SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
ADULT RECOGNITION AWARDS 2027
NOMINATION GUIDELINES

(For information only – please do not submit with Nomination Form)

The following Guidelines should be used when making an Adult Recognition Award nomination:

- Adult Recognition Awards are awarded to Adult Leaders, Rover Scouts, Other Members and Adult Supporters who have given valuable service to Scouts Australia over an extended period. Such Awards are granted for sustained commitment to the Association, both within and beyond their designated role and responsibilities.

- **Rover Scouts** may be considered for an Adult Recognition Award (defined in R13.5.8) where their contribution to Scouting is beyond the level of service expected of a participant in the Rover Scout section. Where the contribution spans across more than 5 years, then the Rover Service Award (defined in R 9.5) is to be considered.

- These guidelines provide a summary of the provisions which can be found in the current edition of the Australian Scout (Adult Member) Uniform Standards.

- Many of the Awards are associated with periods of service, but under exceptional circumstances, the typical service period may be reduced to recognise highly intense / complex periods of activity and special effort.

- Corresponding medallions and distinctive cloth emblems (for wearing on a uniform) and certificates issue with all Awards. A Scouts Australia **lapel pin** for wearing in **civilian dress,** is issued when the first Award is presented.

- A nomination may be initiated by any Member or Formation of Scouts Australia and may be sent directly to the relevant Branch Chief Commissioner.

To be considered for an Adult Recognition Award the Nominee must meet the following criteria:

- Carrying out the responsibilities of their current position in Scouting, Certificate of Proficiency or other management/Supporter roles to the highest standard which contributes to Youth membership growth or the wellbeing of Scouting.
- Promoting teamwork and a positive attitude in mentoring fellow Adults in Scouting.
- Demonstrating leadership qualities that inspire enthusiasm among other Adults in Scouting.
- Providing ideas for the future direction of Scouting and demonstrating how they can be implemented to contribute to the development of Youth and / or Adults influenced by their role.
- For higher Awards, contributing to wider Scouting (including Internationally) by involvement in activities beyond the level of responsibilities normally expected in the appointment or management role held.

A "hints to consider when completing the ARA form is provide for assistance.

Scouts Australia Policy and Rules defines Adult Members in section P3.1 and Supporters in section P3.2. These definitions are shown below.

P3.1 MEMBERS

Membership of Scouts Australia is open to all people who live by the values of the Association.

There are two categories of membership:

1. Youth Members: Young people under the age of 18yo for whom the Youth Program is provided, within the age range defined for Scouts Australia. Youth Members are invested as Scouts by accepting the commitment of the Scout Promise, the obligations of the Scout Law and are current members of a Branch according to Branch rules.
2. Adult Members: Persons over the age of 18 in the following membership classifications:
    a. Rover Scouts: adults from their 18th to their 26th birthdays. The Rover Scout Section is the final Section of the Youth Program. Rover Scouts, are invested as Scouts by accepting the commitment of the Scout Promise and the obligations of the Scout Law, agreeing to abide by the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and are current members of a Branch according to Branch rules.

       Rover Scouts may also serve as Adult Leaders.

    b. Venturer Scouts (18yo): A Venturer Scout who has had their 18th birthday and not progressed to Rover Scouts in accordance with R8.3.5. Venturer Scouts are invested as Scouts by accepting the commitment of the Scout Promise and the obligations of the Scout Law and upon attaining the age of 18 year's old, agreeing to abide by the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and are current members of a Branch according to Branch rules.

       Venturer Scouts who have had their 18th birthday may also serve as Adult Leaders.

c. Adult Leaders (including Commissioners/Advisers): Persons appointed to a leadership role to support the non-formal education of young people or in the management of Leaders in Scouts Australia at Group, District, Region, Branch or National levels.

   Adult Leaders are invested by accepting the commitment of the Scout Promise, agreeing to abide by the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and are current members of a Branch according to Branch rules.

d. Adult Supporters: Persons appointed to assist those adults in classification c. above in the delivery of the Youth Program on a regular basis and/or providing service to Scouting through membership of committees at within a Group, District, Region, Branch or National level.

e. Scout Fellowship: Persons affiliated with a Fellowship (Group/District/Region/Branch) attached to a Formation of Scouts Australia. Scout Fellowship members are invested by accepting the commitment of the Scout Promise, agreeing to abide by the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and are current members of a Branch according to Branch rules.

f. Life Members/Honorary Members: Adults appointed in accordance with the rules and procedures of Scouts Australia and its Branches in recognition of long and distinguished service and/or support to Scouting.

g. Staff: employees of a Branch or Scouts Australia through an employment arrangement recognised under the Fair Work Act 2009 (Cwlth)

Those members in classifications a.-c. wear the Scout Uniform as illustrated in the relevant Uniform Standards.

Those members in classifications d.-g. may either be invested as Scouts by accepting the commitment of the Scout Promise and agreeing to abide by the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct or be non-invested members making a commitment to the Values of the Association. These classifications of membership may wear the Scout Uniform as illustrated in the Adult Uniform Standards, where permitted by the Branch Chief Commissioner consistent with P3.6.

Those members in classifications c.-g. are provided a role description as prescribed in the Adults in Scouting Standard.

All Adult Members are required to undertake the mandatory On Demand Learning modules being those shown with an expiry date in On Demand Learning (e.g.; *Child Safe Scouting, WHS and Scouting and Adult Code of Conduct*) within three (3) months of being accepted as an adult member and again every two (2) years in addition to the training applicable to their specific role.

The Branch Chief Commissioner of the relevant Branch, together with another Branch authorised member, may recommend an exemption to this Training Requirement in special circumstances for a limited period. Members with this exemption must be supervised by a Leader at all times when around youth and youth member records.

Withdrawal of an Adult Recognition Award:

An Adult Recognition Award may be withdrawn by the Chief Commissioner of Australia if someone is proven to have:

- Acted in ways inconsistent with Scouts Australia Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct
- Sentenced to a custodial term of at least 3 months, which has not been suspended, for a criminal offence.

Other reasons for forfeiture may also be considered. The overall criterion is whether the reputation of Scouts Australia (and by definition the ARA awarded) has been brought into **disrepute.**

Members who have an award revoked will be notified that they can appeal the decision to the National Awards Sub Committee The revocation, recommendation, referral, and appeal will be forwarded to the Chief Commissioner of Australia for a final decision.

Preparing Adult Recognition Awards:

When preparing Adult Recognition Award nominations for the highest award levels, it is important to consider the category in which a person should be nominated.

The **Silver Kangaroo** is awarded for eminent achievement and exceptional service to Scouts Australia by an adult member in an active Leadership role, over a long period, in a number of roles at various levels within the organisation, or for a unique and highly valued contribution to the wellbeing of Scouting.

When submitting a nomination for the **Silver Kangaroo,** the period a person has served in a uniformed role should be considered. For example, if the person has been an active uniformed member for 20 years or more then changed to a Supporter role for the past 5 years or more, it is more appropriate to nominate this person for the award of the Silver Kangaroo recognising the valued contribution whilst in a Leadership role.

The **National President's Award** is awarded for eminent achievement and exceptional service to Scouts Australia by adult members and supporters, over a long period in a number of significant roles within the organisation, or for a unique and highly valued contribution to the wellbeing of Scouting.

This award is normally awarded to an Adult Supporter, a Fellowship member [who does not hold a Certificate of Adult Appointment] and Branch or National staff members who meet the criteria.

The Chief Commissioner of Australia may under exceptional circumstances recommend a different award category.

