

BYE-LAW 7

Awards and Decorations

Version 4

Approved by National Scout Council on 18 March 2026



CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE AWARDS SUB COMMITTEE

- i. An Awards Sub-Committee made up of not less than three persons and ideally composed of five persons selected from past members of the Association with a member of the National Scout Council as Chair, duly appointed by the National Scout Council, shall be appointed when the need arises to examine the applications and proposals received and to further present its recommendations for consideration by the National Scout Council.
- ii. The Awards Sub-Committee is responsible for reviewing applications for Good Service Awards, Meritorious Conduct Awards and Gallantry Awards. All Service decorations and other approved awards are the responsibility of the Executive Committee. The description of the insignia and method of wear of each Award is specified in this Bye-Law described and produced electronically with full information on the Awards as mentioned hereunder.
- iii. Applications, proposals and recommendations for the granting of Awards are to be submitted electronically by means of an electronic form. These applications will be made available to the Awards sub-Committee. The said Committee receives the applications and forwards the relevant list to the Chief Commissioner (excluding any nominations pertaining to the Chief Commissioner). The Chief Commissioner will review the validity of the submission as per table below. These applications are to reach the Association by the cutoff date set in the Association’s calendar.
- iv. In order to be considered valid, all applications are to bear the following:

<i>Required</i>	<i>Completed by</i>
The full name of the proposer and contact details.	Applicant
Details of the nominee and a report explaining why the said nominee meets the criteria for the proposed award.	
The date when the person recommended was first registered as a full member of the Scout Association of Malta, when applicable.	Chief Commissioner (or delegate)
The positions held within the Association and dates of appointments, when applicable.	
Recommendation or otherwise.	Chief Commissioner

The Awards Sub-Committee has the right to reject any application which is not correctly filled in.

Awards recommended for service of a select number of years in the Scout

Association of Malta will not be entertained if the recommended awardee has not served the full period of years up to the time of the closing date of the applications.

Before forwarding the relevant final recommendations to the National Scout Council, the Awards Sub Committee may verify the correctness and validity of the contents with any Commissioner/s (or any other person/s) they deem appropriate.

- v. Applications, proposals and recommendations for any Award may be submitted at any time throughout the year. However, these should be forwarded on the appropriate digital form under confidential cover and without the knowledge of the prospective recipient. The National Scout Council shall take the final decision following consideration of the recommendation of the Awards Sub-Committee. Only one award (excluding Service decorations) can be granted to any particular individual per year. The Awards Sub-Committee may decide to recommend that a nominee is awarded a higher or lower award than they are being nominated for on the basis of the contents of the application form.
- vi. Should the circumstances so demand, all Awards may be awarded posthumously.
- vii. All issued awards are to be recorded in an Awards register held by the Honorary Secretary and available records will be published online.
- viii. A Certificate of Award is issued to accompany the Decoration, Medal, Bar or Badge signed by the Chief Scout or the Honorary Secretary.
- ix. Any member who is expelled from the Association will forfeit their decorations and their name will be struck off accordingly from the Awards Register. The Decoration/'s' Insignia/s must be returned to the Association together with the Certificate/s issued. This rule does not govern any Gallantry or Meritorious Awards bestowed.
- x. Any false recommendation will automatically nullify the application. In the event that a false declaration on a nomination is discovered after such an Award has been bestowed, then the recipient will be asked officially to return the Decoration and Certificate. Their name will also be struck off the Awards Register.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS FOR UNIFORMED MEMBERS

On the recommendation of the Awards Sub-Committee of the Scout Council, the National Scout Council may grant any one of the following Awards to individual uniformed members of the Scout Association. In exceptional cases, Gallantry Awards can also be awarded to non-uniformed members of the Association.

