



Activity Summary

The National Venture Sword is a campcraft competition for the Venture Scout Section. It is an opportunity for the Venture Scouts to show off their expert scouting skills, while also upskilling in the Adventure Skills such as pioneering, camping, backwoods and emergencies. There will be an emphasis on socialising and teamwork, with some ongoing social challenges throughout the weekend.

Rationale

The National Venture Sword is designed to encourage Venture Scouts maintain and further develop scouting skills, in a competitive and fun environment. The main focus of the Venture Scout Sword, is to foster teamwork, leadership and communication, as these are skills that will stand to the Venture Scout both inside and outside of scouting.

Details

Event: National Venture Sword

Venue: Lough Dan International Guide and Scout Centre

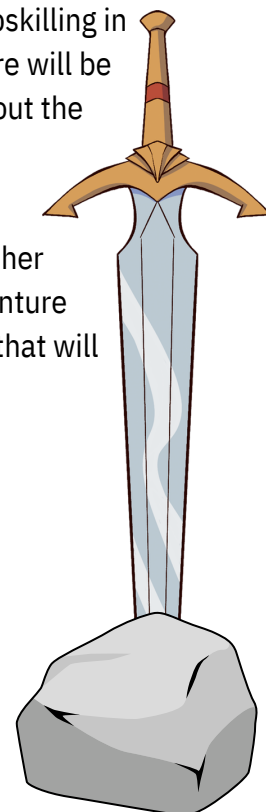
Date: 21st-23rd August 2026

Participant Fee: €45 per participant (team consists of 6-8 Venture Scouts)

One accompanying scouter goes free per team

Staff Fee: €35 per additional adult scouter or rover scout

Contact: Shane Richardson (Camp Chief) - venturesword@scouts.ie



Registration

Register for the activity through the my.scouts.ie portal. Bookings will open on Wednesday 24th June and close on Wednesday 15th July.

Venture Scouts may register individually or a group leader may book on all of their Ventures. Accompanying scouters and staff can book on themselves. The easiest way is to login and scroll down to the calendar on your profile then click on the event marked for the 21st August to 23rd August. Ventures and the one accompanying Scouter must sign up on the Venture Sword Participant link and additional Scouters and Rovers must sign up on the Venture Scout Staff link.

All fees for both participants and staff must be paid by 15th July. Participants must be registered Ventures at the time of the booking and the Venture Sword.

The cost for the activity is €45 per participant. A breakdown of what this fee includes is outlined below.

- Camping Fees
- Breakfast on Sunday
- All meals for accompanying Scouter
- Neckerchiefs and event badges for new National Venture Sword participants
- Programme for bases
- Gold, Silver or Bronze standard badges



Activity Components

The basic elements of the Scouting Ireland Venture Scout Sword are as follows:

1. A crew of 6-8 Venture Scouts - teams can be mixed and made from multiple groups if required for entry. Any mixing of crews must be done in advance of the 15th of July. An email must be sent to venturesword@scouts.ie by the 15th July listing all members of mixed teams and who the accompanying scouter is.
2. Site build - must include one Icelandic tent, dining shelter and pioneered table and seating, a mythical gate, altar fire, pioneered legend tree (must represent at least 3 myths or legends) and one other gadget of your choosing, waste/recycling area, fire safety point/first aid point. The table, gate, altar fire and legend tree, along with the other gadget must be made using spars and sisal/bluerope or similar cordage. All gadgets must be made onsite i.e. no lashing can come pre-tied. The patrol site will be 12m by 12m and all patrol equipment, gadgets etc must be contained within the site boundaries (which must be erected by the crew using boundary poles and rope).
3. Adherence to the symbolic framework of the weekend - **Myths and Legends**
The site must have decorations, the crew board is to have references to the framework. Each crew will also have to dress up in a themed fashion and perform a sketch based on the theme. Each crew will be assigned to a subcamp based on a particular mythical or legendary land from different cultures throughout the world. The subcamps will be assigned after the close of bookings.
4. Participant in all programme bases over the weekend.
5. Complete a log book for the duration of the event as a crew
6. Prepare and cook a 2 course test meal on an altar fire based on the theme.

If you are unsure of any of the requirements please contact venturesword@scouts.ie



Equipment

A complete list of equipment needed will be sent out to crews and staff on booking. Standard equipment for canvas standing camping will be required. Each crew is required to bring a table and benches for the shared breakfast

Environmental Impact & Leave no Trace

All participants throughout the activity should adhere to the principles of Leave No Trace.

Link to Fiontar (Suas & Trasna)

Physical: Balanced diet

SUAS: Understand the importance of a balanced diet for an active lifestyle

TRASNA: Develop a balanced diet for an active lifestyle and plan appropriate menus for Venture Sword

Intellectual: Understand the impact your choices have on your life and your team

SUAS: Develop the skills and abilities to successfully participate in Venture Sword.

TRASNA: Progress in the skills and abilities to successfully participate in Venture sword, and commit to maintain these skills and abilities

Character: The courage to reach for your goals, while working as part of a team

SUAS: Participate in Venture Sword to develop your personal capabilities and to make progress in adventure skills

TRASNA: Plan an active programme around the Venture Sword activities to advance your personal capabilities and to further your progress in adventure skills

Emotional: Overcoming conflicts that might arise while working in a team

SUAS: Explore how you can cope with the challenges presented during a team driven activity

TRASNA: Try to improve your capabilities for dealing with challenges

Timetable

A full timetable of the event will circulate in advance of the closing date for bookings.

In summary, the event will start at 5pm on the 21st August and the closing ceremony will take place on the afternoon of the 23th August. Check in will be open from 3pm on Friday.

Note: Crews are not required to compete in a qualifying event before the date of the Sword. The National Venture Sword is open to any and all Venture Scouts in the country.

