



The Baden Powell Scout Award

The Baden Powell Scout Award (BPSA) is the highest Scouting award available to Youth in Australia. This Award is designed to challenge and test all who set out to achieve this prestigious Award. It takes into consideration the Aims of Scouting, to encourage the Physical, Intellectual, Emotional, Social and Spiritual Development of young people.

Similar to other awards, the Baden Powell Scout Award allows for the highest standard to be set. This occurs through the individual participant planning and proposing their goals to their Rover Crew. Through consultation and discussion at this level a target is set that is of a level that is guaranteed to be challenging and that meets the requirements of the BPSA.

The Baden Powell Scout Award, like other prominent Scout Awards is presented annually by The Governor and Chief Scout of each Branch, as a representative of the Queen, thus reinforcing the stature this Award holds both within Scouting and the Community.

Where do I begin?

The Baden Powell Scout Award can be undertaken by any Rover providing they have completed their Squire Training, are an Invested Rover and have achieved their Rover Skills Badge.



Rover Skills Badge

The Rover Skills badge is designed to ensure a minimum level of training has been achieved by a Rover before beginning the journey to the Baden Powell Scout Award.

Traditional elements of Scouting such as Camping, Services and the Scouting Fundamentals are covered within this badge. Often this badge is linked into a Crews Squire Training meaning that upon investiture this badge can be presented.

Following this you need to decide your Method...

BPSA Methods

To allow for varying interests two pathways towards the Baden Powell Scout Award have been created. These pathways are known as Method A

and Method B. Each method is made up of four badges, than can be completed in any order.

Whilst each method has its own focus, the two pathways still lead to the same destination and still encompass the Aims of Scouting.

Method A

Method A gives participants set activities designed so that by completing these they will fulfil the objectives and so attain the agreed standard.

The Method requires participants to complete the following four badges:

- Service Badge (north)
- Project Badge (east)
- Scoutcraft Badge (west)
- Rambler Badge (south)



Service Badge – This badge incorporates the Rover motto of ‘Service’, where a Rover undertakes some form of service for at least six months. Rovers have taken on roles as Section Leaders within Scouting, often following these on for much longer than the initial six-month period. Other examples include helping with Surf Lifesaving, State Emergency Service, Country Fire Service and St. Johns First Aid.

Project Badge – Possibly the most individual of the badges in Method A is the Project Badge, where a Rover takes on a project which they usually have had little to do with, and aims to produce some form of final product at the end of at least a six month period, demonstrating the new skills they have learnt along the way. Examples include making a quilt, lead lighting, producing a photography folio on Rovers, building a house and writing and performing a musical theatre show.

Scoutcraft Badge – Here the Rover takes on outdoor skill development, incorporating at least 10 nights under canvas on camps, demonstrating a high standard of Scoutcraft skills. These often involved standing camps, hikes, four-wheel drive trips or even canoeing expeditions.

Rambler’s Badge – A challenging four-day expedition is required to earn the Rambler’s badge, as well as demonstrating a thorough knowledge of survival techniques and first aid. Examples of Rambles include bushwalking in the Grampians, canoeing down the Murray, a 4x4 trip covering thousands of kilometres. One Rover even took the extreme challenge of climbing the highest peak in each State of Australia – and did it!

Method B

Method B requires participants to examine the Aim of the Movement and the objectives of the badge and then design and complete activities within each of the particular areas, which will fulfil these objectives and so, obtain the Badge.



The Method requires participants to report on their progress on at least three occasions to their Crew. In order to achieve this method the following badges must be completed:

- Spiritual Development Badge (north)
- Intellectual and Emotional Development Badge (east)
- Social Development Badge (west)
- Physical Development Badge (south)

Spiritual Development Badge – This involves the Rover exploring spiritual aspects of life, which may involve an exploration of philosophy, other religions or cultures.

Intellectual & Emotional Development Badge – This can involve a research project on a particular topic, explore politics, learn to play a musical instrument or write music, or exploration of the various arts.

Social Development Badge – Exploration of social systems different to what the Rover usually experiences can be good projects for Social Development. For example, the Rover may participate in a conservation group, coaching a sporting team, teaching English to migrant communities.

Physical Development Badge – An overall fitness regime with specific goals suited to the individual may be a suitable challenge for Physical Development. Alternatively, undertaking an expedition similar to the Method A Rambler's Badge may also be suitable.

FAQ

Where do I start?

A Rover who wishes to obtain the Baden Powell Scout Award or any other Scouting Award should obtain a copy of the Rover Record Book. This is available through all Snowgum, Scout Outdoor Centres and in some states through your Branch or Regional Rover Councils.

Who can help me?

Anyone... can help you. Why not talk with fellow Rovers, Rover Advisors,

Branch Rover Executive members, your Crew Leader or the Branch Commissioner for Rovers. Talk to as many people as you can to ensure you know all you can prior to begin this journey.

I've decided upon a method, and have a fantastic project I want to complete, what do I do now?

Once you've decided on a activity, write it down and submit it to your Crew for approval (make sure this is done prior to the commencement). Providing the Crew is satisfied that the activity presents a sufficient challenge to the Rover and that a suitably qualified examiner has been appointed to assess the completion of the project then the Crew can approve for the commencement of the relevant project. This letter (having been signed by the Crew Leader) is now forwarded to the BRC/RRC Executive.

What are Progress Reports and what do I do with them?

Whilst undertaking the activity, the Rover should make regular reports to the Crew on their progress. It is suggested that at least 3 reports are given over a six month period. These reports should be forwarded to the Branch/Regional Rover Council.

Once I've completed my activity/project what do I do?

Having completed the activity, the Rover must submit a record of the activity to their Crew. It should be of sufficient detail to adequately describe the activity undertaken and should be of a standard to be expected of the Rover.

Once the Crew has approved the activity, the Rover Record Book must also be signed by the Branch/Regional Rover Chairman as being approved before it may be presented. In doing this the Chairman must be satisfied the activity was completed to a standard worthy of the Baden Powell Scout Award and the recipient.

I've achieved my Method. Now What?

Once you have achieved the four badges relevant to your chosen method, your Crew can recommend to the BRC/RRC that you have met the requirements of the Baden Powell Scout Award.

In doing so, the Crew should not only take into consideration the task and objectives of the completed components, but must also believe that the nominated Rover lives a life in accordance with the Scout Promise and Law.

After your Crew has recommended you to receive the Baden Powell Scout Award, a committee is formed to conduct an interview/review to ensure you hold the ethos of a true Rover.

Who is on the interview/review committee?

This varies from state to state, but is usually made up of fellow Rovers.

Presentation of the Award.

Having had the thumbs up by the interview/review committee the Certificate and Award are forward to the appropriate Branch Members

prior to being presented. When, Where and Who presents the Award and the Certificate varies from each state and territory. But in all states this Award is presented with high regard and given the ceremony that this calibre of Award deserves.

Links

National Publications:

[Rover Award Scheme](#)

Resources by State:

[Victoria](#)

BP Guidelines

BP Proposal Forms

[Western Australia](#)

BP Guidelines