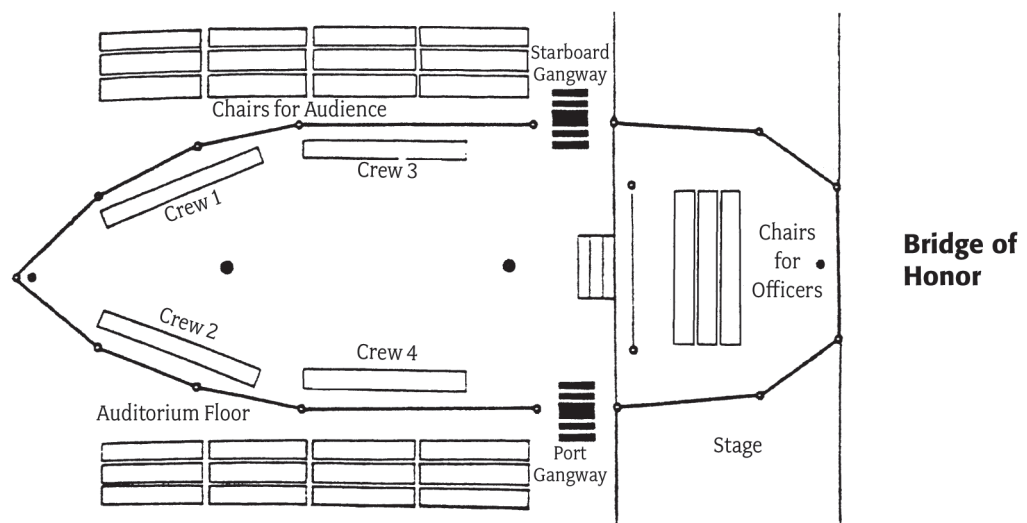
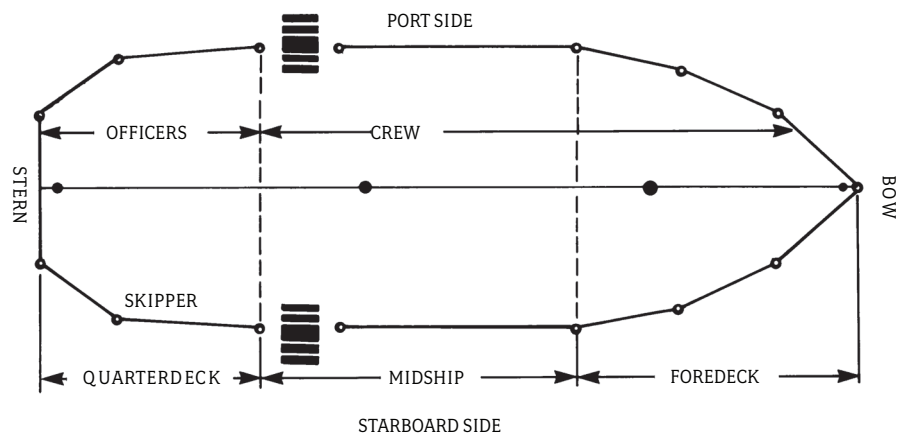


Landship Ceremonies

The overall deck plan for a landship is based on the customs and traditions of our Navy. All staff members should learn the proper terminology, as well as the basic layout. A layout involving minimum equipment can be easily set up by any ship.

Note: All adult leaders, dignitaries, and military officers board at the starboard gangway, and all Sea Scouts board by the port gangway.



Preliminary

Five minutes before the start of the ceremony, the ship's bell is rung five times; three minutes before the start of the ceremony, the ship's bell is rung three times; two minutes, two times; one minute, one time.

Boarding

Officer of the Deck (OOD) boards ship from starboard gangway; boatswain (BOS'N) boards ship from port gangway. At the rail they render the double salute, first saluting amidship, then aft, and then laying aboard. Two steps aboard, the BOS'N salutes the OOD and the OOD orders:

OOD: "BOS'N, proceed with the opening ceremony."

BOS'N: (holding salute) "Aye aye, sir." (OOD returns salute.)

BOS'N: (Faces the crew off ship, pipes "Attention" and "All Hands," then gives orders.) "Crew leaders, muster your crews."

(As the crews are forming, the boatswain's mate marches to the port gangway. The OOD enters the quarterdeck from the starboard side and takes his station on the forward side of the starboard gangway, facing the starboard gangway. The BOS'N takes up a position just forward of the port gangway, and faces the port gangway.)

BOS'N'S MATE: (salutes inboard approximately where the boatswain is standing)

"Boatswain's mate [last name] requests permission to lay aboard, boatswain."

BOS'N: *"Permission granted."* (BOS'N returns salute when the BOS'N MATE salutes inboard. BOS'N'S MATE drops his salute, faces aft and executes a salute, then marches to a station just forward of the port gangway.)

