



NSW Award Leader Update July 2018

- [NSW Division - Staff Update](#)
- [Networking Events](#)
- [Award Administration Training](#)
- [Award Sign-offs - Top Five \(5\) reasons for Award rejections](#)
- [Social Value Research - Reminder](#)
- [Updated Resources](#)

[NSW Division - Staff Update](#)

Glen Byrne is taking extended leave from 23 July 2018 through to mid-April 2019. We welcome Kristian Whitaker to the NSW team in Glen's absence. Kristian is based in our Olympic Park office and can be contacted on 02 8754 8743, 0432 292 018 or kristian.whitaker@sport.nsw.gov.au

[Networking Events](#)

Click [here](#) for dates and registration details. Final events for 2018!

Award Administration Training

Click [here](#) for dates and registration details.

Award Sign-offs - Top Five (5) reasons for Award rejections

Listed below are the current top five reasons that Awards are not approved by our office. Please take the time to review and make necessary amendments in your approval processes.

1. Age at commencement

Bronze - 14 years*

**Note - in certain circumstances you may grant special consideration to start earlier.*

Silver - Following on from Bronze - 14 years and 9 months

Direct Silver - 15 years

Gold - 16 years - No exceptions

Please see page 20 of [The Award Handbook](#) for age requirements

2. Skills Section - Activity does not meet requirements

Skills activities **must be non-physical**, eg activities such as playing a sport or dancing should not be counted as Duke of Ed Skill activities - these are considered Physical Recreation activities. Some sports-related activities however, such as refereeing or coaching, may be acceptable.

Please see pages 60-61 of [The Award Handbook](#) for further information.

3. Service Section - Activity does not meet requirements

Service activity must be for a genuine cause or need in the community

Note - Service activities must not benefit a Participant's family. It must also not just provide a favour to a friend or neighbour or be based on a required vocational or work experience activity.

Please see pages 65-66 of [The Award Handbook](#) for further information.

4. Adventurous Journey (AJ) reports - Report insufficient or not uploaded

A Qualifying Adventurous Journey report is the final requirement for the AJ Section. The minimum standard for written AJ reports are outlined in the [NSW Written Adventurous Journey \(AJ\) Report Templates](#)

5. Residential Project (Gold only) - Activity does not meet requirements

Residential Project requirements are as follows:

- involves a shared purposeful activity (eg a training or service activity)
- is at least 5 days duration away from their usual place of residence
- is in the company of others who are, in the majority, NOT their usual companions

Please see pages 95-96 of [The Award Handbook](#) for further information.

We highly recommend that your participants complete the [Bronze, Silver or Gold Award Checklist](#) prior to submitting their Awards for assessment.

[Social Value Research - Reminder](#)

Thank you to those Award Leaders who have completed the survey and also offered to assist with Participants. This is greatly appreciated. However, we are still looking to collect more data and encourage your participation if you have not done so already. It is an online survey for Award Leaders and Participants and Alumni to complete (approx. 20 mins). We are looking for as many Award Leaders as possible to take the survey prior to end-July 2018 and 2-3 Award Units who could assist us in getting their Participants to complete the surveys in early Term 3. Please [let us know](#) if you are able to assist with Participants. Participants under 18 will need to gain parental consent prior to completing the research.

More detail and the link to the survey available [here](#)

[Updated Resources](#)

We have updated a couple of our resources to align with the ORB Next Gen. You can find them at:

1. [NSW Sample Letter to Parents/Guardians](#)
2. [NSW Award Checklists](#)

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