



GFS Australia

# Challenge Badge Guidelines

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## GFS Australia Challenge Badge Guidelines

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## Purpose:

To recognise GFS members (15–25 years), who have shown an ongoing commitment to GFS, and contributed significantly to the ministry of GFS within the Branch and Diocese.

## Guidelines:

1. In order to begin the GFS Challenge Badge the Member must have been actively involved in GFS for at least two years.
2. Dioceses are to register Members who are to undertake the GFS Challenge Badge with the National Chairman
3. There are four areas of focus:

### Contributions

- Regular participation in Diocesan activities, given interest and opportunities
- Community services which must be regular and consistent with the principle of service to others

*Goals to be negotiated with the Mentor*

### Challenge

- This could be a physical/spiritual/social/intellectual challenge

*Goals to be negotiated with the Mentor*

### Spiritual Growth

- recognition of personal spiritual journey – with representation of this journey
- facilitation of further spiritual growth

*Goals to be negotiated with the Mentor that will facilitate further spiritual growth*

### Skills

- identify a personal skill that is to be developed or further enhanced
- utilise this skill at a branch or Diocesan level

*Goals to be negotiated with the Mentor*

4. The minimum period for completion of the badge is twelve months.
5. The implementation of the negotiated goals for each area can be completed over a short intensive period (ie a school term) or over a longer period that is sustained but not intensive (ie 12 months).
6. The member is to work with the Mentor, who is to be appointed by the Diocesan Executive.
7. The GFS Challenge Badge will be presented upon successful completion of all four areas. The Mentor will consult with the Diocesan Executive for approval to submit a detailed report to the National Chairman, outlining the goals achieved by the participant. The National Chairman may then certify the presentation of the badge.



# GFS Australia Limited Challenge Badge Guidelines

## Guidelines for Dioceses

### **Applications**

Applications to participate in the GFS Challenge Badge are made to the Diocesan Executive.

The Application form asks the participant/s to indicate their interest in the four areas of the GFS Challenge Badge

### **Mentor Allocations**

The Diocesan Executive will then allocate a Mentor for the individual participant or group. The participant will then be asked to contact the Mentor to arrange an initial meeting.

### **Programme Planning**

At the initial meeting the Mentor and participant or group plan the project according to individual needs. The goals for the GFS Challenge Badge are negotiated for each area – Contribution, Challenge, Spiritual Growth and Skills. It will also be necessary to establish an estimated time line for the project and establish how often the Mentor will meet with the participant/s.

After the outline of the project is formulated, a copy is then lodged with the Diocesan Executive by the participant.

The Mentor then works with the participant/s to implement the project and to work towards the successful completion and presentation of the GFS Challenge Badge Project.

At the completion of the project the participant/s will make a presentation to the Diocesan Executive, and the Mentor will submit a detailed report outlining the goals achieved by the participant/s. Both of these will be made available to the National Chairman in order for a decision to be made regarding the presentation of the GFS Challenge Badge.

When a GFS Challenge Badge is to be awarded, the National Chairman will:

- notify the successful participant
- notify the Diocesan Executive and ensure that an appropriate occasion is arranged for the presentation of the badge.
- communicate with the mentor to offer thanks for their participation and assistance and affirm their ministry.



# **Guidelines for Mentors**

**The term Mentor means a trusted and experienced advisor**

## **From the Guidelines**

- The member/s (undertaking the Challenge) is/are to work with a Mentor who is to be appointed by the Diocesan Executive
- The Mentor will consult (upon the successful completion of all four areas) with the Diocesan Executive for the approval to submit a detailed report to the National Chairman, outlining the goals achieved by the participant/s.
- Goals for the four areas of focus (Contribution, Challenge, Spiritual Growth and Skills) are to be set with the Mentor.

## **The role of the Mentor**

Is to work with the participant/s enabling and guiding the participant/s to:

- set up the 'Challenge' Project
- implement 'The Challenge', and
- complete 'the Challenge' and present for approval.

## **Some characteristics of Mentors:**

- The Mentor and the participant develop a special kind of learning relationship in which there is honest, open and frank communication and sharing of ideas and work.
- The relationship between the participant and their Mentor must be based on a strong mutual sense of trust and genuine respect.
- A Mentor is not a teacher, but a friend, consultant, advisor, role model and sometimes critic.
- A Mentor realistically and actively encourages and supports the participant/s in their project/s.
- A Mentor does not coach or teach, but guides and extends the participant's existing knowledge and understanding

*(adapted from 'Different Kids Same Classroom' McGrath and Noble)*

## **For the purpose of the GFS Challenge Badge:**

The Mentor also:

- provides a Christian model
- has some understanding or involvement with GFS
- helps the participant/s to ask the question 'Where is God?' in their lives and in the challenges they take on.



**GFS Australia Limited Challenge Badge Guidelines**

**Application form  
and Diocesan record sheet**

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone:

Date of birth:

  
  

GFS Branch:

Diocese of:

State/Province:

Please state your possible areas of interest in:

**Contribution**

**Challenge**

**Spiritual Growth**

**Skills**

Signature:

Date:

  
  

**Please send this form to your Diocesan Chairman**

**EXECUTIVE USE**

Date:

  
  

Mentor appointed:



# GFS Australia Limited Challenge Badge Guidelines

## Project Plan Outline

This is a possible outline of how the record of the Challenge Badge could be kept. Participants may make up their own presentations. **This is only a guide.**

Area of Challenge:

Participants name:

Mentors name:

Details:

Steps of the task	Timeframe		Resources
	Start	Finish	

### Guidelines

Discussion and negotiation with the Mentor must be included in the steps listed.

Resources may include human, material, financial or other resources needed to complete the steps.

Participant's signature:

Date:

Mentor's signature:

Date:

It is the responsibility of the participant to lodge a copy of this plan, plus the other three plans that complete the project, with the Diocesan Executive, as soon as the plans are negotiated successfully.



# GFS Australia Limited Challenge Badge Guidelines

## Evaluation Sheet

### Self Evaluation

Comments and reflections


Participant's signature:

Date:

### Mentor's Evaluation

Comments and reflections


Mentor's signature:

Date:

This evaluation is to be completed when the goals of this area of Challenge have been completed. This evaluation will form part of the presentation made by the participant, along with the detailed report of the mentor, to the Diocesan Executive at the completion of the project.