ADULT LEADERS (current Certificate of Proficiency)					
Award Name	**Criterion**	**Medal**	**Cloth Emblem**	**Approved by**	**Awarded by**
Special Service Award*	Awarded to Rover Scouts, Adult Members and Adult Supporters for the successful support, development or management of a Section or Formation, or for an intense contribution over a period of at least 12 months to the success of a major event or major activity. 'Special Service' is defined as making a noteworthy contribution in their role. This Award can be made in the first three-year assignment / period of service.	Bronze medallion, depicting "Scouts Australia logo worn around the neck on a white ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)
Meritorious Service Award*	Awarded to Rover Scouts, Adult Members and Adult Supporters for meritorious or praiseworthy service to Scouts Australia for a period of around six to eight years. 'Meritorious Service' is defined as performing to a higher standard for longer or more intensely, than would be reasonably expected.	Silver medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on a yellow ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)
Silver Wattle*	Awarded for outstanding service to Scouts Australia as an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of around ten to twelve years. 'Outstanding service' is defined as a performance at a consistently high standard, normally over a number of assignments, all of which have provided positive outcomes for Scouting. This person's contribution to Scouting clearly stands out from that of their peer group.	Silver medallion depicting a 'Wattle Flower" worn around the neck on a green ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)

ADULT LEADERS (current Certificate of Proficiency)					
Award Name	**Criterion**	**Ribbon**	**Cloth Emblem**	**Approved by**	**Awarded by**
Silver Koala*	Awarded for distinguished service to Scouts Australia as an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of around 14 to 16 years. It is expected that such distinguished service is at a consistently high level, normally over a number of assignments, resulting in a significant contribution to the wellbeing of Scouting and that the recipient is respected and highly regarded throughout the District / Region / Branch or Nationally.	Silver Medallion depicting a "Koala" worn around the neck on an orange ribbon 		Chief Commissioner of Australia	Chief Scout of Australia
Silver Emu*	Awarded for further distinguished service to Scouts Australia by an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, for a period of at least four or five years since the Award of the Silver Koala. It is expected that such further distinguished service is at a consistently high level, over a number of assignments and at a number of levels within a Branch or at a National level, resulting in further significant contributions to the wellbeing of Scouting.	Silver medallion depicting an "Emu" worn around the neck on a purple ribbon 		Chief Commissioner of Australia	Chief Scout of Australia
Silver Kangaroo*	Awarded for eminent achievement and exceptional service to Scouts Australia by an Adult Member in an active Leadership role, over a long period, in a number of roles at various levels within the organisation, or for a unique and highly valued contribution to the wellbeing of Scouting.	Silver medallion depicting a "Kangaroo" worn around the neck on a gold ribbon with two green stripes 		Chief Commissioner of Australia	Chief Scout of Australia

* To be nominated for an Award, a Leader must have completed the mandatory Scouting Preliminary of "Child Safe Scouting" and "WHS for Scouting" and "Adult Code of Conduct".

ROVER SCOUTS					
Award Name	**Criterion**	**Medal**	**Cloth Emblem**	**Approved by**	**Awarded by**
Special Service Award*	Awarded to Rover Scouts, Adult Members and Adult Supporters for the successful support, development or management of a Section or Formation, or for an intense contribution over a period of at least 12 months to the success of a major event or major activity. 'Special Service' is defined as making a noteworthy contribution in their role. This Award can be made in the first three-year assignment / period of service.	Bronze medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on a white ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)
Meritorious Service Award*	Awarded to Rover Scouts, Adult Members and Adult Supporters for meritorious or praiseworthy service to Scouts Australia for a period of around six to eight years. 'Meritorious Service' is defined as performing to a higher standard for longer or more intensely, than would be reasonably expected.	Silver medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on a yellow ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)

ROVER SCOUTS					
Award Name	**Criterion**	**Ribbon**	**Cloth Emblem**	**Approved by**	**Awarded by**
Rover Service Award*	The Rover Scout Service Award is awarded by Branch Rover Councils on the recommendation of a Unit, Region Rover Council, or the Branch Rover Council itself to Rover Scouts, Rover Advisers, other uniformed members of the Scout Movement, and / or non-uniformed people, who give outstanding service to the Rover Scout Section. Minimum period of outstanding service to the Rover Section: a) 5 Years for Rovers Scouts, or b) 10 Years for Uniformed Members/Supporters Note: Consult the NRC By-Laws (National Rover Service Award) for further details. In accordance with P&R Rule 13.5.10 the Rover Service Award may be given at any time during the year.	Silver medallion depicting a red background "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on a red and white striped ribbon 		Branch Rover Council (Branch Chief Commissioner informed)	Branch Rover Council, Branch Chief Scout, or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch).

