



Adult supervision is advised for children ages 12-16. All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward-based methods. Child may be assisted with the [Handler Written Test](#) and can be quizzed verbally as needed.

- Handler picks up after the dog and assists in the care of the dog (feeding, walking, etc.); handler always has at least 2 pick up bags whenever the dog is present
- Handler can play nicely with his/her dog and can safely meet another dog
- Handler shows love and respect for the dog and knows how to protect the dog by keeping him safe; handler can explain when to use the phrase, "please get your dog back"
- Handler seeks to continually teach the dog new things
- Handler knows safety rules for greeting a dog, being approached by a loose dog, riding a bike around a dog, etc.
- Dog is safe and comfortable around people and can greet a friendly stranger under normal circumstances with handler support and management of the dog's environment
- Dog is safe and comfortable around other dogs on leash if the handler feels the situation is safe and manages the dog's environment
- Dog will sit at least 2 times in response to a verbal cue or hand signal
- Dog will lie down at least 2 times in response to a verbal cue or hand signal
- Dog will come to the handler at least 2 times when cued at a distance of 20'
- Dog will perform a stay 2 times in either a sit or down position while the handler walks at 15' away and returns to the dog (walking around dog to heel is not required)
- Dog demonstrates an understanding of the heel position and heel cue and will chose to remain in the proper position with the leash loose as the handler walks at least 20' including both right and left turns
- Dog can perform a leave it with food at least 2 times where the dog clearly shows an interest in the food but makes the choice to leave it.
- Dog can perform a leave it with an animal of another species at least 2 times with the where the dog clearly shows an interest in the animal but makes the choice to leave it (dog passes close enough to get to the animal and the leash remains loose)
- Handler understands that the skills required for the Jr. Dog Scout test are critical skills that must be worked on and reinforced throughout the dog's life

Children ages 7-16 who earn the Jr. Scout badge are eligible to work on and earn any of the specialty merit badges with the dog.