

# CUB SCOUT SHOOTING SPORTS AWARD FAQs

## GENERAL

### **When does this award go into effect?**

The award is available now. Scout shops should have received the patches and device pins in February 2016. The requirements are posted on [www.scouting.org/programupdates](http://www.scouting.org/programupdates). The *Cub Scout Shooting Sports Guide* supporting the award was made available in late spring.

### **Can I choose any discipline to start, or do I always need to start with BB guns?**

The award can be earned in any order. The only restriction is that Level 1 requirements must be completed first, followed by the Level 2 requirements in the same discipline.

### **Why is there a separate award for shooting sports? Shouldn't it be an adventure?**

Because of the requirements for trained supervision and authorized events, and to comply with local laws, the decision was made to make it a "standalone" award, and as such, not part of the adventure program.

### **This seems complicated. Why are there multiple levels?**

Level 1 requirements generally provide an introduction to the discipline with an emphasis on safety and fundamentals within that discipline. The Level 2 requirements provide a framework to improve on skills and to learn more about the discipline.

### **Can this award serve as an "elective" in counting toward the seven adventures needed for rank?**

No.

### **Our range uses different commands than the ones included in the *Cub Scout Shooting Sports Guide*. Which ones are correct?**

Use the commands in use at your range. The *Cub Scout Shooting Sports Guide* provides some samples, but the actual commands at your range should be used to avoid confusion and promote safety at all times.



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## Are there any equipment specifications involved?

Equipment is described in the [Guide to Safe Scouting, No. 34416](#), and in the [BSA Shooting Sports Manual, No. 430-938](#).

## Why aren't there specific scoring totals in the awards? The requirements just say "improve your score"?

Like everything in the Cub Scout program, we embrace the Cub Scout motto, "Do Your Best!" The Cub Scout Shooting Sports Awards are designed so that all Cub Scouts who show skill improvement can earn them—keeping the motto in mind at all times.

## Can any generic targets be used, or do I need to use specific targets?

The BB gun requirements call out specific targets for use in the program. These can be found in the *Cub Scout Shooting Sports Guide* and are designed to be reproduced locally as needed. Archery and slingshot requirements do not call for any specific targets.

## Our council/district doesn't use BBs. Can the award be earned for airsoft or other non-BB shooting sports?

Sorry, only BB guns are authorized for this program. The airsoft guns are not authorized for this program. Other air guns also do not apply for this award.

## Can these awards be earned on any pack campout?

No. All of the BSA's rules related to Cub Scout shooting sports still apply. The shooting sports awards may ONLY be earned at a district or council event, similar to day camp, resident camp, and Cub Fun Day. Qualified leadership must also be present at the event. Packs that have qualified leadership are not authorized to shoot at pack events. For official rules, please consult the [Guide to Safe Scouting, No. 34416](#), and the [BSA Shooting Sports Manual, No. 430-938](#).



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## EARNING THE AWARD

### **How is the award earned?**

**RANK LEVEL PATCH:** Choose a discipline (BB gun, archery, or slingshot) and complete the Level 1 requirements for that discipline in the rank year you are working on. For day camp or resident camp, that will usually be the rank you are working on in the fall. The rank patch is earned only once per program (rank) year, even if a boy chooses to engage in multiple disciplines. If a boy does complete multiple disciplines during a rank year, it is signified by adding pins to the rank patch.

**DISCIPLINE DEVICE (PIN):** Complete the Level 2 requirements for the same discipline that the patch was earned. The pin must be earned in the same program year the patch was earned.

Additional **DISCIPLINE DEVICES** are earned by completing the Level 1 and Level 2 requirements in that discipline during the rank year.

Level 1 and Level 2 requirements must be completed for each successive discipline during each rank year.

### **How many times is the patch awarded each year?**

The patch is awarded only once per rank year. Here's an example:

A new Tiger completes the Level 1 requirements for BB guns and earns the Tiger rank patch at a day camp in his district. He then attends another day camp and completes the Level 2 requirements to earn the BB pin to attach to his patch.

