

Award Zone

Introduction to the Junior Award Scheme

The Junior Award Scheme is a part of the programme for Junior Section boys. The aim of the Scheme is to provide the boys with some recognition for their participation in the section programme. The Junior Award Scheme uses material under the five following headings:

- Body – fit for fun
 - a variety of games and physical activities
- Mind – think and do
 - puzzles and quizzes, thinking games and treasure hunts, hobbies and collections
- Spirit – God and me
 - devotions, prayers and worship, bible stories and characters, and Christian festivals
- Community – me and my world
 - conservation, the local community, the church and helping others
- Creativity – make and do
 - crafts, simple cooking, and mime and drama

Two additional headings provide additional ideas and topics

- Programme on a Plate
 - Ideas for theme nights including Creepy Crawlies, The Lord's Prayer, and The Senses
- Extras
 - Information about additional web based resources on a wide range of topics

What is the Junior Award Scheme?

The Junior Award Scheme runs alongside the section programme, the focus of which is to have a time of fun and enjoyment for the boys and the leaders. The Award Scheme is there to support the programme, not the other way round; the Award Scheme is optional. Some Junior Section weekly programmes will have an allocated award time. However, it is possible to include the Award Scheme into your programme and cover the various activities through a range of indoor and outdoor activities that are included in this programme pack. Boys will gain their awards as they take part in the usual section programme for this age group i.e. games, crafts, music, storytelling, bible stories etc.

Whilst some sections would divide boys into their various age groups for some activities, it is quite possible to run the Award Scheme in one group because of reasons of restricted premises or the number of leaders available to help. The Scheme is very flexible.

The table below gives some information about the Scheme and the number of topics from each of the five activity groups required for each badge, each topic taking 10 to 15 minutes. The Scheme offers some flexibility where boys may choose which extra topics they wish to do, perhaps those they enjoy most, or which give them new challenges. Companies may also decide to concentrate on particular topics that reflect the skills of the leaders, equipment, or premises. Remember, that the Award Scheme covers the three years that a boy is in the Juniors.

	Junior Target Award	Bronze Award Age 8/9	Silver Award Age 9/10	Gold Award Age 10/11
Body – fit for fun	1	1	3	3
Mind – think and do	1	1	3	3
Spirit – God and me	1	1	3	3
Community – me and my world	1	1	3	3
Creativity – make and do	1	1	3	3
Extra activities (chosen from above)	0	5	5	5
Total activities	5	10	20	20
Awards	Target Award	Bronze Award	Silver Award	Gold Award

Topics = 55
over three years

There are four badges in the Junior Award Scheme. The requirements are as follows:

Junior Target Award: At moving up or joining	5 activities, one from each of the five headings
Bronze Award: Age 8/9	10 activities, one from each of the five headings and five extra topics chosen by the boy or staff
Silver Award: Age 9/10	20 activities, three from each of the five headings and five extra topics chosen by the boy or staff
Gold Award: Age 10/11	20 activities, three from each of the five headings and five extra topics chosen by the boy or staff

A list of suggested activities for the Scheme is given later in this section under, 'Junior Award Scheme' but leaders are free to choose other appropriate topics. Some of the suggested activities have a progression and older or more able boys could be expected to participate to a higher level.

Certificates, stickers and wall chart

In addition to badges, boys could be awarded a certificate after reaching the midway point for each award i.e. at five points gained for their Bronze Award or the halfway stage of 10 points towards their Silver and Gold Awards. Certificates could also be awarded for other things including taking part in an event, good attendance, being a good friend, helping out etc. Stickers could be awarded for the completion of each award activity; which could be stuck onto the boys' wall chart in the BB/church hall or taken home. Certificates, stickers and the wall chart are available from BB Supplies. A promotion certificate is also available for boys who move up to the Company Section. The use of the stickers, wall chart and certificates is optional.

How does the Junior Award Scheme fit into our weekly programme?

The weekly programme may have a formal 'award' time lasting 15 to 20 minutes although boys gain their awards as they take part in the usual section programme for this age group. Many of the award topics can be incorporated into games and activities so do not limit the

work for the awards just to the more formal times in the programme. The Award Scheme is there to help provide a sense of achievement for the boys and a pride in gaining their awards; the Award Scheme supports the programme. Remember, the work of the section should be programme led, not awards driven. Section theme nights can also be used for the activity badges awards, with a range of different topics taking place within the theme. Other parts of the activity scheme can be covered during outdoor activities the better weather and lighter nights, through trips and visits, Junior Section weekend camps and holidays and taking part in battalion or other BB events etc.

In planning the various topics within the Award Scheme, care should be taken to ensure that the style of presentation is fun; use as much activity as you can with the use of visual aids to help reinforce any learning.

How is the Award Scheme assessed?