(The crews, in order, fall in at the port gangway. The first CREW LEADER marches to the port gangway.)

CREW LEADER: (salutes inboard, where the BOS'N is standing) *"Starboard alpha, request permission to lay aboard, boatswain."*

BOS'N: *"Permission granted."* (BOS'N returns salute.)

CREW LEADER: (drops his salute, turns and faces aft, and salutes, then gives orders to his crew.) *"Starboard alpha, lay aboard."*

(Crews lay aboard in order. Each individual boards and renders the double salute. When they salute inboard, the boatswain returns the salute. As the crew members lay aboard, they position themselves in front of their chair facing forward. The crew leader is located one step forward of the center of his crew, facing the crew. When the entire crew is on deck and at quarters, the crew leader orders)

CREW LEADER: *"Crew, inboard face. At close interval, dress right, dress."* The crew leader verifies the alignment and then commands, *"Ready, front."*

(The next crew proceeds to board in the same manner until all crews have boarded the landship.)

BOS'N: (turns to face inboard and the OOD, salutes) *"Sir, the ship is at quarters."*

OOD: (facing the BOS'N, OOD returns salute) *"Very well, receive the report."*

BOS'N: (salutes) *"Aye aye, sir."*

BOS'N: (turns and faces crews) *"Crew leaders, report."*

CREW LEADER: (turn to face BOS'N, salutes) *"Starboard alpha (port bravo, ...), all present or accounted for, boatswain."*

BOS'N: (returns salute to crew leaders) *"Very well."*

BOS'N: (faces OOD and salutes) *"Sir, all crews present or accounted for."*

OOD: (returns salute) *"Very well. Set the watch."*

BOS'N: *"Aye aye, sir. Crew leader alpha, your crew will be duty crew, assign side boys and color guards."*

ALPHA CREW LEADER: *"Aye aye, sir. (salutes BOS'N, then gives orders) "Alpha crew, from the right, count off by twos." After the count, he orders, "Ones will man the rail aft the gangway, twos will man the rail foreword of the gangway. Sea Scout [last name] and Sea Scout [last name] will serve as color guards."*

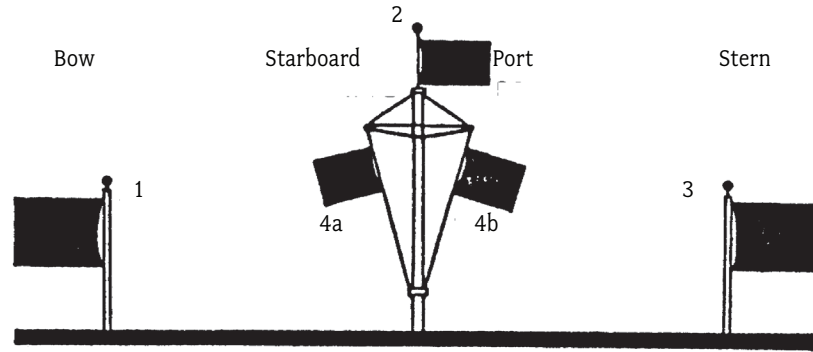
BOS'N: (BOS'N faces OOD, salutes) *"Sir, color guard and side boys have been assigned."*

OOD: *"Very well, stand by for colors."* (passes the ensign to the BOS'N and salutes the colors at half-speed)

BOS'N: *"Aye aye, sir"* (receives the ensign with both hands, left hand below the colors and right hand on top of the colors, faces the port gangway)

(The color guard takes one step forward to clear the crew and lays aft to obtain the ensign from the BOS'N, who passes it to the bearer and salutes in half-time. The bearer takes the colors with both hands, placing his left hand under the colors and then passes his right hand over the top of the colors, as if to smooth the fabric. The color guard does not return the salute. When the BOS'N drops his salute, the color guard quickly proceeds to their posts and makes ready the ensign on the halyard.)

Flag Placement on a Landship



- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. Union Jack | 4a. Starboard spreader for guest officers |
| 2. Ship's Flag | 4b. Port spreader reserved for making signals |
| 3. U.S. Ensign | |

When all is ready, the **BOS'N'S MATE** commands: "*All hands face the ensign,*" (facing the audience) "*Will the audience please stand.*"

BOS'N'S MATE: Pipes "Attention" followed by "All Hands."

BOS'N'S MATE: Orders, "*Attention on deck, hand salute.*"

BOS'N'S MATE: Pipes "Colors" ("Pipe the Side"). (At the first note of the pipe, the colors are run up smartly and BOS'N's MATE salutes with his weak (hand not holding the pipe) hand. As the ensign leaves the bearer's hands, the bearer takes one step backward and salutes. At the last sharp note of "Colors," all hands smartly retire their salute. All hands remain at attention until the halyard is secured. While the color guard is securing the halyard, the boatswain's mate faces the audience and states: "*Please be seated.*" He then orders, "*Crew, inboard face.*" When the halyard is secure, he orders, "*Color guard, return to your crew, march.*")

BOS'N'S MATE: Pipes "Carry On," then gives the command, "*Carry on, carry on.*"

(The color guard returns to their crews. When they have returned to their stations, the BOS'N turns and faces the OOD.)

