



16 September 2010

Dear all

Gaining a Nights Away Permit

Although we have had the Nights Away Permit scheme running for quite a few years now there appears to be some confusion as to How to apply for a permit. Therefore, to clarify matters and hopefully ensure that a Leader wanting to gain their own permit does not get disappointed please note the following:

To gain a permit you must show competence in 8 different areas of camping skills.

It is not necessary to attend a formal training course if you already have the necessary skills. However, training courses are available (Module 38 of the adult training scheme, which is not part of the Wood Badge requirements) and it is definitely a good idea to take part in one. If you have a Nights Away Permit you do not need to do Module 16 for your Wood Badge.

Once you feel you have the necessary experience and can validate it, contact me with a Nights Away Permit application form fully filled in. I will then discuss with you the way forward. This will include allocating a Nights Away Advisor to arrange your assessment. This quite obviously needs to be done quite in advance. The assessment takes the form of three meetings.

- The first meeting is during the planning of the event
- The second is during the event (camp or nights away experience)
- The third is after the event when all the admin has been finished

Once an assessment has been completed the paperwork goes to the District Commissioner who makes the decision to give a permit, upon the advice of the Nights Away Advisor.

If you have any questions about Nights Away, please contact me.

Yours in scouting

Iain McIntyre
Assistant District Commissioner (Youth Programme and Events)

Chester and District Scout Council

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