

Chapter 12

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS FOR UNIFORMED MEMBERS

GALLANTRY AWARDS

Rule 12.1 The Silver Cross

- a. The SILVER CROSS with a blue ribbon is the highest Award of The Scout Association of Malta for Gallantry, granted for special heroism or action in the face of extraordinary risk. When the insignia is not worn with uniform, it is represented by a cloth emblem having a blue knot design.

Rule 12.2 The Gilt Cross

- a. The GILT CROSS with 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 by a cloth emblem having a blue/red knot design.

Rule 12.3 The Chief Scout's Commendation for Gallantry

- a. The CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION FOR GALLANTRY with a blue/white knot cloth emblem may be awarded in circumstances of moderate risk.

BARS

- a. 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 and cloth badge.
- b. Awards for GALLANTRY are granted to individual members, Groups or Sections of the Movement who:
 - i) IN AN EMERGENCY show presence of mind and with little or no regard for personal safety, act 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 perform an act, or a series of acts of exceptionally meritorious service to the community, or to another person or persons in need of help.

NOTES

- i) The application should not specify any grade of award.
- ii) FORM 99A should be initiated by a proposer and forwarded to the District Commissioner or his Assistant. In the event that the post is vacant, the form is to be passed directly to the Chief Commissioner.
- iii) In the case of an application made out to award a Commissioner, the form must be forwarded directly to the Chief Commissioner by the proposer or by anyone who witnesses the act.
- iv) Reports by individual witnesses must be submitted. The only exception arises when the nominee's name appears on the Media (such as television, radio or newspaper). In the event that a would-be recipient's name and perhaps corresponding action photo appears in any newspaper, then the script in question may be attached to the proposal form.
- v) Applications should incorporate a full account of the occurrence with any possible evidence of independent eye-witnesses such as police, doctors, etc.
- vi) Only CURRENT acts of Gallantry are to be submitted for consideration.

Rule 12.4 THE MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

- a. The MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT, an encircled gold coloured Arrowhead suspended from a dark green/red/dark green ribbon is awarded to personnel for meritorious conduct. When the insignia is not worn with uniform, it is represented by a cloth emblem having a green/red knot design.
- b. Conditions and Qualifications. This medal is granted to members of the Movement for conduct involving a high degree of Courage, Endurance, Initiative or Devotion to Duty, often under suffering, without necessarily involving any element of risk. A high standard is expected. This decoration may also be awarded collectively.

NOTES

- i) When submitting a proposal, the report should be as full as possible.
- ii) It is important that written evidence from independent eye witnesses such as the emergency services, doctors and medical specialists – as appropriate to the case, be attached to the application.
- iii) On occasions, sadly the nominee is suffering from a terminal illness and his/her life expectancy is limited. Island Headquarters has a procedure for dealing with such cases extremely quickly provided the urgency is stressed on the proposal form.
- iv) In view of section (iii) above, this decoration is not covered by a time factor.
- v) Any other written evidence (congratulatory letters etc) should also be attached.
- vi) Form 99B is to be filled by a proposer and submitted to the District Commissioner or his Assistant for onward transmission to the Chief Commissioner. In the event that the posts in question are vacant, then the form is to be sent directly to the Chief Commissioner.

Rule 12.5 AWARDS FOR GOOD SERVICE TO THE MOVEMENT

- a. 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.
- b. The awards in this section are strictly reserved for adult members of the Movement. 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.
- c. 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

Bars are excluded from this concession.
- d. 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.

Rule 12.6 The Silver Dolphin

- a. 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 cloth emblem having a green/yellow knot design.
- b. This is the highest award of the Association and may be awarded to adult members irrespective of their appointment, who have given over twenty-five years of exceptionally outstanding service to the Movement.
- c. Although this prestigious award should not be given liberally, serious consideration should be given to any member who has devoted many years of his free time to further the aims of promoting Scouting in Malta.

The Silver Dolphin Award is presented by another Silver Dolphin Award Holder.

A holder of the Bar to the Silver Acorn ceases to wear it on being awarded THE SILVER DOLPHIN.

Rule 12.7 The Bar to the Silver Acorn

- a. 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 cloth emblem having an orange knot design superimposed with a green Arrowhead. This decoration is granted to holders of the Silver Acorn after at least an additional five years of further especially distinguished service.

A holder of The Silver Acorn ceases to wear it on being awarded THE BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN.

Rule 12.8 The Silver Acorn

- a. 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 cloth emblem having an orange knot design.
- b. This decoration is granted to adult members who have given over fifteen years of especially distinguished service.

