

1. How many points do I give a girl for completing a topic from the programme file?

All topics are worth **2 points** with the exception of the GBNI/HQ Scripture Course which is worth 4 points. However, if a girl has less than **80% attendance** then she only gets 2 points for the Scripture Course.

2. Are there any minimum standards a girl has to reach for each topic?

Each girl should be encouraged to complete each topic to the best of her ability and challenged at her own level. Girls should be assessed on their level of participation and skill development. Formal testing or assessment does not need to be done. You will find guidance of the amount of work required for each topic included in the PSALT files.

3. How much time should a girl spend on each topic?

Seniors and Brigaders are expected to spend a minimum of three hours on any topic. In the past, topics were expected to last six weeks. While we would encourage you to spend a few weeks on a topic, we have now changed the way we measure this to hours rather than weeks in line with leaders' feedback. This means that you can do just a few long sessions, or more short sessions depending on the topic.

4. Can a girl do a topic she really enjoys every year?

Yes if there are **different levels** to the topic or a **new syllabus** each year. For example, the GBNI Scripture Course or PE sets are new each year and can be covered annually. There are some topics where it is possible to repeat the topic but the work must be completely different. Look to the PSALT Files for more specific guidance on this or contact the Programme Officer in GBHQ before you start a topic. Otherwise the answer is no. Each company is encouraged to cover a wide range of subjects throughout a girl's time in the Brigader Section.

5. Can you combine different topics into one activity?

Yes. For example, if the girls create a recipe book and sell it at a charity bun sale, they will be able to claim points under *Charity Work* for creating the recipe book and under *Running an Event* for organising the bun sale. The work can happen at the same time, but the work must be completely different.

6. Are there any compulsory topics in the Brigader Brooch?

Yes. The GBNI Scripture Course (Spiritual) and Brigade Knowledge (Educational) both have to be done at least once in the Brigader Section.

7. Why do Brigaders now have to write comments in their books?

This is to help the girls take ownership of their badgework and to help them see how the work that they do fits together under the different headings.

8. Can a company develop subjects not included in the PSALT files?

Companies are encouraged to develop their own new topics for Brigader Badgework, but these **must be approved** by the GBNI Programme Officer **before** starting. This will also help to clarify what heading the topic should come under.

9. How many points do you need to get a blue, white or green triangle?

10 points each.

10. Can you do more than the 10 points each year?

Yes up to a **maximum of 14 points** in any one year. **Just carry over the extra points to the next stage.**

11. What if a girl is going to Uni or has been ill and needs to cram 16 points into her last year in Brigaders? Can she do that?

In **exceptional circumstances** that can be done but you need to get permission from GBHQ. Ring the office and talk to the Programme Officer.

12. How many points do you need to get a Brigader Brooch?

40 points in total over 3 or 4 years. To ensure a bit of variety for Brigaders they need to do subjects from each section in the programme (ie Spiritual, Physical, Educational and Service) and earn **at least 6 points under each heading**. The remaining 16 points can come under any of the headings.

13. How do I order triangles or a Brigader Brooch?

Fill in a Brigader Progress Book for each girl and check you have met all the requirements. See summary checklist on inside cover. If possible, send your Brigader Progress Books to GBHQ before ordering your awards through the online shop at www.gbnishop.co.uk. Books should be sent to GBHQ at the end of **EVERY STAGE**.

14. How long will my order take to be processed?

Please allow 10 working days for Brigader Progress Books to be processed. Avoid delays by: Sending your books before placing your awards order online; ensuring the correct postage is paid on your package; ensuring the books are packed securely to avoid books being damaged or lost.

For more detailed regulations and further guidance on how to apply for all awards. Visit www.gbni.co.uk/leaders for the most up to date version of the PSALT Files.

