

Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme



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Introduction

This factsheet provides a general overview to the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme. It should be read in conjunction with the factsheet FS120084 Scout Led Activities Index, and Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association. More detailed information for Applicants, Approved Assessors, responsible Commissioners, and for each activity, can be found in separate factsheets.

The Permit Scheme

The Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme is designed to show that all those leading adventurous activities for young people within Scouting have the skills, experience and personal suitability to do so. It is designed so that it can be tailored to be as flexible as possible, while at the

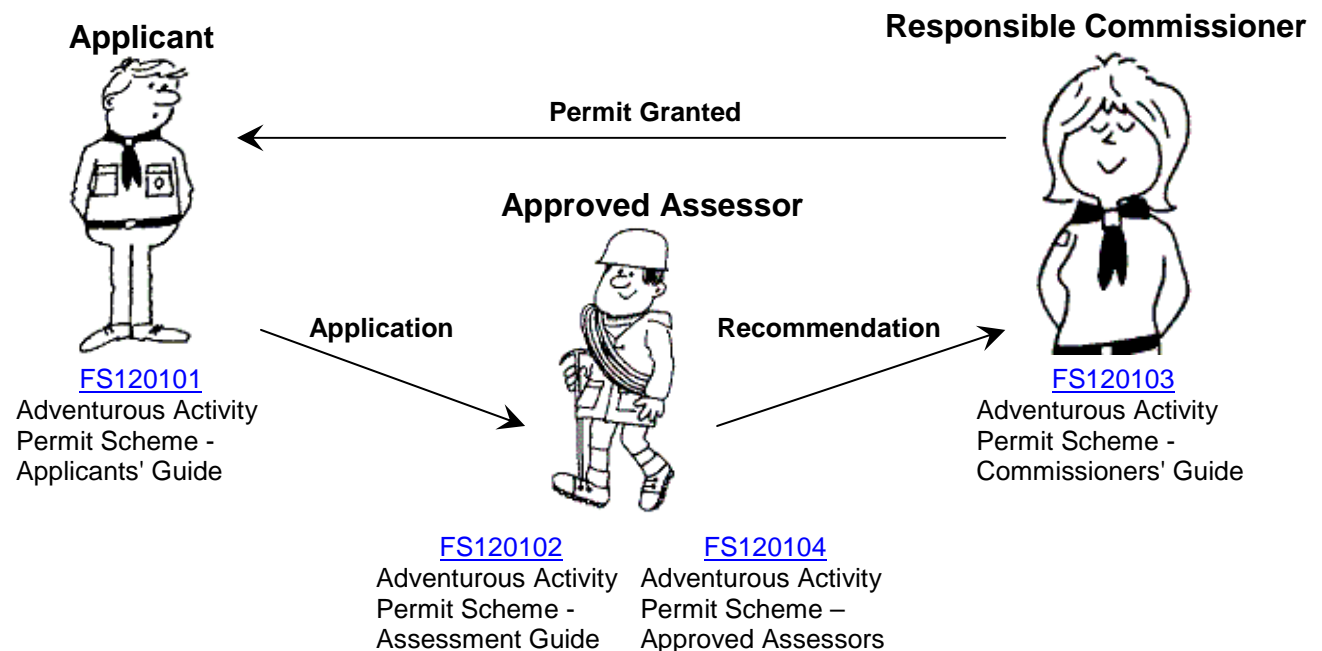
same time providing a robust checking process for leaders in adventurous activities. The permit should be seen as an enabling device to show a person's competence and provide reassurance to parents of the young people.

What Is The Permit Scheme?

Everyone who leads an adventurous activity for young people within Scouting is required to hold an activity permit for that activity. (Different Rules apply when using external providers.) Details of which activities are classed as adventurous can be found in POR.

Although managed locally, the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme is a national scheme, so once gained, a permit will allow you to run that activity in any District or County.

How The Scheme Works



The Scout Information Centre

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The person who grants a permit is your responsible Commissioner. This will be your District Commissioner if you have a Group or District appointment, and your County Commissioner if you have a County appointment.

A responsible Commissioner can only grant a permit on the recommendation of an Approved Assessor (see FS120104 Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme – Approved Assessors). To fulfil this role Counties may appoint County Assessors for each adventurous activity, or it is possible to use a suitably qualified External Assessor. The Approved Assessor will provide the responsible Commissioner with a recommendation based on either a practical assessment based on the relevant Assessment Checklist (in most cases), or through looking at the qualifications, logged experience and past permits of an Applicant.

A permit is time limited up to a maximum of five years at which point it expires. If you wish to continue leading the activity for young people you will need to apply for a new permit. However if the new permit is to exactly the same level as the old permit and you have been active within your activity, there may be no need for a practical assessment. That decision is up to the Approved Assessor.

There is no prerequisite training required to gain any permit, so as long as you can show that you are to the required level of technical competence and experience, it does not matter how you reached that level. However many people will have either undertaken training accredited by National Governing Bodies, be regular participants, or have obtained experience through a club. Experience gained as a young person is also valid. There are also no age limitations to gaining a permit, so as long as the Applicant has the skills and experience required, it is quite feasible for a young person to gain a permit.

Types Of Permits

There are three levels of permit available:

- 1 **Personal** – These permits allow under 18s to take part in adventurous activities without the need for someone with a leadership or supervisory permit to be present. They can participate with others with personal permits, but can not participate with or lead anyone without a permit.
- 2 **Leadership** – These permits allow you to lead an activity for a group of young people. You need to remain with the group throughout the activity.
- 3 **Supervisory** – These permits allow you to remotely supervise a number of groups taking part in the activity.

