



Award for Outstanding Service The Strawberry Brooch

Purpose

The County Strawberry Brooch will be awarded to recognise and acknowledge the outstanding contribution and commitment that any member who has reached their 18th birthday and over has made to the promotion and enhancement of Guiding within Hampshire East. This contribution will be beyond that which is normally expected of any member holding that role or appointment.

These procedures have been agreed to ensure that the awarding of the County Outstanding Service Brooch is fair and equitable.

Criteria

1. Applications must be made without the knowledge of the nominee and supported by a minimum of 3 letters of recommendation.
2. The award may be made to any member over the age of eighteen involved in Guiding irrespective of the appointment they hold.
3. The nominee will be involved in events and activities within the County on a wider scale in addition to that expected of their main appointment within Guiding. This can be at Division or County level and may take the form of an additional appointment although this is not a requirement of the Award.
4. Nominations may be made by any member of Girlguiding, the Trefoil Guild and associated organisations but must be supported by the appropriate Division Commissioner or Chairman of the Awards Sub-Committee.
5. The Award is a metal brooch in the form of a strawberry and coloured in red and gold. The brooch may be worn in or out of guide wear.
6. The Award should not be considered as recognition of long service or as a 'retirement' gift.
7. Applications will not normally be considered more than six months after completion of service is undertaken in Guiding.

Procedures

How to Apply:

1. Completed applications should be returned to the Chairman of the Awards Committee, together with original copies of letters of support to arrive no later than 1 November or 1 June to be considered at the Award Sub-Committee meetings to be held later in each month.
2. Letters of support should be:
 - a. Specific and from a wide a range of people as possible covering the range of roles/responsibilities/activities undertaken by the nominee.
 - b. Between 3-8 in number.
 - c. Signed and dated and include the writer's appointment or status.
 - d. Whenever possible typewritten.
 - e. Letters sent by email are acceptable.
3. Please mark envelopes 'Confidential'. Letters will be treated with strictest confidence.

Before the Awards Sub-Committee

The Chairman will

1. Request details of appointments of the nominees from the County Membership Support Co-ordinator.
2. Circulate copies of the letters of support to the other Committee members before the meeting.

After the Awards Sub-Committee

1. Following consideration of the Award application, the Chairman will inform the appropriate Division Commissioner of the decision of the Sub-Committee.
2. The Sub-Committee's decision will be final. However:
 - a. On the advice of the Sub-Committee, an application can be resubmitted.
 - b. A brand new application may be submitted for a nominee after a period of two years.
3. The Award will be presented, whenever possible, by the County Commissioner or her nominated representative on a suitable occasion. The Division Commissioner should liaise with the County Commissioner on the arrangements for the presentation.