



Adventurous Activity Permits and Financial Support for Training

This document explains Adventurous Activity Permits and Greenford & District Executive Committee's (the Executive) policy for financial support of adult members undertaking Adventurous Activity skills training. This scheme will operate from 1st September 2019, until further notice.

This policy will be coordinated by the District Activity Adviser, Ian Chick, on behalf of the Executive to support this policy.

Introduction

Adventurous activities are a key part of Scouting and they provide valuable experiences for all those involved. Our role is to ensure that young people get the opportunities for these experiences in a safe environment.

The adventurous activity permit scheme is designed to ensure that all those leading adventurous activities for young people within Scouting have the necessary skills and experience.

Everyone who leads an adventurous activity for young people within Scouting is required to hold an activity permit for that activity. Details of activities classed as adventurous can be found in POR and on the Scout Association's website (scouts.org.uk).

Although managed locally, the activity permit scheme is a national scheme, and a permit will allow you to run that activity in any District or County. This is a Scouting scheme, and permits can only be held by members.

Activity skills training covers training courses that could lead to the granting of an Adventurous Activity Permit or similar (e.g. archery, climbing, boating, hill walking, etc.). For the purposes of this funding policy air rifle shooting is included even though it is not part of the Adventurous Activity Permit scheme.

This scheme does not include Nights Away Permit training which is provided by GLMW Training Team (Module 16 - Introduction to Residential Experiences).

Greenford & District Executive Committee wants to encourage adult members to be trained to lead adventurous activities, and to be granted a permit. This is why the District has set up this scheme to provide financial support to adult members in the District wishing to undertake training for an Adventurous Activity Permit.

This document sets out eligibility for the scheme; the process for an application; the level of funding available; and circumstances for the return of grant funding. It also explains the expectations of the District that young people benefit and have access to an adventurous activity.

If you have any questions about this scheme please speak to the District Activity Adviser, your Group Scout Leader (GSL), or a member of the District Commissioner's (DC) team.

Any adult members wanting to undertake Activity Skills training should discuss this with their GSL in the first instance and then with the District Activity Adviser or DC if required. They will help explain the permit scheme and advise on suitable courses; appropriate providers of training; and

approximate costs etc. Training courses may also be advertised across the District from time to time.

If the adult member wants to attend a specific course they should check to ensure that it meets the requirements of the Scout Association, or it may not lead to the award of a permit.

How to Apply for Financial Support for Adventurous Activity Training

To encourage uptake of activity skills training and increase the number of permit holders in the District, financial support from the District will be given to adult members for adventurous activity training, provided a number of requirements are met. 50% of the cost of training will be paid, up to a maximum of £300, whichever is smaller.

If there are other reasons you would like to request funding in full, or funding for a more expensive course (e.g. in cases of hardship) adults are encouraged to contact the District Secretary or District Chair directly.

Exclusions

This policy will not cover financial contributions for the following (this is NOT an exhaustive list):

- Membership subscriptions to a National Governing Body (NGB) or 'club' (e.g. Canoe England or the 'local' archery club),
- Renewal or administrative costs (e.g. payment to NSRA to renew a permit),
- Repeat courses (e.g. where the applicant did not pass the course and wants to re-take the course or qualification).

Pre-requisites

Before applying for financial support adult members should check to ensure that they:

- hold a current full adult role within the district,
- have completed the relevant Adult Training for their current role(s) or appropriate training is in progress (within the allowed timescales), and
- have completed mandatory training – Safety, Safeguarding and First Response, where required; and are up to date with this training, or booked to attend an appropriate course.

This information can be checked on Compass, or with help from the GSL or the Local Training Manager (LTM).

Where training is required the adult member should discuss this with the LTM.

Applications may be refused if these conditions are not met.

Application

Once training requirements have been met, adult members wishing to apply for financial support should complete the required application form attached.

Applicants should apply for funding before undertaking any adventurous activity training. This will ensure that the adult member attends a suitable training course; has the best chance of being awarded an activity permit, and is clear about the level of reimbursement from the District.

The completed form should be passed to the District Activity Adviser indicating the expected costs of undertaking the training.

The District Activity Adviser will contact the applicant to confirm that the applicant meets the training pre-requisites; that the course meets the Scout Association requirements; and the amount of financial support from the District.

Once the training has been completed the applicant should provide proof of attendance and details of the costs incurred from undertaking the training.

Evidence of costs will be passed to the District Treasurer who will contact the applicant and arrange payment.

In some circumstances the District Treasurer may make an advanced payment to book a place on the course. However failure to attend the course without an appropriate reason will mean that the amount provided by the District Executive Committee will be required to be repaid in full.

Post-training and application for an adventurous activity permit

To be awarded any permit, you must show that you have reached the required level of technical competence and experience. This will generally be through undertaking training accredited by National Governing Bodies, be regular participants, or have obtained experience through a club. Experience gained as a young person is also valid. There are also no age limitations to gaining a permit, so as long as the applicant has the skills and experience required.

A Commissioner can only grant a permit on the recommendation of an assessor. To fulfil this role Counties may appoint County Assessors for each adventurous activity, or use a suitably qualified external assessor. The assessor will provide the Commissioner with a recommendation based on an assessment of the applicant against the relevant assessment checklist. Details of this permit procedure should be discussed with the District Activity Adviser.

Permit holder

Once the training has been completed, and a permit has been awarded, it is expected that the adult member who has received financial support from the Executive, will lead adventurous activities for young people in the District. As part of the list of District permit holders they will be called upon to lead activities, including at Southall Activity Centre, not solely to lead activities with their own section or group. Failure to lead activities in Scouting without an appropriate reason will mean that the amount provided by the District Executive Committee will be required to be repaid in full.

First Name:

Surname:

Contact details - Telephone number:

Email address:

Main role in Scouting:

Scout Group:

Details of activity training course:

Location/provider:

Date of course:

Cost of course (copy of invoice / booking to be attached): £

Financial support requested: £

I confirm that I hold a current full adult role within the district; and have completed the relevant Adult Training for my current role; and have completed mandatory training – Safety, Safeguarding and First Response, where required; and are up to date with this training.

I agree to use this training/qualification for the benefit of Scouting in my Group, the District and or Southall Activity Centre.

I agree to repay any financial support if I am unable to complete this training; fail to attend the training; fail to meet the required standards of the course; am unable to use this qualification to lead adventurous activities in Scouting.

Signed:

Date:

Your personal data will be processed by Greenford & District Scouts for the purposes of administering this application. Further details are available in our Data Privacy Notice which can be found on the District website. www.greenfordscouts.org.uk/privacy.

Received by:

Date:

Course Completed:

Permit awarded / date:

Funding agreed / amount / date paid: