

SCOUTS-L

HEROISM AWARDS

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org **Fri Feb 21 01:22:15 1997**
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From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>
To: Robert B Carswell <my-scout-net@JUNO.COM>
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Life saving
In-Reply-To: <19970215.235539.3630.0.my-scout-net@juno.com>
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Bob,

BSA recognizes Scouts who have exhibited personal bravery in saving a life or helping others through an outstanding act with a series of awards depending on the nature of the action.

The Honor Medal with Crossed Palms is given in an exceptional case to a youth member or leader who has demonstrated unusual heroism and extraordinary skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save life at extreme risk to self. Example, A Scout sees an accident with a fuel truck on fire and the driver unconscious and drags the driver to safety just before the truck explodes. His life was at extreme risk in the rescue and without his action the driver would have died. No other response could have saved the driver's life, but for the bravery of the Scout.

The Honor Medal is given to a youth member or leader who has demonstrated unusual heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save life at considerable risk to self.

The Heroism Medal is given to a youth member or leader who has demonstrated heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save life at minimum risk to self.

The Medal of Merit is given to a youth member or leader who has performed an act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an

uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

The National Certificate of Merit is awarded to a youth member or leader who has performed a significant act of service that is deserving of special national recognition.

All of the above awards are presented by the National Court of Honor.

The procedure involved is as follows:

Contact your professional staff and request a form for recommending a Scout for a Lifesaving or Meritorious Action Award.

The form requires a summary statement of the event. You should attach any photographs, newspaper clippings, and statements of any eyewitnesses.

Note: Councils are advised in the "Advancement Policies And Procedures Committee Guide" at p. 23 "It is recommended that no case be forwarded to the National Court of Honor without the endorsement or statement of an eyewitness." Further, members are not encouraged to submit an application on his or her own behalf.

This form will go to your Council's Advancement Committee or a special Awards Committee depending on how your Council is organized. This committee is responsible for investigating the matter and presenting the case to the Council Committee.

The Council Committee is charged with forwarding a recommendation to the National Court of Honor. The National Court of Honor has discretion to determine which, if any, type of recognition shall be given.

Some Councils also have local Meritorious Act Certificates given when Scouts show meritorious action not meeting the criteria for National recognition, but still noteworthy.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman
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