1. GALLANTRY AWARDS

- [a] To any member, Section or Group of the Association who:
 - [i] In an emergency shows presence of mind and with little or no regard for personal safety, acts with vigour and determination to go to the assistance of others to save life, or to alleviate the sufferings of others in such emergencies.
 - [ii] In normal times, performs an act, or a series of acts, of exceptionally meritorious service to the community, or to another person or persons in need of help.
- [b] One of the following may be granted according to the circumstances of the case:

[i] **THE SILVER CROSS**

The SILVER CROSS in solid silver and bearing the Arrowhead in the middle with the wording FOR at the top and GALLANTRY at the bottom of the Cross respectively, having a blue ribbon is the highest Gallantry Award of The Scout Association of Malta, granted for special heroism or act in the face of **extraordinary risk**. When the insignia is not worn with uniform, it is represented by a metal pin badge having a blue knot design.

The Silver Cross

<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

[ii] **THE GILT CROSS**

The GILT CROSS in solid silver and gilded in gold bearing the Arrowhead in the middle with the wording FOR at the top and GALLANTRY at the bottom of the Cross respectively, having a blue/red vertical ribbon is awarded for Gallantry in circumstances of **considerable risk**. When the insignia is not worn with uniform, it is represented with a metal pin badge having a blue/red knot design


The Gilt Cross

<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

[iii] **CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION FOR GALLANTRY**

THE CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION FOR GALLANTRY, with a blue/white knot metal pin badge may be awarded in circumstances of **moderate risk**.

Chief Scout's Commendation for Gallantry

<i>Pin Badge</i>


[iv] **BARS**

BARS to the above Awards may be awarded for additional acts of gallantry. The awarding of a BAR is shown with the addition of THE WORLD MEMBERSHIP BADGE [silver lapel badge] superimposed on the respective ribbon insignia or metal pin badge.



2. MERITORIOUS CONDUCT AWARDS

This medal or commendation is granted to members of the Association for conduct involving a high degree of Courage, Endurance, Initiative or Devotion to Duty, often under suffering, without necessarily involving any element of risk. This decoration may also be awarded collectively and is not covered by a time factor.

[i] THE MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

THE MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT, bearing the Maltese Scout logo in silver with inlaid royal purple shading and in an octagonal shaped surround suspended from a dark green ribbon with a vertical red stripe in the middle, is awarded to members for meritorious conduct. When the insignia is not worn with uniform, it is represented with a metal pin badge having a green/red knot design. An exceptionally high standard of meritorious conduct is expected.


The Medal for Meritorious Conduct

<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

[ii] CHIEF SCOUT’S COMMENDATION FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

THE CHIEF SCOUT’S COMMENDATION FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT with a blue/green metal pin badge may be awarded in circumstances for meritorious conduct of a high standard.

Chief Scout’s Commendation for Meritorious Conduct

<i>Pin Badge</i>


3. AWARDS FOR GOOD SERVICE TO THE ASSOCIATION

The Good Service Awards are given in order to recognise and celebrate volunteers who have given a service to the Association of particular value over a prolonged period of time. As such these awards are of a higher weighting than the Service decorations which only takes into consideration the length of service through appointments held. Therefore a higher standard of service is expected for Good Service Awards.

In order to maintain the significance and prestige of these Awards it is important that the quality of service is considered, alongside the years of service, by the persons making the nominations and the Awards Sub-Committee in making its evaluation. Thus, it is very important that all applications for Good Service Awards contain a report explaining why the nomination is being made and why the person(s) writing the application thinks that the award is deserved.

This section comprises six different grades of awards ranging from the highest possible decoration granted for exceptionally outstanding service, to a commoner grade that is awarded for good service over a small number of years.

The Awards Sub-Committee may decide to recommend a higher or lower award than proposed by the person making the nominations on the basis of the information contained in the report. Certain awards listed hereunder have a maximum recommended number of awards per annum. This *numerus clausus* is intended to guide the Awards Sub-Committee and the National Scout Council to avoid granting an excessive number of awards and to keep up the level and significance of the awards. In exceptional circumstances, the Awards Sub-Committee may recommend that the *numerus clausus* is extended on a particular year.

After receiving a Good Service Award the awardee will not be eligible for a further Good Service Award before the passage of another five years. This recommendation does not stand for other Awards of the Association.

