



The Springbok Award is the highest award achievable by any Scout in South Africa. The completion of all requirements for the Springbok Award must occur before the Springbok Candidate's eighteenth birthday.

It is mandatory for all aspirant Springbok Scouts to register as a Springbok Candidate with SCOUTS South Africa National Office, *before* starting the Springbok Journey!

A Scout must be at least sixteen (16) years old and **MUST** have completed all the requirements and have achieved the First Class Advancement Level prior to registering and commencing their Springbok Journey.

The final cut-off age for registering for Springbok is six months prior to the Scout's eighteenth birthday, i.e. seventeen and six months (17½), at the very latest. This gives sufficient time to complete all Springbok requirements without the possibility of compromising standards.

All Scouts commencing on Springbok theme badges must prepare an initial project 'proof of concept' plan for completing ALL requirements for the Springbok Advancement, which is documented on the Springbok Award Registration form.

It is recognised that some ideas and dates may change, but without a plan the chances of achieving Springbok are dramatically diminished.

'Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance'.

Ensure that there is sufficient time to complete the requirements for the Springbok Award! It is very important that the Scout plans early, as too many Scouts are caught off-guard and miss out on their Springbok because planning is left too late!

It is highly recommended that the Scout factors in sufficient time for any 're-dos', where the requirements and/or standard of a specific Springbok task is not met, and the Scout must repeat an activity in order to meet the required Springbok Standard. If the Scout does not plan adequately and leaves things to the last minute, there may not be sufficient time to repeat a Springbok activity in need, thereby missing out on achieving the Springbok Award.

The **Springbok Award Registration form** is *completed by the Scout* who fills in the details of Section One and Section Two of the Springbok Journey. This is done in consultation with the Troop Scouter and must be completed at the First Class PGA (Personal Growth Agreement) discussion where the scout discusses his / her intended proposed project plans in sufficient detail to ensure the Troop Scouter that the required Springbok Standards will be achieved.

Once completed, the *Springbok Award Registration Form* is signed by the Springbok Candidate who commits to the plan for the Springbok Journey and the timelines thereof. The form is then endorsed by the Troop Scouter, District Commissioner and RTC Scout Programme.

The Springbok Award Registration Form must be submitted *PRIOR* to the Scout commencing the Springbok Journey.

A meeting is held with the RTC Scout Programme, or nominee e.g. Springbok Co-ordinator, for the Scout to present the planning concept and discuss the details of Section Two of the Springbok Journey.

The Troop Scouter is responsible for forwarding the form and making sure all endorsements are received up to Regional level, i.e. RTC Scout Programme.

The RTC Scout Programme sends a copy of the completed registration form to the Chair: National Scout Programme within fourteen days of the Springbok Candidate having signed the form.

The Scout is registered on the National Springbok Award database as a Springbok Candidate and, once registered and the registration is confirmed by the Chair: National Scout Programme, only then can the Scout commence with all Springbok Award tasks and activities.

Section One of the Springbok Journey

The following Section One requirements of the Springbok Scout Journey are to be discussed and agreed with the Troop Scouter.

A summary of the Section One of the Springbok Journey requirements is below:
See [Scout Wiki](#) for full details of all the [Springbok Award Requirements](#).

- **Adventure:**
 - *Mapwork* - devise and run a wide game based on orientation or navigation.
- **Safety Awareness:**
 - *Interest Badge* - earn one Interest badge (out of a choice of six).
 - *Visit to Emergency Service* - take your Patrol on a day outing, or
 - *Guest Speaker, invite emergency services to talk to your Patrol / Troop* or
 - *Water/Air/Mountain licence* - obtain a licence and organise a Patrol/Troop activity.
- **Living Outdoors:**
 - *Camping & Oral Discussion* - organise and conduct a two-night camp for at least two Patrols.
- **Service:**
 - *Movement Service* - give a presentation on Scouting.
- **Scout Skills:**
 - *First Aid* - lead of a team of three Scouts and deal with two First Aid incidents.
- **Personal Development:**
 - Court Of Honour* - attend six COH meetings and hold a position of Scribe or Chairperson
 - Succession Planning* - Assist with succession planning and goal setting of Patrol/Troop.
 - Scouts Own* - plan and run a Scout's Own for your Troop or District.
 - Respect for Others* - demonstrate respect for others (choice of 1 of 4 activities)
 - Patrol Leadership* - lead your Patrol across two outdoor obstacles.

