

Square Knot Awards 101

Square Knots are awards that can be earned by volunteers who show a continued commitment to leadership and service to Scouting.

There are 41 Square Knot Awards available. These can be split into two broad categories: training, and personal achievement or service. For our purposes they have been split into several smaller categories:

- Training - These are earned by fulfilling various training, tenure and performance requirements.
- Meritous Service – These are awarded through a partnership between National and NESAs.
- Meritous Action – These knots are awarded for various levels of heroism.
- Knots of Rank – These knots denote rank achievements as a youth.
- Scoutreach – These knots are awarded for service to Scoutreach units.
- Religious – Awarded for participation in the God and Me program
- Other Knots – Various other knots awarded for a variety of achievements.


There are two generally accepted ways to wear your knots.



On the following pages are titles of the knots, their corresponding picture and a brief description of what the knot is awarded for. Each knot title that is highlighted and underlined in blue is a hyperlink, simply click on it. Links will take you to either the progress record, or description and application for the corresponding knot.

Click on blue hyperlink for progress record
Or nomination form.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

[Cub Scout Den Leader Award](#) 

Qualifications for this award include:
One year service as a registered Cub Scout Den Leader
Complete training requirements as outlined in Den

TRAINING KNOTS

Tiger Cub Den Leader Award



Qualifications for this award include:

One year service as a registered Tiger Cub Den Leader.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Tiger Cub Den Leader Award.

Five performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from either Pack committee chairman or Cubmaster.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Cub Scout Den Leader Award



Qualifications for this award include:

One year service as a registered Cub Scout Den Leader.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Cub Scout Den Leader Award.

Five of 10 performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from either Pack committee chairman or Cubmaster.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Webelos Den Leader Award



Qualifications for this award include:

One year service as a registered Webelos Den Leader.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Webelos Den Leader Award.

Seven of 12 performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from either Pack committee chairman or Cubmaster.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

*Progress Record for the Webelos Den Leader Award may be found at the end of this section.

Cub Scouter Award



Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service as a registered adult leader in a Cub Scouting pack..

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Cub Scouter Award.

Five of 10 performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from either Pack committee chairman or Cubmaster.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Pack Trainer Award



Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service as a registered pack trainer.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Pack Trainer Award.

All performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from either Pack committee chairman or Cubmaster.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Cubmaster Award



Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service either one year assistant Cubmaster and one year as Cubmaster, or two years as Cubmaster.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Cubmaster Award.

Two performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from either Pack committee chairman or commissioner..

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

*Progress Record for the Cub Scouter Award may be found at the end of this section.

Notes

Each progress record indicates the need to complete several training requirements, further information is as follows:

Complete Fast Start training for your position. Fast Start training is available at the following web address www.scouting.org . Please note that when accessing MyScouting and the E-Learning portal, that having your Scout ID# would be helpful in the initial account set up. This number is on your Boy Scouts of America membership card, or can be obtained from the council registrar.

Complete basic training for your registered leadership position. New Leader Essentials (NLE), and Leader Specific training is held several times throughout the year. Traditionally these two training sessions are held on the same day. NLE is held in the morning followed by a lunch break with Leader Specific training following.

Complete Youth Protection Training. This is available through the E-Learning Portal in MyScouting at www.scouting.org .

Participate in Cub Scout pow wow or University of Scouting. Westark Area Council holds BPU each year in Nov. attending BPU will satisfy this requirement. Further information is available at www.westarkbsa.org .

Scouter's Training Award



The following awards receive the above pictured knot.

Boy Scout Leader Training Award

Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service as a registered adult Boy Scout leader.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Boy Scout Leaders Training Award.

Five of 12 performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Troop committee chairman.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Varsity Scout Leader's Training Award

Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service as a registered adult Varsity Scout leader.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Varsity Scout Coach Training Award.

Five of 11 performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Team committee chairman.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Venturing Leader Training Award

Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service as a registered adult Venturing leader.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Venturing Leaders Training Award.

Seven of 11 performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Crew committee chairman.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Roundtable Staff for Scouter's Training Award

Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service as a registered roundtable staff.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Roundtable Staff Progress Record for the Scouter's Training Award.

Six performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from roundtable commissioner.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Notes

Each progress record indicates the need to complete several training requirements, further information is as follows:

Complete Fast Start training for your position. Fast Start training is available at the following web address www.scouting.org . Please note that when accessing MyScouting and the E-Learning portal, that having your Scout ID# would be helpful in the initial account set up. This number is on your Boy Scouts of America membership card, or can be obtained from the council registrar.

