

10. VENTURER SCOUT SECTION

10.1 Venturer Scout Section Functioning

Educational outcomes, method, membership, organisation, and leadership are set out in P&R.

10.2 Venturer Scout Leaders

10.2.1 Appointments

- a) VSLs and AVSLs are appointed on the recommendation of the District Commissioner.
- b) Females are eligible for both positions. Those appointed in Guides NSW may also be appointed in the Venturer Scout Section provided they meet the Association's normal requirements.
- c) A Venturer Unit of mixed membership shall comply with the **Error! Reference source not found.**
- d) To ensure continuity, it is most desirable that every Venturer Scout Unit should have at least one AVSL in addition to the Venturer Scout Leader and where the Unit consists of more than 20 Venturer Scouts additional AVSLs are desirable.

10.2.2 Qualifications

The special qualifications for VSL and AVSL in addition to the general qualifications are as follows:

- a) A general knowledge of "Scouting for Boys", P&R, O&I Manual and Venturer Scout Leaders Handbook.
- b) An understanding of the Personal Protection Policy and Procedures.
- c) Age for VSL, not less than 23, Age for AVSL not less than 20.

10.2.3 Functions

- a) The VSL takes charge of the Venturer Scout Unit, with the assistance of any AVSLs subject to the general supervision of the GL.
- b) The VSL will, however, delegate as far as possible to the Unit Council all internal matters of discipline and administration, including the expenditure of Venturer Scout funds and in the management of the affairs of the Venturer Scout Unit the fullest possible use must be made of the Unit Council.

10.2.4 Uniform and Badges

Male and Female Venturer Scout Leaders wear uniform and badges as approved.

10.3 The Venturer Scout Unit

A Venturer Scout Unit consists of at least 10 Venturer Scouts and, subject to approval of the members of the Unit, may comprise both girls and boys. Units below the minimum number of 10 are permitted if:

- a) The number of Venturer Scouts within a local geographical area is less than 10 and the District Commissioner considers that it is not practical for the Venturer Scouts to join a Unit in another geographical area, or
- b) The membership of a Venturer Scout Unit falls below 10 and the District Commissioner is satisfied that the membership will increase to a minimum of 10 within a reasonable period, or

- c) The circumstances within a Group or a local geographical area are such that the District Commissioner considers that the formation of a Unit with less than 10 members is warranted, provided always that it is understood the Association considers that a Venturer Scout Unit of less than 10 members is not in the best interests of the Venturer Scouts concerned.

10.4 Unit Combinations

The District Commissioner is responsible for the establishment of Venturer Scout Units within combinations in accordance with the following guidelines:

- 10.4.1 Venturer Scouts from a Scout Group with less than 10 Venturer Scouts may combine with those from another Scout Group or Groups to form a Venturer Scout Unit provided such combination is acceptable to the relative Groups and their members. In these circumstances, a Venturer Scout Unit will be attached to the Scout Group concerned, but the individual members may retain their original Group membership.
- 10.4.2 Where a District Commissioner considers that due to circumstances, it is in the best interests of the Venturer Scouts in a local geographical area, they may authorise the formation of a separate Group consisting initially of a Venturer Scout Unit only.
- 10.4.3 Venturer Scouts will be permitted to transfer from one Unit to another within a local geographical area subject to the approval of the District Commissioner.

10.5 Teams

The Venturer Scout Unit as required may be sub-divided into ad hoc groups or teams for special purposes, but these are not of a permanent nature.

10.6 Unit Council

- 10.6.1 The Unit Council is a body elected by the Venturer Scouts from its Unit membership to be responsible for the management of the affairs of the Unit. No set numbers are prescribed and its numbers and personnel may vary from time to time according to needs. Venturer Scout Leaders attend its meetings in an advisory capacity but the Chairman of the Council shall be an elected Venturer Scout.
- 10.6.2 The functions of the Unit Council include the general organisation and administration of the Unit, responsibility for the expenditure of its funds in accordance with para 10.2.3 b) of this Chapter, the program of its activities and control of the Award Scheme standards.

10.7 Venturer Scouts in Council

On special occasions as required, a meeting of the complete Unit may be held for the discussion of its affairs under the leadership of one of the Venturer Scouts as Chairman. This body does not replace the Unit Council.

10.8 Combined Meetings

- 10.8.1 Venturer Scouts in a local geographical area may meet together as desired for training or other activities, but such a combination may not be registered as a Zone or Division Unit.
- 10.8.2 Such activities will be stimulated and coordinated by the Region Leader (Venturers) or such other experienced Adult Leader as the Region Commissioner responsible for the Venturer Scout Section may appoint for the purpose.

10.9 Youth Members

10.9.1 Associate Venturer Scout

An Associate Venturer Scout is a young person who may wish to join a Unit and who remains an Associate Venturer Scout until invested, according to the following:

- a) A new or prospective Unit member may be a recruit or advancing Scout.
- b) Maximum time as an Associate Venturer Scout will be 3 months from the first meeting or activity.
- c) Once an Associate Venturer Scout is invested into the Unit, they are no longer an Associate Venturer Scout. An Associate Venturer Scout needs to :
 - Be accepted by the Unit
 - Know and understand the Scout Law and Promise
 - Participate in 3 Unit activities (at least 1 outdoors and overnight)
- d) Associate Venturer Scouts should pay participation and activity fees as nominated by the Unit Council. Association fees are not payable.
- e) Associate Venturer Scouts may wear Scout uniform if already an invested member.
- f) A sponsor for the Associate Venturer Scout must be appointed by the Unit Council to act as mentor and teacher.
- g) The minimum joining age is flexible around 14 years old, dependent on the young person's level of development.
- h) An Associate Venturer Scout may not participate in Region or State activities (refer para c) above).
- i) Paragraphs b), d), f) and h) must be included in the Unit Constitution.

10.9.2 The Venturer Scout Investiture

Young people become Venturer Scouts by investiture during which the Scout Promise is made or re-affirmed. They are then entitled to wear the Venturer Scout uniform and badges as approved.

10.9.3 Membership Qualification for Venturer Scouts

To be invested as a Venturer Scout the prospective member, unless previously a Scout who holds the Venturer Scout Link Badge, shall satisfy the following membership qualifications:

- a) Know, show an understanding of, and be prepared to accept the Scout Promise and Law.
- b) Participate in three Unit Activities or meetings at least one of which shall be outdoors.
- c) Be accepted by the Unit.

10.9.4 Subsequent Training

After Investiture as a Venturer Scout, a member of the Unit should proceed with the activities to qualify for the Queen's Scout, and Major Interest Awards.

10.9.5 Uniform and Badges

A Venturer Scout wears uniform and badges as approved.