Further details of how these permits work for each activity can be found in the factsheet for the specific activity.

What Is Assessed?

There are four areas assessed to gain a permit:

- 1 **Technical Competence** – This is assessed by the Approved Assessor and looks at the specific technical skills required to run the activity. It is usually assessed through a practical assessment.
- 2 **Scout Association Rules** – This can be assessed by either a County Assessor, or the responsible Commissioner when using an External Assessor. It looks at whether the Applicant is aware of the activity Rules and how they affect the activity within Scouting.
- 3 **Child Protection** (not for personal permits) – This will be carried out by the responsible Commissioner and ensures that the necessary Personal Enquiry checks have been carried out and the appropriate child protection training has taken place.
- 4 **Personal Suitability** – This is carried out by the responsible Commissioner, often in conjunction with a Group Scout Leader or similar, to check the Applicant is suitable (in terms of attitude) to be leading an adventurous activity for young people.

Useful Links

[FS120084](#) Scout Led Activities Index
(References relevant Rules and guidance)

[FS120101](#) Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme
- Applicants' Guide

[FS120102](#) Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme
- Assessment Guide

[FS120103](#) Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme
- Commissioners' Guide

[FS120104](#) Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme
- Approved Assessors

Activity Permit List

This is a list of all the adventurous activity permits that it is possible to gain. Each type of permit can be further tailored through restrictions as required and competence allows.

Activity	Personal	Leadership	Supervisory
Bell Boating B1	✗	✓	✓
Bell Boating B2 +	✗	✓	✓
Canoeing B1	✓	✓	✓
Canoeing B2	✓	✓	✓
Canoeing B3	✓	✓	✓
Canoeing A	✓	✓	✓
Caving - No Vertical Pitches	✓	✓	✗
Caving with Ladders	✓	✓	✗
Caving with SRT	✓	✓	✗
Climbing and Abseiling (Single Pitch) Top Rope	✓	✓	✓
Climbing and Abseiling (Single Pitch) Lead Climbing	✓	✓	✓
Climbing and Abseiling (Multi Pitch)	✓	✓	✗
Dinghy Sailing B1	✓	✓	✓
Dinghy Sailing B2	✓	✓	✓
Dinghy Sailing B3	✓	✓	✓
Dinghy Sailing A	✓	✓	✓
Dragon Boating B1	✗	✓	✓
Dragon Boating B2 +	✗	✓	✓
Hillwalking T1 Summer	✓	✓	✓
Hillwalking T2 Summer	✓	✓	✓
Hillwalking T1 Winter	✓	✓	✓
Hillwalking T2 Winter	✓	✓	✓

Activity	Personal	Leadership	Supervisory
Hovercrafting (Land)	✓	✓	✓
Hovercrafting (Water) C	✓	✓	✓
Hovercrafting (Water) B1	✓	✓	✓
Hovercrafting (Water) B2	✓	✓	✓
Ice Climbing	✓	✓	✓
Kayaking B1	✓	✓	✓
Kayaking B2	✓	✓	✓
Kayaking B3	✓	✓	✓
Kayaking A	✓	✓	✓
Kite Surfing B1	✓	✓	✓
Kite Surfing B2	✓	✓	✓
Kite Surfing B3	✓	✓	✓
Kite Surfing A	✓	✓	✓
Motor Cruising C	✗	✓	✗
Motor Cruising B1	✗	✓	✗
Motor Cruising B2	✗	✓	✗
Motor Cruising B3	✗	✓	✗
Motor Cruising A	✗	✓	✗
Mountain Biking T1 Summer	✓	✓	✓
Mountain Biking T2 Summer	✓	✓	✓
Mountain Biking T1 Winter	✓	✓	✓
Mountain Biking T2 Winter	✓	✓	✓
Narrow Boating C	✗	✓	✗
Narrow Boating B1	✗	✓	✗
Narrow Boating B2 +	✗	✓	✗
Offshore Sailing B1	✗	✓	✗
Offshore Sailing B2	✗	✓	✗
Offshore Sailing B3	✗	✓	✗
Offshore Sailing A	✗	✓	✗
Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) C	✓	✓	✓
Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) B1	✓	✓	✓
Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) B2	✓	✓	✓
Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) B3	✓	✓	✓
Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) A	✓	✓	✓

Activity	Personal	Leadership	Supervisory
Power Boating C	✓	✓	✓
Power Boating B1	✓	✓	✓
Power Boating B2	✓	✓	✓
Power Boating B3	✓	✓	✓
Power Boating A	✓	✓	✓
Pulling B1	✓	✓	✓
Pulling B2 +	✓	✓	✓
Rafting (Traditional) B1	✓	✓	✓
Rafting (Traditional) B2 +	✓	✓	✓
Rowing and Sculling	✓	✓	✓
Scuba Diving Sheltered Water	✓	✓	✗
Scuba Diving Open Water	✓	✓	✗
Skiing On Piste	✓	✓	✓
Skiing Off Piste Terrain 1	✓	✓	✓
Skiing Off Piste Terrain 2	✓	✓	✓
Snorkelling Sheltered Water	✓	✓	✗
Snorkelling Open Water	✓	✓	✗
Snowboarding On Piste	✓	✓	✓
Snowboarding Off Piste Terrain 1	✓	✓	✓
Snowboarding Off Piste Terrain 2	✓	✓	✓
Water Skiing C	✗	✓	✗
Water Skiing B1	✗	✓	✗
Water Skiing B2 +	✗	✓	✗
White Water Rafting	✗	✓	✗
Wind Surfing B1	✓	✓	✓
Wind Surfing B2	✓	✓	✓
Wind Surfing B3	✓	✓	✓
Wind Surfing A	✓	✓	✓