

Guidelines for Gradam na Réadóirí 2010

The Board of Management invites Centres to apply for entry for Gradam na Réadóirí 2010 (Pioneer Merit Award). On receipt of application, Centres will be forwarded a special Assessment Form which seeks details of the level of activity and participation of local members and committees during the current year. In all, there are nine areas of excellence to be assessed before the Gradam Merit Award is recommended. The **nine areas** include:

Membership and Recruitment at Juvenile, Young Pioneer and full Pioneer levels and the maintenance of register and minute books. Centres are recommended to carry out a census of Pioneers of all categories within their parish. (10 Points)

Spiritual and Liturgical Activity and Participation, e.g., Masses, retreats, pilgrimages, religious events, organised locally and participation in spiritual and liturgical ceremonies at regional, diocesan, provincial and national levels. (10 Points).

Leisure Activities, e.g., Participation in Réadóirí and Quiz competitions, attendance at local, regional, diocesan, provincial and national social functions and outings. (10 Points).

Youth Participation, i.e., promotion of the PTAA in local schools; election of Centre's Youth Officer; committee/council membership under the age of twenty-seven; participation in youth seminars, sports and other events organised by the National Youth Committee (20 Points).

Local Centre Activity, i.e., annual election/reelection of officers and delegates, agreed activities programme of Centre meeting; maintenance of minute's books, accounts and registers of members. (10 Points).

Participation in Regional and Diocesan Councils, including support for spiritual, leisure and youth events organised at these levels. (10 Points).

Promotion and Sale of Pioneer Magazine, Calendars, Christmas Cards, and other Pioneer publications to members and non-members. (10 Points)

Support for national and local PTAA fundraising, i.e., National Collection, raffle, Private Members' Draw, Cake Sales, Coffee Mornings, etc.(10 points).

Involvement of Pioneers in the Local Community, including participation in parish liturgy, church-based groups, sports, cultural and social (voluntary) bodies. (10 Points).

In order to qualify for the Gradam Merit Award, a Centre must get 40% in each area and a 60% overall. A panel of three assessors will visit with the Centre (applicant) during the months of October and November 2010. All active Centres are invited to apply for the Gradam Award for 2010. A specially embroidered pennant and Certificate of Achievement will be presented to successful applicants. This Certificate will record the number of times the Centre has been awarded the Gradam. A special Shield will be presented to Centres that have been awarded the Gradam for ten years.

Application for the Pioneer Merit Award * 2010 * Iarratas Do Ghradam Na Réadóirí

Centre _____ Centre Number _____

Diocese _____ Region _____

Secretary's Name & Address

_____ Phone _____

Email _____

The above Centre wishes to apply for Gradam na Réadóirí 2010. Please find enclosed entrance fee of €40.00

Signed _____ Date _____

After the closing date for applications, which are to be sent to:

Pioneer Central Office, 27 Upper Sherrard Street, Dublin 1, an Assessment Form will be forwarded to the Centre.

Last day for receipt of applications is Wednesday, 30th June, 2010.