Section Two of the Springbok Journey

Approval by the RTC Scout Programme, or nominee, of the following Regionally evaluated Springbok Scout activities and the planning thereof is mandatory and must be *approved prior to the Springbok Candidate starting the corresponding requirements*.

The RTC Scout Programme may nominate a subject specialist or member of the Regional Support Team to liaise with the *Springbok Candidate* on the project(s).

When discussing Section Two of the requirements of the Springbok Journey, the Springbok Candidate should prepare preliminary proposals and concept plans for all three of the following requirements for discussion with the RTC: Scout Programme, or nominee.

A summary of the Section Two of the Springbok Journey requirements is below:

See [Scout Wiki](#) for full details of all the [Springbok Award Requirements](#).

- **Adventure:**
 - *Springbok Scout Expedition* - lead a three-day, two-night expedition over a 30km route you have not covered before.
- **Service:**
 - *Community Service Project* – 40-hour project: a) to the Scout Movement, community or environment; b) raise money for charity; c) training camp for disadvantaged children / Scouts.
- **Scout Skills – Major Project:**

One of the following major projects must be chosen by the Springbok Candidate.

 - *Banquet* - with four Scouts, plan and execute a three-course banquet for 20 people.
 - *Boating* - Quartermaster of boat store; repair four boats; train four Scouts on boat repairs and one of the boating Interest badges.
 - *Climbing* - lead a grade 16 climb/belay; train Scouts on climbing safety; assist Scout(s) in attaining the Scoutcraft Climbing badge.
 - *Construction Project* - train and lead Scouts in the building of a permanent construction project; OR undertake a project under supervision from a certified artisan.
 - *Flying* – undertake an aeronautical project on an aircraft or in a hanger; train at least four Scouts on one of the Air Interest badges.
 - *Food For Life* – Attain Gold level; train Scout(s) on the Starter or Silver level.
 - *Pioneering Project* – build scale pioneering model; train Scouts and lead them in the building of the pioneering project build.
 - *Wildlife Training Programme* - complete a formal Wildlife Training Programme; lead a party of at least four people on an excursion.

Again, it is recognised that dates and some ideas may be subject to change once these initial plans are discussed with the RTC: Scout Programme and more detailed plans are submitted to the RTC Scout Programme, or nominee, prior to the commencement of these Regionally evaluated Springbok activities.

In the event of a considerable change to the choice of Springbok activities, the Springbok Candidate should be able to justify to the RTC Scout Programme, or nominee, as to the reason for the changes made to the initial Springbok Award Planning.

The Springbok Candidate is not required to complete all activities of Section One prior to starting on the Section Two activities, these can run concurrently.

As a courtesy to the Springbok Examiner, Springbok Coordinator or RTC Scout Programme, or nominee (whichever is applicable), the Springbok Expedition Log and all other reports, (written or verbal) on Springbok tasks and activities for Section Two of the Springbok Journey should be submitted a minimum of twenty-one days prior to the Springbok Candidate turning eighteen.

This gives the examiner sufficient time to review the log / report and provide feedback to the Springbok Candidate, as well as sufficient time for any 're-dos' prior to the final cut-off for the completion of all Springbok tasks, i.e. when the Springbok Candidate turns eighteen.

Springbok Award Interview

Once the Springbok Award requirements in Section One and Section Two of the Springbok Journey above have been successfully completed, the Springbok Candidate is required to present themselves to the Springbok Award Interview Panel.

The Springbok Interview is the final task a Springbok Candidate undergoes before being considered for the Springbok Award. The interview should be seen as a review of the Scout's Scouting career so far, and where their path in life leads them next.

The Springbok Panel is chaired by the RTC Scout Programme, or nominee, who, along with the other Panel members, is responsible to ensure the consistent evaluation and required standard of the Springbok Award is met by each Springbok Candidate.

The Springbok Award Interview should be conducted according to the [Springbok Award Interview Guidelines](#). In addition to these guidelines there is a handy document available on the SSA website for Springbok Candidates to assist them in [Preparing for a Successful Springbok Award Interview](#).