Complete basic training for your registered leadership position. New Leader Essentials (NLE), and Leader Specific training is held several times throughout the year. Traditionally these two training sessions are held on the same day. NLE is a morning training session, while Scoutmaster and Venturing are both all day training. If you have previously taken NLE, you are not required to retake the course when changing position.

Complete Youth Protection Training. This is available through the E-Learning Portal in MyScouting at www.scouting.org .

Outdoor Leader Skills Training. Razorback District offers OLS training once a year in April. This is a three day training session (Friday-Sunday), that runs in conjunction with Webelos Outdoor Leader Skills Training. Watch the Razorback District website for dates and registration information.
www.razorbackscouts.org

Devices may be worn.

Scouter's Key Award



Scoutmaster's Award

Qualifications for this award include:

Three years service as a registered adult Boy Scout leader during a five year period.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Scoutmaster's Key Award.

Five performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Troop committee chairman.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Varsity Coach's Key

Qualifications for this award include:

Three years service as a registered adult Varsity Scout coach during a five year period.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Varsity Scout Leaders Training Award.

Three performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Team committee chairman.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Venturing Advisor's Key

Qualifications for this award include:

Three years service as a registered adult Venturing crew Advisor during a five year period.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Venturing Advisor's Key.

Two performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Crew committee chairman.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Skipper's Key

Qualifications for this award include:

Three years service as a registered Skipper during a five year period.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Skipper's Key.

One performance requirement.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Ship committee chairman and Commissioner.

Follow completion and mailing instruction's on the progress record.

Please make copy of form and turn in to district training chair.

District Committee Key

Qualifications for this award include:

Three years service as a district committee member during a five year period.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the District Committee Key.

Two performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from Crew committee chairman.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Unit Commissioner's Key

Qualifications for this award include:

Three years as a registered commissioner during a five year period.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Progress Record for the Unit Commissioner's Key.

One performance requirement.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

Roundtable Commissioner's Key

Qualifications for this award include:

Two years service as a registered roundtable staff.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Roundtable Staff Progress Record for the Scouter's Training Award.

Six performance requirements.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures from roundtable commissioner.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

*Progress Record for the Roundtable Commissioner's Key may be found at the end of this section.

**Uses the same progress record as for the Arrowhead Honor Award.

District and Assistant District Commissioner's Key

Qualifications for this award include:

Three years service as a registered commissioner within a five year period.

Complete training requirements as outlined in District and Assistant District Commissioner's Progress Record for the District Commissioner's Key.

One performance requirement.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures.

Turn in to district training chair for approval.

*Devices may be worn



Philmont Training Center Masters Track

Applicants for this award take part in a three track system, with various performance requirements for each track.



Doctorate of Commissioner Science Award

Qualifications for this award include:

Five years service as a registered commissioner.

Complete training requirements as outlined in Doctorate of Commissioner Science fact sheet.

Two performance requirement.

Upon completion, obtain necessary signatures.

Turn in to council commissioner.

Knots of Rank

These knots are worn by those who have attained the highest rank in the corresponding program as a youth.

Arrow of Light



Worn by those who attain the Arrow of Light award, the highest rank in the Cub Scout program.

Eagle Scout



Worn by those who attained Boy Scouts highest rank of Eagle Scout as a youth.

Eagle Scout with NESA life membership



Worn by those who attained Boy Scouts highest rank of Eagle Scout as a youth, and have also enrolled with a lifetime membership in NESA (National Eagle Scout Association).

Venturing Silver Award



Worn by those who have attained Venturing's highest rank, the Silver Award, as a youth.

Quartermaster Award



Worn by those who have attained Sea Scouts highest rank of Quartermaster as a youth.

Notes

*None of the above Knots are restricted and may be picked up at the Scout Service Center.

*Only one Eagle knot may be worn at a time. The Eagle knot with NESA life membership would be worn instead of, rather than with the regular Eagle knot.

Meritous Action Knots

Honor Medal



Awarded to a youth or adult member who shows heroism at considerable personal risk to themselves.

Heroism Award



Awarded to a youth or adult member who shows heroism at minimal risk to themselves.

Medal of Merit



Presented to honor Scouts, Venturers and Scouters who have given service above and beyond what is normally expected of youth or adult members.

Meritous Service Knots



National President's Scoutmaster Award of Merit

Award from the President of Boy Scouts of America and National Eagle Scout Association (NESA).

This award may only be awarded one time per individual.

National President's Varsity Coach Award of Merit

Award from the President of Boy Scouts of America and National Eagle Scout Association (NESA).

Venturing Advisor Award of Merit

Award from the President of Boy Scouts of America and National Eagle Scout Association (NESA).

