

Nights Away Permit Scheme - Nights Away Advisers



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0845 300 1818

Introduction

This factsheet provides a guide to those wishing to become Nights Away Advisers. It should be read in conjunction with Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association. More detailed information on the scheme, for Commissioners and for applicants can be found in separate factsheets.

The Nights Away Permit Scheme

The Nights Away Permit Scheme promotes quality residential and camping experiences. It allows adults who have demonstrated their skill and knowledge to take young people away on nights away events. It also supports and encourages adults to acquire and improve the skills required to provide residential experiences.

The Role Of The Nights Away Adviser

There are two key functions of the Nights Away Adviser; promoting nights away events, and assessing applicants for nights away permits.

1 Promoting Nights Away Events.

Nights away events are a key part in providing an adventurous programme for young people, so it is important to ensure we are delivering this. The Nights Away Adviser has a key role in working with Leaders, Commissioners and campsites and activity centres to ensure that nights away events are taking place and every young person is getting the opportunity to experience such an event. The exact methods of promoting nights away events will vary from District to District depending on local circumstances.

2 Assessing Applicants For Nights Away Permits

The Nights Away Adviser also has a key role in ensuring the quality of nights away events by assessing applicants' technical abilities before they are granted a nights away permit. This is done by assessing the eight core skill areas covered in the Assessment Checklist for a Nights Away Permit and passing a recommendation on to the applicant's Commissioner.

How To Become A Nights Away Adviser

Nights Away Advisers are appointed by Districts, and occasionally Counties, through the same process as any other adult appointment. To be considered as a Nights Away Adviser, or for renewal of a role as Nights Away Adviser, you need to fulfil the following criteria:

- 1 Technical Knowledge** – Hold a Nights Away Permit. The level of the permit held determines the level of permit that you can assess for.
- 2 Assessment Skills** – Validate the Nights Away Adviser's version of module 25 of The Scout Association's Adult Training Scheme.
- 3 Remain Up To Date** – Have attended the equivalent of at least one day of Nights Away Adviser forums or workshops in the last five years.

Technical Knowledge

To ensure that they all have the technical knowledge required to carry out the role, all Nights Away Advisers are required to hold a Nights Away Permit. The level of Nights Away Permit that a Nights Away Adviser holds also determines the level of permit they can assess for, so a Nights Away Adviser holding; an indoor permit can only

The Scout Association

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW Tel + 44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax + 44 (0)20 8433 7103 email info.centre@scouts.org.uk www.scouts.org.uk

assess for indoor permits, a campsite permit can assess for campsite and indoor permits, a greenfield permit can assess for any permits, a lightweight expedition permit can only assess for lightweight expedition permits.

Assessment Skills

As well as having the required technical knowledge, Nights Away Advisers also require the skills to be able to assess. This training and validation is provided through Nights Away Adviser's version of Module 25 Assessing Learning (Nights Away) of The Scout Association's adult training scheme. Due to the modular format of the training scheme this will involve no unnecessary training courses for those who already have these skills, as validation can be done through carrying out an assessment with the support of a Training Adviser (who will quite possibly be an experienced Nights Away Adviser).

Remain Up To Date

It is important that Nights Away Advisers remain up to date and active within their role. To ensure that they are, all Nights Away Advisers are required to have been on at least a day (7 hours) of Nights Away Adviser workshops or forums within the last five years. This figure should be seen as the minimum rather than the target. These workshops could be run by Districts, Counties, Regions, Nationally or a combination of the above.

Useful Links

[FS120800](#) Nights Away Permit Scheme