

**Jr. Scout badge:**

This badge is subdivided by age groups to accommodate varying abilities as children age and gain experience and skills. Scoutmasters approved to certify adults for the Dog Scout badge are also approved to certify children for the Jr. Scout badge (or certificate) using the age appropriate check-off sheet.

We recognize that educated kids can certainly help teach and advise their parents, but because kids under 18 yrs old cannot make financial and critical care decisions about the family dog such as when to spay/neuter, whether to fence the yard, what kind of vet care the dog gets, they are eligible to earn the Jr. Scout badge.

**Kids 6 and under:**

A formal test does not need to be done for this age group. Observation of the child with the dog can allow the Scoutmaster to determine if the child meets the requirements to get the certificate of achievement (or DSA round logo sticker, whichever they prefer).

**7-12 age group:**

The majority of the test for this age group is the same as the adult Dog Scout test. They can be verbally quizzed regarding their knowledge of the test or they can take the written test if they choose. Their test differences are:

- Down: Handler can use treats or a toy to help the dog lie down
- Stay: a sit or down, handler only goes 4' leash length away for about 10 seconds
- Come: from 4' away, handler can back-up while calling the dog, no treats
- Leave it: Can be a stationary exercise in which the dog simply backs away from food and a toy when cued. Dog does not need to do a leave it with an animal

Kids who pass this level submit a Jr. Scout badge form with \$25 through the Recognition Program Director or camp Administrative Assistant. They are eligible to earn any of the specialty badges.

**13-18 age group:**

The test for this age group is the same as the Dog Scout test, except the stay and recall distance is shorter. Kids who pass this level submit a Jr. Scout badge form with \$25 through the Recognition Program Director or camp Administrative Assistant. They are eligible to earn any of the specialty badges.

Dogs who earn the Jr. Scout badge with a child can also earn the Dog Scout badge with an adult. If submitted at the same time, the fee for the Dog Scout title is \$35, the additional Jr. Scout badge is only \$5.