OOD: "*Standby to receive the Skipper.*"

BOS'N: (salutes) "*Aye aye, sir.*"

OOD: (returns salute)

BOS'N: (faces crew) "*Stand by to receive the Skipper, side boys post.*"

(The first two side boys take one step forward and report to their assigned duty stations. The BOS'N, BOS'N's MATE, or a crew leader will take up station one step forward of the forward line of side boys and one step inboard to pipe the side. The OOD remains in a position just forward of the starboard gangway, facing the starboard gangway.)

OOD: "*[Ship's name] arriving.*" (Two bells are sounded, followed by the boatswain call "Pipe the Side." All side boys salute at the first note of the pipe and hold it until the last note, while the Skipper completes the double salute. The Skipper first salutes inboard and then aft. The OOD salutes the Skipper when he salutes inboard, since the OOD has placed himself nearly amidship, facing the starboard gangway.)

OOD: (Welcomes the Skipper aboard, faces the Skipper) "*Sir, do you wish to inspect the ship?*"

SKIPPER: "*Not at this time. Carry on.*"

OOD: (salutes) "*Aye aye, sir.*"

SKIPPER: (returns salute)

OOD: "*Boatswain, proceed with the scheduled ceremony.*"

BOS'N: (salutes) "*Aye aye, sir.*" (turns and faces bow)

Boarding Variations

1. The council, regional, or national commodore is present.

OOD: “Stand by to receive the council (regional or national) commodore.”

BOS’N: (faces OOD, salutes) “Aye aye, sir.” (BOS’N faces crew and orders) “Side boys post.” (Side boys take one step forward and report to their assigned duty stations. The BOS’N, BOS’N’S MATE, or a crew leader will take up station one step forward of the forward line of side boys and one step inboard to pipe the side.)

OOD: “[Level] commodore arriving.” (The appropriate number of bells is rung, and commodore is piped aboard.)

OOD: (welcomes the commodore) “Sir, do you wish to inspect the ship?”

COMMODORE: “Not at this time. Carry on.”

OOD: (salutes) “Aye aye, sir.”

OOD: “Boatswain, carry out the orders of the day.”

BOS’N: (Salutes) “Aye aye, sir.”

2. **Inspection** (The Skipper has just informed the OOD that he wishes to inspect the ship. The BOS’N is facing the OOD, awaiting instructions.)

OOD: “Prepare the ship for inspection.”

BOS’N: (salutes) “Aye aye, sir.” (OOD returns the salute; boatswain drops his salute and faces about) “Prepare for inspection.” (Crew leaders face about and quickly look over their crews. When satisfied, they face inboard and in ascending order by crews, each turns their head and eyes toward the BOS’N, salutes, reports, and when the salute is returned, drops the salute and brings their head and eyes front.)

CREW LEADER: (salutes) “Starboard alpha, ready for inspection, boatswain.” (The BOS’N will return the salute without comment. Remaining crew leaders report in like manner. When the last salute is returned, the BOS’N faces the OOD.)

BOS’N: (salutes) “Sir, the ship is ready for inspection.”

OOD: (returns salute) “Very well, put the ship at ease and take your posts.”

BOS’N: (drops salute, faces about to the ship) “[Ship name], at ease.” (The BOS’N remains at attention and stands ready to be inspected. As the BOS’N puts the ship at ease, the OOD turns to the Skipper and salutes.)

OOD: “Sir, the ship is ready for inspection.”

SKIPPER: (returns the salute) “Very well.” (The Skipper moves off the quarterdeck and inspects the BOS’N. The Skipper may direct the OOD or the BOS’N to join him and take notes during the inspection. When so directed, the OOD or BOS’N moves to the left rear of the Skipper and accompanies the Skipper throughout the inspection. As the Skipper approaches the BOS’N’S MATE’S station at the port gangway, the BOS’N’S MATE comes to attention. The Skipper halts, centered one step from the BOS’N’S MATE, facing him.)

BOS’N’S MATE: (salutes) “Boatswain’s mate [last name], ready for inspection, sir.” (The Skipper returns the salute. The BOS’N’S MATE drops their salute. The Skipper inspects the BOS’N’S MATE. He may comment, but normally the Skipper reserves any criticism, informing the BOS’N of any discrepancies at the conclusion of the inspection. When finished, the Skipper and the BOS’N’S MATE exchange salutes. Then the Skipper moves to the aft crew on the port side. As the Skipper departs, the BOS’N’S MATE comes to the position of at ease.)

CREW LEADER DELTA: (As the Skipper approaches, comes to attention and gives orders to his crew.) “Port delta, attention.” (The Skipper halts centered one step from and facing the crew leader. The crew leader salutes.)

“Port delta, ready for inspection, sir.” (The Skipper returns the salute. The crew leader drops his salute. The Skipper inspects the crew leader, moves around to the left of the crew leader, and halts in front of the first person to be inspected. At this time, the crew leader executes an about

face, moves to the right rear of the Skipper, and accompanies them throughout the inspection of the crew. The party passes down the front of the crew, beginning at the right of the line. When the party has cleared the end of the crew line, the crew leader commands) "*One step forward, march.*" (The party then passes behind the crew. When the party has cleared the rear of the line, the crew leader commands) "*One step backwards, march.*" (The crew leader then marches to a position in front of the seaman at the right of the crew line, faces inboard, and awaits the Skipper. The Skipper may comment briefly on the results. After concluding remarks to the crew leader, the Skipper and crew leader exchange salutes, then the Skipper moves to the next crew. As the Skipper departs, the crew leader commands) "*At ease.*" (The crew leader then marches to their station, front and center of the crew, faces inboard, and comes to the position of at ease. The Skipper proceeds clockwise around the deck, inspecting each crew in a similar manner. After inspecting the aft crew on the starboard side, the Skipper may wish to discuss the results with the BOS'N, in which case the Skipper approaches the BOS'N station forward of the bridge. The Skipper and BOS'N exchange salutes, and the Skipper comments on the results of the inspection. After concluding his remarks, they again exchange salutes and the Skipper returns to the quarterdeck. As the Skipper departs, the BOS'N gives orders to the ship.)

BOS'N: "*[Ship name], attention.*" (As the BOS'N brings the ship to attention, the Skipper enters the quarterdeck and, after exchanging salutes, normally directs the OOD to proceed with the program.)

OOD: (faces the BOS'N) "*Proceed with the scheduled activity.*"

BOS'N: (salutes) "*Aye aye, sir.*" (The OOD returns the salute, and the BOS'N drops his salute and faces about. The commands given at this time will vary depending upon the activity. Normally, the BOS'N will give the following command.) "*[Ship name], uncover, seats.*"

Program and Activities

1. Opening

(If a special opening ceremony is planned, the BOS'N commands)

BOS'N: "*Seaman [last name], lay aft.*"

SEAMAN: (salutes) "*Seaman [last name] reporting, boatswain.*" (BOS'N returns salute.)

BOS'N: "*Lead the Pledge of Allegiance.*"

SEAMAN: (salutes) "*Aye aye, sir. Face the American flag. Hand salute. 'I pledge allegiance...'*
Two. Inboard face."

BOS'N: "*Seaman [last name], return to your crew.*"

SEAMAN: (salutes) "*Aye aye, boatswain.*"

2. Sea Scout's Admission Ceremony

The boatswain's mate for administration is in charge of the ceremony under the guidance of the first mate. The ceremony is carried out aboard a landship or in a room with chairs set to outline a landship.

The boatswain's mate for administration instructs the candidate beforehand in his part of the ceremony. If there is more than one candidate, they are handled as a group and speak out in unison. Chairs should be set up on the outside of the landship for parents and guests. They should be sent invitations and be ushered to their seats by Sea Scouts before the ceremony begins.

The purpose of the admission ceremony is to give both the candidate and parents a serious look at the ideals and responsibilities of Sea Scouts, as well as the program opportunities.

The admission ceremony generally follows the regular opening ceremonies of a Sea Scout ship. It is a short and impressive ceremony with the entire membership standing in formation (either at ease or at attention, as directed by their youth officers). The yeoman and crew leader to which the candidate is assigned take part.

The boatswain's mate for administration begins the ceremony by inviting the parents of the recruit to come aboard. The honor guard then escorts them over the port gangway to the quarterdeck, where they are introduced to the Skipper and then taken to their seats for the ceremony.

The boatswain's mate for administration then calls for the recruit, and meets and escorts the recruit from the port gangway to the first mate, who is stationed at the mainmast. The boatswain's mate for program is also stationed at the mainmast.

BOS'N: *"Boatswain's Mate [last name], lay aft."*

BOS'N'S MATE: (salutes) *"Boatswain's Mate [last name], reporting, boatswain."*

BOS'N: *"Boatswain's Mate [last name], take command of the ship for the admission ceremony."*

BOS'N'S MATE: (salutes) *"Aye aye, boatswain. Honor guard, escort the recruit's parents aboard ship."* (The honor guard escorts them over the port gangway to the quarterdeck and introduces them to the Skipper, then offers them seats for the ceremony.)

