

# Gilberdyke Scout Group

## Welcome Pack

Revised June 2010



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## Welcome

Your child has expressed a wish to join us at the Gilberdyke Scout Group. This information pack will provide you with basic information regarding Scouting and the Group. There are a number of forms at the end of this pack that we would appreciate you filling in and returning to us. The purpose and reason for these forms is explained within the pack.

## Scouting

The Scout Movement is a global co-educational youth organisation, the largest in the world, with over 28 million Members in 216 countries and territories.

In the UK Scouting is organised through The Scout Association and which has a clear purpose:

To help young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as Members of their local, national and international communities.

The Scout Association offers everyday (and some more unusual!) adventure and activity to almost 400,000 young people across the UK.

Scouting is open to all young people aged 6 to 25 of every faith and background as long as they are prepared to make the promise. A number of variations of the promise are available to cover a range of faiths and nationalities.

There are also plenty of opportunities for adults to become involved as Leaders, Assistants, and Administrators and as Group Supporters. If you would like to be involved with our Scout Group then please contact one of the Groups Leaders.

As a member of our Group we hope and will endeavour to ensure that your child can help to make the world a better place. Scouting makes a positive contribution to society by helping young people to develop as active members of the community who:

- Are self reliant,
- Are caring,
- Are responsible,
- Show commitment.

However most importantly this continual personal development works best when the young people are working in partnership with adults. They do this by:

- Taking part in a variety of activities and new experiences,
- Exploring the outdoors,
- Participating in teams,
- Taking responsibility,
- Taking part in the Progressive Training Programme

The Programme is a continuous progression of training, activities and awards that covers everything that young people do in Scouting from the age of **6 to 25**.



Whilst the activities they take part in will depend on their age, each Section gives young people the opportunity to learn by doing. The main programme areas are:

- Outdoor and Adventure
- Global
- Community
- Fit for Life
- Creative and Beliefs
- And Attitudes

Leaders are trained to deliver this programme, ensuring our young people stay safe while they enjoy themselves and learn.

## The Group and Sections

The Group currently consists of 3 sections and meets weekly during term time .

- **Beavers** 6 to 8 years old meet Tuesday between 5.30pm & 6.30pm
- **Cubs** 8 to 10 ½ years old, meet Thursday between 6.30pm & 8:00pm
- **Scouts** 10 ½ to 14 years old, meet Monday between 7:00pm & 9:00pm

With all sections there is some flexibility in age ranges.

The Group feeds into a District Explorer Scout Unit, however group members that progress to the District Explorer Unit are more than welcome back at the Group as "Young Leaders" with any of the sections.

The Group can always benefit from assistance either as a Leader, helper or a member of the Group's Executive or even as occasional specialist skills instructor, passing on skills or hobbies. If you would like to help, in any capacity, please contact us.

## The Promise

To become a member of the Scout Association and our group your child will be asked to make a promise at an investiture ceremony. This would normally be undertaken on a regular meeting evening, however it can be carried out at any event. We would always try and make this a very special event for your child, however it is your child's investiture and would only be carried out when they were ready. Investitures may be delayed so that they could be carried out at a special event e.g. at camp. You, of course, would be more than welcome and we encourage you to attend this ceremony.

The promise that they make will be dependent on the section that they are joining. The general promise for each section is attached; the promise can, however, be altered in a number of ways to take into account religious beliefs; nationality and / or special needs.



In the promise your child will undertake to either "love God" or to do their "duty to God" (or their choice of deity). Whilst we are not attached to any particular religious body the Group does attend St Stephens Church in Newport for church parades periodically, and we ask for your support in ensuring your child attends when requested.

The section Leader can generally answer any questions that you or your child may have with regard to the promise.

## Uniform

Details of uniform for each section, and the location of badges are attached.

For weekly group meetings we would normally expect your child to attend in uniform. However, for specific activities full or suitable uniform activity-wear may be more suitable. Guidance on the expected uniform for each activity would be provided with details of the proposed event or activity.

Minimum uniform requirements are detailed below, although there are other items of uniform you may wish to buy for your child. We expect smart trousers to be worn with this uniform.

- **Beavers** Turquoise sweatshirt and Group neckerchief
- **Cub Scouts** Dark green sweatshirt and Group neckerchief
- **Scouts** Teal green smart shirt, Scout belt and Group neckerchief

The Scout Association produce dark blue uniform "activity" trousers. Navy blue coloured Regatta walking trousers are the same. For events where full uniform is required these activity / walking trousers or dark grey / black "school" type trousers / skirt would be more than adequate. For Scouts, full uniform also includes a brown leather Scout belt.

The Group neckerchief is purple trimmed with gold. These are available from the Group.

## Badge Work

Members of all ages work towards attaining awards both in their chosen activities, and are awarded badges. From Circus Skills and Street Sports to Imagination and Public Relations, there is a wide range of choice of Activity Badges for all Sections. Hobbies that your child has can also be used to help both "activity badges" and progressive training awards.

These are generally awarded for trying new activities and doing their best at them for the younger sections whilst Scouts do have some badges that specific standards have to be met. Generally the effort needed to obtain the badge or the standard required increases as your child progresses through the sections. In addition though, there are six staged Activity Badges these have been designed to provide a unified approach throughout the Sections.

These staged Activity Badges are:

- Emergency Aid
- Information Technology
- Musician
- Swimmer
- Nights Away
- Hikes Away



All of the Staged Activity Badges have 5 stages, with the exception of the last two. Nights Away has 12 and Hikes Away has 6 stages. This means that a young person can gain whichever badge is appropriate to the level they have reached. It is possible, for example, for a Beaver Scout who is an excellent swimmer to gain a higher-level badge than a Scout who has just taken up the activity.

There are "Joining In" awards which are presented with the numbering indicating how many years the Member has regularly attended and participated in the balanced programme across the whole Scout Movement. Only the highest numbered badge is worn.

Each section has a number of Challenge Badges; these can either be done individually or in groups. On completion of a number of these your child can earn the relevant Chief Scouts Award, the highest award earned worn on their uniform.

- Beaver Scouts            - Bronze Chief Scouts Award
- Cub Scouts                - Silver Chief Scouts Award
- Scouts                      - Gold Chief Scouts Award

When your child is ready to move onto the next section there are moving on awards for each section.

Occasionally your child may be asked to undertake things at home to go towards badge-work or challenges being undertaken.

## Subscriptions

At the current time Subscriptions are £3.00 per week for Scouts and Cubs and £2.00 per week for Beavers. Missed weeks are still payable with a 50% discount.

The Subscriptions help to cover the cost running the group as well as things like badges and materials for activities carried out. Some other activities such as camps, may incur extra costs.

In addition from the subscription, during January we have to fulfil the Scout Associations census and pay Capitation for each member of the Group.

If at any point paying for either subscriptions, or for activities becomes an issue please speak to one of the Group's Leadership team.

We can claim the income tax paid on all the monies that are paid to us. This includes money paid for subscriptions, capitation and activity costs. This means that for every £1 paid to the Group we can claim 28p back from the Inland Revenue. This would allow us to claim £26.88 per child per year on subscriptions alone. In addition to being an easy fund raising method, it means that we can keep costs of activities as low as possible. To enable us to do this there is a "**Gift Aid Declaration**" form attached.

## Trips and Activities

In order to supplement the weekly meetings and to ensure that everyone has the best opportunities. There are very few activities that members of The Scout Association are actually banned from doing. Consequently if it is possible, to do something, and there is a large enough request to do something we will try to organise it.

However, when organising trips or activities we often have to impose a cut off date for responses. This is generally due to purchasing tickets, completing all of the necessary risk assessments and making other arrangements.



These cut off dates will be strictly adhered to. Consequently if subsequent to your child being accepted on a trip or activity, if they are unable to attend please let us know as soon as possible.

Another cut off reason may be a number of people taking part and whilst we make every effort to allow all of the people who want to participate in an activity it is occasionally not possible.

## **Child Protection and Health & Safety**

The Scout Association's policies, rules, code of behaviour, advice on Child Protection and safety policy are there to ensure our young people stay safe whilst the Programme of activities that we provide is fun, exciting and challenging. Most importantly we must also make sure that all activities undertaken are safe.

It is the policy of The Scout Association (and therefore of the Group) to safeguard the welfare of all Members by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

The Scout Association is committed to:

- Taking into account in all its considerations and activities the interests and well-being of young people;
- Respecting the rights, wishes and feelings of the young people with whom it is working;
- Taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and
- Promoting the welfare of young people and their protection within a relationship of trust.

All adults aged eighteen or over, no matter what their role or involvement within Scouting, are responsible for putting this policy into practice at all times.

