

VFW Department of Washington Scouting Program

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Washington is no longer supporting the National Veterans of Foreign Wars Scout of the Year program. In 2022 the National program ended the awarding of financial scholarships in this program. Because of this the State is no longer supporting this program that provides no financial award to an individual.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Scout Team Chairman

Doug Hoople

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The Washington State Scout of the Year award program:

Initiated in 2022, this new program will recognize any youth in any Scouting Program. There is no rank or age requirement. We are looking for registered Scouting adults to submit their outstanding Scout for recognition at the State level.

How to Submit:

Scouting adults should submit a Nomination Form to their Local Post by February 1, One Post winner for each scouting program must be to District Chairmen by March 1, and one District winner to the Department Chairman by April 1. The form should provide the background information on the Scout's accomplishments leading to this recognition recommendation. Note: This is a new program, established because of the change at the National VFW level. The 1st Place winner receives \$500, 2nd Place \$300 and 3rd Place \$200. Nomination Form is available at vfwva.org/programs/scouting_program.

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POST – DISTRICT PROGRAM PLANNING TIMELINE

AUGUST

Posts need to identify 1 of their members to be responsible for overseeing Scouting. It would be a benefit if that member has knowledge of the Scouting Programs and how to reach scout units. Identify Scout Units within the Post's area, obtain/update contact information for the leaders of each unit, and contact BSA District's Key 3. Identify the date, time, and location for the Scouts monthly District Roundtables (Scout Leader meetings) and similar activities for Girl Scouts.

SEPTEMBER/ OCTOBER

Distribute Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen scholarship information as you establish your relationships with Scout leaders and groups. This will help to strengthen the VFW Youth Scholarship programs and increase our involvement with the Scouting youth in your area.

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER

Distribute SOY contest information to scout leaders personally at the monthly District Roundtable meetings, to the BSA District's Key 3, and the BSA Eagle Scout Board of Review chairman and similar activities for Girl Scouts. The information to be distributed includes program history, the nomination form, and the deadline of February 1st for the recommendation letters to reach the Post.

JANUARY

Repeat distribution of information on program. Remind Scout Units that SOY applications must be turned in no later than February 1st.

FEBRUARY

Identify Post judges (3 to 5 Judges) and discuss with them their responsibilities. The Post Scout Team member or Jr. Vice will select the judges and schedule the date for judging. Posts select one winner for each scouting program to forward to District.

MARCH

Post winners for WA State SOY to District by March 1st.

District level judging on Post winners to be conducted and 1 winning entry for each scouting program sent to the Department Commander no later than April 1st.

APRIL

Department level judging on District winners will be conducted.

MAY

Scout Community Service Report data is used to determine Scout Team Post of the Year.