

**Guidelines for Participation in
The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award**

by

Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts

Scouts Australia



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA

AND

**THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD
- AUSTRALIA**

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1. INTRODUCTION

Scouts Australia (SA), through the Venturer Scout (ages 15 to 18) and Rover Scout (ages 18 to 26) sections has well structured, rewarding and challenging personal progression framework. The pinnacle achievement for each section, the Queen's Scout Award for Venturer Scouts and the Baden Powell Scout Award for Rover Scouts, have varying levels of recognition and respect by the general community. The attainment of these awards though is limited to current, registered members of Scouts Australia.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Duke of Ed), provides opportunities and encouragement for young people (aged 14 to 25) to make the best use of their leisure and recreation time by taking part in activities which are enjoyable, purposeful and challenging.

There are many similarities, and parallels, between the different levels of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Duke of Ed) and the Scout Association's Queen's Scout and Baden Powell Scout Awards.

All awards (Queen's Scout, Baden Powell, and Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards) have a high level of public acceptance and are recognised and acknowledged by industry and business as awards that are only achieved through hard work and diligence.

This document explains how a member of Scouts Australia (Venturer Scouts or Rover Scouts) can work towards achieving both Awards using the Queen's Scout and/or Baden Powell Scout Award activities.

1.1 Background

In many respects the wide variety of activities which may be undertaken in the Scouting Award scheme and the Duke of Ed are similar and it is this point which might have create confusion with the administration and participation in both Award programs.

The parallels between the systems can potentially allow for a Scout to receive simultaneous credit for the two Awards (see 4.3).

A Queen's Scout can achieve the Silver level of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award by proposing the same activity for both the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Queen's Scout Award. Similarly, a Rover in gaining the Baden Powell Scout Award can propose the same activity for the Gold level of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. A member of Scouts Australia can achieve both awards with a little additional work.

Some Leaders within the Scouting movement look upon this ability as 'double dipping' and accordingly display a reluctance to either promote or support the Duke of Ed Award. This should not be the case. It is appropriate that each young person can receive the recognition provided from each Award from the respective organisation based on their hard work and commitment following their intention to do so at the time of registering their interest for both awards.

Within the guidelines contained within this document, Scouts Australia supports involvement with The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and encourages the achievement of both Award where it meets the guidelines within this document.

2. GENERAL

Scouts wishing to qualify for any of the three levels of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may do so by following the requirements set down by the National Award Authority of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award - Australia. Additionally, there is a minimum age for the commencement of each level of the Duke of Ed:

Bronze:	14th Birthday (or 13yrs 9months if starting with 14-year-old peers)
Silver:	15 th birthday
Gold:	16 th birthday

Regardless of the level being attempted, all work must be completed, and paperwork signed off prior to the participants 25th birthday. Rover Scouts must complete the award by the time they reach their 25th birthday.

Each Branch that has become a State licensed Award Unit may register Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts to commence the Duke of Ed Award, commencing at any level subject to the minimum age requirements.

Each Scout Branch will appoint as necessary a Branch Award Co-ordinator (Duke of Ed) who is responsible for the operation of the Duke of Ed within the Branch, to liaise with the Branch Commissioner (Venturer Scouts) and Branch Rover Chairman

Scouts Australia will appoint a National Duke of Ed Liaison Officer for the Duke of Ed who will be the point of contact for all matters.

3. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

- 3.1 The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award has three levels - Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each level is divided into four sections: Service, Expeditions, Skills and Physical Recreation. In addition, there is a Residential Project required for Gold level.
- 3.2 Different levels of time participation and regular effort are required from the shortest duration, Bronze, to the longest duration, Gold. A Venturer Scout or Rover Scout can do one, two or all three of the Awards. Because of the proximity of the Scout and DoE award content, most Venturer Scouts would commence at the Silver level.
- 3.3 All Award participants are free to choose for themselves the activities they include in each section of their Award, provided that certain criteria are met. This flexibility means that Venturer Scouts and/or Rovers are able to complete their Awards almost entirely through their involvement in the Queen's Scout and/or Baden Powell Scout Awards, by using a mixture of activities done both within the Scouting movement and outside, or by using activities done entirely outside. The Award Office provides an extensive (but not exhaustive) list of possible activities (as a guide) via its website www.dukeofed.com.au.
- 3.4 A summary of the sections, levels and minimum requirements is shown in the table below.