All Leaders and regular helpers have been subjected to, and passed, an enhanced Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) disclosure. In addition all leaders have passed a basic first aid qualification.

However, accidents occasionally can happen, consequently in order to comply with The Scout Association's own health and safety policy's we require certain information regarding emergency contacts (next of kin, emergency contact numbers etc.). If this information changes e.g. change of address or phone number please let us know. A general information contact form is attached. During certain activities and trips this contact information, including parent or guardian contact information, will be provided to a third party who will not be related to anyone on the activity or trip. This will be the events nominated "home contact". If it is necessary to contact you during the event it is likely to be this person who will contact you.

Further information and consent forms may be required for specific activities.

The Group can cope with members that have special needs, however we do need to know of any special requirements, allergies etc that your child may have.

All information provided is kept in complete confidence. It is normal for us to ask for a new form to be filled in when your child moves sections to ensure that we have up to date information. The only people outside of the Group to have access to any of this information would be a nominated "home contacts" during trips or activities.

## Photographs / Video Footage

The various sections regularly take part in a wide range of activities, organised at a Group, District or County level. Many of these involve challenging activities, which the youngsters involved often like evidence to prove that they have taken part.

In addition, images of the youngsters enjoying themselves can be extremely useful for publicity purposes, internally (e.g. for use on the Group newsletter), externally (sent to local newspapers, 'Scouting Magazine' (which is provided to Leaders in Scouting) etc.), and on display boards etc. Photographs and video footage of the youngsters in the activities may also be used as a training aid (both adult and youngsters) or as validation of adult training.

At Group events it is relatively easy for the Leaders in charge to take suitable and agreeable photographs of the children involved. At larger events such as District or County events, it is not necessarily possible for the Leader to dictate what photographs might be taken or the specific end use of the photographs. However as the photographs would be taken as part of a Scouting event they would need to comply with The Scout Association's Child Protection Policy, as would photographs or video images taken during Group events.

Please ask if you have any questions concerning this. If we wish to use photos for any other purposes we will seek your permission. There is a form at the rear of pack, please fill it in as appropriate, sign to say that you accept it and return.