- a. The awards in this section are strictly reserved for adult members of the Scout Association. FORM 99C must be used by proposers. A higher decoration may be awarded to a nominee at an earlier stage than stipulated.
 - i) For example, if it is considered that a would-be recipient's action merited a higher level award than what is governed by the rules, then the recommender may proceed with a nomination and mark the application form with the words "SPECIAL MERITED AWARD RECOMMENDATION".
 - ii) The application must contain a full and detailed account as to why the nominee is being recommended for the award. These cases are very rare and due to their special circumstances, the Awards Sub-Committee will still be empowered to decline such a proposal and award whatever it deems fit.
- b. Only four decorations fall under this concession, these being the following:
 - i) THE SILVER DOLPHIN
 - ii) THE SILVER ACORN

iii) THE MEDAL OF MERIT

iv) THE CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE


- c. The age of the would-be recipient falling under the SPECIAL MERITED AWARD RECOMMENDATION is an obligatory essential and must be taken into serious consideration.
- d. In the case of exceptional circumstances, or variation of numerus clausus, the Awards Sub-committee shall clearly document the rationale for its recommendation.

[i] **THE SILVER DOLPHIN.**

The SILVER DOLPHIN is worn on a dark green/yellow/dark green ribbon around the neck. When the insignia of the decoration is not worn with uniform, it is represented by a metal pin badge having a green/yellow knot design.

This prestigious high Award is granted for service to the Association and may be awarded to adult members, irrespective of their appointment, who have given over thirty years of exceptionally outstanding service to the Association.

The Silver Dolphin

<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

Although this prestigious award should not be given liberally, serious consideration should be given to any member who has devoted many years of his/her free time to further the aims of promoting Scouting in the Association of Malta.

This award is presented by another Silver Dolphin Award holder.

Conditions:


- i. A holder of the BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN ceases to wear it on being awarded THE SILVER DOLPHIN.
- ii. The Chief Scout and the Chief Commissioner may by virtue of their appointment be awarded THE SILVER DOLPHIN provided that they have given over twenty years of exceptionally outstanding service to the Association. These are to be approved by the National Scout Council.

- iii. Being the highest and most prestigious Good Service Award no more than ONE Silver Dolphin Award is granted per year.

[ii] **BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN.**

THE BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN is worn on an orange/dark green/orange ribbon around the neck. When the insignia of the decoration is not worn with uniform, it is represented with a metal pin badge having an orange knot superimposed with a green Arrowhead. This decoration is granted to holders of the Silver Acorn after at least five additional years of further especially distinguished service.

Bar to the Silver Acorn



<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

- i. A holder of THE SILVER ACORN ceases to wear it on being awarded THE BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN.
- ii. No more than ONE Bar to the Silver Acorn is awarded per year.

[iii] **THE SILVER ACORN**

THE SILVER ACORN is worn on an orange ribbon around the neck. When the insignia of the decoration is not worn with uniform it is represented with a metal pin badge having an orange knot design.

The Silver Acorn

<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

This decoration is granted to adult appointed leaders who have given over twenty years of especially distinguished service.

- i. A holder of the BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT ceases to wear it on being awarded THE SILVER ACORN.
- ii. It is recommended that no more than TWO Silver Acorn Awards are granted per year.

[iv] **BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT.**

The BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT bearing the Maltese Scout logo in silver with inlaid royal purple shading and in an octagonal shaped surround suspended on an emerald green with a central yellow vertical stripe ribbon on the right breast above the line of pocket. When the insignia of the decoration is not worn with uniform, it is represented with a metal pin badge having a green knot design superimposed with a gold Arrowhead over the centre of the design.

Bar to the Medal of Merit

<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

This decoration is granted to adult members, holders of the MEDAL OF MERIT and who have given at least five years of further especially good service.

- i. A holder of the MEDAL OF MERIT ceases to wear it on being awarded THE BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT.
- ii. It is recommended that no more than FIVE Bars to the Medal of Merit are awarded per year.

