Applying for awards guidance

Good Service, Meritorious Conduct and Gallantry Awards
### Abbreviations used in this document:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>County Commissioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>District Commissioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>RC</td>
<td>Regional Commissioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>UKHQ</td>
<td>Headquarters of the Scouts</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Adult Good Service Awards

#### Commissioner’s Commendation

The Commissioner’s Commendation can be used by DC/CC (and equivalents)/RC (England) and members of Team UK to recognize adult and youth members and non-members for their contribution to Scouting.

- This award carries no criteria.
- It is illustrated by a purple knot.
- It can be worn in the same location on the uniform as other adult awards to denote it is part of the family of awards.
- Once it has been awarded locally, the details of the award should be submitted to UKHQ using the online form so the members Compass record can be updated.

#### Chief Scout’s Commendation for Good Service

The Chief Scout’s Commendation for Good Service is awarded for good service while holding an adult appointment for a period of not less than five years.

- A current valid disclosure is required.
- The nominee, if in an adult leader appointment (including manager and supporter roles), must have completed mandatory training relevant to their role (or be within three years of appointment).
- A written citation is not required.
- This award can be approved by DCs/CCs (and equivalents)/RCs (England) and members of Team UK.
- Once the award is approved locally, the award decision should be submitted to UKHQ using the online form.

#### The Award for Merit

The Award for Merit is awarded after a period of not less than 12 years (exceptionally 10) of outstanding service while holding an adult appointment.

- A current valid disclosure is required.
- The nominee, if in an adult leader appointment (including manager and supporter roles), must have completed mandatory training relevant to their role (or be within three years of appointment).
- A written citation is not required.
- This award can be approved by DCs/CCs (and equivalents)/RCs (England) and members of Team UK.
- Once the award is approved locally, the award decision should be submitted to UKHQ using the online form.
The Bar to the Award for Merit

The Bar to the Award for Merit may be awarded after not less than five years of further outstanding service while holding an adult appointment.

– A current valid disclosure is required.
– The nominee, if in an adult leader appointment (including manager and supporter roles), must have completed mandatory training relevant to their role (or be within three years of appointment).
– A written citation is required.
– In constructing the citation it is helpful to consider each of the following:
  • A brief summary of their main role in Scouting, what the role involves and how much time is committed
  • A summary of their service in addition to their main role
  • Their key achievements in Scouting
  • The level of service and has that level of service increased since any previous award
  • Any personal challenges that they have overcome
  • Any other community involvement

The citation must capture what the nominee has achieved since the last good service award.

– This award can only be considered if the nominee already holds the Award for Merit.
– This award can be approved by CCs (and equivalents)/RCs (England) and members of Team UK.
– Once the award is approved locally, the award decision should be submitted to UKHQ using the online form.

The Silver Acorn

The Silver Acorn is awarded after a period of not less than 20 years of specially distinguished service while holding an adult appointment.

– A current valid disclosure is required.
– The nominee, if in an adult leader appointment (including manager and supporter roles), must have completed mandatory training relevant to their role (or be within three years of appointment).
– A written citation is required.
– In constructing the citation it is helpful to consider each of the following:
  • A brief summary of their main role in Scouting, what the role involves and how much time is committed
  • A summary of their service in addition to their main role
  • Their key achievements in Scouting
  • The level of service and has that level of service increased since any previous award
  • Any personal challenges that they have overcome
  • Any other community involvement

The citation must capture what the nominee has achieved since the last good service award (if one has been awarded).

– Equally, a prior award is not a pre-requisite for consideration of this award.
– Since January 2019, this award can be approved by CCs in England and Wales and Country Headquarters in Scotland and NI/RCs (England) and members of Team UK.
– Once the award is approved locally, the award decision should be submitted to UKHQ using the online form.
The Bar to the Silver Acorn

The Bar to the Silver Acorn may be awarded after not less than five years of further specially distinguished service while holding an adult appointment.

- A current valid disclosure is required.
- The nominee, if in an adult leader appointment (including manager and supporter roles), must have completed mandatory training relevant to their role (or be within three years of appointment).
- A written citation is required.
- In constructing the citation it is helpful to consider each of the following:
  - A brief summary of their main role in Scouting, what the role involves and how much time is committed
  - A summary of their service in addition to their main role
  - Their key achievements in Scouting
  - The level of service and has that level of service increased since any previous award
  - Any personal challenges that they have overcome
  - Any other community involvement
- The citation must capture what the nominee has achieved since the last good service award (if one has been awarded).
- This award can only be considered if the nominee already holds the Silver Acorn.
- The nomination must have the support of the DC and/or CC (and equivalents) and Country Headquarters (for NI/Scotland) before being emailed to the Awards Team at UKHQ for processing.
- This award can only be approved by the National Awards Advisory Group.

