



NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMITTEE FOR GIRL SCOUTS AND CAMP FIRE

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR ADULT RELIGIOUS RECOGNITIONS

In February 1982, the National Subcommittee on Girls Organizations (predecessor to NCCGSCF) developed the guidelines and *sample* form contained here. They are not national requirements; rather, they are offered for your consideration in a spirit of service to diocesan committees and leaders. Feel free to reproduce the material presented here according to your diocesan situation. These suggestions pertain to the two national adult recognitions, the St. Anne and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton medals.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award was created by the Department of Education, USCC (now USCCB), in 1980 to recognize the significant contributions of persons serving the spiritual needs of Catholic members in organizations serving girls. It is offered to those dioceses that choose to use it, subject to the approval of the local ordinary. It is intended to recognize notable contributions to this field of youth ministry, although the St. Anne Medal remains the highest national award.

St. Anne

The St. Anne Medal for adults working with Catholic members of national organizations serving girls is an award of the Department of Education, USCC. It was inaugurated at the Sixth National Conference on Catholic Youth Work in Philadelphia in November 1957 and it was redesigned in 1980. It is offered to those dioceses which choose to use it, subject to the approval of the local ordinary. It is the highest national award in this field. The purpose of the award is to honor the outstanding service of adults contributing to the spiritual development of Catholic members of organizations for girls, and to further Catholic adult leadership in youth ministry through those organizations.

SELECTION PROCESS

- * Nominations and recommendations may be made by anyone, using the official nomination forms obtained from the diocesan Catholic committee, youth director, or chaplain of the above organizations. Persons who were nominated in a previous year but were not selected may be renominated if still eligible.
- * Each diocese should set the number of awards to be given in each year, placing emphasis on selectivity and genuine achievement. The optimum number of awards might be based on a number proportionate to diocesan size, but this does not mean that the entire quota must be awarded each year. No honorary awards should be made.
- * A local diocesan selection committee should determine recipients of the awards. It is suggested that the committee be composed of five to seven members, including the diocesan youth director, and/or diocesan chaplain. If possible, the committee should include previous recipients of the St. Anne Award. Selections made by the committee and approved by the diocesan youth director and/or chaplain will be final. The committee should be appointed and activated at least sixty days before the date of presentation.

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

- * The kind of person sought as a recipient of a national adult recognition should be one of excellent character and exemplary in every way.
- * Recipients should be adults currently active with the organizations served (ideally, registered members).
- * There are no national restrictions regarding recipients. Awards may be given to clergy, religious, non-Catholics, lay men or women.
- * Catholic recipients should be exemplary Catholics, with the support of their parish community and their respective pastors. Non-Catholic recipients should also be supported by their congregations and clergy.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

The Nominee:

- (1) has given a minimum of three years active service to youth as an adult member.
- (2) participates in activities which contribute to the spiritual development of Catholic members of national organizations serving girls; e.g., retreat weekends, days of recollection, Girl Scout/Camp Fire Sunday observances, etc.
- (3) promotes the religious recognition programs available to Catholic members in the diocese and/or serves as a counselor.
- (4) participates actively in adult spiritual motivation days.
- (5) is responsible for Catholic members fulfilling their responsibility to Mass while camping.
- (6) encourages the true spirit of ecumenism as well as parochial responsibility and Catholic leadership within the girls' organization served.
- (7) contributes other service to the parish and community.

St. Anne

The Nominee:

- (1) has given a minimum of seven years active service to youth as an adult member.
- (2) promotes the religious recognition programs for Catholic members and/or serves as a counselor. Encourages non-Catholic members to participate in the religious recognitions of their faith.
- (3) gives notable service in promoting Catholic activities and service projects for the church and shows willingness to serve on like committees.
- (4) participates actively in the adult spiritual motivation program, retreats or days of recollection. Is instrumental in having others participate.
- (5) gives outstanding service in promoting and participating in Girl Scout/Camp Fire Sunday observances.
- (6) gives notable service in extending the national organizations to more members under Catholic auspices.
- (7) assists parishes and Catholic organizations in recruiting adults for key leadership positions.
- (8) is fully trained in the skills of the organization and is outstanding for his/her sense of responsibility, humility, and good example.
- (9) is responsible for Catholic members being transported to Mass at camporees and summer camps and provides for spiritual needs of the non-Catholics within these groups.
- (10) creates a better understanding of the aims and ideals of the organizations by the clergy and laity through the Catholic press and other communications media.
- (11) is instrumental in organizing and promoting these programs for all members regardless of race or creed and gives leadership.
- (12) encourages the true spirit of ecumenism as well as parochial responsibility and Catholic leadership within the girls' organizations served.
- (13) fosters good relationship with council and is capable of interpreting Catholic programs to council members.

SAMPLE NOMINATION FORM

Recommendation for the _____ Recognition.

ABOUT THE NOMINEE

Name _____

Parish _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

(1) Years as an Adult Member _____
 Girl Scouts Camp Fire Other

(2) Position Now _____
 Girl Scouts Camp Fire Other

(3) Positions Held in Girl Scouts/Camp Fire/Other _____

(4) Please state specifically what contributions the candidate has made in the spiritual development of Catholic members in the above organizations that would merit this award:

(5) Please record other contributions of the candidate, with positions held and dates, specifically in regard to the activities of the parish, diocese, organization served (Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, Other), business, civic, religious, educational organizations.

ENDORSEMENTS (If Applicable)

I hereby affirm the nomination of _____ as worthy of this recognition.

(Signature of Parish Priest)

(Date)

The above named candidate is currently registered and active in _____

Council of the above organization, and has been registered as an adult member for _____ years.

(Signature of Council Representative)

(Date)

ABOUT THE NOMINATOR

Name _____
Position _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____
Telephone _____ E-mail _____
Date _____

Note: Nomination is to be kept confidential. The person making the nomination will be notified of the results.

FOR USE BY COMMITTEE ONLY

Approval by Committee

The above candidate meets diocesan requirements.

(Chairperson) (Chaplain)

Send form to:

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____
E-mail _____

MUST BE RECEIVED BY: March 15 of the year the award is to be presented

(This form to be used and retained by the diocese.)