A holder of the Bar to the Medal of Merit ceases to wear it on being awarded THE SILVER ACORN.

Rule 12.9 The Bar to the Medal of Merit

- a. The BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT is worn on an emerald green/yellow/emerald green 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 cloth emblem having a green knot design with a gold Arrowhead superimposed over the centre of the design.
- b. This decoration is granted to adult members, holders of the Medal of Merit and who have given not less than five years of further especially good service. A holder of the Medal of Merit ceases to wear it on being awarded THE BAR TO THE MEDAL OF MERIT.

Rule 12.10 The Medal of Merit

- a. The MEDAL OF MERIT with 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 cloth emblem having a green knot design.
- b. This decoration is granted to adult members who have given at least ten years of especially good service.

The holder of the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service ceases to wear it on being awarded THE MEDAL OF MERIT.

Rule 12.11 The Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

- a. The CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE with a white/yellow cloth emblem is awarded to any adult member who has given good service over a minimum period of five to nine years.
- b. This award is the first step which leads to the granting of further awards for good service to the Movement.

Rule 12.12 Commemorative Medals

- a. The National Scout Council reserves the right for the awarding of Commemorative 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 at the discretion of the National Scout Council at the time of its initialisation.
- b. Commemorative Medals are only worn for not more than a year from the time that these are issued or as stipulated by the National Scout Council.

Special application FORM 99E will be duly issued at the time for completion by applicants who must return it to a special Award Sub-Committee set up to deal with all applications.

Rule 12.13 AWARDS FOR SERVICE IN SCOUTING

- a. This section is aimed at recognising service rendered by adults in the Movement. The Service, Long Service and Bar to the Long Service are not related to the award for Good Service and may be applied for by any Scouter using FORM 99D. This is then submitted to the District Commissioner or his Assistant for onward transmission to the Chief Commissioner. Forms filled by Commissioners are to be directly sent to the Chief Commissioner.

Rule 12.14 The Service Decoration

- a. The SERVICE DECORATION consists of a cloth emblem with a brown knot design.
 - i) Conditions for its award is granted to adult uniformed members of the Association who have given five (5) years continuous, faithful and satisfactory service from the date of their first appointment.

Rule 12.15 The Long Service Decoration

- a. The LONG SERVICE DECORATION consists of a cloth emblem with a white knot design.
 - i) Conditions for its award is granted to adult members of the Association who have given ten (10) years of faithful and satisfactory accumulated service from the date of their first appointment.

Rule 12.16 Bar to the Long Service Decoration

- a. The BAR TO THE LONG SERVICE DECORATION consists of a cloth emblem with a gold Arrowhead superimposed on a white knot design and having five year interval bronze pins in the upper left corner denoting length of service.

BARS for 15 – 20 – 25 – 30 – 35 – 40 – 45 years may be awarded as the case may be.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS FOR THE NON-UNIFORMED

Rule 12.17 THE ASSOCIATION AWARD

- a. 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 worn always on the outside as shown in the diagram. There is no cloth emblem for the decoration.

- b. The ASSOCIATION AWARD is the highest decoration aimed at awarding those who are not active 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 level.
- c. Recommendations for this Award are to be made out on FORM 99F and submitted to the District Commissioner or his assistant for onward transmission to the Chief Commissioner who has the duty to forward it to the Awards Sub-Committee. The form is to reach Island Headquarters by 30th November of each year at the latest.

Rule 12.18 The Thanks Badge

- a. This recognition badge which is available for male and female recipients is in silver and consists of an Arrowhead set in a belt-like frame bearing the words "WITH THANKS". A certificate accompanies the award. There is no cloth emblem for this badge and it is not worn on uniform.
- b. If a non-uniformed recipient opts to become a uniformed member, he/she may not wear this Award on his/her uniform.
- c. 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. The badge may be presented by any member of the Movement. It is for wear with ordinary clothes and does not confer membership or Associate membership of the Association on the recipient.
- d. The Thanks Badge may be awarded on a Group or Section as recommended by the respective Group Scout Leader in consultation with the District Commissioner.

Recommendations for its award are to be submitted to the Chief Commissioner for approval, using FORM 99G and may be awarded at any time of the year.