The Silver Wolf

The Silver Wolf is the unrestricted gift of the Chief Scout, awarded for service of the most exceptional nature.

- A current valid disclosure is required.
- The nominee, if in an adult leader appointment (including manager and supporter roles), must have completed mandatory training relevant to their role (or be within three years of appointment).
- A written citation is required.
- In constructing the citation it is helpful to consider each of the following:
  - A brief summary of their main role in Scouting, what the role involves and how much time is committed
  - A summary of their service in addition to their main role
  - Their key achievements in Scouting
  - The level of service and has that level of service increased since any previous award
  - Any personal challenges that they have overcome
  - Any other community involvement
- The nomination must have the support of the DC and/or CC (and equivalents) and Country Headquarters (for NI/Scotland) before being emailed to the Awards Team at UKHQ for processing.
- This award can only be approved by the National Awards Advisory Group.
Note 1:

The mandatory training required to allow submission of a nomination for a good service award will depend on the role. Nominees in roles which require a wood badge will require to have completed that wood badge or be within three years of appointment. Nominees in executive committee roles which only require completion of module 1E, should have completed module 1E.

Note 2:

All Silver Wolf, Bar to Silver Acorn, Silver Acorn, Gallantry, Meritorious Conduct and Cornwell Scout Badge recipients approved and sent out during the calendar year (January - December) will be invited to Windsor, A day of Celebration the following calendar year.

The Chief Scout’s Personal Award

The Chief Scout’s Personal Award is awarded by the National Awards Advisory Group to recognise achievement not covered by the criteria for any other awards. It can be awarded to adults and young people. It may be accompanied, where appropriate, with a suitable commemorative item.

Gallantry Awards

These awards are made to Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Explorer Scouts, Scout Network Members, and to adults. Applications for awards of bravery must incorporate a full account of the occurrence, with the evidence of eye-witnesses wherever possible and should include, where appropriate, a report from the emergency services. It is helpful to include supporting information with the nomination form e.g.

- Nature of incident
- Place, date and time of incident
- Account of incident
- Any eye-witness reports e.g. an independent eye-witness, emergency services or any other rescue services
- Any newspaper articles about the incident
- Has the County Commissioner sent a congratulatory letter?
- Have any other awards been received with regards to this incident?

One of the following awards may be granted according to the circumstances of the case:

- The Gilt Cross
- The Silver Cross
- The Bronze Cross (the highest award)
Meritorious Conduct Awards

Awards for Meritorious Conduct are given in cases which may not have involved risk of life, but which have displayed courage, endurance, initiative, or devotion to duty, often under suffering. These awards are made to Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Explorer Scouts, Scout Network Members, and to adults. A high standard is expected. Applications for awards in respect of courage and endurance under suffering should be as full as possible and should give details of the special efforts required to reach the standard which the nominee has attained. Written statements from doctors and medical specialists should be attached where possible. Statements and letters of support from the nominee’s parents and relatives should **not** be solicited unless information is not available by any other means.

It is helpful to include supporting information with the nomination form e.g.

- Report from doctor, hospital, school, District Commissioner or Section Leader.
- Report from another group he/she may belong to e.g. St John’s Ambulance, Red Cross, football team etc.
- Any Activity or Proficiency Badges received.
- Any Chief/Queen’s Scout Awards held.
- Has the County Commissioner (or equivalent) written a letter to the person being nominated?
- Has he/she received any other award due to illness/disability?

Two awards are available in this category:

- **Chief Scout’s Commendation for Meritorious Conduct**
- **Medal for Meritorious Conduct**

The Cornwell Badge

The Cornwell Scout Badge is an exceptional award in respect of pre-eminently high character and devotion to duty, together with great courage and endurance, and is granted only to Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Scout Network Members who are a true inspiration to others.

It is essential to include supporting information with the nomination form e.g.

- How much risk was taken in this heroic act?
- How long has he/she had to cope with illness/disability?
- Report from doctor, hospital, school, District Commissioner or Section Leader.
- Any eye-witness reports e.g. an independent eye-witness, emergency services or any other rescue services.