



Most members involved in Scouting do not look for, or expect, any reward. However, it is important for us to recognize the enormous contribution that all our volunteers have made and to formally recognize above average and exceptional service to the movement.

There are various categories and levels of awards and SSA has provided formal recognition of length of service as well as good and exceptional adult service, together with a number of other prestigious awards you will find listed below. Of special note is the Thanks Badge available to both members and non-members for more immediate recognition in the short term.


It is important to review the contribution of the volunteers in our Unit, District and Region each year, and ensure that we take note of the remarkable work they have done in "creating a better world" for us all. It is only right that they are recognized accordingly.

## SPECIAL THANKS AND RECOGNITION

### 1. LOCAL RECOGNITION PRACTISES


	Scout Groups and Districts are encouraged to think of informal ways to recognise the contribution of their volunteers. These could be as simple as a special acknowledgement at an appropriate event or Annual General Meeting, to thank you letters, certificates, or a personalised gift.	 
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### 2. THANKS BADGE

Thanks Badge	<p>Everyone is encouraged to think of informal ways to recognise the contribution of our volunteers.</p> <p>The Thanks Badge is an award, intended for presentation to both members and non-members whose practical support or service to Scouting, usually over a number of years, is considered worthy of special recognition. It may also be a suitable thank you for a short-term, valuable piece of work.</p>	
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### 3. COMMENDATIONS

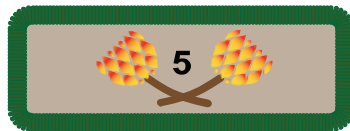
Commendations are awarded in recognition of special short-term interventions in support of SCOUTS South Africa or the community or commendable acts of service (e.g. rendering assistance at an emergency scene, but where there was no gallantry) by a Youth or Adult Member, Employee or group of Members (e.g. Six, Pack, Patrol, Troop, or Crew.).




Regional Commissioner's Commendation	<p>Awarded to Members, non-members, Groups or External Organisations for special short-term interventions or acts of service to the Movement, the public or a community at <b>Unit, Group, District or Regional level</b>. The Commendation is a cloth protea badge with the Letter 'A' or 'RC' on it, together with a Certificate and personal letter from the Regional Commissioner commending the recipient(s) for the services rendered.</p>	
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	<p>The commendation is made at the sole discretion of the Regional Commissioner.</p> <p>The Regional Commissioners Commendation is processed at the National Office. The National Office despatches the Certificate to the Region. It is an option for the Region to print if need be.</p>	
Chief Scout's Commendation	<p>Awarded to Members, non-members, Groups or External Organisations for outstanding services rendered to the Movement, the public or a community where the service is of <b>National</b> or exceptional significance</p> <p>The Commendation is a cloth protea badge with the letters 'CS' on it, together with a Certificate, signed by the Chief Scout and a personal letter from the Chief Scout commending the recipient for services rendered.</p> <p>The commendation is made at the sole discretion of the Chief Scout.</p> <p>The Chief Scouts Commendation is processed at the National Office. It is printed and despatched from the National Office.</p>	


## SERVICE AWARDS



1. These Awards are made to all Adult Members and Employees on the completion of the relevant period of Adult service. Service in Operational positions, in Administrative positions in the Scout Movement and Adult service with The Guide Association are recognised as qualifying service. Youth service as a Cub, Scout, Brownie, Guide or Ranger Guide are not recognised as qualifying service for this Award.
2. Normal Rover membership will not be recognised as qualifying Service for this Award. Rover service as an office bearer in the Crew, RAC or NRAC (i.e. Chair, Secretary, Treasurer), or warranted service will count towards the Service Award.
3. In any Calendar period only one period of Adult Service will be recognised. i.e. even if you hold two, or more, positions concurrently, only one year of Adult Service will be recognised per 12 calendar months in SSA.

Award	Requirements	
5 Year Service Badge	5 Year Service badge is awarded on completion of 5 years adult service to the Movement. The award is a cloth Protea badge depicting the numeric years' service completed. This is accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout.	