"Will the new recruit please come forward to the port gangway?" (The BOS'N'S MATE meets the recruit at the port gangway and escorts him to the first mate that is stationed at the main mast.)

FIRST MATE: (shakes hands with the recruit) *"Welcome aboard. Sea Scouts are a part of the Boy Scouts of America, whose guiding principles are expressed in the Scout Oath which I will read to you now."* (First mate reads or recites the Scout Oath loud enough for the entire company to hear.)

"Seaman Recruit [last name], will you subscribe to the Scout Oath? If you will, say, 'I do.'"

RECRUIT: *"I do."* (The BOS'N'S MATE for program reveals the Sea Scout emblem for all to see.)

FIRST MATE: *"You see before you the Sea Scout emblem. The key component of the First Class anchor is the Scout Badge, a fleur de lis. The three points signify the three points of the Scout Oath: duty to God and country, duty to others, and duty to self. Like a compass, the center point always points north, symbolizing a true course in life. The eagle with the shield is the national emblem of the United States of America, and it represents freedom. The scroll with the Scout Motto represents a Scout's smile and reminds us to 'Be Prepared.' The knot attached to the bottom of the scroll is to remind you that, as a Sea Scout, you have promised to do a good turn daily. The stars beneath the eagle's wings symbolize the ideals of truth and knowledge. Stars guide by night and reflect a Sea Scout's nautical life. The anchor symbolizes Sea Scouts' maritime heritage. It is our hope for you that this emblem will become a symbol that represents your life. Boatswain's mate, please escort the seaman recruit to the bow of the ship."* (The boatswain is waiting at the bow of the ship with the Sea Promise.)

BOS'N'S MATE: (salutes the BOS'N) *"Mr.(Miss) Boatswain, I present Seaman Recruit [last name]."*

BOS'N: *"Welcome aboard, Seaman Recruit [last name]. I now ask you to listen to the Sea Promise."* (The BOS'N recites the Sea Promise.) *"Do you subscribe to that promise, Seaman Recruit [last name]?"*

RECRUIT: *"I do."*

BOS'N: *"Boatswain's mate, take the seaman recruit to the Skipper on the quarterdeck."*

BOS'N'S MATE: (salutes the Skipper upon approach) *"Sir, I present Seaman Recruit [last name]."*

SKIPPER: *"Thank you, boatswain's mate. Seaman Recruit [last name], I welcome you aboard our ship."* (Skipper faces the ensign.)

“Loyalty to our nation and respect for the flag are basic parts of Sea Scouts. With that in mind, I would ask you to be ever mindful of the heritage and freedoms we share in this great county.” (At this point, the Skipper may wish to outline for the recruit and his parents the privileges and responsibilities that come with membership in Sea Scouts.)

(turns to BOS’N’S MATE) *“Take the seaman recruit to the yeoman’s station.”*

BOS’N’S MATE: (salutes) *“Aye aye, sir.”* (The BOS’N’S MATE presents the recruit to the yeoman.)

“Yeoman, I present Seaman Recruit [last name] for membership in our Sea Scout ship.”

YEOMAN: *“Welcome aboard, shipmate. Before you sign the ship’s log, you must agree to act by our ship’s code and bylaws. Do you subscribe to the code and bylaws of Sea Scout Ship [number], the S.S.S. [ship name]?”*

RECRUIT: *“I do.”*

YEOMAN: *“You will now sign your name in the ship’s log.”*

RECRUIT: (signs the ship’s log, after which the BOS’N’S MATE guides the candidate back to the Skipper)

BOS’N’S MATE: (salutes) *“Sir, Seaman Candidate [last name] has signed the ship’s log.”*

SKIPPER: (returns salute and shakes hands with the candidate) *“Welcome aboard, Seaman Candidate [last name]. On behalf of the youth officers and crew of this ship and the Boy Scouts of America, I present you with your certificate of membership. The Sea Scout Manual should be your guide as you become a participating member of this ship’s company. Boatswain’s mate, take this seaman to his assigned crew.”*

BOS’N’S MATE: (salutes) *“Yes, sir. This way, Seaman Candidate [last name].* (BOS’N’S MATE takes candidate to assigned crew and presents candidate to crew leader.)

“Crew Leader [last name], Seaman Candidate [last name] is now a member of this ship and is assigned to your crew.”

CREW LEADER: (salutes BOS’N’S MATE, faces candidate) *“Welcome to our crew.”*

BOS’N’S MATE: *“Honor guard, escort the parents of the candidate ashore.”* (Parents of the candidate are escorted ashore off the port gangway, and the honor guard returns to their crew.) (BOS’N’S MATE reports back to BOS’N and salutes) *“Mr.(Miss) Boatswain, the candidate is now an official member.”*

BOS’N: *“Very well, boatswain’s mate, I am ready to relieve you of command.”*

BOS’N’S MATE: (salutes) *“Aye aye, sir.”*

BOS’N: (faces Skipper and salutes) *“Sir, the admission ceremony has been completed and the candidate is now an official member.”*

SKIPPER: *“Thank you. Carry on.”*

3. Change-of-Command for Youth Officers

This ceremony is usually conducted during the first meeting in September after officer elections.

