



**W. D. BOYCE COUNCIL**  
**Boy Scouts of America**  
*Serving Youth in Central Illinois*

## Polar Bear Award

The Polar Bear Award is a council-level award to honor those Scouts and Scouters who extend their camping experiences through the winter months.

The Polar Bear Award can be earned by any WD Boyce-registered Scout (Scouts BSA), Venturer, Explorer, or Adult Leader. Webelos/AOL Scouts camping with a Troop are also eligible for this award.

The Polar Bear Badge is not an honorary badge. In order to earn this award, the candidate must have tent-camped or camped in a constructed survival-type shelter (such as a quinzhee) in the outdoors for 24-hours, during which the local outdoor temperature stays at 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below, and must be under the two-deep leadership of registered adult leaders.

Camping should take place in tents or in temporary shelters built at the time of the campout, and meals should be prepared in the outdoors. However, these qualifiers are left to the discretion of the Unit Leaders and based upon the safety and welfare of the candidates.

Having met these requirements, contact the Bloomington or Peoria Council Service Center to obtain the patches. (The patches are not available through the Scout Shop.) These patches can be earned multiple times a season, but only once per campout.