

The fleur-de-lis

At the 1907 test camp on Brownsea Island, Robert Baden-Powell gave the boys a symbol to wear on their coats or hats. This was based on a badge he had introduced for Army scouts when he was serving in India. Initially Baden-Powell referred to the Scout's Badge as an arrow head, "which shows the north on a map or on the compass." However after criticisms that the symbol was too militaristic, he renamed the symbol after the heraldic fleur-de-lis, a stylised lily symbolic of peace and purity. Over time the symbol has gradually evolved...



The World Scout Emblem worn by Scouts all over the world was designed in 1955. Each part of the emblem has a special meaning:



Left side

Service to others



Middle

Duty to God or Scout values



Right side

Obedience to the Scout Law



Bond

The family of Scouting



Encircling rope

The unity and family of the World Scout Movement



Reef knot

Cannot be undone however hard it is pulled. Symbolic of World Scouting's unity and family



Two five point stars

Truth and knowledge, the ten points represent the ten points of the original Scout Law

