

## SCOUTS CANADA'S HONOURS & AWARDS – AN OVERVIEW

Members of Scout Canada can earn a number of honours and awards in recognition of acts of gallantry, bravery and service to Scouting. The terms below will familiarize you with definitions, types of Honours & Awards and basic information about the application process. In addition, we recommend that you read “A Guide to the Honours and Awards of Scouts Canada” on this web page. This guide is an excellent resource to help you identify members deserving of recognition and as a “how-to” guide for the full application process. You can also download application forms on this web page.

### DEFINITIONS

**Honour** – Two types of honours are awarded for different acts:

1. Recognition of high character and courage, gallantry, meritorious conduct or outstanding service to Scouting.
2. A Long Service Award in recognition of long, faithful and efficient service to Scouting.

**Decoration** – a metal design representing an honour or long service award worn by recipients at formal functions.

**Bar** – An insignia added to a previously granted honour in recognition of further acts of gallantry, meritorious conduct or service. There are two indicators of a Bar:

1. Gallantry and Meritorious Conduct: Shown by a metal bar added to the ribbon supplied with the original award.
2. Recognition for Service: Indicated by a different coloured ribbon, replacing the ribbon supplied with the original award.

**Certificate** – An official document declaring an honour.

**Emblem** – A cloth or metal insignia identifying an honour. Usually sewn to the tan uniform for normal wear.

### HONOURS AND AWARDS

**The Jack Cornwell Decoration** (awarded for High Character and Courage)

Historical Note: John Travers Cornwell, at age 16, served as a Boy (1<sup>st</sup> Class) on board H.M.S. “Chester” at the Battle of Jutland in 1916. Mortally wounded early in the action, he remained at his post awaiting orders until the end of the action, with the dead and dying around him. Transferred to Grimsby Hospital, he died a few days later. He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross. Jack had been a Scout in London, England.

To perpetuate his memory the Jack Cornwell Decoration (formerly the “Cornwell Scout” Badge) was instituted.

**Eligible** – children and youth members in any program section of Scouts Canada.

### Qualifications

- a) A nominee must be especially recommended for pre-eminently high character, devotion to duty and specific acts of physical courage.  
**Or** must have undergone great suffering in a heroic manner.

- b) The nominee must be the subject of a good report from the nominee’s Scouter and an additional, independent, responsible person certifying to: initiative; industry and effort; obedience and discipline; trustworthiness; punctuality in attendance; smartness of bearing and appearance.

**Award for Fortitude** (awarded for fortitude)

**Eligible** – youth and adult members of Scouts Canada who, despite physical or mental impediments to their involvement, have made a significant contribution to the Movement.

**Awards for Gallantry** (in ascending order)

1. Certificate for Gallantry (for gallantry with slight risk worthy of commendation)
2. The Bronze Cross (for gallantry with moderate risk)
3. Bar to the Bronze Cross (for an additional and similar act of gallantry)
4. The Silver Cross (for gallantry with considerable risk)
5. Bar to the Silver Cross (for an additional and similar act of gallantry)
6. The Gold Cross (for gallantry with special heroism and extraordinary risk)
7. Bar to the Gold Cross (for an additional and similar act of gallantry)

**Eligible** – members in any program section of Scouts Canada and adults holding any appointment or position with Scouts Canada. Sections are also eligible in cases of combined action by all, or a number, of its membership.

**Awards for Meritorious Conduct** (in ascending order)

1. Certificate for Meritorious Conduct (for meritorious conduct worthy of recorded commendation, but which does not justify a medal or bar)
2. The Medal for Meritorious Conduct (for especially meritorious conduct not involving heroism or loss of life)
3. Bar to the Medal for Meritorious Conduct (for further meritorious conduct which would justify conferring a medal)

**Eligible** – members in any program section of Scouts Canada and adults holding any appointment or position with Scouts Canada.

### ***Awards For Outstanding Service to Scouting***

**At Council Level** (in the order in which they are usually conferred)

1. Certificate of Commendation (For service to Scouting worthy of commendation).
2. Medal for Good Service (for good service to Scouting)
3. Medal of Merit (for especially good service to Scouting)
4. Bar to the Medal of Merit (for further especially good service to Scouting which, in itself, would justify conferring a Medal of Merit)

**At National Level** (in the order in which they are usually conferred)

1. The Silver Acorn (for especially distinguished service to Scouting)
2. Bar to the Silver Acorn (for further especially distinguished service to Scouting which, in itself, would justify conferring a Silver Acorn)
3. The Silver Wolf (for service of the most exceptional character to Scouting, normally of national importance)

The Silver Maple Leaf (for service to Scouting in excess of 25 years as a member of the executive staff. Awarded at retirement)

### **For International Service**

- The Silver Fox (for service of the most exceptional character to Scouting in the international field, performed by persons who are NOT members of Scouts Canada but who are associated with the World Organization of the Scout Movement).

**Eligible** - For the Silver Fox and the Silver Maple Leaf, as specified above. For other outstanding service to Scouting awards, adult volunteer members holding any appointment or position with Scouts Canada.

### ***For Long, Faithful and Effective Service to Scouting***

Long, faithful and effective service to Scouting is recognized by awarding a medal or service pin. Councils administer these awards on behalf of Scouts Canada:

1. Five Year Service Pin (for five years of faithful and effective service to Scouting)
2. The Long Service Medal (for ten years of faithful and effective service to Scouting)
3. Long Service Pins (for each additional five years of faithful and effective service to Scouting.)
- 4.

**Eligible** – Adult members holding any appointment or position with Scouts Canada. Years of Service as a Scouter-in-training qualify.

Service as a Scouter in another country recognized by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), or as a leader in a Girl Guide Association recognized by the

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), may be claimed only after a person has been registered with Scouts Canada for a period of three years.

### **Procedure for making application for an Honour**

Any member of Scouts Canada can initiate an application for an honour at any time, on behalf of any other member. The appropriate form must be completed and submitted through the local council office. Several categories of forms can be downloaded from this web site (or they can be picked up from council offices). Each form is suitable for the classification of honour to be submitted. These are as follows:

1. Jack Cornwell Decoration
2. Award for Fortitude
3. Gallantry
4. Meritorious Conduct
5. Outstanding Service to Scouting
6. Long Service Award

In the case of either gallantry or meritorious conduct, if the interval between the act and the initiation of the application for recognition has exceeded six months, an explanatory note must accompany the completed form.

An act of gallantry performed by a non-Scouting person, together with a member of Scouts Canada, may be drawn to the attention of The Royal Humane Association, the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, and in the case of a member of Girl Guides of Canada, to Girl Guides of Canada.

Once the initiator has submitted an application, it passes through a review by the council honours and awards committee and, where appropriate, by the national honours & awards committee. Occasionally a recommendation may be changed at either committee level in which case consultations take place until agreement is reached.

Please note that the process is time consuming because of the various levels of consideration, especially if there is a change in recommendations.

### **Announcements**

When the National Honours & Awards Committee has confirmed an honour or award, the appropriate Council Office is advised. The necessary arrangements are then made to inform the recipient and advise the local media.

Arrangements for presentation are made at appropriate levels and recipients are advised accordingly.