

THE BADEN-POWELL SCOUTS ASSOCIATION



KOALA ADVISERS HANDBOOK.

C B.P.S.A. AUSTRALIA 1996

**THE BADEN-POWELL SCOUTS
ASSOCIATION (U.K.)
AUSTRALIAN BRANCH.**

**AMENDMENT TO P.O.&R.
AUGUST 1996.**

THE KOALA SECTION.

This amendment is issued by authority of the Council of The Baden-Powell Scouts Association (U.K.) and authorised by the Australian Adviser on behalf of the Council

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NOTES AND AMENDMENTS.

GENERAL POLICY OF THE KOALA SECTION.

OBJECT. The object of the Koala programme is to provide an organisation for young boys and girls where they can take part in suitable activities appropriate to their age and development prior to entering the Wolf Cub Section.

NAME OR TITLE. The section will be known as a KOALA COLONY, and the Colony will be divided into LODGES of six Koalas. The section will be an integral part of the Scout Group.

AGE LIMITS Boys or girls are eligible to join this section when they have attained the age of 5 yrs., They must transfer to the Wolf Cub Pack on attaining the age of 8yrs of age.

UNIFORM. A standard form of uniform shall be adopted by all Koala Colonies, the uniform shall consist of:

Shirt and Shorts To be grey in colour and of the approved style as specified in P.O. & R.

Socks Plain grey knee length to be worn

HAT Emerald Green Baseball style

SCARF The regular Group Scarf is to be worn.

INFORMAL For informal wear a Dark Blue Tee Shirt with the Association Badge printed on the left breast may be worn.

BADGES OF RANK. A Leading Koala will wear two (2) 10mm bands of light blue ribbon around the left arm, a Second Koala will wear a single band of light blue ribbon around the left arm, the positioning of the bands is to be mid way between the shoulder and elbow. Colony Koala will wear three blue band around left arm.

ADVISERS. Advisers in the Koala section will wear uniform as in rule 291 or 296, and badges as in rule s 320-322 P.O.& R.

NAMES AND TITLES. Advisers in the Koala section will adopt the following titles, (1) The Koala adviser will be known as **ANKALI**.

(2) the first Assistant Adviser will adopt the name **BARKUMA**.

(3) other Assistant Advisers may select their name from the following:

BOOROO meaning Kangaroo

EMORA meaning Possum

GOOLA meaning Koala

GOOLONG meaning Walaby

LODGE PARENTS. These are either instructors or assisting Parents who are allocated to supervise a particular Lodge, and in some cases, to actively participate and encourage the Lodge to do its best. The use of Lodge Parents is not to take away any responsibility from the LEADING KOALA, but to act as a normal Parent would do to his /her family, which is what the Lodge is meant to be. It should be the aim of Ankali to have a Parent for each Lodge, as adequate supervision is at all times a necessity.

THE KOALA PROGRAMME

GENERAL SCHEME. The general scheme of Koala Badges is as follows:

- (1) An admission test
- (2) Four general FootPrint Badges (proficiency Badges)
- (3) The Climbing Koala Badge
- (4) Two awards for Colony and Pack Holidays
- (5) One project Award

SPECIAL PROVISIONS. For Koalas joining at the age of 5yrs four (4) stars are available to be earned prior to the award of the First Footprint.

METHOD OF WEAR. The Footprint Badges and also the Stars are worn on the Right Arm (the four Stars are removed upon the Award of the first Footprint)

Colony and Pack Holiday Badges are worn on the Left Arm, The Climbing Koala Badge is worn above the Right Breast Pocket.

KOALA ADMISSION TEST. Before being invested He/She must:

- (1) Know a little about the Koala, its habits and way of life.
- (2) Know the Koala Motto, Salute, Promise and Law , and the Scout Handshake.
- (3) Know a little about the Founder, Lord Baden-Powell and how Scouting Started.
- (4) Take part in an opening ceremony.
- (5) Know the Koala Prayer.