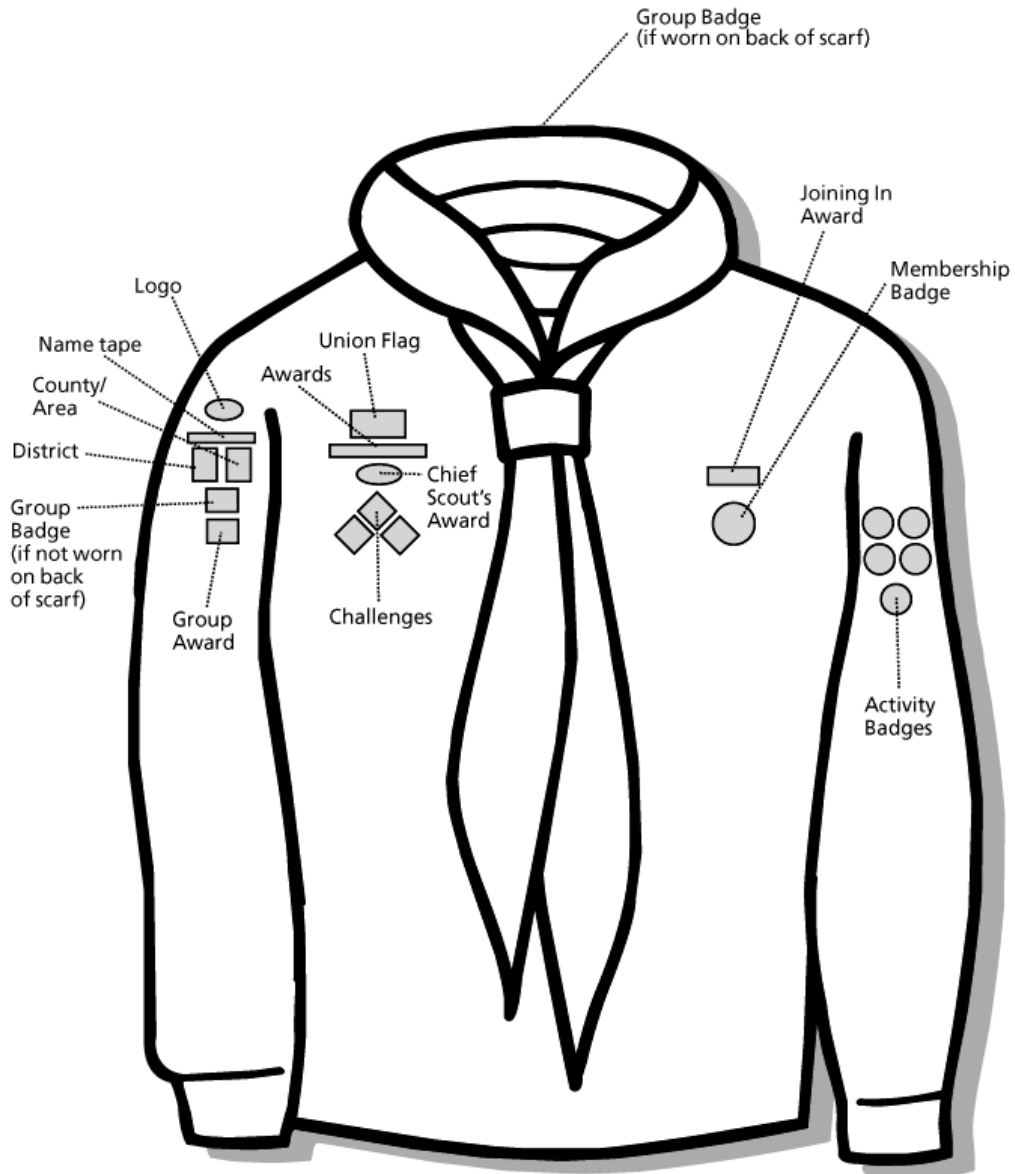
## Further Information

Further details regarding the uniform, badge requirements and other sectional information can be found on the Internet at ScoutBaseUK, the web address is provided with contact details for each section at the rear of this pack.

## Group Contacts

Please see our website for the most up to date contacts list ([www.gilberdyke.net/scouts](http://www.gilberdyke.net/scouts)).

