

ENDORSEMENT FOR POHJANTÄHTI-SOLKI MERIT AWARD PROPOSAL

We are composing a proposal for the Finnish Scouting's "Pohjantähti-solki" badge for _____, for which we need a statement of support from a person who knows the nominee's attitude to life outside the Scouts. We would now like to ask you for your opinion, which we could include in the proposal.

Criteria for Pohjantähti-solki:

"Pohjantähti-solki may be awarded to a Scoutmaster aged 28 or over who is committed to the values of Scouting and who performs the duties of a Scoutmaster with merit and enthusiasm. The values of Scouting are reflected in the nominee's activities both within and outside Scouting. In addition, the nominee has inspired growth and commitment to Scouting in others. The endorsement should describe how the Scout's values are reflected outside of Scouting. The endorsement should include the name and contact information of the author."

The values of the Scout are described in the [Scout Motto, Promise and Ideals](#) (see Annex). Use examples of the fulfillment of these values in your endorsement. If you wish, you can refer to specific ideals.

We would like to receive your statement by _____ 20____ so that we can include it in the proposal before the deadline.

Sincerely,

The Scout Promise:

I promise to do my best to live for the good of my country and the world, to develop in my spiritual beliefs and worldview and fulfil the scout ideals every day.

Scout Motto:

Be Prepared

Scout Ideals:

- **To respect others**
Scouts understand diversity of individuals and promote equality. They recognise their prejudices and are ready to change them. Scouts defend equality also when it feels difficult. Scouts respects what is sacred to others as well as individuals' freedom of religion, or irreligiouness, Scouts acknowledge that each and every person has inalienable human dignity.
- **To love and protect the environment**
Scout build their personal relationship with nature and cherish it. They find nature important and understand its intrinsic value. Scouts understand their impact on the environment and follow the principles of sustainability in order to maintain a vital and rich environment also for future generations.
- **To be trustworthy**
Scouts are trustworthy friends who keep their word and take responsibility for their duties. Scouts build an atmosphere of trust and show their confidence in others. Scouts are always ready to help other people.
- **To build friendship across boundaries**
Scouts welcome diversity and are willing to get to know and make friends with people from outside their own communities. Scouts seek to create constructive dialogue and cooperation around them. Scouts work for peace everywhere. Scouts are part of a global movement and through this see opportunities to change the world.
- **To acknowledge one's responsibility and to take action**
Scouts feel responsible for their communities and society and do not hesitate to take action for the common good. Scouts are able to work as part of different kinds of groups and lead them. Scouts are active members of society from their own basis.
- **To develop oneself as a human being**
Scouts strengthen their self-esteem by learning to identify and develop their strengths and weaknesses. Scouts develop their knowledge and skills in a progressive manner. Scout develop skills to identify their values and understand the importance and impact of values in their activities.
- **To search for truth in life**
Scouts build their own faith or other beliefs. Scouts have a positive attitude towards different religions and beliefs and towards spirituality. Scouts accept that something greater than humankind exists. Scouts have a positive attitude towards the future. Scouts build their understanding of right and wrong and act fairly.