THE FOOTPRINT BADGES. There are four activity areas each containing three(3) sections forming the basis of the Footprint Badges. Each Badge should take four(4) to six(6) months to gain, and can only be gained once the Koala has been Invested. Each Badge consists of one section from each of the Activity areas, to be taken at ONE section Per Month for the Four areas. The award of each Badge is also subject to regular attendance at Colony Meetings and Activities.

Advisers in the Koala Section should incorporate the Footprint Badge activities into their weekly programmes according to their particular circumstances.

The Activity areas are as follows:

1. Learning
2. Developing
3. Exploring
4. Discovering

CLIMBING KOALA AWARD. A Koala who has passed all four Footprint Badges will be awarded the Climbing Koala, which is intended to be a link between the Colony and the Wolf Cub Pack, when he/she has completed the following:

- (1) Visit the Pack and get to know his/her future Sixer and Akela.
- (2) Know the Wolf Cub Law and Promise.
- (3) Know the Wolf Cub Salute and Grand Howl and their meanings.
- (4) Know the Wolf Cub motto.
- (5) Know a little about B_P and how Scouting started (an extension of the Koala admission test)
- (6) Know about the Jungle Book and how Mowgli entered the Pack.
- (7) Have been awarded the Pack holiday Award.

COLONY HOLIDAY AWARD. This Badge will be awarded when the Koala has spent THREE nights away from home either under canvas or indoors, this Badge is worn until the First Star has been gained in the Pack. (Silver)

PACK HOLIDAY AWARD. This Badge will be awarded when the Koala has spent at least TWO nights away from home with the Wolf Cub Pack either under canvas or indoors, This badge may be worn until the Second Star is awarded in the Cub Pack.

NOTE: *Where a Koala is accompanying a parent who is an adviser or helper at a Scout Camp, the Koala Adviser has the discretion to award one of the TWO BADGES above, whichever appears to fit the occasion.*
(GOLD)

KOALA COLONY PROCEDURES

MOTTO: Climb High

SALUTE: One Finger, index finger straight, thumb holds other fingers down with the hand facing forward, finger touching the temple at 45deg.angle.

SIGN: Held as for the Scout Sign but with one Finger

KOALA LAW: “ A Koala is happy and caring and helps other people by doing a good turn every day”

KOALA PROMISE: “ I promise to do my best to be a good Koala and to obey my Parents and Leaders”

KOALA PRAYER: Dear Lord, help me to be a good Koala, always happy and caring,
be with those so dear to me in my fun times sharing.

DISCOVERING. (a) STORY TELLING - Listen attentively to stories told or read by an Adviser or helper on several occasions and be able to interpret afterwards in different ways eg. acting, drawing, re-telling or write a poem and recite it to the Colony (The poem should be at least two verses long and contain a story)

(b) Play acting/ Miming - Learn to act or mime through engaging in a Colony activity which includes costume making, acting out a story or take part in a Scout- based entertainment on stage.

(c) Music or Singing - Take an active part in singing, either alone or with the Colony, to a reasonable standard for his/ her age play any instrument so that the tune can be recognised.

LEARNING. (a) Handcrafts - Take part in an activity with Koalas in creative construction, drawing,painting or making things from scrap items.

(b) Collecting - A personal collection eg. Stamps, Postcards, or a joint collection with other members of the Colony for special reasons.

(c) Safety - Safety in the home, Water safety,safety on the road, street or Park, and demonstrate knowledge of any or all of the above.

DEVELOPING. (a) Physical development - show an improvement in several skills involving physical effort eg. games, sports, tying laces, fastening buttons.

(b) Social Behaviour - Take an active and constructive part in Colony activities, develop improved habits of cleanliness, tidiness,good conduct and show he/she can obey instructions and share with others.

(c) Help others - Understand the need to help other people by carrying out a special good turn either individually or as part of a Colony good turn.

