

	Gasóga na hÉireann/Scouting Ireland			
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	Category: Adult Resources			
National Awards Committee				

Related Documents
SID 31.04 – Uniform Policy

Revision Schedule		
Revision	Date	Description
E	11/03/2017	Document Re-numbered and Category Re-allocated. General Revisions.
D	23/03/2013	Date of Annual Camp Meeting Amended
C	06/10/2012	Extra Awards Meetings Added General Revisions
B	26/07/2006	General Revisions
A	14/01/2006	General Revisions
#	24/01/2004	Document Issued

Scouting Ireland encourages all Group Leaders and County Commissioners to ensure that members are recognised for their commitment to Scouting and are nominated for Awards as appropriate.

Scouting Ireland encourages the nomination of members for external awards or recognition. National Office will be happy to assist with applications.

Categories of Awards:

- Service Awards
- Meritorious Awards
- Honour Awards
- Order of Cú Chulainn
- Scouting Ireland – Community Award

Service Awards:

- 5 Year Bronze Service Award
- 10 Year Bronze Service Award
- 15 Year Silver Service Award
- 20 Year Silver Service Award
- 25 Year Gold Service Award
- 30 Year Service Award
- 40 Year Service Award
- 50 Year Service Award

All Service Awards are given for satisfactory service in any recognised Scout or Guide Association. Nominations for Service Awards are submitted to National Office through the Scouting Ireland website.

Nominations may be made by a Group Leader, County Commissioner or a member of the National Management Committee. All nominations for Service Awards are sent to the Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources) for consideration and are granted by the National Awards Committee.

Meritorious Awards:

- The Thanks Badge is awarded to non and non uniformed members for sustained service and is awarded by the Group Council. The Thanks Badge may be purchased from the Scout Shop for presentation.
- The Chief Scout's Commendation is awarded for service above the normal standard and can be awarded to Youth or Adult Members of Scouting Ireland.
- The Bronze Merit Award is awarded for service of an exceptional nature.
- The Silver Merit Award is awarded for exceptional and notable service to Scouting.
- The Gold Merit Award is awarded for leadership of the most inspiring kind in Scouting and is accompanied by a citation.

All Meritorious Awards, other than the Thanks Badge, are awarded by the National Awards Committee on the nomination of a Group Leader, County Commissioner or member of the National Management Committee.

When considering nominations, it is important to remember that the Award is intended to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of the nominee, as distinct from the length of their service.

Honour Awards:

- The Chiefs Scout's Commendation of Honour is awarded for active participation in rescue operations or for Scouting under difficulties.
- The Bronze Honour Award is awarded for active participation in rescue operations in hazardous conditions or for Scouting under difficulties.
- The Silver Honour Award is awarded for active participation in rescue operations at personal risk to the rescuer or for Scouting under difficulties.
- The Gold Honour Award is awarded for active participation in rescue operations at extreme risk to the rescuer or for Scouting under difficulties.

All Honour Awards are accompanied by a citation and may be awarded to Youth and Adult Members of Scouting Ireland.

Honour Awards are awarded by the National Awards Committee on the nomination of a Group Leader, County Commissioner or member of the National Management Committee.

In the case of Honour Awards it is important that the prevailing circumstances, sensitivities and conditions are taken into account.

Order of Cú Chulainn:

The Order of Cú Chulainn is awarded for profound and long service to Scouting. Nominations can be made by Group Leaders, County Commissioners or a member of the National Management Committee. It is awarded by the National Awards Committee and presented by the Chief Scout.

A Scouter should only receive the Order of Cú Chulainn if they have not already received the Order of the Silver Elk or the Order of the Silver Wolfhound. However the National Awards Committee is able to recognize special circumstances and award the Order of Cú Chulainn as it deems appropriate. These circumstances would be extremely rare.

Scouting Ireland Community Award:

The Scouting Ireland Community Award is awarded to non-members, or to communities, for services to Scouting or the community. It is awarded by the Group Council, County Management Committee, Provincial Management Support Team or National Management Committee.

General:

1. The National Awards Committee shall be:
 - Chief Scout - Ex-officio.
 - Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources) – Chairperson - Ex-officio.
 - Chief Commissioner (Youth Programme) - Ex-officio.
 - National Secretary - Ex-officio.

- Four Scouters appointed by the National Management Committee. (Two panels of two for a two year duration)
 - Three other members – non-voting advisors (appointed by the National Management Committee for a two year duration). One of these members shall be the Secretary of the National Awards Committee.
 - The appropriate Professional Staff will attend meetings of the National Awards Committee.
2. Award recipients must be, or have been, registered members of Scouting Ireland. Their Scout Groups must be in good standing with Scouting Ireland.
 3. The National Awards Committee will meet three times annually to make Awards as follows:

Founders Day Awards Meeting:

- Nominations must be submitted by the 31st December.
- The Founders Day Awards Meeting is held before the 31st January.
- Awards approved are notified to nominators and to County and Provincial Commissioners.
- Awards are sent for presentation to County Commissioners.
- Awards should be presented before 31st March.

Annual Camp Awards Meeting:

- Nominations must be submitted by the 31st March.
- The Annual Camp Awards Meeting is held before the 30th April.
- Awards approved are notified to nominators and to County and Provincial Commissioners.
- Awards are sent for presentation to County Commissioners.
- Awards should be presented by the 31st July.

Autumn Awards Meeting:

- Nominations must be submitted by the 31st August.
- The Autumn Awards Meeting is held before the 30th September.
- Awards approved are notified to nominators and to County and Provincial Commissioners.
- Awards are sent for presentation to County Commissioners.
- Awards should be presented by the 30th November.

4. The National Awards Committee makes Awards on behalf of Scouting Ireland.
5. The presentation of Awards should reflect the honour being bestowed by Scouting Ireland. If possible the presenter should hold the Award being presented.

6. The National Awards Committee produces a list of Awards made after each meeting of the Committee for circulation to County and Provincial Commissioners and to the National Management Committee after the presentation expiry date.
7. It is important that Award categories and criteria are fully understood when making nominations. The appropriate forms/fields on the Scouting Ireland database must be used and fully completed. This is of vital assistance to the National Awards Committee in determining the appropriate Award and in formulating a detailed citation.
8. The National Awards Committee reserves the right to request further information before releasing an Award for presentation.
9. Nominations for Awards may be made at any time through the Scouting Ireland database. Decisions will be made by the National Awards Committee at the meeting following the next closing date for nominations.
10. If a member has received a Service or Merit Award from either of the founding Associations, they shall not be eligible to receive an equivalent level of that award from Scouting Ireland.
11. The National Awards Committee reserves the right to withdraw an award.

Table of Equivalency:

Scouting Ireland	Scouting Ireland (CSI).	Scouting Ireland (SAI)
Service Awards	Service Medals	Long Service Badges
Meritorious Awards	Merit Medals	Medal of Merit
Honour Awards	Medal of Honour	Gallantry Cross
	Founder's Award (profound service)	Silver Shamrock (distinguished service)
Order of Cú Chulainn	Silver Wolfhound (exceptional service)	Silver Elk (exceptional service)