

2017 Scout of the Year Selection

Department of Washington
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

TO: VFW Posts and Districts

February 7, 2017

Attached are our three final documents that are used to select the Scout who will represent the State of Washington VFW members, posts, and districts. These documents will help in the selection of our 2017 VFW Scout of the Year. These documents are:

First, is the Judging Schedule and Recommended Ways to Reward the Scouts. The timeline for selecting Scout youth at VFW Post, District, and Department levels is time-sensitive. These young men and women have worked hard in completing the requirements of their Scout Program, School, and Community. Therefore, it is very important that we recognize the young men and women for all they've accomplished. That is why we've included ways we can show these Scouts we appreciate all their work.

Second, is a List of Documents each Scout is asked to include in their submission package. In the past, our Department received some entries that did not include all items listed on the application form. One example was when a Scout did not provide any information about the Scout Service Project. When this happens, the overall score was impacted.

Third, is the Score Sheet for each applicant. This sheet is used at each level of judging (Post, District, and Department). Please note that this score sheet is not to be sent to the next level of judging.

I would like to thank each VFW Member and their Post and District who volunteered their time and effort to be part of the VFW Scout of the Year selection process. If you have any questions, please call me at the phone number listed below.

I thank you for your participation.


Joe Leister
Department Scout Team Chair
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Department of Washington
VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship



2017 JUDGING SCHEDULE & RECOGNITION

The VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship program provides recognition to all Scout Youth who earned their program's Highest Award. These awards include the Boy Scout Eagle, Girl Scout Gold, Sea Scout Quartermaster, and Venturing Summit Award.

February Identify Post judges and discuss with them their responsibilities and provide a copy of the score sheet. There should be a minimum of three judges. The Post Scout Team member or Jr. Vice will select the judges. Then schedule the date for judging.

March 1st Deadline for completed applications to reach the Post. This application can be found at: <http://www.vfw.org/Community/Scout-of-the-Year-Scholarship/>.

March 22nd Post-level judging. All applications and results are confidential. Posts must have their winner's application (only one) to their District by March 22nd.

April 15th District-level judging is conducted. The District winner's application (only one) must reach Dept Hq in Fife, ATTN Scout Team Chair, no later than April 15th.

April 28th Department-level judging is the responsibility of the Department Scout Team, or by persons appointed by the Scout Team Chair. The winner's application must reach the National Scout Team by May 1st.

Ways to Recognize Scouts for their Accomplishments:

Awards and presentations to the winning Scouts should be made during Post and District Meetings as soon as possible after selection. There are many ways the VFW can recognize Scout of the Year winners. These include the 2nd and 3rd place winners. Below are some of the various ways winners can be recognized:

Monetary: If a Post or District decides to provide a monetary award, the amount of the awards are at the discretion of the posts and districts.

Certificates: Certificates are a great. Posts and Districts may choose a generic certificate from the VFW Store and add the words they feel appropriate. They can also design their own certificates.

Post/District Newsletters: Recognitions in newsprint are great because Scouts see VFW Posts/Districts feel their accomplishments are being noticed.

Community Newspapers: Same as above. This will be public recognition that is seen by the citizens in their communities.

Don't forget: All applicants are great scouts, even though they were not 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place winners. A Certificate showing they were nominated for Scout of the Year means a lot to them and their families.

If your Post or District has other ways to recognize Scouts for their accomplishments, please forward your ideas on to the to the Department Scout Team Chair.



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Scout-of-the-Year Scholarship Application
PHASE 2 2017 Required Documentation Checklist

(Application and supporting documents MUST be received by VFW Post NO LATER THAN March 1st)

_____ **Photograph of the Scout:** Must be in their correct, complete uniform for their current rank.
Recommended size is 3"x5".

_____ **High School Participation Record:** A single page, one side, per-topic (for each area listed below), of the candidate's high school activities:

- _____ Academic achievement
- _____ Offices held
- _____ Honors received
- _____ Any significant participation in other high school activities

_____ **Scouting Record:** *Maximum of three pages, one side only*, listing all Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies. If the candidate became involved in the Scouting program at a later age, list that level. This record should include:

- _____ Years of participation, unit numbers, and sponsors
- _____ Date candidate received Eagle, Gold, Silver, Summit, or Quartermaster Award
- _____ Identify leadership positions held at all levels.
- _____ Participation in Scouting activities. (Jamborees, Order of the Arrow, etc.)
- _____ Description of the candidate's Project for their Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award, or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award. **Add why the applicant selected this project and what impact it had on the community.

_____ **Community Service Record:** A single page, one side resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (Excluding Scouting and school) Include:

- _____ Leadership positions
- _____ Any recognitions received

_____ **Letters of Recommendation:** A maximum of five letters, each with a *maximum of two pages* will be judged. Three of the five letters must include one from the following:

- _____ School
- _____ Community
- _____ Scout Leader
- _____ Two additional letters should be from members of the local community who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities and accomplishments.



Department of Washington
 Scout of the Year Scholarship Application
 2017 VFW Department of Washington



Applicant _____ Unit Number _____

Post: District:	VFW SCOUT OF THE YEAR Judges Score Sheet	Applicant's Name
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DEPARTMENT/STATE _____ DATE OF JUDGING _____

JUDGE'S NAME & SIGNATURE _____

Instructions to Judges: Read and review all letters and data submitted by each applicant with the criteria listed below in mind. Use the input data to develop an overall presentation of the scout's personality that is consistent through all the data and letters submitted and grade each scout in each character areas. Grade each candidate using the following scoring system:

EXCEPTIONAL = 6-10 pts. AVERAGE = 4-5pts. LOW = 1-3 pts.
 Ten (10) points are the maximum for each of the sub-elements.

SECTION A: HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

- _____ Academic achievement
- _____ Extra-curricular activities
- _____ Demonstrated leadership
- _____ Significance of participation
- _____ Sub-Total (40 pts. Max.)

SECTION B: SCOUTING RECORD

- _____ Timeliness of achieving rank
- _____ Demonstrated leadership
- _____ Participation in events
- _____ Quality of Eagle, Gold, Silver Award, or Quartermaster Project
- _____ Demonstrated adherence to Scout Code
- _____ Exemplary moral/spiritual character
- _____ Sub-Total (60 pts. Max.)

SECTION C: COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD

- _____ Evidence of regular participation
- _____ Impact on the community
- _____ Demonstrated leadership
- _____ Demonstrated achievement (awards, etc.)
- _____ Sub-Total (40 pts. Max.)

SECTION D: CONTENT OF THE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- _____ Evidence of exceptional character
- _____ Evidence of leadership qualities
- _____ Willingness to accept responsibility
- _____ Evidence of self-confidence
- _____ Evidence of serving others
- _____ Evidence of respect for authority
- _____ Evidence of patriotism and respect for this nation and its symbols.
- _____ Sub-Total (70 pts. Max.)

_____ **TOTAL SCORE (210 PTS. Max.)**