

The Olave Baden-Powell Award

The Olave Baden-Powell Award is the peak achievement award for the members of the Olave Program. The Award and program are suitably named after Lady Baden-Powell (1889-1977), the World Chief Guide. Olave worked hard, was always cheerful, let no obstacle stand in her way and achieved what she set out to do. Olave's Guiding started as an enormous challenge which she faced and successfully met. The Olave Baden-Powell Award requires a similarly strong commitment to self-development and service.

The syllabus focuses on six developmental areas:

Personal – The candidate is required to look closely at herself and her ambitions, and enhance her life with challenges designed to aid her personal development.

Practical – The candidate is required to examine her practical skills and those to be developed, and prepare herself for life with challenges designed to increase her practical skills and experience.

Social – The candidate is required to explore her place in society, and enhance her social development with challenges designed to promote interaction and understanding in the wider community.

Physical – The candidate is required to examine her total well being, and develop herself physically through challenges designed to improve her fitness and enjoyment of the outdoors.

Service – The candidate is required to develop her commitment to service through challenges designed to provide opportunities for service in Guiding and the wider community.

Further Development – The candidate is required to examine her progression during the course of the award and use her increased understanding of her own strengths and weaknesses to look wider and wider still.

Guidelines for Candidates

Eligibility

Prior to starting the Olave Baden-Powell (OB-P) Award you must have made the Guide Promise as an adult and be a member of a State Guide organisation.

After receiving notification that you have been registered as a candidate, the Award must be completed within six years and before your 30th birthday.

You must have been an active member of the Olave Program of Guides Australia for at least two years before the Award can be presented. It is suggested that two years be the minimum time frame for completion of the Award.

Registration

You must register with your State OB-P Award Coordinator before starting the award. The following must be provided when you register:

1. An OB-P Registration Form (registration forms may differ in each State if the National Form is not used)
2. A Plan of Action signed and dated by a member of your Peer Group
3. Your date of birth
4. The date you made your Guide Promise as an adult member of Guides Australia
5. Your Guides Australia membership number (as supplied by your State Office).

Reference Terms

The **Plan of Action** is a Statement including the challenges selected, brief descriptions of how you intend to meet each challenge, approximate dates for the start and completion of each

challenge and any other necessary details. This is a very important aspect of the Award as it indicates that you plan to set goals and manage your time so as to successfully complete the Award.

A **Peer Group** is a group of current members of Guides Australia. Your Peer Group must approve your Plan of Action and is responsible for assessing your Award and recommending presentation of your Award. All challenges are assessed at **your** personal highest level of achievement.

Completing the Award

The Award is self-assessed and peer-assessed. While working toward the Award you must be an active member of Guides Australia and the Olave Program.

To have completed the OB-P Award, one challenge from the six areas of development must be met and assessed by your Peer Group.

Cross crediting shall be permitted if the Peer Group deem it appropriate (eg. if the candidate also wishes to work on the Duke of Edinburgh Award or wishes to utilise skills and trainings appropriate to their working life).

Candidates working on the Award are encouraged to complete the challenges within Guiding and the wider community.

After completing your challenges you must present your results to your Peer Group. When your Peer Group is satisfied you have completed each challenge to your personal highest level of achievement it must present a recommendation for presentation of the Award to the State OB-P Award Coordinator. A meeting between the candidate and State Coordinator of the Award will finalise details pertaining to the requirements of that State.

There are some common terms that may need clarification before registering to start the OB-P Award. Some States may have requirements that need to be referenced. Please direct enquiries to your State OB-P Award Coordinator.

Olave Baden-Powell Award Syllabus

Section 1: Personal

1. Complete a recognised course, workshop or qualification designed to improve your management and leadership skills. This may include one or more Management Modules of the Australian Adult Leadership Program.
2. Complete a recognised course, workshop or qualification designed to improve your ability to deal with emergencies, such as home, workplace, automotive, community and outdoors. Also, hold a current first aid qualification.
3. Complete a recognised course, workshop or qualification designed to extend your personal development. This may include adult level trainings, certificates, badges or awards such as those offered by Guides Australia, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Scouts or another organisation.
4. After examining yourself and your aims and ambitions in life, hold a discussion around these themes with your Peer Group. After the discussion, organise and run a Guides' Own or similar based on the themes discussed.
5. Participate in an adult level training, workshop or course run by Guides Australia or another recognised organisation on a topic or area not already covered in this award. Share the skills you have learned in an area of need in Guiding at Unit, District, Region, State or National level.
6. Create your own challenge, in consultation with your Peer Group.