There are no set levels of attainment for the activities within the Junior Award scheme, these are gained by a boy participating in particular topics; no external controls are to be applied. The level of achievement will vary for each individual boy according to his ability and age. During a boy's time in the Junior Section his level of skills and physical competence is likely to vary greatly. The onus is on the leaders to ensure that boys are trying their best in all of the Award Scheme activities.

What about late joiners?

Boys would complete the Junior Target Award with topics appropriate to his age and ability and then move on to the Bronze Award. So a boy joining at age 10 could complete the Target, and the Bronze and Silver awards.

How are the Awards worn?

The Junior Award badges are Target, Bronze, Silver and Gold. The badges are metal with a pin-on fastening. The awards are placed on the armband as set out in the Information Zone. When boys move to the Company Section, they will wear the highest Junior Award gained during their time in the Junior Section. They will also continue to wear the highest Anchor Boy Activity Award gained during their time in the Anchor Boys.

When are the Award badges presented?

Some companies present badges as soon as they are gained; others choose to present them at a parents' night or at a church parade service. Leaders should remember that the award scheme is planned to cover the three years that a boy is in Junior Section and the activities should be spread out over this time.

What about record keeping?

There is some information in the Information Zone about record keeping, not only about the awards but also attendance at the BB night and special events, and home contact details for each boy. Record cards are available from BB Supplies.

How do we transfer from 'Go for Gold' to the new Junior Award Scheme?

- 1) Boys currently working on 'Go for Gold' could continue until they move up to Company Section, but leaders could still use the new programme resources. New boys would then work on the new scheme.
- 2) The Company could decide, in consultation with their boys, to swap their existing badges for the new ones.

New Award scheme:	no. of activities	Old Award scheme:	no. of activities
Junior Target Award	5	White Badge	5
Bronze Award	10	Green Badge	10
		Purple Badge	10
Silver Award	20	Blue Badge	10
		Red Badge	10
Gold Award	20	Gold Badge	10

- If a boy has gained his white badge, he would receive Target Award badge
- If a boy has gained his green badge, he would receive Target and Bronze Award badges
- If a boy has gained his purple badge, he would receive Target and Bronze badges and a certificate for the 10 activities towards his Silver badge.
- If a boy has gained his blue badge, he would receive Target, Bronze and Silver Award badges
- If a boy has gained his red badge, he would receive Target, Bronze and Silver badges and a certificate for the 10 activities towards his Gold Award badge.

Ideas for the Junior Award Scheme

A list of suggested topics is given below, but leaders are free to choose other appropriate topics. Some of the topics have a suggested progression and older or more able boys could be expected to participate to a higher level. Remember, the main focus is on fun and not working for the badges!

In planning the programme, staff will need to agree when the award scheme topics are to be covered. It would be quite easy for a boy to complete all of the requirements for his Target and Bronze badges in the first few months of his joining the section, but the activities for the badges should be spaced out through the year; Target badge by the Christmas break and the Bronze Badge by Easter would be a good target to work towards. Whilst the majority can be done indoors during the autumn and winter terms, some of the suggested activities will need to be done outside in the better weather, and others during trips and visits.

It is most important to emphasize that 'Award Scheme Activities' are part of the whole programme of the Junior Section

This 'sample' table shows a list of suggested activities of how a boy could gain all of his 'Awards' during his time in the Junior Section. The level at which the boys participate in the 'Activities' will vary for each individual boy according to his ability and age. During a boy's time in Juniors his level of skills and physical competence is likely to vary greatly. The onus is on the leaders to ensure that boys are trying their best in all of the Award Scheme activities. You will know your boys much better and you have absolute flexibility to choose which activities the boys undertake to gain their badges.

	Target Award	Bronze Award Age 8/9	Silver Award Age 9/10	Gold Award Age 10/11
Fit for fun	Simple drill movements	Take part in figure marching Take part in games	Take part in figure marching Take part in games Take part in outdoor games	Take part in figure marching Take part in games Take part in some challenges
God and me	Jesus as a boy	Jesus as a friend Miracles and parables	Healthy eating Jesus as a teacher Bible heroes Christian festivals Talking with God	Healthy eating Jesus as our saviour Bible heroes Christian festivals Talking with God
Think and do	The BB Badge	My BB Company Complete some puzzles	National flags Complete some puzzles	Computer games Complete some puzzles
Me and my world	International project	International project Take part in a scavenger hunt Help at home for 2 hours	Take part in some thinking games International project Take part in nature conservation Help at home for 3 hours	Take part in some thinking games International project Take part in 2 treasure hunts Help at home for 4 hours
Make and do	Take part in some drama	Take part in some drama	Road safety Home safety Take part in some drama Make some craft items Take part in some cooking Make some salt dough models	Road safety Home safety Take part in some drama Make some craft items Take part in some cooking Make some salt dough models
Total number of Activities for each Award	5	10	20	20