

Scouting Facts: Australia



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Scouting started in Australia in 1908 and each of the States was a Branch of The Scout Association. In 1953, The Scout Association of Australia became an independent Member of the World Scout Conference but it was not until 1958 that the Branches in the various States became the responsibility of the Australian Association.

The Association has seven Branches; Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia. Each Branch has its own Chief Scout who is the Governor of the State or Territory.

There are five sections in Australian Scouting:

Joey Scouts aged 6 – 8 years

Cub Scouts aged 8 – 11 years

Scouts aged 10½ – 15 years

Venturers aged 14 – 18 years

Rovers aged 17 – 26 years

All sections are coeducational.

In the Joey Scout Section the programme is simple, flexible, fun and exciting, helping the Joey Scouts learn about themselves and nature, and giving them opportunities to help others.

In the Cub Scout section the boys work for their Bronze, Silver or Gold Boomerang depending on

their age. Each is attained by passing 10 out of 13 tests. There are also a number of Achievement Badges for each age group, based on hobbies and interests.

After obtaining the 'Scoutcraft' Badge a Scout works for his Target Badges: Pioneer, Explorer and Adventurer. These are obtained by passing tests in areas such as Arts, Campcraft, Conservation, Water Safety and Water Activities. A Scout can also obtain a 'Cord' to each of the Target Badges by obtaining 'Challenge' Badges which include Community Worker, Sportsman, Collector, Artist and Entertainer.

The programme for Venturers includes activities selected from eight activity areas:

Citizenship, Environment, Fitness, Expeditions, Ideals, Pursuits, Service, Expression

After joining, a Venturer works for the Venturer Badge, Venturer Award and the Queen's Scout Award.

The Rover section aims to provide a service to the community as well as providing the Rover with a challenge and an opportunity to develop their personal abilities.

A special 'Lone Scout' section enables boys and girls in sparsely populated rural areas to become Scouts. In some Branches a correspondence course allows the Lone Scout to carry out their

training with the assistance of their parents. All Lone Scouts receive letters from their Leaders who help them with their training and Scouting activities.

Motto: "Be Prepared"

Promise:

Scout

"On my honour I promise that I will do my best;

To do my duty to God, and to the Queen of Australia

To help other people, and

To live by the Scout Law".

Cub

"On my honour I promise that I will do my best;

To do my duty to God and the Queen

To help other people, and

To keep the Cub Law".

Law:

Scout

1. A scout is trustworthy.
2. A Scout is loyal.
3. A Scout is helpful
4. A Scout is friendly.
5. A Scout is cheerful
6. A Scout is considerate
7. A Scout is thrifty
8. A Scout is courageous
9. A Scout is respectful
10. A Scout cares for the environment

Cub

1. A Cub is loyal and obedient.
2. A Cub does not give in to himself.

Uniform:

Shirt:

All sections wear a Khaki shirt. For the Cubs and Scouts the shirt is short sleeved and for the Leaders, Rovers and Venturers the shirt has long or short sleeves.

Trousers:

Khaki shorts for Cubs and Scouts and Khaki shorts or long trousers for the other sections.

Hats:

The Cubs wear a green Cub cap with yellow piping. Scouts, Rovers and Leaders can wear an old style Scout hat or a green beret. Venturers wear a maroon beret.

All sections wear a neckerchief, Rovers and Leaders can alternatively wear green ties and Venturers a maroon tie if they wish.

Australia was the host for the 16th World Jamboree which was held near Sydney over the New Year period 1987/88.

Further information about Australia can be obtained from:

Australia High Commission

Australia House

The Strand

London WC2

The Commonwealth Institute

Kensington High Street

London W8