The Springbok Award Panel Interview should take place *within one month* of the Scout completing all the requirements for the Springbok Award.

The Springbok Award Panel Interview should also ideally take place *before* the Scout turns eighteen; however, the interview may take place *within one month* after the Scout's eighteenth birthday.

Springbok Award Application

Prior to the Springbok Award Panel Interview, the Springbok Candidate, not the Troop Scouter, needs to complete the [Springbok Award Application form](#) and discuss this with the Troop Scouter at the Springbok PGA discussion.

When completing the application, the Springbok Candidate must provide sufficient detail of the activities in Section Two of the Springbok Journey, Adventure, Service and Scout Skills. As the application form is not accompanied by the relevant logs and reports of the various Springbok Award activities, this is to ensure a clear understanding of the activities undertaken when the Springbok Award Application is considered at National. A brief *post-activity synopsis* of the completed Springbok activity should be provided, not just be a copy-and-paste from the Planning and Registration form!

By signing the Springbok Award Application, the Troop Scouter certifies that the Springbok Candidate has passed the requirements for the Springbok Award, as laid down in the Scout Journey, (except for meeting with the Springbok Award Interview Panel) and recommends the Scout for the Springbok Award.

The Troop Scouter is responsible for forwarding the Springbok Award Application form and making sure all endorsements are received up to Regional level, i.e. RTC Scout Programme.

The RTC Scout Programme, checks that the application meets all the criteria of the award and ratifies the application. The Springbok Award Interview Panel, chaired by the RTC Scout Programme, or nominee, informs the Springbok Candidate of the arrangements for the interview.

The Springbok Award Interview Panel interviews the Springbok Candidate, recording their comments and recommendation on the Springbok Award Application.

National Award

The Springbok Award Application is forwarded to the Chair: National Scout Programme for endorsement, and submission to the National Office for the issuing of the Award.

The Springbok Award is a National Award, and as such must be endorsed by the Chair: National Scout Programme. The application must reach the Chair: National Scout Programme within seven days of the Springbok Award Interview Panel discussion having taken place.

The Springbok Award Application must be received by the Chair: National Scout Programme within a *maximum* of six weeks (42 days) after the Scout's eighteenth birthday. Any application received after the six-week period will not be considered.

The Chair: National Scout Programme informs the Region of the National decision and only then is the Springbok Candidate informed of the outcome.

Springbok Award Extension

An extension for the completion of the Springbok Award may be applied for; however, the granting of an extension is very infrequent.

An extension is only granted if there are *extenuating circumstances* which have been totally out of the control of the Scout. No extension will be granted if it is due to poor planning or a late start on the completion of the requirements of the Springbok Award.

A Springbok Award Extension must be applied for at least twenty one (21) days prior to the Scout's eighteenth birthday. Any extension application received after the twenty-one period will not be considered.

The Springbok Award Extension Application must be completed by the Springbok Candidate, providing a full motivation and justification of the reasons for a Springbok Award Extension to be considered. In addition, the Springbok Candidate must also provide details of what Springbok Award requirement(s) is/are still outstanding as well as the timeline for the completion thereof.

The Springbok Award Extension Application is then endorsed by the Troop Scouter, District Commissioner and RTC Scout Programme.

The application is submitted to the Troop Scouter who is responsible for forwarding the form and making sure all endorsements are received up to Regional level, i.e. RTC Scout Programme.

The RTC Scout Programme, considers the application and makes a recommendation to National as to the granting of the Springbok Award Extension.

The application is forwarded to the Chair: National Scout Programme for consideration and the Springbok Award Extension is then granted or rejected and the Region is informed of the National decision. The Springbok Candidate is notified accordingly by the RTC Scout Programme.

Good luck to all aspirant Springbok Scouts along their Springbok Journey!

Click below for easy access to the Springbok Award guidelines / forms on the SSA website, www.scouts.org.za/Springbok-Award :

Guidelines:

- [Springbok Award Interview Guidelines](#)
- [Preparing for a Successful Springbok Award Interview – Guidelines for Springbok Candidates](#)

Forms:

- [Springbok Award Registration Form](#)
- [Springbok Award Application Form](#)
- [Springbok Award Extension Application Form](#)