

Girl Guides Australia Adult Awards Frequently Asked Questions

Years of Membership

I was a Guide Leader overseas; can I count those years of membership?

Yes you can. You can count any time you have been an Adult Member of any WAGGGS Member Organisation.

I have my original long service badge, can I still wear it?

Yes you can, and also you can attach the number on the chain.

How do I get a replacement for a lost badge?

Contact your State Office/Guide Office/Shop.

Can I apply for my badge or new number for myself?

Yes you can. In some states they are sent automatically, some Districts/Regions have personnel who apply on behalf of the members in the area .If you have some interstate or overseas membership, applying yourself may ensure accuracy.

Why don't the 'Years of Membership' include youth membership?

'Years of Membership' recognises the commitment of an adult to belong to an organisation that they value and are prepared to give something of themselves to invest in their own community.

Adult Good Service Awards

If I nominate someone for an Award do I have to work out which Award they should get?

No, that is the responsibility of the Awards Committee. You will be advised once the decision is made.

If I am asking for letters of support from people, won't they all write the same thing?

Try to obtain letters of support from a variety of people who have worked with the person nominated in different roles – for example, at Unit and Region level, biscuit coordinator, a Support Group Member, a parent. When asking for the letter of support you could request the letter address a certain aspect of service.

Can I apply for my own Good Service Award?

Nominations cannot be submitted by the nominee.

Do I have to write the final citation for the certificate when I made the nomination?

There is a section on the nomination form to make suggestions for the citation. The Awards Committee will prepare the final citation.

Can an Olave member receive any of the Awards?

Yes. The same assessment applies as for all adults.

Can I nominate someone who is no longer a member?

A previous member can be nominated for an Award up to 6 months following their resignation.

Can award be given posthumously?

Yes, ideally this would take no longer than 6 months to organise.

Are the Girl Guides Australia Adult Good Service Awards hierarchical?

The Award System is not designed to be hierarchical. The determinants of an award include where the service contribution is made (Local, Region, State, National, World) and how the service is measured against the award criteria. It is possible for example, for a member who has received a Red Kangaroo for her contribution in a National Role may receive a Wattle at a later date for her contribution in her local area.

What is meant by 'verifying the Award'?

This is the final stage in the assessment of many of the GGA Adult Good Service Awards and is the confirmation or validation that the Award as determined by the relevant Awards Committee can be presented.

Why are only some of the Awards 'verified' and others are required to be 'endorsed' or 'approved'?

The requirements for some Awards require significant, intensive and sustained service at National and/or international levels. These significant Awards require additional sign off or approval.

Can a member be awarded a 'Bar to' the Banksia, Wattle, Flowering Gum, or Emu, without having received the corresponding Banksia, Wattle, Flowering Gum, or Emu?

No. The 'Bars to' are to recognise the continuing and extended service in the various award classifications for which the member has received the Banksia, Wattle, Flowering Gum or Emu.

Can a member who has received a Boronia Award but not the Banksia or Wattle Awards, later be awarded a Flowering Gum Award.

Yes. The criteria for each Award stands alone and is not dependent on any other. It is quite likely that a member may have received a Boronia and then taken on roles which have made her eligible for a Flowering Gum.

It is vital to note that the Awards are not hierarchical. The Framework that has been developed is for description purposes and geographic location of service contribution.

It is quite possible that a member who has received a Red Kangaroo for her contribution at a national level for example, may receive a Wattle Award or a Flowering Gum Award some years later for a different service contribution within her local area.

Can an Awards Committee Chair or Committee Member prepare an Award nomination for a member, or provide a supporting letter?

Chairs or Committee Member of an Awards Committee **may not** nominate or provide supporting letters for nominees during their term on the committee.

How many Good Service Awards can I wear on my uniform?

Good Service Badges awarded to members may be worn at their discretion. Members should exercise common sense on the number of badges and their placement on their uniform to ensure it looks professional and uncluttered.

Awards for Non-Members

What does someone need to do to be awarded a Thanks Badge or Certificate?

This award recognizes the contribution to GGA or SGGO by a non-member volunteer or an organisation at a high standard using skills, knowledge or experience. Recipients of this award which may be a business, actively and positively contribute to the work of Girl Guiding through their participation in activities, events or by undertaking specific roles. Some examples include ongoing financial or in kind support, service in an area of expertise such as accounting, risk management, promotions or catering.

Why is there no longer a Thanks Plaque or Thanks Banner?

The Thanks Badge or Thanks Certificate were deemed to be appropriate for all forms of recognition for non- members.

Is the Thanks Badge/Thanks Certificate only available to women?

No, it may be awarded to men, women or businesses.

Gallantry Awards

If a member reports an act of bravery in the Unit/District/Region report is a Gallantry Award automatically given?

No, a nomination form must be forward to the State Awards Committee for consideration.

I have never heard of anyone receiving one of these awards, does that mean it is very hard to achieve the standard required?

These awards are not widely known about and fortunately we do not have too many situations where our members risk their life to save someone else. It is important that if you hear of such an situation that you apply for a Gallantry award by completing a nomination form and forwarding it to the State Awards Committee.