* To be nominated for an Award, Rover Scout, must have completed the mandatory Scouting Preliminary of "Child Safe Scouting" and "WHS for Scouting" and "Adult Code of Conduct".

OTHER MEMBERS and ADULT SUPPORTERS (who do not hold a Certificate of Appointment) (Note: Cloth Emblems are issued in these Adult categories as they may choose to wear Uniform according to Branch custom (refer P&R P3.6) and/or later become an Adult Leader where the wearing of a Uniform is required.)					
Award Name	**Criterion**	**Ribbon**	**Cloth Emblem**	**Approved by**	**Awarded by**
Special Service Award*	Awarded to Adult Members and Adult Supporters for the successful support, development or management of a Section or Formation, or for an intense contribution over a period of at least 12 months to the success of a major event or major activity. 'Special Service' is defined as making a noteworthy contribution in their role. This Award can be made in the first three-year assignment / period of service.	Bronze medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on a white ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)
Meritorious Service Award*	Awarded to Adult Members and Adult Supporters for meritorious or praiseworthy service to Scouts Australia for a period of around six to eight years. 'Meritorious Service' is defined as performing to a higher standard for longer or more intensely, than would be reasonably expected.	Silver medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on a yellow ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)
Outstanding Service Award*	Awarded for outstanding service to Scouts Australia for a period of at least twelve years, to non-uniformed Members and Supporters.	Silver medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on a green ribbon 		Branch Chief Commissioner	Branch Chief Scout or Chief Scout of Australia (according to the practice of the Branch)

OTHER MEMBERS and ADULT SUPPORTERS (who do not hold a Certificate of Appointment)...continued					
Award Name	**Criterion**	**Ribbon**	**Cloth Emblem**	**Approved by**	**Awarded by**
Distinguished Service Award*	Awarded for distinguished service to Scouts Australia as an Adult Member or Adult Supporter for a period of around 18 to 20 years. It is expected that such distinguished service is at a consistently high level, providing significant and valuable support to a Group or higher Formation and that the recipient is respected and highly regarded throughout the District / Region / Branch or Nationally.	Silver medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" logo worn around the neck on an orange ribbon 		Chief Commissioner of Australia	Chief Scout of Australia
National President's Award*	Awarded for eminent achievement and exceptional service to Scouts Australia by Adult Members and Adult Supporters, over a long period in a number of significant roles within the organisation, or for a unique and highly valued contribution to the wellbeing of Scouting.	Silver medallion depicting the "Scouts Australia" full colour logo worn around the neck on a red ribbon 		Chief Commissioner of Australia	National President

* To be nominated for an Award an "Other Member" as defined in Scouts Australia Policy and Rules P3.1 must have completed the mandatory Scouting Preliminary "Child Safe Scouting" and "WHS for Scouting" and "Adult Code of Conduct". To be nominated for an Award a "Supporter" as defined in Scouts Australia Policy and Rules P3.1 does not need to have completed the mandatory Scouting Preliminary "Child Safe Scouting" and "WHS for Scouting" and "Adult Code of Conduct".

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

The Chief Scout of Australia, on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner of Australia, may make an award under the Scouts Australia Adult Recognition Awards scheme to a member of a Scout Association affiliated with the World Organisation of the Scout Movement. Where such an award should be considered, Branch Members are invited to write to the Chief Commissioner of Australia detailing the level of Award and reasons why c/- National Office at **aras@scouts.com.au**
Applications will only be considered where the nominee's contribution has had a direct benefit to Scouts Australia.