SKIPPER: *“Ship [number], S.S.S. [ship name], will now conduct its annual Change-of-Watch Ceremony.*

Last month, members of the ship’s company elected their officers for the coming year. Those chosen by their peers to serve are:

Boatswain—[youth’s name], Boatswain’s Mate—[youth’s name], Yeoman—[youth’s name],

Purser—[youth’s name], Storekeeper—[youth’s name].

Crews were reorganized, and each crew elected a crew leader and assistant crew leader. Crew

One: Crew Leader—[youth’s name], Assistant Crew Leader—[youth’s name]; Crew Two: Crew

Leader—[youth’s name], Assistant Crew Leader—[youth’s name]; Crew Three: Crew Leader—

[youth’s name], Assistant Crew Leader—[youth’s name].

At this time, I would like to introduce our outgoing boatswain, [youth’s name] to say a few words about his year of leadership.”

BOS'N: (salutes) "Aye aye, sir." (delivers summary of ship's activities under his leadership)

SKIPPER: "Boatswain-elect [youth's name], come forward."

BOS'N-ELECT: (faces Skipper, salutes)

SKIPPER: (returns salute) "As the new boatswain of this ship, pay close attention to your orders. Your duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Plan and conduct regular quarterdeck meetings.
2. Give leadership to all ship activities.
3. Give direction through effective communication.
4. Share responsibilities of leading the ship with other ship officers.
5. Know the needs and interests of all ship members.
6. Control the actions and behavior of ship members.
7. Lead by example.
8. Represent ship members at council wardroom.
9. Participate in council, area, and national Sea Scout events.
10. Consult with ship members having problems, questions, or concerns.
11. Direct the planning of the ship's program.
12. Work closely with the Skipper.
13. Appoint program activity chairpersons.
14. Recruit new members into the ship.

Do you accept these duties as boatswain of Sea Scout Ship [number], S.S.S. [ship name]?"

BOS'N-ELECT: "I do." (approaches outgoing BOS'N and salutes)

"Boatswain [last name], I am ready to relieve you."

OUTGOING BOS'N: (salutes) "I stand relieved." (Outgoing BOS'N returns salute, issues the incoming BOS'N his boatswain's patch, and they shake hands. They turn to the left, go two steps, and turn to face inboard.)

SKIPPER: "Boatswain's Mate-elect [youth's name], come forward."

BOS'N'S MATE-ELECT: (faces Skipper, salutes)

SKIPPER: (returns salute) "As the new boatswain's mate of this ship, pay close attention to your orders. Your duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Take over the duties of the boatswain when necessary.
2. Support the boatswain and other ship officers in their duties.
3. Give leadership to recruiting new members into the ship by:
 - A. Coordinating First Nighters.
 - B. Encouraging all members to recruit new members.
 - C. Following up on missing members.
4. Introduce and welcome new members.
5. Conduct opening and closing ceremonies.
6. Collect activity ideas from ship members.
7. Carry out other duties assigned by the boatswain.

Do you accept these duties as boatswain's mate of Sea Scout Ship [number], S.S.S. [ship name]?"

BOS'N'S MATE-ELECT: "I do." (approaches BOS'N and salutes) "Boatswain, I am ready to perform the duties assigned to me." (BOS'N returns salute, hands the BOS'N'S MATE his boatswain's mate patch, they shake hands)

BOS'N: "Boatswain's Mate [last name], take your station." (BOS'N'S MATE moves to the left side of the BOS'N to assist in issuing patches.)

SKIPPER: "Yeoman-elect [youth's name], come forward."

YEOMAN-ELECT: (faces Skipper, salutes)

SKIPPER: (returns salute) "As the new yeoman of this ship, pay close attention to your orders."

Your duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Support the boatswain and other ship officers in their duties.
2. Keep minutes of quarterdeck and ship meetings, including decisions and plans.
3. Remind other officers of items they agreed to do.
4. Keep ship membership records.
5. Supervise all ship correspondence.
6. Keep members informed of upcoming activities.
7. Handle all ship publicity.

Do you accept these duties as yeoman of Sea Scout Ship [number], S.S.S. [ship name]?"

YEOMAN-ELECT: "I do." (approaches BOS'N and salutes) "Boatswain, I am ready to perform the duties assigned to me." (BOS'N returns salute)

BOS'N: "Very well, Yeoman [last name], return to your crew. (BOS'N'S MATE issues yeoman's patch, yeoman returns to crew)

SKIPPER: "Purser-elect, come forward."