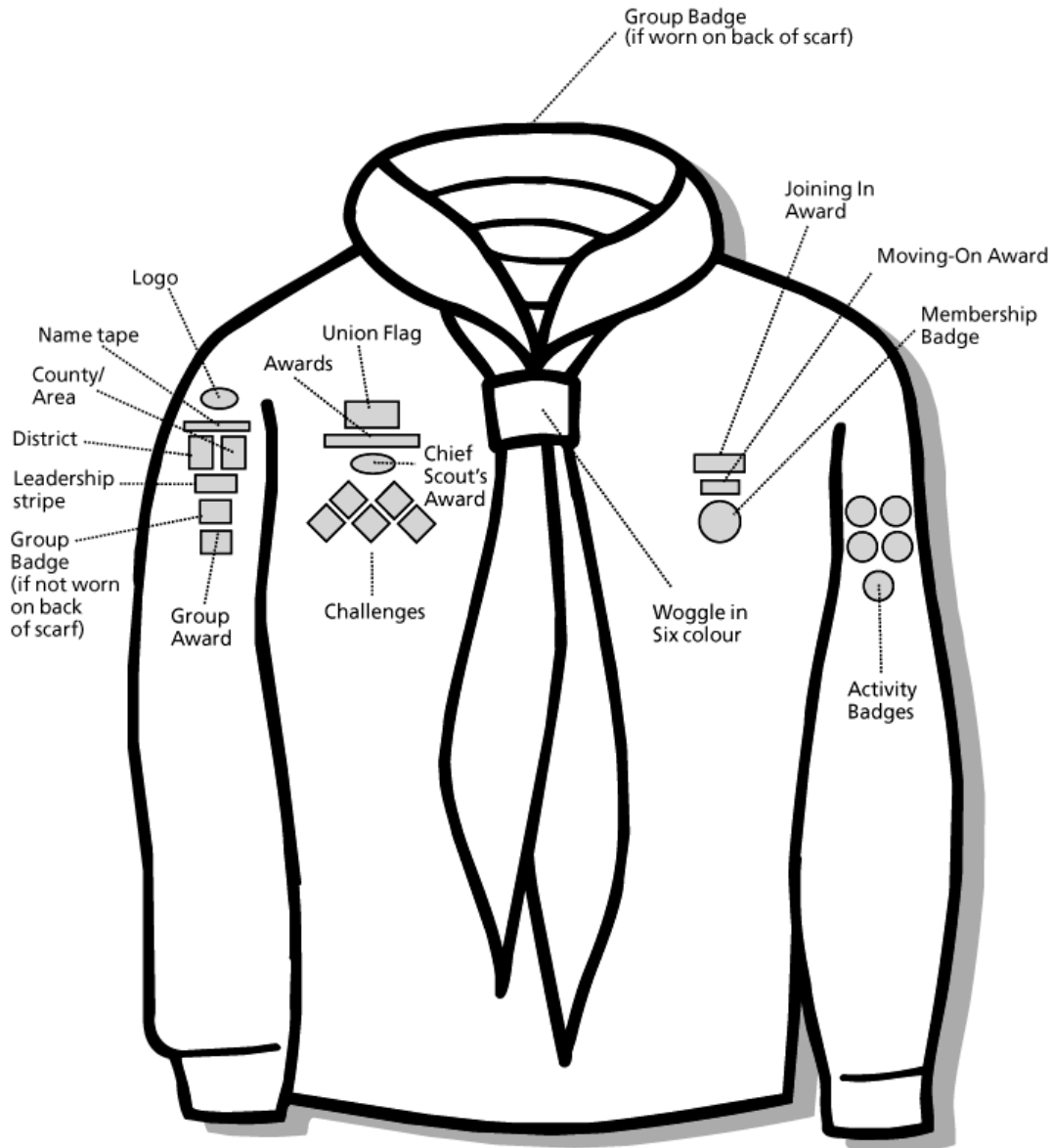
## Beaver Scouts Uniform and Promise



### The Beaver Scout Promise

I promise to do my best  
To be kind and helpful  
And to love God.

