**BSA TROOP 28 – GLENCOE, ILLINOIS**

Scout/Star Rank Requirement #6 and Cyber Chip for Scouts in Grades 9-12

Last Update, May 4, 2019

## What Is the Cyber Chip?

Today’s youth are spending more time than ever using digital media for education, research, socializing, and fun. To help families and volunteers keep youth safe while online, the Boy Scouts of America requires scouts to hold a current Cyber Chip for their grade level.

The Cyber Chip is an award with a temporary pocket patch that can be worn on the uniform. It is a pre-requisite for digital merit badges (e.g., Programming, Digital Technology, and Photography). In addition, it is a rank requirement for the Scout *and* Star ranks.

## Meeting Pre-Requisites

**Troop 28 asks that scouts in grades 9 to 12 who do not have a Cyber Chip for this grade range do the following before the troop meeting:**

**1) We recommend that the scout and a parent/guardian write a personalized contract that outlines rules for using the computer and mobile devices (requirement #3).** Thiscontract may include what the scouts are allowed to download and/or post, and consequences for inappropriate use. If you do not complete this in advance, we will have contract templates available for the scouts to bring home to discuss and sign.

**2) Discuss social media safety with your parents.**

**3) Watch the Real-Life Story video**<https://www.nsteens.org/videos.aspx?Brand=Real-Life-Stories>

**4) Review a topic in the Student Project Kit and prepare to lead a discussion on one of these four topics (**Cyberbullying, Digital Ethics, Digital Literacy, Online Privacy)

The troop will complete the remaining requirements during an upcoming Troop meeting. If the scout is unable to attend the troop meeting where Cyber Chip is covered, he can complete these requirements independently with a Scoutmaster.

**3) Print, sign, and bring the worksheet from page 2 of this document.**



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Star Rank Requirement #6 and Cyber Chip for Grades 9-12

**Scout Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent’s Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Video** | **Date Watched** | **Parent’s Initials** |
| 1. Real-Life Video
 |  |  |

**ALL SCOUTS:** We have discussed safe social media use, and have written and signed a personalized digital contract (*please attach*).

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**Scout’s Signature Date**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent’s Signature Date**

**IF YOUR SCOUT HAS NOT YET COMPLETED STAR RANK #6:** We have completed the exercises from the *How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide* together.

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**Scout’s Signature Date**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent’s Signature Date**

## OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL READING

## Appendix A – Cyber Chip Requirements

A complete, current set of Cyber Chip requirements can be found online at:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/>

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/grades-9-12/>

**Cyber Chip Requirements for Grades 9-12 as of February 9, 2019**

* Read and sign the Level II Internet Safety Pledge. (BSA Cyber Chip green card)
* Write and sign a personalized contract with your parent or guardian that outlines rules for using the computer and mobile devices, including what you can download, what you can post, and consequences for inappropriate use.
* Discuss with your parents the benefits and potential dangers teenagers might experience when using social media. Give examples of each.
* Watch three “[**Real-Life Story **](http://www.nsteens.org/videos.aspx?Brand=Real-Life-Stories)” videos to learn the impact on teens. ([**www.netsmartz.org/scouting) **](http://www.netsmartz.org/scouting)
* As an individual or patrol, use the EDGE method and the Student Project Kit to teach Internet safety rules, behavior, and “netiquette” to your troop or another patrol. You are encouraged to use any additional material and information you have researched. Each member of the patrol must have a role and present part of the lesson. ([**www.netsmartz.org/scouting) **](http://www.netsmartz.org/scouting)
* Discuss with your unit leader the acceptable standards and practices for using allowed electronic devices such as phones and games at your meetings and other Scouting events.

After completing the requirements for Grades 9-12, the BSA expects Scouts to “recharge” their Cyber Chip annually by watching a brief refresher video (<5 minutes). The troop will send reminders when the time comes.

## Appendix B – Cyber Chip and Rank Advancement

Requirement #6 for the Scout and Star rank reads as follows: “With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide* and earn the Cyber Chip Award for your grade.” [Emphasis added]

The BSA recognizes that older scouts may be exposed to different dangers online as their online activity and engagement with new adults as they get older. So scouts are expected to repeat this exercise, with additional age-appropriate content, to help keep them safe online and in person.

By following these instructions and participating in the troop Cyber Chip program, your scout will complete the “earn the Cyber Chip Award” component of this requirement. Either way, scouts also still need to complete the “Child Abuse” component with a parent to complete this requirement.

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