

## Guidelines for District Adult Awards Submissions for 2018

The following are some guidelines and suggestions to be used for the submission of applications for adult awards.

When a Scouter submits a name for recognition it is truly a compliment and high honor. This well intentioned effort can be derailed if there is not an understanding of what the intention of the award is and the complete process to obtain the award.

Our first suggestion is that the author gather all the scouting background and experience possible insuring this will be the best effort for the candidate. One should list the positions, dates, and supporting documentation for submission. If there were events where the candidate was the motivating factor, leader, chief supporter, or chief of staff, as opposed to a staff member, then the selecting officials should become aware of this fact. Most all Scouters are hard-working volunteers so selecting officials need as much discerning information as possible. Also, listing the professional experience of the candidate will gain very little as these are scouting awards and not professional recognition.

Remember that the **District Award of Merit** is a Council Award demonstrating all of the dedicated service the Scouter has performed for the **District** and needs to be focused on the **Scouting** efforts of the recipient.

As our District consists of a certain number of units we are allotted about four to five awards; that is, only four or five District Award of Merit nominations are allowed to be submitted from the Powhatan District and must be submitted by the District to Council. Smaller Districts receive fewer award allocations and larger Districts receive a greater number of award allocations. Each year the District Chairman authorizes a number of former recipients of the award to sit on the selection committee. Should Council receive more than five nominations for our District they will not be selected. They will be placed on a reserve list for possible selection at a future date. The lesson we have learned is to be in agreement as to the submission of names and coordinated through the Awards Chair. All names are to be submitted to the District Chairman for approval prior to submission to Council.

The **Silver Beaver Award** is a three category award. First, **Scouting** Experience, second, **Service to youth outside of Scouting**, and third, **Service to the Community**. All three categories must be complete with explanations of dates, titles, and especially the impact of that service. Also, there are no Silver Beaver awards based on the size of the Districts. This seems to be a popular misconception. Silver Beaver Awards are based on the content of submissions keeping in mind logical variables such as length of service and experience in **all** of the categories. It is not based on the population of District.

In most Districts there are award coordinators who ensure candidate's applications or nominations are submitted by the deadline and are as complete as possible. Also, these folks are tracking the submissions for due dates, additional information, dates of presentations, and to ensure each of the awards are presented in an environment appropriate for the award. For example, for the Award of Merit there is a prepared text by the National office to be read. The presenter does not have to develop a program as it is completed for them. The presenter should always seek the presentation information and use it at the District Court of Honor. The Silver Beaver Award is presented at the NCAC (Council) Court of Honor in the Spring.

Over the years it has been observed that the Scouter who decides to submit a name and not communicate with the awards chairman causes confusion which can easily lead to disappointment.

**SUBMISSIONS TO COUNCIL WILL BE HAND DELIVERED ON NOV. 23RD**

Thank you in advance for the submissions for these dedicated Scouters.  
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