10 Year Service Badge	10 Year Service badge is awarded on completion of 10 years adult service to the Movement. The award is a cloth Protea badge depicting the numeric years' service completed. This is accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout.	
15 Year Long Service Medal	<p>The Long Service Medal is awarded after 15 years total adult service and is accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout.</p> <p>The medal is worn on a light green ribbon bounded by a yellow stripe centred with a red stripe.</p> <p>A cloth badge with the design in yellow, green, and red is issued with the medal. This replaces the 5 or 10-year badge</p>	
Bar to Long Service Medal	<p>Bars to the Long Service medal are awarded on completion of 20 years, 30 years, 40 years, 50 years, 60 years, and 70 years' qualifying service. They are accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout.</p> <p>Each Bar takes the form of a numeral brooch worn on the ribbon of the Long Service Medal, or on the cloth badge. Subsequent bars replace the previous bar when awarded.</p>	



## MERIT AWARDS

Award	Requirements	
Certificate of Merit	<p>Awarded to Adult Members and Employees, normally with at least 5 years' Adult service, for above-average performance in their Warranted or Appointed position.</p> <p>The Award is a Certificate, signed by the Chief Scout, and a cloth badge which consists of a figure-of-eight knot in white with green ends.</p>	

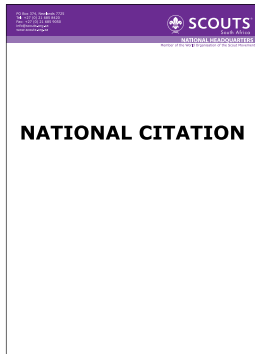
<p>Medal of Merit</p>	<p>Awarded to Adult Members and Employees, normally with at least 8 years' service for very good performance and service.</p> <p>The Medal is attached to a dark green ribbon and accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout</p> <p>The cloth badge consists of a figure-of-eight knot in green</p>	
<p>Bar to Medal of Merit</p>	<p>Awarded for further very good performance and services, in addition to those considered for the Medal of Merit.</p> <p>The award is a bronze fleur-de-lys pinned to the cloth emblem and on the ribbon. It is accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout</p>	

## SCOUTS SOUTH AFRICA NATIONAL ORDERS

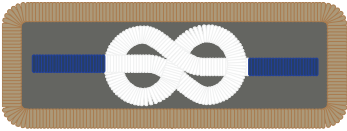



Award	Requirements	
<p>Order of the Silver Protea</p>	<p>Awarded by SSA for distinguished service.</p> <p>The Order comprises a silver medal in the form of a Protea surrounded by a Wreath on a yellow ribbon. It is accompanied by a Citation and a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout</p> <p>The cloth badge consists of a figure-of-eight knot in yellow.</p> <p>A Silver Brooch is presented to the spouse/partner of the recipient.</p> <p>A miniature lapel badge may be worn by administrative members or employees</p>	

<p>Bar to The Order of The Silver Protea</p>	<p>Awarded to Members and employees for further and continued distinguished service, beyond that considered for the Order of the Silver Protea.</p> <p>The Bar to the Order comprises that your Silver Protea is placed on a yellow ribbon with a green stripe down the centre. It is accompanied by a Citation and a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout</p> <p>A bronze fleur-de-lys is pinned to the cloth emblem</p>	
<p>Order of the Silver Springbok</p>	<p>Awarded to Members of exceptional character for especially distinguished service of the highest order.</p> <p>The Order comprises a silver springbok medallion and is on a green ribbon with a central yellow stripe. It is accompanied by a Citation and a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout.</p> <p>A silver brooch is presented to the spouse/partner of the recipient.</p> <p>The cloth badge consisting of a figure-of-eight knot, in green and yellow. A miniature lapel badge may be worn by administrative members or employees</p>	

## NATIONAL CITATIONS


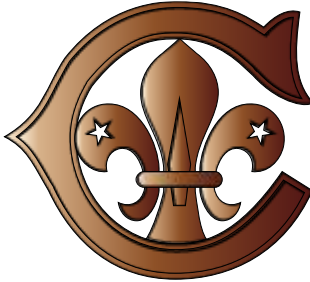

Award	Requirements	
<p>SCOUTS South Africa National Citation</p>	<p>National Citations can be awarded to Non Members and external organisations for exceptional assistance or service rendered to SSA or its Members over a period of time.</p> <p>In addition to members of the public, a National Citation can be made to members of bodies closely linked to SSA, such as Scouts affiliated to other WOSM members or Guides who are members of bodies affiliated to WAGGGS.</p> <p>A Citation may be bestowed on a former Member for services rendered to SSA after their membership ended. Service rendered during a person's membership of SSA should rather be recognised with one of the other Award categories provided for in the Policy.</p>	

## MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

<p>Certificate for Meritorious Conduct</p>	<p>Awarded to members and employees for meritorious conduct of high standard. The nominee should demonstrate tenacity in the face of difficulty of a reasonable level.</p> <p>The cloth badge consisting of a figure-of-eight knot, in white with blue ends is accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout</p>	
<p>Medal for Meritorious Conduct</p>	<p>Awarded to members and employees for meritorious conduct of an exceptionally high standard. The nominee should demonstrate tenacity in the face of reasonable difficulty over a long period or show tenacity in the face of extreme difficulty.</p> <p>The Medal is attached to a red ribbon and accompanied by a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout.</p> <p>The cloth badge consisting of a figure-of-eight knot, in green and red</p>	 
<p>Bar to the Medal for Meritorious Conduct</p>	<p>Awarded to members and employees for further meritorious conduct of exceptionally high standard. The nominee should demonstrate tenacity in the face of extreme difficulty over an extended period of time.</p> <p>The Order comprises a bronze fleur-de-lys pinned to the cloth emblem and on the ribbon. It is accompanied by a Citation and a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout</p>	


## GALLANTRY AWARDS

### 1.1 Cornwall Scout Awards - Awarded to Youth Members



Award	Requirements	
Cornwell Scout Certificate	<p>Awarded to Scouts who have shown an above average devotion to duty, with courage and endurance.</p> <p>The Award is a cloth protea badge with the letter "C" on it in blue together with a certificate and a Citation signed by the Chief Scout.</p>	
Cornwell Scout Badge	<p>Awarded to Scouts who are of an exceptional character and who show devotion to duty, great courage and endurance or gallantry.</p> <p>The Award is a bronze "C" surrounding a fleur-de-lis, together with a cloth protea badge with the letter "C" on it in red, together with a certificate and a Citation signed by the Chief Scout.</p>	 

### 1.2 General Gallantry Awards

Awarded to Adult Members, Employees, or groups of members in cases of joint action. The NAC will make the final determination as to the appropriate grade of Gallantry Award to be awarded.

Bronze Cross	<p>Awarded for gallantry with moderate risk.</p> <p>The Award comprises a Bronze Cross with Red Ribbon. It is accompanied by a Citation and a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout and a cloth badge consisting of a figure-of-eight knot in red.</p>	
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Silver Cross	<p>Awarded for gallantry with significant risk.</p> <p>The Award comprises a Silver Cross with Blue Ribbon. It is accompanied by a Citation and a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout and a cloth badge consisting of a figure-of-eight knot in blue.</p>	 <p>The image shows the Silver Cross award. It consists of a silver cross with a fleur-de-lis in the center. The top arm of the cross is inscribed with 'FOR' and the bottom arm with 'GALLANTRY'. The cross is suspended from a blue ribbon with a white figure-of-eight knot. Above the cross is a blue rectangular cloth badge with a white figure-of-eight knot.</p>
Gold Cross	<p>The highest possible award for gallantry, with very significant perseverance, endurance, and heroism with very significant personal risk.</p> <p>The Award comprises a Gold Cross with a red and blue ribbon. It is accompanied by a Citation and a Certificate signed by the Chief Scout and a cloth badge consisting of a figure-of-eight knot in blue &amp; red.</p>	 <p>The image shows the Gold Cross award. It consists of a gold cross with a fleur-de-lis in the center. The top arm of the cross is inscribed with 'FOR' and the bottom arm with 'GALLANTRY'. The cross is suspended from a red and blue ribbon with a white figure-of-eight knot. Above the cross is a red and blue rectangular cloth badge with a white figure-of-eight knot.</p>
<b>REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA NATIONAL ORDERS</b>		
Republic of South Africa National Orders	<p>The Republic of South Africa, through its President, bestows on its citizens and eminent foreign nationals, awards of National Orders.</p> <p>The NAC will consider recommending outstanding individuals in March each year who are worthy of such nominations.</p> <p>These are forwarded to the CS, CEO and CC who will consider all recommendations and make submissions where appropriate.</p>	



## **ROUTING FOR ALL AWARDS**

### **General**

1. The proposer fills out the required Application Form (electronically if possible) with all the necessary information.
2. For those that are not able to fill out electronically, they are to hand their forms to the RTC: Adult Support or the RC, who will **capture the forms electronically** and forward them to your Regional Awards Committee.
3. This form follows a routing process depending on the award. These are detailed below.
4. Applications received for a nominee in another region, will be forwarded to the Regional Awards Committee of the region where the nominee is resident for consideration.

