



## OBJECTIVES

ON MY HONOR – On the front of each Pine Tree emblem is a small figure eight, and, on the first evening of Pine Tree, each Scout is told that this stands for the most important words in Scouting; the first eight words of the Scout Oath:

*“On my Honor I will do my Best”*

This, then, is the first challenge of Pine Tree, applying both to Scouts and leaders, and by this challenge is set the fundamental goal of Pine Tree: to challenge and inspire the boy to do his best. The objective of the Pine Tree is to instill in the young leader an enthusiasm, a love of Scouting, and a strong will to use his knowledge to help other boys grow in Scouting. This objective is accomplished by the methods of Pine Tree: to place the boys under a difficult challenging environment that requires their very best and develops pride in themselves; to teach them the necessary technical skills and theories of leadership; and to develop the fundamental idealism of boys through proud traditions and ceremonies.

## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR PINE TREE CANDIDATES

PINE TREE IS A DIFFICULT AND CHALLENGING EXPERIENCE and not all Scouts are ready for it. For this reason, the Pine Tree Commission has established the following requirements for Pine Tree Candidates. We firmly believe that rigid adherence to the policies stated here will provide the greatest benefit for the candidates and their troops.

1. All Pine Tree Candidates **must be at least 13 years old** on the date that their Pine Tree course begins.
2. All Pine Tree Candidates must be at least **First Class Rank**.
3. While recognizing the high degree of motivation, the hard work, and the leadership ability of a Scout who has attained the Eagle Rank, the Commission feels that a troop will most benefit by sending candidates who are still striving toward this goal. Therefore, we discourage sending candidates who are Eagle Scouts in the absence of exceptional conditions.
4. Pine Tree demands a great deal of physical effort. Scouts who have health problems that limit their physical activities or that could be dangerous to them under stress should carefully consider the demands that will be made of them at Pine Tree.
5. Pine Tree is a leadership training course. Candidates should be mature, well motivated and have a high degree of leadership potential and capacity of inspiration. They should be cooperative and have the ability to work as a team member with other Scouts they have never met.