PURSER-ELECT: (faces Skipper, salutes)

SKIPPER: (returns salute) "As the new purser of this ship, pay close attention to your orders. Your duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Support the boatswain and other ship officers in their duties.
2. Collect, deposit, and account for all incoming money from dues, donations, and fund-raising activities.
3. Work with a committee member on money handling methods.
4. Set up a budget for activities with help from other officers.
5. Make regular reports at ship meetings on ship financial status.
6. Ensure that expenditures are approved before disbursement.

Do you accept these duties as purser of Sea Scout Ship [number], S.S.S. [ship name]?"

PURSER-ELECT: "I do." (approaches BOS'N and salutes) "Boatswain, I am ready to perform the duties assigned to me." (BOS'N returns salute)

BOS'N: "Very well, Purser [last name], return to your crew." (BOS'N'S MATE issues purser's patch, purser returns to crew)

SKIPPER: "Storekeeper-elect, come forward."

STOREKEEPER-ELECT: (faces Skipper, salutes)

SKIPPER: (returns salute) "As the new storekeeper of this ship, pay close attention to your orders.

Your duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Assume responsibility for procuring and maintaining ship equipment.
2. Check all equipment in and out.
3. Keep a complete inventory of all equipment.
4. Support the boatswain and other officers in their duties.

Do you accept these duties as storekeeper of Sea Scout Ship [number], S.S.S. [ship name]?"

STOREKEEPER-ELECT: "I do." (approaches BOS'N and salutes) "Boatswain, I am ready to perform the duties assigned to me." (BOS'N returns salute)

BOS'N: "Very well, Storekeeper [last name], return to your crew." (BOS'N'S MATE issues storekeeper's patch, storekeeper returns to crew)

SKIPPER: "The duties of each crew leader and assistant crew leader are:

1. Assume responsibility for the morale and conduct of crew members.
2. Lead by example.
3. Be familiar with each member's abilities and interests.
4. Help to train the crew.
5. Stimulate participation and encourage teamwork.
6. Train assistant and assign responsibilities so that all members have an opportunity to lead."

BOS'N: "Crew leaders and assistant crew leaders, come forward."

CREW LEADERS AND ASSISTANT CREW LEADERS: (approach BOS'N, salute)

BOS'N: *Do you accept these duties as crew leaders and assistant crew leaders of Sea Scout Ship [number], S.S.S. [ship name]?*

CREW LEADERS AND ASSISTANT CREW LEADERS: *"I do."* (Each in turn approaches BOS'N, salutes, and says) *"Boatswain, I am ready to perform the duties assigned to me."* (BOS'N returns each salute and says) *"Very well, Crew Leader/Assistant Crew Leader [last name], return to your crew."* (BOS'N'S MATE issues appropriate patch, and crew leaders and assistant crew leaders return to their crew)

BOS'N: (salutes Skipper) *"Sir, the ship is formed and new officers are installed."*

SKIPPER: (returns salute) *"Very well, boatswain. Carry out the orders of the day."*

4. Change-of-Command for Skippers

OOD: Introduces the outgoing Skipper.

OUTGOING SKIPPER: Makes comments as desired.

OOD: Introduces the incoming Skipper and orders: *"S.S.S. [ship's name], attention!"*

INCOMING SKIPPER: *"I will now read the Skipper's Orders. The Skipper's duties include, but are not limited to, the following:*

As Skipper, you are

To be the key adult leader of the Sea Scout ship, an advisor, a friend, and a counselor to Sea Scouts.

To be the adult leader who gives direction to the ship program while carrying out the most important duty—advising and coaching the youth officers as they plan, organize, and conduct the activities of the ship.

To be the leader, though you make most of your significant efforts behind the scenes.

To coach and give leadership to your quarterdeck youth officers who, in turn, conduct the program of the ship.

Not expected to do and know everything. (The crew will listen to your advice and carry out the program. They will count on you to help recruit people who have the skills and equipment that will enhance the ship program.)

To accept the BSA Declaration of Religious Principle and be of the highest moral character.

If you accept these terms and conditions of a Sea Scout Skipper, report to Skipper [first and last name] and relieve him as Skipper, Sea Scout Ship [ship's name].

OUTGOING SKIPPER: (stands)

INCOMING SKIPPER: (approaches outgoing Skipper, salutes, and states) *"Sir, I am ready to relieve you."*

OUTGOING SKIPPER: (salutes and states) *"I stand relieved."*

INCOMING SKIPPER: *"I accept command."* (Once the outgoing Skipper is seated, incoming Skipper gives command.) *"[Ship name], be seated."* (makes comments as desired)

Closing

OOD: *"Boatswain."*

BOS'N: (marches by the most direct route to his station forward of the quarterdeck and salutes) *Boatswain [last name], reports."*

OOD: (returns salute) *"Call all hands, stations for final muster."*

BOS'N: *"Aye aye, sir."* (drops salute, faces about, pipes "All Hands," and commands)

"All hands to stations for final muster." (When all crews are facing inboard, the BOS'N faces about to the OOD and salutes.)