Award Levels & Requirements

	Service <small>To develop and encourage a sense of community spirit and responsibility to others</small>	Physical Recreation <small>To encourage participation in physical recreation and improvement in physical fitness and performance</small>	Skill <small>To encourage the development of personal interests and practical skills</small>	Adventurous Journey <small>To encourage a spirit of adventure and discovery</small>	Residential Project <small>To broaden experience through involvement with others in a residential setting</small>
Bronze 14yrs +	3 months	3 months	3 months	2 days / 1 night <small>(1 x Practice Journey and 1 x Qualifying Journey)</small>	N/A <small>(Gold level only)</small>
Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus an additional 3 months for either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation					
Silver 15yrs +	6 months	6 months	6 months	3 days / 2 nights <small>(1 x Practice Journey and 1 x Qualifying Journey)</small>	N/A <small>(Gold level only)</small>
Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus an additional 6 months for either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation					
Gold 16yrs +	12 months	12 months	12 months	4 days / 3 nights <small>(1 x Practice Journey and 1 x Qualifying Journey)</small>	5 days / 4 nights
Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus an additional 6 months for either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation					

The chart attached at Appendix 2 shows how activities for the Queen's Scout map into the 5 sections of the Gold and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

4. REQUIREMENT EXPLANATIONS

4.1 Special Interest Areas

Activities undertaken for a Special Interest Area can be counted towards The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in some way. The section it is counted towards will depend on the type of activity chosen and which Duke of Ed definition it fits (see table on previous page)

Additional activities may be required to 'top up' time requirements for the appropriate section (e.g. Physical Recreation for Gold Duke of Ed requires weekly activity over a twelve month period) and the level a Venturer/Rover is working on for Duke of Ed, as long as the original award activity chosen is related directly to the activity chosen for the badge.

4.2 Duke of Edinburgh Adventurous Journeys vs Queen's Scout Award Adventurous Journey

Specific arrangements have been negotiated regarding the supervision for journeys undertaken by Scout members. While the Duke of Ed expeditions (Adventurous Journey) generally require an accompanying supervisor (experienced Adult) at the practice trip level, and the supervisor making less frequent contact for the qualifying Adventurous Journey, depending on the risk management policy of the Award Unit (e.g. a school, youth club) and the competence of the group at the test level, this is not a requirement for Scouts.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award acknowledges that for Queen's Scout and Baden Powell Award Adventurous Journey, leaders or other adults are not permitted to participate in expeditions that Venturers/Rovers undertake to gain their Adventurous Activities Award.

It has been agreed that because of the high standards and close checking of Queen's Scout and Baden Powell Award Adventurous Journey by the Unit Council and Adult support, such expeditions will satisfy the Duke of Ed requirements, provided that all other requirements of the Duke of Ed's Adventurous Journey section are met (teamwork, duration, daily effort, preparation, log and reporting)

The qualifications of a Duke of Ed supervisor are left to the Award Unit (Branch level Scouts Australia) to determine noting however that in Queensland, the Award requires Assessors that are supervising to meet industry standards.

4.3 Using Scout Activities for Duke of Edinburgh recognition

Scout activities may be used for recognition in both Scout and Duke of Ed awards. There must be two separate loggings of the activity.

Venturers doing the Duke of Ed can only do one activity for each section per Level and activities cannot be counted for more than one section or more than one Level.

The Duke of Ed does make an allowance for an Award participant to make an activity change but Venturers undertaking the Duke of Ed are to undertake only one activity for each of the Queen's Scout components.

5. REGISTRATION LICENSE TO DELIVER DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

5.1 Branches as Licensed State Award Units

Branches wishing to enable their Venturer and Rover Units to deliver the Duke of Ed International Award will apply for a license using the form available from the applicable State Office of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

The form is to be completed by the Scout branch Duke of Ed Award State Co-ordinator appointed by the Branch, and forwarded with the prescribed fee to the Scouts Australia National Office who will note, make recommendations and forward the forms to the relevant Duke of Ed State Office.

5.2 Duke of Edinburgh State Office

The Duke of Edinburgh State office will then:

- Notify the Branch Scout Duke of Edinburgh Award State Co-ordinator when approved
- Forward a copy of the letter of approval of registration to Scouts Australia

6. BADGES AND CERTIFICATES

- 6.1 On successful completion of each Award level the Venturer Scout or Rover Scout will be presented with an Award Lapel Badge and an Award Certificate supplied by the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award State Office.



- 6.2 In addition, a Duke of Ed Cloth Badge (available from Scouts Australia) may be worn on the Scout uniform in the manner prescribed on badge placement charts.

Only one Cloth Badge may be worn on the Scout Uniform at any time. This will be for the highest award gained.



- 6.3 The presentation of the Badges and Certificates for Bronze and Silver Awards is to be arranged by the Branch Duke of Ed Award Coordinator
- 6.4 The Branch Duke of Ed Award Coordinator should arrange presentation of the Gold level badge at an appropriate local function.
- 6.5 Gold Certificate presentations are normally at a special function organised by the Duke of Ed State Committee
- 6.6 Where the participant has either Registered for Duke of Ed participation through Scouts Australia or used SA facilitators or resources to gain the award, they will be required to attend the Government House presentation and receive their Gold Certificate in full Scout uniform. This will assist in raising the Scouting profile and make the general public aware of the partnership between Duke of Ed and Scouts Australia.