## Cub Scouts Uniform, Promise and Law



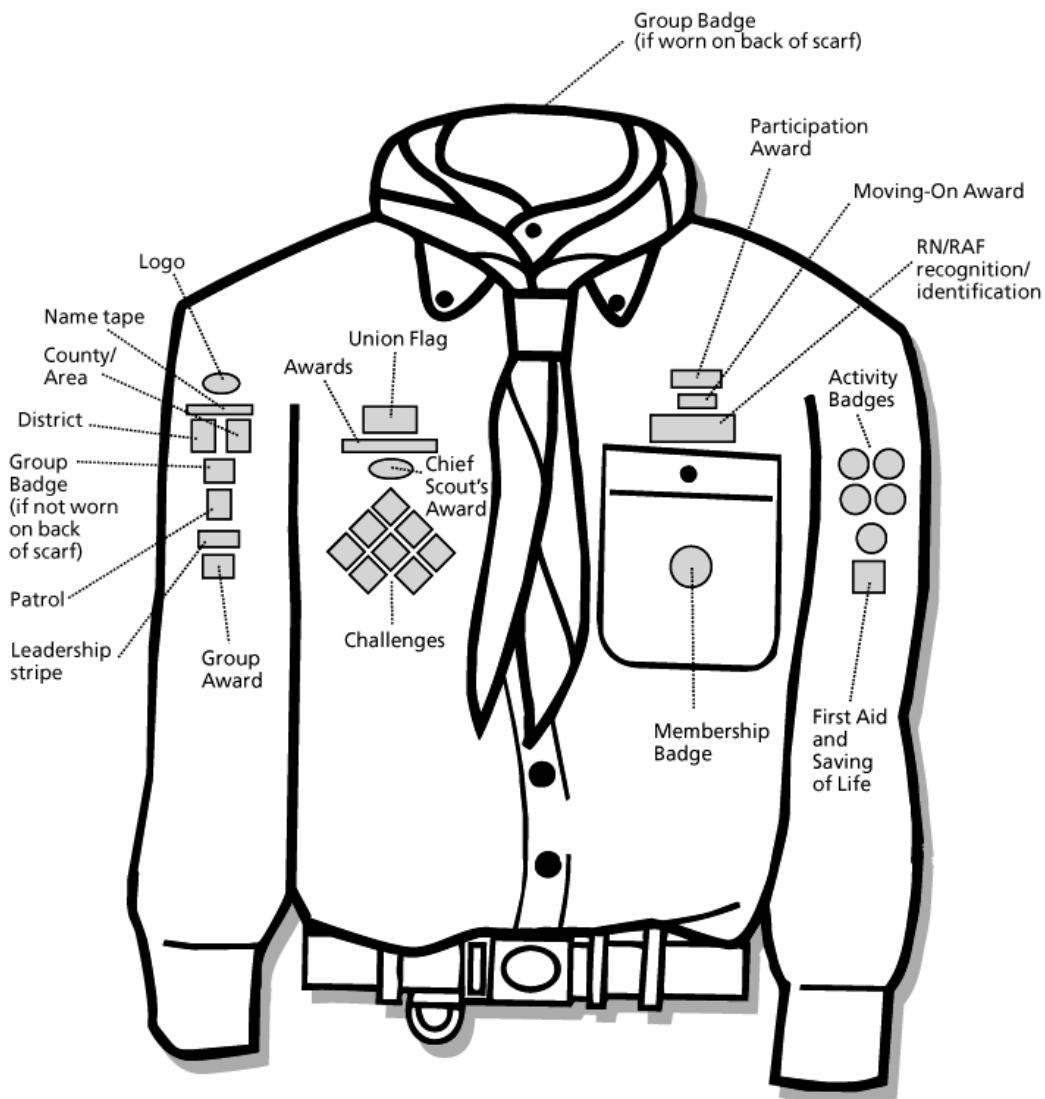
### The Cub Scout Promise

I promise that I will do my best  
 To do my duty to God and to the Queen,  
 To help other people  
 And to keep the Cub Scout Law

### The Cub Scout Law

Cub Scouts always do their best  
 Think of others before themselves  
 And do a good turn every day.

## Scouts Uniform, Promise and Law



**The Scout Promise** On my honour, I promise that I will do my best,  
 To do my duty to God and to The Queen,  
 To help other people,  
 And to keep the Scout Law

**The Scout  
Law**

- 1) A Scout is to be trusted.
- 2) A Scout is loyal.
- 3) A Scout is friendly and considerate.
- 4) A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts.
- 5) A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
- 6) A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
- 7) A Scout has self-respect and respect for others.

## Gift Aid Declaration Form

Childs Name: .....

Date of Birth:.....

Details of Donor

Title:.....Forename:.....

Surname:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....Postcode.....

Declaration by Donor:

I would like the charity Gilberdyke St Stephens Scout Group to treat all subscriptions and / or donations that I have made since 6th April 2000, and all subscriptions and / or donations that I make subsequent to this declaration, until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid Donations.

Signature:

Date:

Name (Printed)

### Notes:

- 1) If your declaration covers future donations and or subscriptions that you intend to make in the future:
  - Please notify the charity (the Group) if you change your name or address whilst the declaration is still in force.
  - You can cancel this declaration at any point by notifying the charity.
- 2) You must pay an amount of income tax and or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 given). If requested we can tell you how much this is likely to be.
- 3) If in the future your circumstances change (see note 1), you no longer pay the sufficient required tax as reclaimed by the charity (see note 2) you can cancel your declaration at any time (see note 1).
- 4) If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self - Assessment tax return.
- 5) If you pay by cheque, please ensure that the person who signs the cheque is the person that signs this form.



## General and Emergency Contact Information Form

### Member

Name:

Address:

Any special needs (physical, medical or educational):

Any allergies (nuts, plasters etc) or other medical condition that we need to be aware of:

Any medication that may be required during a Scouting Activity (asthma inhaler, epi-pen etc)

If my child requires the above they know how to administer it: YES / NO

They are likely to be able to self administer: YES / NO

### Emergency Contact

Name:

Relationship to the member:

Address:

Telephone number:

Mobile number:

Email address

I give permission for my email address to be used to send me Group information etc.

Doctors name:

Doctor's address:

Doctor's telephone number:



## Photographic & Video Footage Permission Form

I acknowledge that during the course of Scouting events (weekly meetings, days out, camps, etc) photographs and / or video footage may be taken, and could be used for any of the purposes outlined below.

I also acknowledge that on larger events photographs and / or video footage may be taken that the Group's Leaders have no control over.

I understand that all photographs and / or video footage taken by or on behalf of Scouting events will comply with The Scout Associations Child Protection Policy. However, the Group has no control over the photographs and / or video footage taken by Third Parties and their proposed end use for the photographs and / or video footage.

Use	I give my permission	I withhold my permission
To be provided to you after events		
Recruitment of Members or Leaders		
As a training aid and validation of Leader training		
Internal publicity (Group Newsletter, promotion of future events to members of the Group etc.)		
External publicity (submission to Local newspapers, 'Scouting Magazine' etc)		
To be shown at Group events / on the Groups notice boards in the Community Centre		

Signature:

Date:

Name (Printed)