Rule 12.19 POSITION ON UNIFORM

- a. Scout decorations (except The Silver Dolphin, The Silver Acorn, The Bar to the Silver Acorn for uniformed members) and their corresponding cloth emblems are worn immediately above the right breast pocket flap, under the National and District Badge in the following order from the wearer's left to right.
 - Award for Gallantry
 - Award for Meritorious Conduct
 - Award for Good Service
 - Award for Commemorative Event
 - Award for Service
- b. Lay members should wear the Association Award around the neck and the Thanks Badge on the left lapel of the jacket.
- c. Cloth emblems are **not** issued with any of the Decorations and Awards that are awarded to non-uniformed or lay members and supporters of the Scout Movement.
- d. When the neck decoration award is worn by uniformed member, the top part of the ribbon should be worn under the neckerchief at the back.

Rule 12.20 PRECEDENCE REGARDING AWARDS FOR SERVICE TO THE MOVEMENT AND GALLANTRY

- a. Only the highest award received for Good Service to the Movement and its' emblem may be worn. This rule refers to any holders of any of the following decorations:
 - The Silver Dolphin
 - The Bar to the Silver Acorn

- The Silver Acorn
 - The Bar to the Medal of Merit
 - The Medal of Merit
 - The Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service
- b. This rule does not apply when a higher Gallantry Award is granted. Only when, and if a Bar to the existing decoration is awarded is the rule applied.
- i) Example: if a holder of a Gilt Cross is awarded a Silver Cross for a totally different deed, then the recipient wears both decorations. If on the other hand the holder of a Gilt Cross is awarded a Bar to the Gilt Cross, then the holder does not wear the two medals, but only the highest of the two, this being the Bar.
- c. Any ribbons or decorations conferred by foreign and Commonwealth Scout Associations are worn below the cloth emblems of those awarded by The Scout Association of Malta.
- d. If a non-uniformed person has been awarded the Thanks Badge and subsequently the Association Award, then only the latter may be worn.

Rule 12.21 COLLECTIVE AWARDS

- a. Where a collective award for Gallantry or Meritorious Conduct is made to a Group, Crew, Unit, Troop or Pack, this may be attached to the flat of the Group or the Section concerned, at the hoist.

Rule 12.22 Announcements of Awards

- a. The Awards approved by the Chief Scout shall be announced on Founder's Day and presented on a suitable occasion. However in exceptional circumstances and on the recommendations of the Chief Scout in consultation with the Awards Committee, an award may be granted on any suitable occasion.
- b. When announcements of decorations and awards are made, these should follow the order of precedence.
- c. On occasions, the nominee may be suffering from a terminal illness and his/her life expectancy is limited. Island Headquarters has a procedure for dealing with such cases extremely quickly provided the urgency is stressed on the application. This applies only for Gallantry and Meritorious Conduct awards.
- d. Should the circumstances so demand, all Awards may be granted posthumously.
- e. All awards are to be recorded in a special register held specifically for the purpose by the Chief Commissioner at Island Headquarters.

Rule 12.23 SPECIAL MERITED AWARDS

When a case so merits, the rule of awarding a decoration starting from its lowest and proceeding to the highest class may be waived.

Rule 12.24 HOW TO WEAR THE CLOTH EMBLEMS

- a. When the insignia of a Scout decoration or award is not worn with uniform, it is represented by a cloth emblem as described. It is important to note that the correct and proper way to wear the emblem is as illustrated. When a Bar is awarded, it does not constitute a problem, because of the positioning of the superimposed arrowhead.
- b. The following illustrations explain the correct method of wearing cloth emblems when worn in double rows. This is only a typical example and is shown as a guide. The wearing of emblems is to conform to the order of precedence.
- c. When medals are worn, these should be in an orderly manner and not in a haphazard way. Breast decorations should hang immediately under the corresponding emblem and in line. The following illustration shows the right method. When emblems are in double rows, then medals must be worn in order of precedence but still in line above breast pocket.

Note: Detailed diagrams of how the cloth emblems and insignia are worn is listed in chapter 10.

Rule 12.25 OCCASIONS WHEN INSIGNIAS ARE TO BE WORN

- a. The following are occasions when the insignia of a Scout decoration is worn:
- Annual General Meeting
 - Annual Rally
 - Remembrance Day Services
 - Funeral of a uniformed member
 - Blessing and presentation of new colours
 - National Day parades
 - Official visits by special dignitaries to scout events
 - Group anniversaries
 - Special Group events (upon application and approval from Island Headquarters)

