



**October 2019**

Shon Whigham, Cubmaster  
Wesley Keller, Committee Chair

## Recharter

Recharter is upon us. This is when we hate to even ask, but if you do not intend to continue on with scouting, we need to know. At our next pack meeting, it will be last call for confirmation for our members. Attendance is key. District is asking for recharter to be completed before our next pack meeting. We can delay a week.

## Chili Cook-off and Pumpkin Carving

This is a family fun event for all cub scouts and their families.

Come carve pumpkins, share your best chili and let the kids have fun making dessert!

This will be a great time to get to know the other parents in the pack and your den too!

When: Saturday, October 26, 2019

Where: Hoblitzelle Park - 7500 Red River Dr, Plano, TX 75025

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Info: <https://pack4380plano.weebly.com/chili-cook-off.html>

### Dates to Remember:

- **October 26:** Chili Cookoff and Pumpkin carving
- **November 2:** Plano Police Department Cub Scout Saturday
- **November 9:** North Metro Service Area Cub Aviator - Single Overnight Camping Experience

## Medical Questions: What do we do for medical forms?

That is a simple answer. On our pack website, under resources, is a page of resource documents. The bottom link is for a fillable PDF for BSA medical forms. Download the file, save a copy for every family member. Keep it updated. Bring a copy to the next camping trip you attend so we can have a copy as needed for any other events. When you turn in your annual updated copy, your previous will be returned to you.

## Notice from National About Dues

For more than 100 years, Scouting has helped build future leaders by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun and adventure in the outdoors. At Boy Scouts of America, we are dedicated to developing leaders of character by preparing young men and women for life by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The timeless ideals of the Scout Law, such as being trustworthy, helpful, kind and brave, make up the foundation young people need to address and overcome challenges in their lives and the issues facing their generation.

Here in Circle Ten Council, Scouting serves more than 58,000 youth in 24 counties. Now as we continue the Scouting mission, it is important that we keep pace with an ever-changing world. While costs to the organization have increased every year, the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America has worked to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible by subsidizing core costs, including liability insurance the national organization must carry to cover all official Scouting activities. Unfortunately, it is no longer possible to subsidize at the level they have in the past, especially as the cost of insurance has increased dramatically. The National Council has



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kept the cost low to make Scouting available to as many young people as possible but keeping the cost artificially low for many years now magnifies the impact of changes.

To ensure we have the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting despite increasing operating costs, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America has made the difficult but necessary decision to increase the annual membership fee effective January 1, 2020 to:

- \$60 for youth members in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts (up from \$33),
- \$36 for youth members in Exploring (up from \$33), and
- \$36 for adult members (up from \$33)
- \$60 for unit charter fee (up from \$40)

Every dollar of the national membership fee will go directly to the National Council to cover the cost of essential services, including liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, program resources, safety standards, youth protection and personal safety training, and services to councils nationwide to sustain Scouting. The National organization will also continue to develop and improve resources that support our volunteers and youth members such as online registration, Member Care and Scoutbook, which now includes the Den Leader experience to ensure the safe and consistent delivery of Cub Scouting; as well as improvements aimed at simplifying the annual renewal process.

Across the country and in our own community, we know that Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments we can make to support young men and women today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. From once-in-a-lifetime adventures to merit badges that spark interests and future careers; from campouts under the stars to service projects that leave a lasting impact on our communities; Scouting's year-round program expands horizons and provides young people with a safe and welcoming place to learn, grow, and thrive.

That is why we are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. In addition to our Trevor Rees-Jones ScoutReach initiative, the National Council has established a national *Growing Future Leaders Fund*, which is funded entirely through donations, to provide additional financial support to those who need it.

To support our families and units, the council has made the decision to extend the popcorn sale beyond the original October 28<sup>th</sup> completion date. If your unit has not participated in this year's popcorn sale, you can also sign up and start selling. There will be two dates for orders to be placed and picked up between now and December 2<sup>nd</sup>. [All details may be found on the Circle Ten Hub](#). The average Scout sells \$300 in popcorn, which will more than cover this fee increase.

Thank you for your continued role in empowering a generation of future leaders of character through Scouting programs.



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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why are the fees increasing now?**

While costs increase every year, the Boy Scouts of America has worked to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible to make Scouting available to as many young people as possible by subsidizing core costs, including liability insurance the National Council must carry to cover all official Scouting activities. As the organization's financial situation has shifted over the past several months, it is no longer possible to subsidize at the level they have in the past, especially as the cost of insurance has increased dramatically.