APPENDIX 1 - GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Duke of Ed	The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
Branch Award Coordinator	The leader appointed by each Branch to oversee the operation and delivery of the Duke of Ed Award in their Branch. For purposes of the Award administration of the Duke of Ed Award, including final approval of Awards, Unit Award Leaders are responsible to the Branch Award Coordinator
Award Leader	The Award Leader is the person responsible for the operation of the Duke of Ed within a group (within the Scout Movement, this person is referred to as the Unit Award Leader)
Assessor	The Assessor is a person who, because of qualifications and/or experience, is invited by the Unit Leader to undertake to train and instruct Participants in subjects/activities in certain topics they have elected to do for their Award. The Assessor is invited and appointed by the Venturer Unit or Rover Crew on behalf of the Branch and needs to meet all Scouting requirements including Working With Children Card. The Assessor undertakes assessment of a section of a Participant's work, ensuring that the Participant has met the challenge and conditions of the relevant section that they are assessing.
Participant(s)	A participant is a young person between the ages of 15 and 25 years who has registered in the Duke of Ed.
Award Unit	An organisation or group (Branch) that is licenced by the Award's State body to responsibility for operating the Duke of Ed among their members (the Registered operator is not necessarily the person who runs the Duke of Ed within the group).
State Award Committee	This Duke of Ed Committee/Board is responsible for the administration of the Duke of Ed within each State/Territory. The Committee is licensed by the National Award Authority (Board) and each is composed of members of the community and interested parties, meets regularly and is the final judge in relation to questions concerning the conditions and requirements of the Duke of Ed within their own State. Any questions regarding these committees or Boards are to be directed to SA's National Duke of Ed Liaison Officer.
Supervisor	A supervisor is a person who accepts responsibility for the safety of an expedition group while they are out in the field. The supervisor may be the instructor, the assessor, or some other suitable person approved by the Award Unit (Scouts Australia)
Award Handbook	This refers to the Duke of Ed Award Handbook which is the policy document for all requirements and conditions pertaining to the Duke of Ed Award. This can be accessed from www.dukeofed.com.au

APPENDIX 2 - Chart showing correlation between the Queen's Scout Award and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award [INCOMPLETE]

By registering for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award before commencing your Queen's Scout Award, Venturers can with a little more effort, earn both Awards.

This summary outlines the close alignment of the two Awards. Separate logging of activity is required for each Award and the Duke of Ed requires an average of 1 our per week of effort for each activity over the minimum duration (months). Refer to the Duke of Ed Award Handbook and the Scouting –Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Guide for further information.

Duke of Ed Sections	Queen's Scout Sections That Can Be Used					Notes
Service - Silver Award¹ 6 months – Average 1 hour per week	SIA Growth and Development 6 months	or	SIA Environment 6 months	or	SIA Creating a Better World 6 months	Project for SIA defined around volunteering or service in the community. There may also be an overlap in activities completed as Community Challenges in the Milestones
Skills – Silver Award 6 months – Average 1 hour per week	SIA Arts & Literature 2 x 12hr projects	and/or	SIA STEM & Innovation 2 x 12hr projects	or	SIA Growth & Development 2 x 12hr projects	Venturer Scouts to complete 2 of the 3 for Duke of Ed
Physical Recreation – Silver 6 months – Average 1 hour per week	SIA Adventure & Sport 2 x 12hr projects					Project for SIA defined around physical recreation
Adventurous Journey – Silver Training, Practice and 3-day Final AJ	Adventurous Journey 4 Days / 30hrs					
Service – Gold Award 12 months – Average 1hr per week	SIA Growth and Development 6 months	or	SIA Environment 6 months	Or	SIA Creating a Better World 6 months	Project for SIA defined around volunteering or service in the community There may also be an overlap in activities completed as Community Challenges in the Milestones
Skills – Gold Award 18 months ² – Average 1hr per week	SIA Arts & Literature 30hrs/6 months	and/or	SIA STEM & Innovation 30hrs/6 months	or	SIA Growth & Development 30hrs/6 months	Need to be completed in sequence
Physical Recreation – Gold 12 months – Average 1hr per week	SIA Adventure & Sport 30hrs/6 months	and	SIA Adventure & Sport 30hrs/6 months			Additional 6 months required for Duke of Ed Gold
Adventurous Journey – Gold Training, Practice and 4-day Final AJ	Adventurous Journey 4 Days / 30hrs					
Residential Project – Gold Only 5 days (4 nights)	<i>Leadership Camp</i>	or	<i>Jamboree type activity</i>	or	<i>Non-Scouting Options</i>	<i>Must be with people not normally mix with</i>