



The Ten Requirements for Expeditions (from 1.10.23)

1. The Journey

a.	The expedition must be a minimum of two days and one night at Bronze level, three days and two nights at Silver level and four days and three nights at Gold level.
b.	All expeditions must comprise of two elements: a Journey and a clearly defined Team Goal (previously: aim).
c.	The emphasis of the Journey element vs the Team Goal element should be discussed and agreed with the expedition Supervisor during the planning stage.
d.	The Team Goal must be in the SMART format and should describe an overall purpose for the journey. This can be in the form of, for example, a research project, investigation, or something the group will aim to achieve for the duration of the expedition.

2. The Group

a.	The group, for all journeys, must contain no fewer than four and no more than seven members (eight for modes of travel which require tandem pairs).
b.	Groups must be allowed to make independent decisions throughout, and must work separately from any other groups.
c.	Group members do not all need to be undertaking the same Award level. However, the challenge must be at an appropriate level for all group members.
d.	Groups may include members who are not Award participants. Non-Award participants should be of a similar ability and experience to the group they are joining.
e.	All participants must be involved in the planning of their journey, including route, logistics and any equipment required for the journey or the Team Goal. It is important that participants take ownership of their journey.



3. Training and Practice

a.	The expedition training must ensure qualifications that enable the group to carry out most of the expedition unsupervised. Any non-Award participants within the group must also complete the expedition training modules.
b.	At least one practice expedition must be carried out at each level. In justified exceptional cases, the practice expedition may be waived at the Bronze level in agreement with the association.
c.	Practice expeditions must include at least one day and one night in the chosen environment. A longer period may be required if the Supervisor deems it advisable to do so. Direct entrants must spend at least two days and two nights on practice expeditions.
d.	The number of practice events (journeys or training sessions) required will depend upon the ability of the group. The Supervisor decides when the group is sufficiently prepared.
e.	Groups may use the same location for both the practice and qualifying expeditions, but must complete different routes.
f.	Modes of transport used in the practice expedition must match those used in the qualifying journey.

4. Modes of transport

a.	Teams must use modes of travel which require their own effort.
b.	‘Own effort’ includes any form of non-motorised transport. Flexibility exists for young people with health conditions or impairments.
c.	Multiple modes of transport within one expedition are permitted, provided all logistics have been planned by the group.
d.	Modes of transport used in the qualifying expedition must match those used in the practice expedition.



5. Location

a.	Expeditions may take place in all locations including areas known to the participants.
b.	Groups may use the same location for both the practice and qualifying expeditions, but must complete different routes.
c.	The environment or terrain must present a sufficient challenge in regard of Award level and ability of the group.
d.	Virtual expeditions in Germany require exceptional circumstances and association approval.

6. Purposeful Activity

a.	Groups must aim to undertake a minimum of 6 hours (for Bronze), 7 hours (for Silver) and 8 hours (for Gold) per day of purposeful activity.
b.	Purposeful activity is defined as time spent journeying and working towards the Team Goal.
c.	The weighting of the Journey element vs the Team Goal element should be discussed and agreed with the supervisor. This will determine the correct number of hours of purposeful activity to assign to each activity.
d.	Distances are deliberately not stipulated at any Award level due to the huge variety of expeditions, modes of travel, types of terrain and/or climate, coupled with the group's Team Goal.



7. Adults

a.	The number of adults present on an expedition will depend on the location and type of activities being undertaken.
b.	All expeditions must be Supervised and Assessed by suitable and experienced adults who are familiar with the German Award Standards.
c.	Expedition Supervisors and expedition Assessors are appointed by the Award Centre and must have completed any requirements, such as training or registration, required by the National Award Operator (Association).
d.	Expedition Supervisors have overall responsibility for the group whilst training and undertaking their expeditions.
e.	Expedition Assessors are appointed by the Award Centre, or may be externally sourced. They are responsible for assessing whether the group meets all of the requirements outlined in this table. Gold level assessors require a special qualification.
f.	Award Centres must source suitably qualified instructors, as appropriate for the location and type of activities being undertaken.

8. Accommodation

a.	Accommodation is ideally in tents. If necessary, accommodation can be adapted according to the needs of individual group members.
b.	Participants' accommodation may be physically separated.
c.	Tents must be transported by the group.



9. Self-sufficiency

a.	The group must carry all necessary equipment and supplies, split appropriately between all participants.
b.	Participants must consume at least one substantial cooked meal each day. Groups must carry the relevant equipment and ingredients for cooking and preparing meals.
c.	There is flexibility for medical and cultural purposes, as well as for environments and climates.

10. The Report

a.	Throughout the qualifying expedition, the group should work towards achieving their Team Goal.
b.	Individuals should also record personal reflections throughout their experience.
c.	On completion of the qualifying expedition, the group is required to deliver a report to their Assessor.
d.	The report can be delivered in any form, as agreed by the group and their Assessor prior to the start of their qualifying expedition.
e.	The report must include the involvement of all group members and should outline their experiences and how they have achieved their Team Goal.
f.	If the Assessor is unable to be present for the report, the Supervisor may fulfil this role.