Venturing Leadership Award



Awarded on a Council, Regional, or National level.

Recommendation form along with requirements for the Venturing Leadership Award may be found at the end of this section.

District Award of Merit



The District Award of Merit is a council award presented by Districts to volunteers who have rendered outstanding service on a District level.

Nomination form along with requirements for the District Award of merit may be found at the end of this section.

Meritous Service Knots continued

The following knots for meritous service are awarded primarily on either a Council, Regional or National level.

Distinguished Commissioner Service Award



Presented to unit, District and Assistant District, Council and Assistant Council Commissioners. Tenure, training, and performance requirements apply.

Order of the Arrow Distinguished Service Award



Presented to Arrowmen that have given a significant amount of time and service to the Order of the Arrow.

Silver Beaver



Council level Award of Merit.

Silver Antelope



Regional level Award of Merit.

Silver Buffalo



National level Award of Merit.

Silver World Award



International level Award of Merit.

*United States Citizens may only receive this award if they are not members of the Boy Scouts of America.

Religious Knots



Youth Religious Knot



Adult Religious Knot

Having and growing in ones faith is a cornerstone of Scouting. The religious emblem program is available for a wide variety of faiths, and is presented in an age appropriate manner.

This Knot may be awarded to a youth or, to an adult who serves as a counselor.

This is not an BSA award, but rather earned and presented by a church body, for education and devotion to ones faith.

*Devices- May be worn.

A vast amount of information on the religious emblems program is available at the following website:
<http://www.praypub.org>

Scoutreach Knots

The Asian American Spirit of Scouting Service Award



This award is given in recognition to an adult individual or an organization for involvement in creating Scouting opportunities for Asian American youth.

The council submits an application for approval for this award.

¡Scouting...Vale La Pena! Service Award



This award is given in recognition to an adult individual or an organization for involvement in creating Scouting opportunities for Hispanic American/Latino youth.

The council submits an application for approval for this award.

Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award



This award is given in recognition to an adult individual or an organization for involvement in creating Scouting opportunities for youth from rural or low-income urban backgrounds..

The council submits an application for approval for this award.

Other Knots

Community Organization Award



This award is worn by Scouters who have earned an award from an outside organization, that is recognized by the BSA Relationships Division.

This is not a BSA award, but signifies an award being received by another organization. Twelve awards are currently recognized:

[The Marvin M. Lewis Award \(BPOE\)](#)

[Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award](#)

[Veterans of Foreign Wars Scouter's Achievement Award](#)

[American Legion Scouting Square Knot Award](#)

[Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal](#)

[Herbert G. Horton Alpha Phi Omega Youth Service Award](#)

[Raymond A. Finley Jr. Sea Scout Service Award](#)

[Cliff Dochterman Award](#)

[Ruritan Scout Leader Community Service Award](#)

[Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award](#)

[The International Association Of Lions Cub Community Organization Award](#)

[The George Meany Award](#)

William T. Hornaday Badge



Recognizes Scouts, Venturers, and Scouters for service in the area of ecology and conservation in their communities.

George Meany Award



This is a national award given to any adult union member that has made significant contributions to their community through Scouting.

William H. Spurgeon III Award



Council used to recognize those who have given significant leadership to the Explorer program. This award is also presented on the regional and national level.

James E. West Fellowship Program



Gifts of \$1,000 or more in cash or marketable securities to local council endowment fund qualify for this award.

William D. Boyce New-Unit Organizer Award



Presented to recognize Scouters who organize one or more traditional units.

International Scouter's Award



Encourages participation in World Scouting activities and recognizes contributions to the World Scouting program.

Sea Badge Award



Awarded to Sea Scout adults who have participated in and completed Sea Badge training.

No additional requirements, completion of the course entitles you to wear this knot.

http://www.seascout.org/for_leaders/adult_recognition/adult-seabadge.html

Bibliography

BSA Square Knot Leadership Awards Guide Sheet
<http://knots.boy-scouts.net/>

Devices Used on Square Knot Patches
<http://www.usscouts.org/awards/devices.asp>

Boy Scouts of America National Council website
<http://www.scouting.org/>

P.R.A.Y.
http://www.praypub.org/main_frameset.htm

Scoutreach
<http://www.scoutreachbsa.org/>

U.S. Scouting Service Project
<http://usscouts.org/>

Boy Scout Trail
<http://www.boyscouttrail.com/>

Buckskin Council Boy Scouts of America
<http://www.buckskin.org/>

Additional Resources

[Razorback District Website](#)

[Westark Area Council Website](#)

[Scouting Magazine](#)