



## **Sectional Progressive Awards Arrangements under the Epidemic**

This circular substitutes Programme Circular No. 34/2021 issued on 15 May 2021.

Since 2020, a substantial number of Scout trainings/activities have had to be postponed or cancelled because of the epidemic, resulting in considerable impacts on youth members' plans to complete respective award assessments. The Association has therefore introduced two initiatives, namely the "Online Learning and Progressive Award Online Assessment Scheme under the Epidemic" and the "Extension of the Assessment Periods of Awards" to support youth members concerned with a longer time frame for award assessments. While all units may now, in light of individual needs and circumstances, resume face-to-face Scout activities (including Group meetings, activities & trainings) under the Government's epidemic control measures, the Association nevertheless encourages the continued adoption of remote and online learning as well as communication as risks remain.

### **Online Learning and Progressive Award Online Assessment Scheme under the Epidemic**

The Scheme enables youth members to undertake learning at home and engage in Scout activities and award assessments with alternative arrangements. As all units may now, in light of individual needs, resume face-to-face Scout meetings, members may flexibly opt for the appropriate assessment mode and complete their award assessments. For Scheme details, please refer to the Programme Branch (Sections) website ([www.scout.org.hk/sections](http://www.scout.org.hk/sections) 【QR code appended on next page】). The effective date of the Scheme will be further extended and Youth members concerned must complete all assessments on or before 31 August 2023.

### **Progressive Learning and Assessments**

The Scout Movement's principle of progressive awards caters for the needs of youth members at their age, having regard their physical and developmental needs, with the provision of appropriate learning, training and assessment schemes. Scout leaders and youth members should therefore remain in close contact and adhere as much as possible to the principle. For example, Scout leaders may help less experienced members to consolidate their Scoutcraft knowledge and skills; or encourage youth members of appropriate age to proceed to the succeeding Scout Section as early as practicable etc.

### **Extension of the Assessment Periods of Awards**

All youth members in the Cub Scout/Scout/Venture Scout/Rover Scout Sections, upon reaching the upper age limit of the respective Sections, are automatically entitled to an extension to their membership of one year without the need to submit applications so that they may continue with their **progressive award assessments** (including participation in training courses, activities & assessments). This initiative will be further extended, and Youth members concerned must complete all assessments on or before 31 August 2023. The prevailing rules and arrangements on award issuance and application procedures shall apply. For details, please refer to the circulars on the Procedures and Guidelines on Issue and Collection/Purchase of Badges for the respective Sections and the relevant [Award and Certificate Application Forms](#).

Should youth members require more than one year beyond the upper age limit in order to complete the assessments for **the highest level of awards** of the respective Sections, they have to complete the [Form PT/74](#) for seeking endorsement of the further extension from the District Commissioner and the Regional Commissioner. They may only continue with the assessments for the highest level of awards in a specified period of time after obtaining approval from the Programme Commissioner.

All Scout Groups, Districts, Regions and Branches will work together with paramount aim for the well-being of youth members, and make best use of every opportunity of both face-to-face assembly and online facilitations. District Commissioners and Scout leaders should encourage youth members to follow the arrangements set out in this circular and complete their award assessments accordingly. In case youth members still have doubt, Section Scout Leaders should approach their District Commissioner for assistance.

The Association will timely review the arrangements above and take into account other factors. Further announcements will be made as appropriate. For enquiries, please contact the Programme Branch at 2957 6411 or 2957 6417 during office hours.



Programme Commissioner



[Programme Branch \(Sections\)  
Website](#)