the Scout law; (lights center candle)  
 To help other people at all times; (lights left candle)  
 To keep myself physically strong, (pause)  
 Mentally awake, (pause)  
 And morally straight" (lights right candle).

"You have heard the words of the Scout Oath and Promise. Do you accept the three duties it describes and do you pledge yourself to learn and to follow the Scout Oath?"

CANIDATES: "We do."

SCOUTMASTER: "Very well. We began in almost total darkness. Now in the light of these candles, we can see one another as well. So it is that the spirit of the Scout Oath and the Scout law lights our steps.

I direct your attention to the flag of our country. As Scouts we have special feelings about the flag. We learn what it means. We learn to take care of it. We learn to honor it. We love and honor the nation it represents. I ask you now to face the flag and pledge your allegiance to it."

CANIDATES: (Recite the pledge)

SCOUTMASTER: "Candidates, please escort your parents forward."  
 (If a boys parents are unable to attend, have their patrol leader come forward.)

SCOUTMASTER: "We welcome these boys as Scouts and as new members of our troop. I will now present them with the Scout badge."

( Pin the badge on the Scouts left pocket )

SCOUTMASTER: "Patrol leaders, take charge of these Scouts and welcome them into your patrols."