"Sir, the ship is at quarters."

OOD: (returns salute) *"Very well, proceed with announcements."*

BOS'N: *"Aye aye, sir."* (drops salute, faces about)

"[Ship name], uncover, seats." (The BOS'N proceeds with the announcements. When others are called upon to speak, the BOS'N takes a seat at a post by the starboard gangway. When the

announcements are completed, the BOS'N stands and introduces the Skipper's Minute. When the Skipper is finished, he moves to the quarterdeck. As the Skipper enters the quarterdeck, the BOS'N covers and takes his station forward of the bridge, facing aft.)

NOTE: After the scheduled program is completed, everyone goes ashore in the reverse order from which they boarded the ship.

Disembarking the Ship (You will rarely have a commodore present for your ship's ceremonies, but the process for debarking always begins with your highest-ranked visitor.)

When the commodore is ready, the Skipper informs the OOD that the commodore is ready to go ashore.

OOD: *"Boatswain, the commodore is ready to disembark, post side boys."* (As the commodore approaches the gangway, four bells are struck.)

BOS'N: *Aye aye, sir.* (salutes, faces the crew, and orders) *"Ship's company, attention! Four side boys, post."*

(The first four side boys and crew leader lay smartly to the starboard gangway. The crew leader positions himself one step forward of the side boys and to the right of the fourth side boy.

As the commodore leaves, he first salutes aft, and then turns and salutes inboard. The OOD positions himself forward of the starboard gangway in-line with the keel, and returns the commodore's salute when he salutes inboard. The BOS'N pipes, "Pipe the Side." At the first note of the pipe, the side boys salute and hold their salute until the last note of the pipe. The commodore salutes and holds his salute until he reaches the gangway.)

CREW LEADER: (after the commodore leaves the landship, CREW LEADER gives order) *"Side boys, inboard face. Return to your crew, march."*

The Skipper then informs the OOD that he is ready to disembark, and he goes ashore in the same manner with two side boys.

OOD: *"Boatswain, retire the colors"*

BOS'N: *"Aye aye, sir."* (Salutes) *"Color guards, post."*

OOD: (returns salute)

BOS'N'S MATE: (As color guards report to the stern, he orders) *"All hands, face the ensign." Will the audience please stand.* (When the color guard is ready with halyard in hand, the BOS'N'S MATE sounds the call "Attention," followed by "All Hands.")

BOS'N MATE: (orders) *"Hand salute."* (Pipes "Colors" as the colors start down at the first note of the pipe, and the piping continues until the colors are one foot above the deck. At the moment the call ends with a sharp up note, all hands retire their salute smartly.

The color guard then folds the flag. After folding it into the traditional triangle, the bearer places his left hand under the flag and runs his right hand over the top of the flag, as if to smooth the fabric. The bearer then presents the flag to the BOS'N and salutes in half-time. The BOS'N does not return the salute.)

BOS'N MATE: *"Color guard, return to your crew, march. Members of the audience, please be seated. All hands, inboard face."*

BOS'N: Receives the flag from the color guard with both hands. He positions his left hand below and right hand above. He then does an about-face and hands the flag to the OOD and salutes in half-time.

OOD: The OOD receives the flag and does not return the salute.

BOS'N MATE: Pipes "Carry On," and gives the order, *"Carry on, carry on."*

OOD: *"Boatswain, have the ship's company disembark."*

BOS'N: (salutes) *"Aye aye, sir."*

OOD: (returns salute)

BOS'N: *"Ship's company, prepare to disembark."*

BOS'N: Positions himself forward of the port gangway approximately amidship, facing the gangway.

BOS'N'S MATE: (While the crew leaders are preparing their crews to disembark, the BOS'N'S MATE steps to the port gangway and salutes the BOS'N.) *"Boatswain, boatswain's mate requests permission to disembark."*

BOS'N: (salutes) *"Permission granted."*

CREW LEADERS: (The first crew leader steps to the port gangway, salutes the BOS'N) *"Sir, alpha crew requests permission to disembark."* (When granted permission, completes a double salute, saluting aft first and then inboard, followed by each crew member completing a double salute as they depart the ship.)

BOS'N: (salutes) *"Permission granted."* (BOS'N salutes each member when they salute inboard. After the last ship member has departed, the BOS'N turns to face the OOD and salutes.) *"Sir, all hands are ashore."*

OOD: *"Very well, secure the landship."* (The OOD and BOS'N step to their gangways. The BOS'N salutes the OOD, and the OOD returns the salute. Then both salute aft, turn and salute inboard, and step off the landship.)