[v] **THE MEDAL OF MERIT.**

The MEDAL OF MERIT bearing the Maltese Scout logo in silver with inlaid royal purple shading and in an octagonal shaped surround suspended from an emerald green ribbon worn on the right breast above the line of pocket. When the insignia of the decoration is not worn with uniform, it is represented with a metal pin badge having a green knot.

The Medal of Merit

<i>Insignia</i>	<i>Pin Badge</i>
	

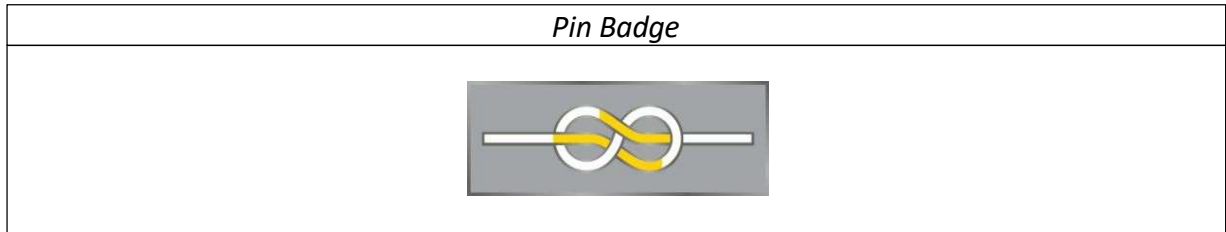
This decoration is granted to adult membersmembers who have given at least ten years of especially good service.

- i. The holder of THE COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE ceases to wear it on being awarded THE MEDAL OF MERIT
- ii. It is recommended that no more than FIVE Medals of Merit are awarded per year.

[vi] **CHIEF SCOUT’S COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE.**

The COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE with a white/yellow metal pin badge is awarded to any adult member who has given good service over a minimum of five years of service.

Chief Scout’s Commendation for Good Service



- i. It is recommended that no more than FOUR Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service are awarded within the same Group or at National HQ respectively per year.

4. **SERVICE IN SCOUTING AWARDS (Service Decorations)**

This section is aimed at recognizing service rendered by adults in the Scout Association. **These award emblems are not related to the Good Service Awards** and National Scout HQ will automatically issue such Awards to a person on attaining the required service level. This procedure is normally carried out at the beginning of every January.

Adult service will start to be recognized after 5 years from issue by IHQ of a Leader Appointment and from then on at intermittent periods of every 5 years. Higher service emblems replace those previously awarded for a lower number of years served. For example, on being awarded the Ten Years' Service Award, the Five Years' Service Award will no longer be worn.

[i] **THE 5 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION**

THE 5 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION consists of a metal pin badge bearing the Maltese Scout logo circled by a belt design with the wording 5 SNIN TA' SERVIZZ at the top.



The 5 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION is granted to adult uniformed members of the Association who have given FIVE years faithful and satisfactory service from the date of their first IHQ issued appointment.

[ii] **THE 10 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION**

THE 10 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION consists of a metal pin badge bearing the Maltese Scout logo circled by a belt design with the wording 10 SNIN TA' SERVIZZ at the top.



The 10 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION is granted to adult uniformed members of the Association who have given TEN years faithful and satisfactory accumulated service from the date of their first IHQ issued appointment or after serving an additional 5 years after gaining THE 5 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION. On being awarded the 10 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION, recipient ceases to wear THE 5 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION.

[iii] **THE 15 YEARS LONG SERVICE DECORATION**

THE 15 YEARS LONG SERVICE DECORATION consists of a metal pin badge bearing the Maltese Scout logo circled by a belt design with the wording 15-IL SENA TA' SERVIZZ at the top.



The 15 YEARS LONG SERVICE DECORATION is granted to adult uniformed members of the Association who have given FIFTEEN years faithful and satisfactory accumulated service from the date of their first IHQ issued appointment or after serving an additional 5 years after gaining THE 10 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION. On being awarded the 15 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION, the recipient ceases to wear THE 10 YEARS' SERVICE DECORATION.

