

## **IMPORTANT UPDATE ON NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP FEE – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020**

As the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America evaluates the growing cost of delivering the Scouting program and the significant cost increase of the liability insurance, an announcement was made that membership fees for youth members and adult leaders (which go directly to the National Office) will increase as of January 1, 2020. We do not know the amount of the increase at this time since this requires National Executive Committee input and approval.



We recognize the timing of this likely fee increase creates challenges as units have already begun collecting fees for their 2020 registration renewal process. We sincerely apologize and hope you understand that the National Office would not be pursuing this path were it not absolutely necessary to ensure the BSA can continue carrying out its mission to serve youth. We are committed to supporting you through this process and necessary adjustments to the online rechartering system is being made to ensure units can carry out the normal yearly process with as few issues as possible.

Please know that the National Office is only considering this change out of necessity, and is committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. That is why, in anticipation of a likely increase, they are working to establish a donor-funded BSA Registration Assistance Fund to provide financial support to those who need it.

We recognize this is neither easy information to hear, nor to convey, but we want to be transparent as we have information to share so you can prepare your units appropriately. We anticipate providing the new registration fee no later than October 23, 2019, which would take effect on January 1, 2020. The rechartering system will still open on November 1st to allow units to do their roster work.

Please note the annual insurance fee per registered Scout and leader (which stays with the local council to pay insurance fees) will be \$11 effective this recharter period.