Rule 12.26 APPLICATIONS FOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- a. Applications for Scout awards and decorations must be initiated by an adult member within The Scout Association of Malta.
- b. Application forms as listed below detail the necessary qualifications and administrative procedure. They may be obtained by any applicant or proposer from an appointed Island Headquarters Commissioner in charge of Awards and Decorations, or in the event that no such Commissioner exists, from the Honorary Secretary.
- FORM 99A Application for Award for Gallantry
 - FORM 99B Application for Award for Meritorious Conduct
 - FORM 99C Application for Award for Good Service to the Movement
 - FORM 99D Application for Service Decoration
 - FORM 99E Application for Commemorative Medal (when issued)
 - FORM 99F Application for The Association Award
 - FORM 99G Application for Thanks Badge
- i) Forms 99A through to 99D are only used for applying or proposing awards and decorations to uniformed members.
- ii) Form 99E is aimed at uniformed or non-uniformed, active or inactive, living or deceased members.
- iii) Forms 99F and 99G are for awards to any lay member of The Scout Association of Malta.
- c. On completion of recommendation forms 99A, 99B, 99C, 99F these are to be submitted through the District Commissioner or his Assistant to the Chief Commissioner, who has the duty to forward the relevant forms to the Chairman of the Awards Committee appointed for the purpose.
- d. Before passing on the relevant recommendations to the Chief Scout, the Chairman of the Awards Committee may verify the correctness and validity of the contents with any Commissioner he deems fit and appropriate.
- e. On completion of application form 99D, this should be forwarded to the respective District Commissioner or his Assistant who will then forward it to the Chief Commissioner for onward transmission to the Chairman of the Awards Committee.
- f. In case of a Commissioner making an application, the form is passed on directly to the Chief Commissioner.
- g. Before passing the relevant applications to the Chief Scout, the Chairman of the Awards Committee may verify the correctness and validity of the contents with any Commissioner he deems fit.
- h. On completion of Form 99G, this must be forwarded to the Chief Commissioner for approval.
- i. While all the other decorations and wards need to be reviewed by the Award Sub-Committee, the Thanks Badge need only be accepted or declined by the Chief Commissioner.

- j. On completion of application form 99E, the applicant sends his form accompanied by any testimonials required to the secretary of a specially appointed Award Sub-Committee which will approve or reject the granting of the Commemorative Award as the case may be.
- k. All applications and recommendations have to be submitted by latest 30th November of each year. The correct forms must be used and with the exception of applications for service in the Movement, each nomination must be sent without the prior knowledge of the would-be awardees.
- l. The Chief Scout's decision in the granting or withholding of a decoration or award shall be final.
- m. Recommendations for Gallantry or Meritorious Conduct may be submitted at any time of the year.
- n. On the recommendation of the Awards Sub-Committee appointed by the Scout Council, the Chief Scout may grant any one of the following decorations and awards to individual uniformed and non-uniformed members and supporters of the Scout Movement.

Rule 12.27 UNIFORMED PERSONNEL (ORDER OF PRECEDENCE)

- The Silver Cross
- The Gilt Cross
- The Chief Scout's Commendation for Gallantry
- The Medal for Meritorious Conduct
- The Silver Dolphin
- The Bar to the Silver Acorn
- The Silver Acorn
- The Bar to the Medal of Merit
- The Medal of Merit
- The Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service
- The Commemorative Medal (when issued)
- The Bar to the Long Service Decoration – 45 years clasp
- The Bar to the Long Service Decoration – 40 years clasp
- The Bar to the Long Service Decoration – 35 years clasp
- The Bar to the Long Service Decoration – 30 years clasp
- The Bar to the Long Service Decoration – 25 years clasp
- The Bar to the Long Service Decoration – 20 years clasp
- The Long Service Decoration
- The Service Decoration

Rule 12.28 NON-UNIFORMED AND SUPPORTERS (ORDER OF PRECEDENCE)

- The Association Award
- The Thanks Badge (ladies or gentlemen)

Rule 12.29 Awards Committee

- a. An Awards Committee made up of at least one (1) member of the Scout Council who will act as the Chairperson of the Committee and any other two (2) members (either from the National Scout Council, ex-Chief Scout/s or ex-Chief Commissioner/s or other individuals with the right credentials for the role) shall be appointed to examine the applications and proposals received and to further present its recommendations for consideration by the Chief Scout.

Rule 12.30 EMBLEMS AND CERTIFICATES OF AWARDS

- a. When the insignia of a Scout decoration or award is not worn with uniform, it is represented by a cloth emblem having a knot design in appropriate colours. The award of a bar to any decoration is indicated by the Arrowhead badge superimposed over the centre of the knot design.

- b. The Arrowhead is green for the Bar to the Silver Acorn, gold for all other awards. All awards are accompanied by a certificate.

A detailed explanation is found in the 'Awards and Decorations of The Scout Association of Malta' latest version of 2014.