### **Service Awards**

1. Service Award applications **are sent directly to the RTC: Adult Support in your Region (or the RC in the absence of an RTC: Adult Support)**. Once the service record has been verified by the RTC Adult Support or the Regional Manager, the application is sent via the dedicated email address [ServiceAwards@scouts.org.za](mailto:ServiceAwards@scouts.org.za) for the National Office to process. This applies for **all Service Awards**.
2. Once an award has been granted, it is uploaded to Scouts Digital (where possible) for printing in the Region and/or the certificate and Medal/Brooch (where applicable) is dispatched to the relevant Regional Commissioner for presentation.
3. Each year these will be uploaded onto Scouts.Digital unless the member uploads themselves. The record will also be uploaded to the WIKI.

### **Commendations**

1. Regional Commendation applications are sent directly to the Regional Commissioner.
2. In the case of a Regional Commissioner granting a commendation, the Regional Commissioner sends it to the National Office for processing with a copy to the Chair: National Adult NAR
3. Should the Regional Commissioner consider a Chief Scout's Commendation more appropriate, then the RC will forward it to the Chief Scout.
4. The Chief Scout will then either grant the commendation or refer back to the Regional Commissioner for reconsideration.
5. All Commendations are sent to the National Office for processing. Printing can be done at the National office or in the Region.
6. The certificate is dispatched to the relevant Regional Commissioner for presentation / or the Chief Scout makes the presentation should it be a Chief Scout Commendation.

7. Each year these will be uploaded onto Scouts.Digital unless the member uploads themselves. The record will also be uploaded to the WIKI.
- 8. The Chair: National Adult Support is copied on all Commendations.**

## **All Other Awards**

1. In the case of all other awards, the proposer sends his/her application directly to the **Regional Awards Committee's (RAC) email address specific for their Region**, (see end of article) or Regional Commissioner if there is no RAC, with a **copy to the Chair: National Adult Support** ([joy.hutchinson@scouts.org.za](mailto:joy.hutchinson@scouts.org.za)) The Chairperson will receive and circulate to his/her committee for their recommendation within a **14-day period**. Once the Regional Awards Committee have deliberated and made a recommendation, the forms are forwarded to the Regional Commissioner for his/her approval or comment.
2. Each award application should be handled immediately upon receipt and not held back till month end. Deliberations can take place electronically or over Skype/Zoom.
3. Should the Regional Awards Committee receive a duplicate application for a member within the same month, they are to review the application in the event that further information can be gleaned which could perhaps change the initial outcome of the award.
4. The Regional Commissioner will, **within 7 days**, then send his information to the Chair - National Awards Committee [NAC] The dedicated email is [NAC.awards@scouts.org.za](mailto:NAC.awards@scouts.org.za)
5. The Chair National Awards Committee (NAC) will circulate the proposal to the NAC members for consideration.
6. Each Award application is handled upon receipt.
7. The National Awards Committee make their recommendation but deliberate to ensure a joint agreement, if possible. This recommendation is made **within 14 days** if possible.
8. The National Awards Committee Chair sends the completed application to the Chief Commissioner for a final decision, and the Chair National Adult Support is copied.
9. The Chief Commissioner makes the final decision and sends the completed documents, within 7 days, to the Chair National Adult Support who will forward to the National Office for processing.
10. The National Office will process the award, send off and notify the relevant Regional Commissioner that it has been dispatched to them. A control sheet listing all awards processed will accompany the awards and a copy is sent to the Chair: National Adult Support.
11. The final decision is communicated by the Chair National Adult Support to the relevant Regional Awards Committee Chairs and Regional Commissioners who in turn may notify the relevant DC's if appropriate.
12. The awards, when received, will be presented at an appropriate occasion but as soon as possible.

13. Each year these will be uploaded onto Scouts.Digital unless the member uploads themselves. The record will also be uploaded to the WIKI.

<b>Regional emails to be used:</b>		
1	Eastern Cape North	ecn.awards@scouts.org.za
2	Eastern Cape South	ecs.awards@scouts.org.za
3	Free State	fs.awards@scouts.org.za
4	Gauteng	gt.awards@scouts.org.za
5	KZN	kzn.awards@scouts.org.za
6	Limpopo	lim.awards@scouts.org.za
7	Mpumalanga	mp.awards@scouts.org.za
8	Northern Cape	nc.awards@scouts.org.za
9	North West	nw.awards@scouts.org.za
10	Western Cape	wc.awards@scouts.org.za

14. Awards are to be presented at a time that suits the Regions. However, some Regions take the opportunity to use Founders Day (BP Sunday) for this prestigious event. Others have a special event during the year. Whatever your preference, we recommend that all award applications reach the **Regional Award Committees** no later than **three months** before the presentation is due to take place.
15. For Gauteng who present their awards on Founders Day, all award applications need to be received no later than the last day **in October of each year**. No exceptions will be granted.