Later that year, his district holds a Cub Scout shooting sports day at the local park. This time he completes both Level 1 and Level 2 for archery. He earns the archery pin, which he wears on his Tiger rank patch.

### **How do I obtain these awards? Is there a form I have to show our Scout shop?**

A Cub Scout shooting sports tracking card is under development. A Scout, or his den/pack leadership, will use that card to verify his completion of a discipline's levels. The card must be initialed by the qualified leadership of the range (see definition of qualified leadership below). When card development is finished, it will be available in Scouts shops soon thereafter.

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## **Is an advancement report required to obtain the awards?**

The Cub Scout shooting sports tracking card (initialed by qualified range leadership) is needed to obtain the awards. The card must be shown to Scout shop personnel prior to purchase. The card may be shown by pack leadership to purchase the awards on behalf of the Scout, or the Scout and his parent/guardian may show the card to purchase the awards directly. If there are local processes developed to track completion of the requirements, your local Scout shop may instead choose to follow those processes.

## **What is the cost of the awards?**

The patches will retail for \$2.49, and the pins will be \$.89 each.

## **If a boy starts the award in one rank year, can he finish it in another rank year?**

The awards are earned during a program (rank) year. All requirements must be accomplished during that year. If the requirement is the same the next year, it must be completed again during that year. This ensures an ongoing annual review of basic skills and safety precautions.

## **Some of the requirements don't change from Tiger to Wolf, or Wolf to Bear. Can we count the completion during the earlier year again in the later year?**

No, even though some of the requirements are the same in successive years, they still must be completed EACH year, according to rank. This allows a Cub Scout the opportunity to improve his skills with further practice.

## **Do I need to earn all three or can I just earn one or two?**

The only restriction is that the Level 1 requirements must be completed before the Level 2 requirements are completed. Participation in the program is entirely voluntary.

## **Where are the pins placed on the patch?**

There are three stars in the body of the patch that could correspond to the 3 discipline pins (devices).



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**I don't see this award mentioned in any of the handbooks or den leader guides. Where can I find out more information?**

This award was developed after the adventure program was developed. The resource for this program will be the *Cub Scout Shooting Sports Guide*, which was released in the spring of 2016. Future updates of Cub Scout and leader materials will reflect this addition.

**What if I don't earn a pin for each of the disciplines during the year of my rank?**

There is no requirement to earn any of these awards. It is a supplement to the Cub Scout program. The award requirements are such that it probably will not be possible to accomplish more than one discipline at a normal day camp or resident camp session. Districts or councils may elect to provide additional opportunities for Cub Scouts to complete more disciplines of the program, such as special shooting events or other program features.

**Where does this award go on the uniform?**

The award is considered a temporary patch, so it is worn on the right pocket. The discipline pins are worn on the rank patch of the rank year they were earned. So when a Wolf moves into his Bear year, he re-earns the discipline pins. Only one discipline pin of each type is worn on the rank patch for that year, for a maximum of three. There is NO adult recognition for this award; the patches and pins should not be worn by adults.

## **THE REQUIREMENTS**

**What does "qualified leadership" for these events mean?**

Qualified leadership for any Cub Scout shooting activity is defined as follows (from the *BSA Shooting Sports Manual*): *Operation of BB and archery ranges for Cub Scout activities and events, including Cub Scout day camp, Cub Scout or Webelos resident camp, mom and me, dad-n-lad, parent and pal, and council-operated family camping programs require qualified, trained range masters. Cub Scout BB and archery range master training is administered by the council's shooting sports committee and is conducted by a BSA shooting sports director or a National Rifle Association currently certified rifle instructor and a USA Archery/NFAA instructor for archery. This certification is valid for two years. A currently certified NRA rifle instructor is qualified to serve as a BB range master. A currently certified USA Archery/ NFAA basic archery instructor or National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) basic archery instructor may serve as the archery range master for Cub Scout archery activities. BSA registration is required.*