EXPLORING. Nature study - Carry out an activity with the Colony in order to learn about some aspect of nature by practical means eg. study of animals, birds, insects, plants, flowers etc.

(b) Expedition - Take part in an outing with the Colony where new or adventurous activities will be experienced such as a hike,ramble,visit to a museum or other place of interest

(c) Conservation - understanding the importance of protecting the environment and the damage that can be done by vandalism,litter etc., take part in a project to clear rubbish from a local area or cultivate a small piece of land as a garden or nature reserve.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF A FOOTPRINT BADGE: For each Footprint Badge ONE item from EACH SECTION in each of the FOUR ACTIVITY AREAS is to be passed at the rate of ONE ITEM PER MONTH. Items used in a previous Footprint Badge must NOT be used in succeeding Footprint Badges.

IDENTIFICATION OF FOOTPRINT BADGES. The colour of Footprint Badges is as follows:

First Footprint	GREEN
Second Footprint	PURPLE
Third Footprint	RED
Fourth Footprint	BLUE

THE OPENING CEREMONY: Koalas arrive at the hall and gather in their Lodges, Ankali calls KO_AL_AS. all Koalas respond by calling “KOALA” and run to form an open ended circle, the Advisers lining up across the open end completing the circle.

Ankali then holds His/Her arms out sideways and gradually lowers them to the side of the body, as this is done, the Koalas go down into a squat position, hands to the floor and between their feet and call “AN_KA_LI.”

The duty Koala says “KOALAS CLIMB HIGH.” all then rise and stand at the alert. The Koala so nominated then breaks the Flag and all Koalas and Advisers salute.

INVESTITURE OF THE TENDERPAW. Tenderpaw is the name given to a new Koala before being invested. In order to be invested the Tenderpaw must pass the requirements specified in the KOALA ADMISSION TEST.

The investiture should be held at a convenient time during the Colony Meeting. The Colony is formed up into the parade circle and Ankali will ask the Leading Koala of the Lodge to bring forward the Tenderpaw, He/She will salute and return to their place in the circle leading the Tenderpaw standing in front of Ankali.

The Tenderpaw will then recite the Koala Law, then with all invested members making the Koala Sign (Advisers Making the Scout Sign) He/She will then repeat the Koala Promise line for line after Ankali.

The new Koala is then presented with badges and the Group Scarf, He/She is then welcomed into THE WORLD WIDE MOVEMENT OF SCOUTING with a left hand shake. The new Koala then turns round and salutes the Colony, the Colony in return salutes the new Koala, after which the Leading Koala of Lodge collects the new Koala and after presenting Him/ Her with the Lodge Colour Patch both return to the circle, thus ending the ceremony.

THE GOING UP CEREMONY. This is the ultimate ceremony in the Colony for the Koala as it marks the departure for pastures new in the Wolf Cub Pack.

This ceremony should be a joint affair between Ankali and Akela who must work together to make it a success. Before moving finally into the Pack, the Koala will have been to Pack Meetings to meet the Advisers and the Sixer of the Six the Tenderpad is going into. The tests for the CLIMBING KOALA will have been passed in the Cub Pack as far as the Wolf Cub Work is concerned

The Colony is formed up in the Parade Circle at one end of the room and the Cub Pack formed up in similar fashion at the other end of the room with the open ends of the circles facing each other. The Koala Colony will perform their opening Ceremony after which the Koala going to the Pack is called out to stand in front of Ankali. At this time Akela will send the Sixer of the receiving Six over to Ankali who will introduce Him/her to the Koala, at this point the Koala will say “good by” to the Advisers and remaining Koalas and proceed to the Cub Pack with the Sixer and Ankali, after formally introducing Him/her to Akela, Ankali will then wish the Koala “GOOD HUNTING” and then return to the Colony. The Colony may then withdraw from the room, after which the Cub Pack will continue with their individual part of the Going Up ceremony.
