



# Sample Course Director and Staff Recognition Ceremony

## Concept

This presentation ceremony is generally held the afternoon or the evening before the first day of a Wood Badge course. If staff recognition has not previously been awarded, the course director will receive the fourth bead, and new staff members will receive their third beads. The first master of ceremonies should be someone who has already earned the fourth bead, since they have gone through the same experience. This person recognizes the course director. The course director then presents the new staff members with their third beads and certificates.

## Ceremony

**Master of Ceremonies:** “Before us are some of the symbols of Wood Badge. I ask you to reflect upon them.”

**Note:** *Display some symbols of Wood Badge—an axe-in-log, kudu horn, the central theme chart.*

“The time has come when your commitment and responsibilities warrant distinctive tokens of recognition. Course Director, will you please step forward?”

“*Mr./Ms.* Course Director, you have worked long and faithfully on preparations leading up to this moment when you receive a fourth Wood Badge bead in recognition of this commitment.

“You were selected to direct this course because of what you have done and will continue to do for Scouting. *Mr./Ms.* Course Director, on behalf of all those who will benefit from your commitment to this course, it is now my honor to present you with your four beads and your course director’s certificate. Congratulations.”

**Note:** *Remove the course director’s three-bead set and replace it with the four-bead set.*

“Staff, I present your course director!”

**Course Director:** “Thank you. By accepting a position on the staff of this course, each of you has accepted a commitment to develop the leadership skills of our fellow Scouters. By doing so, you will contribute to the reality of Scouting and all that it promises. In this way, you too will spread the light of Scouting.

“Together we have undergone a comprehensive and demanding period of staff development. Tomorrow our work begins in earnest.



## WOOD BADGE

“The course will pass all too quickly. Together we will watch a group of Scouters develop leadership skills and grow in their love for the Scouting program. It will be hard work, but it will be a labor of love with great rewards.

“The time has come when your commitment and responsibilities warrant distinctive recognition. When I call your name, please come forward.”

**Note:** *Call the names of previous staff members who have already received their third beads, then wait for them all to move forward.*

“Will you do your best to maintain a positive attitude during the course? If so, answer, ‘I will.’”

“As I call your name, please come forward.

**Note:** *Call the names of new staff members, then wait for them all to move forward.*

“Will you do your best to maintain a positive attitude during the course? If so, answer, ‘I will.’”

“It is now my pleasure to present you with your third Wood Badge bead and your staff certificate.

**Note:** *Remove each staff member’s two-bead set and replace it with the three-bead set.*

**Note:** *Present staff certificates.*

“Staff, please signify that you accept the responsibility of fulfilling your staff positions by making the Scout sign and repeating after me:

“I, (*name*), promise to do my best to be worthy of the position as a staff member of Wood Badge course No. \_\_\_\_\_, for the good of the course participants, my fellow Scouters, and the World Brotherhood of Scouting.”

“Congratulations! Let us close by singing ‘On My Honor.’”