Section 2: Practical

1. Attend and satisfactorily complete a course of at least 3 months duration in an adult learning environment. This may include for example languages, psychology, economics, information technology and science.
2. Expand your knowledge in a communication medium by becoming actively involved in a theoretical and practical way for a period of at least three months. Media may include acting, music, dance, multimedia, public speaking, debate, audiovisual, etc. Prepare a presentation of the skills or knowledge you have gained for public display or to be delivered as a workshop.
3. After doing a self-assessment on the way in which you spend your time, research, design and carry out a program for at least three months which allows you to make efficient use of your time and to more adequately cope with the pressures of your lifestyle.
4. Research and write an article for publication on the strains and stresses imposed on people by society and indicate some practical means of coping with these. This should include the community support systems available.
5. Create your own challenge, in consultation with your Peer Group.

Section 3: Social

1. Complete a recognised course, workshop or qualification designed to improve your networking skills within both Guiding and the wider community. This may include one or more of the Further Development Network Modules of the Australian Adult Leadership Program.
2. Explore the various aspects of world Guiding by completing one or more of the Further Development Fundamental Modules of the Australian Adult Leadership Program.
3. Attend and actively participate in an adult level forum or conference. Hold a discussion with your Peer Group on the reasons for your choice, what you learned and how this knowledge can be used.
4. Research and write an article for publication about an issue that is important to you and the community support systems which are available. Through your research, investigate the effectiveness of the services in meeting the variety of needs in your community and consider the various factors, which impact the issue. These may include socio-economic factors, culture, religion, politics and support for people with disabilities.
5. Create your own challenge, in consultation with your Peer Group.

Section 4: Physical

1. Complete a recognised workshop or course designed to improve your outdoor camping, bushwalking or other outdoor skills and knowledge, for example Outward Bound, Scouts and Further Development Outdoor Modules of the Australian Adult Leadership Program. Use these skills to organise a camp, hike or other outdoor activity of at least two days duration with your Peer Group or another group.
2. Gain one or more outdoor qualification recognised by Guides Australia at a higher level than that which you may already hold. These may include for example camping qualifications, adventurous activity qualifications, Duke of Edinburgh Award (Expeditions/Explorations section) and Australian Yachting Federation.
3. After doing a self-assessment on all personal aspects, research, design and carry out a physical improvement program for at least three months to improve your own physical well being and/or appearance. Discuss your progress with your Peer Group and submit a report at the end of the program.

4. Take up a new physical activity for a period of three months. During this time, discuss your progress with your Peer Group. Activities such as athletics, swimming, yoga, team sports, martial arts, scuba diving may be considered.
5. Create your own challenge, in consultation with your Peer Group.

Section 5: Service

1. Organise and carry out regular volunteer service over a period of at least six months with another organisation. This challenge is designed to be an extension upon any existing service contribution, such as leadership within Guiding.
2. Select a group of disadvantaged people in your community and make a constructive contribution to the group over a period of at least six months. Research and prepare a report or presentation on your experience for your Peer Group and/or for publication. Note: 'disadvantaged' may include: physical, mental, social, economic, living in an isolated area, or belonging to a minority group.
3. Take an active part in the organisation of service projects within your Peer Group, or at District, Region, State or National level of Guiding during the time you are working towards this Award. Take on the responsibility of at least one major service project.
4. Actively participate in and/or co-ordinate a major service project at a State, National or international level. Prepare a report or presentation on your experience for your Peer Group and/or for publication.
5. With your Peer Group identify a need within your Guiding Community and develop a project at either a Unit, District, Region or State Level relative to the identified need that will improve the experience of the Australian Guide Program for Guides.
6. Create your own challenge, in consultation with your Peer Group.

Section 6: Further Development

Consider your strengths and weaknesses. Create a challenge or extend on one of the above challenges to develop yourself further. This challenge should be chosen carefully, and discussed in depth with your Peer Group.