

Historic Merit Badges

Info from <http://boyscoutblog.wsr3.net/2010/01/20/merit-badge-corner-historic-merit-badges/> and <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/page/2/>



The BSA recently released four historic merit badges that were around when scouting was founded for scouts to earn during 2010. These merit badges will allow scouts to learn things that some of the first scouts learned. The requirements will be the same as the originals except where safety or social standards dictate otherwise. The merit badge emblems will look the same also except for a special gold trim that will make it easily identifiable as a historic merit badge. The catch, these badges can only be earned during the year 2010 and only work done towards the requirements in 2010 will count. All requirements must be completed by December 31st, 2010 because after these badges go back in the BSA vault so to say. The BSA will be posting a special website with requirements and resources for this program very soon. Below are the reintroduced requirements from Us Scouting Service Project:

Carpentry:

1. Demonstrate the use of the rule, square, level, plumb-line, miter, chalk-line and bevel.
2. Demonstrate the proper way to drive, set, and clinch a nail, draw a spike with a claw-hammer, and to join two pieces of wood with screws.
3. Show correct use of the cross-cut saw and of the rip-saw.
4. Show how to plane the edge, end and the broad surface of a board.
5. Demonstrate how to lay shingles.
6. Make a simple article of furniture for practical use in the home or on the home grounds, finished in a workmanlike manner, all work to be done without assistance.

Pathfinding:

1. Demonstrate a general knowledge of the district within a three-mile radius of the local Scout Headquarters, or his house so as to be able to guide people at any time day or night to points within this area.
2. Know the population of the five principal neighboring towns and cities as selected by his Guide or Counselor. Demonstrate direction for reaching them from Scout Headquarters or his house.

3. If in the country, know the breeds of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs owned on the five neighboring farms; if in the city, demonstrate directions to tourist camp and to five places for purchasing food supplies.
4. Demonstrate how to direct tourists from his home to gas, oil, tire, and general auto repair.
5. Give telephone number, if any, and directions for reaching the nearest police station, fire-fighting apparatus, Court House or Municipal Building, the nearest Country Farm Agent's office, doctor, veterinarian and hospital.
6. Know something of the history of his community and the location of its principal places of interest and public buildings.
7. Submit a scale map, not necessarily drawn by himself, upon which he has personally indicated as much of the above-required information.

Signaling:

1. Make an electric buzzer outfit, wireless, blinker, or other signaling device. Send and receive in the International Morse Code, by buzzer or other sound device, a complete message of not less than 35 words, at a rate of not less than 35 letters per minute.
2. Demonstrate an ability to send and receive a message in the International Morse Code by wigwag and by blinker or other light signaling device at a rate of not less than 20 letters per minute.
3. Send and receive by Semaphore Code at the rate of not less than 30 letters per minute.
4. Know the proper application of the International Morse Code and Semaphore Codes; when, where, and how they can be used to best advantage.
5. Discuss briefly various other codes and methods of signaling which are in common use.

Tracking:

1. Demonstrate by means of a stalking game or otherwise, ability to stalk skillfully in shelter and wind, etc., when occasion demands.
2. Know and recognize the tracks of ten different kinds of animals or birds in his vicinity, three of which may be domestic.
3. Submit satisfactory evidence that he has trailed two different kinds of wild animals or birds on ordinary ground far enough to determine the direction in which they were going, and their gait or speed. Give names of animals or birds trailed, their direction of travel, and describe gait and speed; or submit satisfactory evidence that he has trailed six different kinds of wild animal or birds in snow, sand, dust or mud, far enough to determine the direction in which they were going, and their gait or speed. Give names of animals or birds trailed, their direction of travel, and describe gait and speed.
4. Submit evidence the he has scored at least 30 points from the following groups: [Group (f) and 4 of the 5 groups (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) must be represented in the score of 30 and at least 7 points must be scored from (a), (b), or (c)]. Make a clear photograph of:

a. Live bird away from nest	4 points
b. Live woodchuck or smaller wild animal	3 points
c. Live wild animal larger than woodchuck	4 points
d. Live bird on nest	3 points
e. Tracks of live wild animal or bird	2 points
f. Make satisfactory plaster cast of wild animal or bird tracks with identification imprint on back of each	2 points

Below are the links to the merit badges pages at US Scouting Service Project:

Carpentry: <http://usscouts.org/mb/carpentry.asp>

Pathfinding: <http://usscouts.org/mb/pathfinding.asp>

Signaling: <http://usscouts.org/mb/signaling.asp>

Tracking: <http://usscouts.org/mb/tracking.asp>

Here is the link to the Official Announcement on the Scouting Magazine Blog:

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2010/01/historical-merit-badges-help-boy-scouts-celebrate-scoutings-past.html>