Baden-Powell Scouts' Association
Training Policy

The training of Scout Officers (SO) is designed to help the SO to bring better Scouting to the young people he leads. Therefore, it is an integral part of every SO activity which he is expected to undertake so far as he is able to do so. Equally, those engaged in the training of SO are not a separate entity but an integral part of the main structure of B-PSA Scouting.

The full scheme of SO training comprises:

- Pre-Warrant Training of Group SOs other than GSMs, as a qualification for the grant of a warrant as a Group SO.
- GSMs. Courses designed to help the GSM in his duties and responsibilities.
- Commissioner's Courses designed to help the Commissioner in his duties and responsibilities.
- The Woodbeads Preliminary Training Course (PTC) appropriate to his warrant. The aim of every SO should be to take this within two years of receiving a warrant.
- The Woodbeads Training Course, which a SO should aim to take as soon as he is eligible.
- Technical Courses carrying subjects to a more advanced level than in the Woodbeads, such as Safety in the Hills Training.
- Child Protection Training
- First Aid Training
- Duke of Edinburgh Training

The Headquarters Training Department is under the direction of the Headquarters Commissioner for Training (HQ Comm. Training) and also known as The Camp Chief. The Camp Chief is responsible to the National Committee for the coordination of the training of Scout Officers. In order to help him carry out his duties The Camp Chief will appoint suitable members of a Woodbeads Training Team and other Trainers for specific courses not covered by the Woodbeads Training Scheme. The Camp Chief may also appoint a Deputy Camp Chief to help him run the Headquarters Training Department.

Woodbeads Training Team – The Head Quarters Commissioners for Beavers, Wolf Cubs, Scouts, Senior Scouts, and Rover Scouts will usually be appointed as members of the Woodbeads Training Team by grant of an Honourable Charge from the Camp Chief.
The Chief Commissioner may also be made a member of the Woodbeads Training Team in the same way.
Any Head Quarters Commissioner who serves as a member of the Woodbeads Training Team will be entitled to wear 4 Woodbeads, as would a Deputy Camp Chief if appointed. The Camp Chief is entitled to wear 5 Woodbeads.
Assistant Area Commissioner Training (AACT) are Woodbeads holders who are appointed to the Woodbeads Training Team by the Camp Chief by grant of an Honourable Charge on the recommendation of either a Head Quarters or Area Commissioner. AACT are entitled to wear 3 Woodbeads.
The Honourable Charge is valid for a period of 5 years at which point it can be renewed by the Camp Chief. The Camp Chief may remove an Honourable Charge from any person who he believes doesn't represent the true Scouting values of the Woodbeads Training Scheme.

Other Training Team – The HQ Comm. Training will appoint (or delegate appointment to the relevant advisor) other people to deliver training providing they have the relevant qualifications and experience.

Pre-Warrant Training
Pre-Warrant Training is usually delivered by the GSM and comprises:

- Read and understand the Child Protection Policy & Guidelines.
- Have worked satisfactorily with the Group for a period of 3 months.
- Pass the Scout Tenderfoot tests.
- Have a general knowledge of 'Scouting for Boys'.
- Have a general knowledge of the B-PSA Constitution, Policies, Administration and Rules.

- Have a general knowledge of the handbooks relevant to the Section he is working with.

Woodbeads Training
Woodbeads Training is delivered by the Woodbeads Training Team and comprises:

(1) The Woodbeads Preliminary Training Course (PTC) which every SO must take to become eligible to take Part 2. This is a two day course usually run over a weekend.
(2) Part 1, which is by correspondence and is designed to help the SO grasp the fundamental principles, policy and methods of the Movement.
(3) Part 2, which is a practical course to give help and experience in the proven methods of applying the spirit and practices of the B-PSA. This is four day course.
(4) Part 3, which is the application of his Woodbeads training to his own work in the B-PSA to the satisfaction of his Area Commissioner and GSM, this will usually last for around 3 months after the training has been completed.

It is the intention that internal training courses run by the B-PSA are offered to all of its adult members at no cost (with the exception of travel costs) as the cost of these courses is covered by Groups' annual registration fee.

In addition to internal courses the B-PSA also runs a Training Bursary Scheme for Nationally Recognised Qualifications which is open to adult members of the B-PSA.

Traveling and other expenses may be claimed by Training Team members at rates set by and at the discretion of the National Committee.