[iv] **BARS**

Additional BARS consist of a metal pin badge bearing the Maltese Scout logo circled by a belt design to reflect five year interval additional service shown in wording denoting length of additional service, such as 20 SENA TA' SERVIZZ.



BARS for 20 – 25 – 30 – 35 – 40 – 45 – 50 – 55 - 60 years may be awarded as the case may be. With the awarding of a higher BAR, a recipient ceases to wear a lower clasp

previously awarded.





5. AWARDS FOR NON – UNIFORMED MEMBERS

[i] THE ASSOCIATION AWARD

The insignia of THE ASSOCIATION AWARD is the eight pointed cross in silver, superimposed with the World Membership Badge worn on a White/Red ribbon around the neck. The white side of the ribbon is always worn on the outside.

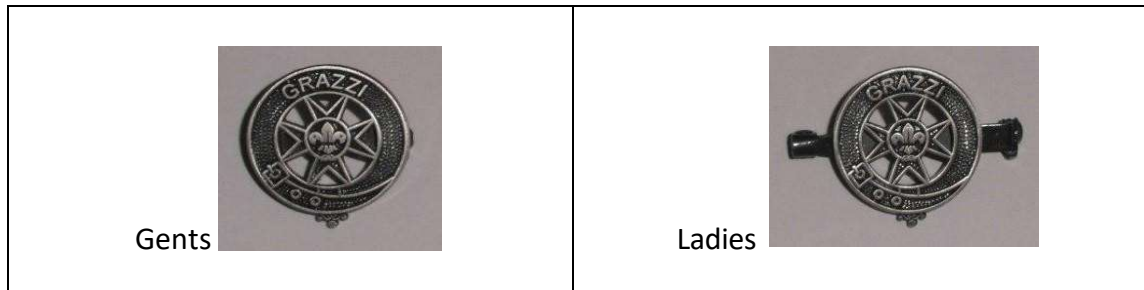


The ASSOCIATION AWARD is the highest decoration aimed at awarding non-uniformed members in recognition of their work, services, personal involvement and dedication in an outstanding and exceptional character in furthering the aims of scouting on a National and / or International level.

- i. Recommendations for this Award are to be made out on **FORM 99C** and submitted to the District Commissioner or the Chief Commissioner as the case may be.
- ii. The number of members shall be not more than twenty persons at any one time
- iii. Where the total number has been awarded, additional members shall be appointed to THE ASSOCIATION AWARD when a vacancy occurs, that is on the demise of a holder.

[ii] **THE THANKS BADGE**

This recognition badge which is in matted silver and consists of the Maltese Scout logo set in a belt-like frame bearing the words “GRAZZI”.



- i. A certificate accompanies the award.
- ii. There is no cloth emblem for this badge and it is not worn with uniform.
- iii. If a non – uniformed member opts to become a uniformed member, he/she may not wear this Award on his/her uniform.
- iv. The Thanks Badge is the means of expressing the appreciation of the Association to those who are not active uniformed members but who have been of service to scouting.
- v. It is for wear with ordinary clothes and does not confer membership of the Association on the recipient.

The THANKS BADGE may be awarded by a Group or Section as recommended by the respective Group Scout Leader in consultation with the Chief Commissioner.

[v] **SILVER FALCON AWARD**

The SILVER FALCON AWARD is aimed to those adult members who, have followed BP's Last Message (1941) "Leave this world a little better than you found it" in their service to youths within scouting.

This award is applicable to adult members who have previously served at least 10

years as appointed leader, who have decided to end their faithful service within the group or at national level. This decoration is worn as a lapel pin.



7. **COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS.**

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Scout Council reserves the right for the awarding of COMMEMORTIVE MEDALS to commemorate special events at any time it deems fit. The rules and conditions on the Award covering the event will be drawn up *ad hoc* by the Executive Committee at the time of its initialisation.