### **Does this apply to youth members and volunteers?**

Yes, the new fees apply for youth and adult members. Effective January 1, 2020, the new fees are:

- \$60 for youth members in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts (up from \$33),
- \$36 for youth members in Exploring (up from \$33), and
- \$36 for adult members (includes cost of background check and *Scouting Magazine*) (up from \$33)
- \$60 for unit charter fees (up from \$40)

### **Is Scouting still a good value?**

Absolutely! While most extracurricular activities are seasonal, Scouting is a year-round program that remains one of the most valuable investments we can make to support young men and women today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. For most of our youth members, the new registration fee amounts to \$5 a month, which is an enormous value when you consider that many seasonal extracurricular activities often start at \$100 for programs that last a few weeks.

### **Does the fee increase apply to council-paid memberships?**

The Circle Ten Council will continue the Trevor Rees-Jones ScoutReach initiative to ensure that all youth have the opportunity to be Scouts.

### **What will the money be used for?**

Every dollar of membership fees will go to the National Council to cover the cost of essential services, including liability insurance for members participating in approved Scouting activities, background checks for adult leaders, program development and training resources, continuously updated youth protection and youth safety training, improved IT/digital experiences and services to our councils nationwide.

### **Is this increase being implemented to cover the cost of the additional background checks?**

No, the cost of background checks is not prompting the fee increase.

### **Why is this being announced now?**

We recognize the timing of this fee increase creates challenges as units have already begun collecting fees for their 2020 registration renewal process, and this difficult decision would not have been made if it were not absolutely necessary. Unfortunately, the cost of liability insurance the we must carry to cover all Scouting



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activities has increased dramatically over the past several months, and the organization is no longer able to offset the cost of insurance. The national organization are committed to supporting you through this process and are making necessary adjustments to the online rechartering system to ensure units can carry out the recharter process.

**Does this increase cover financial challenges the organization is facing?**

The increase was prompted because the cost of liability insurance we must carry to cover all Scouting activities has increased dramatically over the past several months, and the organization is no longer able to offset the cost of insurance. The national membership fee also enables us program development and training resources, continuously updated youth protection and youth safety training, improved IT/digital experiences and services to our councils nationwide.

**When will this increase take effect?**

The new membership fees will take effect starting January 1, 2020 for the 2020-21 program year.

**Is financial assistance available?**

We are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. In addition to the Trevor Rees-Jones ScoutReach initiative here in Circle Ten Council, the National Council has established the donor-funded *Growing Future Leaders Fund* to provide financial support to those who need it.

**The Circle Ten Council recently announced a new fee to cover insurance. Does this change mean that fee is no longer necessary?**

The Circle Ten Council Executive Board approved a new insurance fee in August. Once the news about a membership fee increase was being considered, the council made the decision to not implement the additional insurance fee at this time. Therefore, no additional insurance fee will be assessed this year.

**What measures has the national organization taken to offset the financial challenges?**

In addition to ongoing efforts to streamline and simplify the organization, the national organization has taken a number of steps in addressing its financial challenges, including the recent elimination of more than 35 positions at the National Service Center and ongoing consolidation of departments for the most effective utilization of resources in support of Scouting.

**Will the national membership fee continue to increase?**

Although no decision about future increases have been made, the cost of operating our organization and services increases every year. Should it be necessary to increase fees in the future, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America has agreed to evaluate the needs and make such decisions, whenever possible, at the National Annual Meeting in May or early in the summer so that they can be announced with as much lead time as possible to allow for councils and units to be able to plan accordingly.

**Quick Notes**

- **Recruiting!** It's never too early to start thinking about inviting new families to join Scouting. If you know of anyone that might be interested in joining Pack 4380 please let us know and we can get them information



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## Pack People to Know

Position	2018-2019	2019-2020
<b>Cubmaster</b>	Shon Whigham	Shon Whigham
<b>Assistant Cubmaster</b>		
<b>Pack Committee Chair</b>	Wesley Keller	Wesley Keller
<b>Treasurer</b>	Barbara Farris	Gina Goudy
<b>Membership</b>	Terri Childress	Terri Childress
<b>Pack Secretary</b>	Terri Childress	Terri Childress
<b>Recruiting Chair</b>		
<b>Advancement Coordinator</b>	Amber Whigham	Amber Whigham
<b>Webmaster</b>	Wesley Keller	Wesley Keller
<b>Blue &amp; Gold</b>	Webelos 2 Leaders	Webelos 2 Leaders
<b>Service Projects</b>		
<b>Pinewood Derby</b>	Larry Farris	
<b>Fundraising</b>	Kris Koepp	Wesley Keller
<b>Training Chair</b>	Anna Hulse	Bill Hulse
<b>Outdoor Chair</b>	Wesley Keller	Wesley Keller
<b>Grub Master</b>	Curtis Childress	Curtis Childress
<b>Summer Camp Coordinator</b>		
<b>STEM Coordinator</b>		
<b>T-Shirt/Pack Closet Coordinator</b>		Jennifer Robertson

**See a job that you could do in your sleep?**

**See jobs being done by one person?**

**See a spot you could fill? Don't be shy...**