

Nights Away Permit Applications

New Permit Application

- All new permits must be processed via 'My Membership'
- <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/volunteer-experience/digital-tool-guides/permits/#ApplyForAPermit>
- Nights away permit applications should be submitted at least 6 weeks in advance of the planned nights away.
- Please let your line manager (Lead Volunteer / 14-24 Team Lead) know you plan on being assessed for a permit.
- Don't submit application to a family member.
- Attendance at Rosemary's, or equivalent, skill weekend is highly encouraged for everyone. You must have the required skills before being assessed.
- Applicants should have been the leader in charge of multiple previous Scouting night away events under an existing permit holder prior to assessment. Young person/ attending events not as the leader in charge/ personal/ family camping experience is not the same as being the leader in charge of a Scout night away event. This is to ensure suitable experience has been gained not only with personal skills but also dealing with planning, organising, co-ordinating, pressure, responsibility, group management etc.
- An assessment camp should be long enough to be able to cover the points on the assessment checklist (ie a camp with biscuits for supper and cereal for breakfast would not be sufficient, but a 12noon - 12noon with cooked meals usually would be).
- A permit may or may not be recommended after the first assessment. Advice may be given on how to improve with a second assessment scheduled.
- Applicants must have a valid PVG, safety and safeguarding and a full role.
- Please submit to the assessor your plans, budget, camp programme, menu, risk assessments, equipment list, and contingency plans. Please also show them the NAN, and the information sent out to parents including kit list and in touch process.
- The assessment checklist is available here: https://prod-umbraco-core.azurewebsites.net/media/nvqchtii/ac120900-assessment-checklist-for-a-nights-away-permit-november-2024_v2.docx The assessor will check everything is covered between the planning stage, physical assessment, asking questions and prior experience.

Permit Renewal

- All permit renewals must be processed via 'My Membership'
- <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/volunteer-experience/digital-tool-guides/permits/#RenewMyPermit>
- Please apply for renewal as soon as reminder email comes in so plenty of time to renew prior to expiry.

- Don't submit application to a family member.
- Applicant should have enough experience since last permit granted to show kept skills up to date (this is suggested to be 5 or more night away events as leader in charge or permit holder). If not a technical assessment may be required, or a check of up to date knowledge with large amounts of previous experience.
- A physical assessment may be asked for in any circumstance.
- Applicants must have a valid PVG, safety and safeguarding and a full role.

Barrwood all year New or Renewals:

- *This should be a greenfield permit that is applied for with the technical assessment restriction of 'Greenfield Barrwood only, Campsite elsewhere'.*
- *Experience as the leader in charge or permit holder in Barrwood 'winter mode' must be shown in the last 5 years (under an existing permit holder if new permit application).*

Not everyone in a Section needs a nights away permit. It is suggested 1 per Section (or 2 if Section are active campers) and another 1 or 2 per Group/Unit. This should ensure enough permit holders available to be able to be responsible for the events and for them to get enough experience built up for their renewal.

Process

- Volunteer applies on the 'My Membership' system to a Nights Away Assessor.
- Nights Away Assessor gets in touch with the applicant and: accepts the application to assess; or reallocates to another nights away assessor; or rejects the permit application if applicant doesn't meet the criteria.
- Assessment is carried out.
- If successful the Nights Away Assessor recommends the permit to the Permit Approvers, and the Permit Approvers complete the final checks and: grant the permit for up to 5 years; or rejects application and explains the reasoning behind this. A log book should be kept to assist with the renewal in future.
- The Nights Away Assessor may wish for another assessment to be carried out and the application will remain in progress until this time. They will provide feedback to assist.
- If unsuccessful the Nights Away Assessor may reject the application and advise for further training to be undertaken or further practice camps to be held.