

# 2024 Annual Membership Fee Update

Effective **April 1, 2024**, the BSA will **eliminate the \$25 one-time joining fee** for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting.

- **\$85/yr** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- **\$65/yr** for all adult volunteers (\$5 increase)
- **\$30/yr** for Scoutreach (No change in fee)
- **\$25/yr** for Merit Badge Counselors (No change in fee. Only for Merit Badge Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- **\$50/yr** for Exploring participants Youth & Adult (No change in fee)
- **\$100/yr** unit renewal/affiliation fee (No change in fee)
- **\$15/yr** for Scout Life magazine (No change in fee)
- Council Program Fee will remain at \$48 for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants until July 31, 2024 and then will increase to \$68 on August 1, 2024

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## Lace up your Hiking Boots

Lace up your Hiking Boots for the BCT (Bay Circuit Trail)

What if there was a local hiking trail that travelled around the city of Boston, through some 37 local cities and towns offering natural beauty, historical interest and access to trail heads and trail segments using the MBTA and public

transportation? A trail that is managed by a collaboration of private and public entities including the Appalachian Mountain Club and local town and city conservations departments.

Hiking, biking, cross country skiing and snow shoeing are all available on the trail. If that were the case, you would be describing the Bay Circuit Trail! The BCT is some 230 miles long, starting at the mouth of the Merrimack River and ending in Kingston Bay on the South Shore circling the city of Boston.

We are inviting all Mayflower Scout units to choose a trail segment either in their own hometown or a trail segment of their choice, so that all or units together will cover all 230 miles of the trail in a single day! Cub Scouts, Scout BSA and Venturers are all invited to participate. Trail segments can be assigned by hiking ability and length to accommodate the novice or the experienced hiker. We would ask that a photo be taken at both the start and the end of your hike as proof that you have completed your part of the trail. Scout units from other local councils are also cordially invited to join us on hike day. We are planning an ending celebration after all 230 miles have been completed. Did I mention that there will be a cool and unique patch made available to all registered hikers?

Hike day is planned for Saturday May 18th. Watch for a future registration link and additional detail as we get closer to hike day. Unit leaders include this in you units' activity planning, you will want to be part of this once in a lifetime opportunity!

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**Mayflower Council Executive**

# Board Portal

Welcome to the Mayflower Council Executive Board Portal, a secure and centralized location designed to streamline board operations and enhance collaboration among executive members. This portal provides a comprehensive suite of tools to facilitate efficient meeting management, document sharing, and secure communication, enabling you to make informed decisions and drive strategic growth for our organization.

[Visit Board Portal](#)

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## Always Room for More – Earn A Recruiter Patch

Always Room for More

Earn your “Recruiter” patch in 2023

The founder of the Scouting movement, Sir Robert Baden Powell – better known as B-P in Scout circles – once said:

“An invaluable step in character training is to put responsibility on the individual.” In the spirit of that wise sentiment, the Mayflower Council is looking for some recruiting help.

And who better to ask than the Scouts themselves?

During the months of November and December, we encourage individual Scouts to look to their friend groups and ask potential Scouts to join them at a meeting.

Scouts who successfully recruit a friend will receive a “Recruiter” patch courtesy of the Mayflower Council – we’ll provide it free!

There are three steps to earn the badge:

1. Encourage your Scouts to encourage a friend to attend an upcoming meeting or event and join before December 31.
2. When a Scout recruits their friend, a Scoutmaster or Cubmaster completes this form.
3. We will ship the Recruiter Badge to your unit to award to your recruiters as part of your next Court of Honor or rank advancement. We will also send the newly enrolled Scout a “Welcome” letter.

It’s as simple as that.

Meanwhile, we’re hoping to build on the work everyone put in during “Join Scouting Day” and “Slices for Scouting” and bring even more youth into BSA membership via Mayflower Council.

And we know that our Scouts are up for the challenge. So, let’s get to it!

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## **2024 Silver Beaver Award Nominations**

In Scouting, we say “it’s about the youth” and none of our adults are involved for the recognition, but every now and then we need to say thanks especially to those volunteers whose leadership and example has left a lasting positive impact on the program and the broader community. One way we do that is through nominating a Scouter for the Silver Beaver

Award, the highest adult recognition a council can bestow. Take a few moments to reflect on volunteers within your unit or district and consider nominating them for the Silver Beaver Award.

To simplify the process this year a new online nomination form was completed. This form will allow you to save your work and go back and add additional information at another time prior to the nomination deadline.

## SILVER BEAVER NOMINATION FORM

**All nominations must be received by Tuesday, January 2, 2023.**

A detailed nomination form, to review before completing the online form, is available by clicking [here](#). Kindly do not submit paper versions of the form.

Questions regarding nominations should be emailed to: [awards@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:awards@mayflowerbsa.org). The awards will be presented at the Council's Recognition Dinner to be held April 24, 2024.

**Frequently asked questions about the Silver Beaver Award:**

## Overview

To recognize registered Scouters of exceptional character who have provided distinguished service within a council. The award is presented by the National Court of Honor on behalf of councils.

## Who Can Earn This Award?

Anyone may nominate any deserving registered Scouter to the council, which selects recipients for the following year. Each council may process their own annual allotment of Silver Beaver awards and shall send a list of Silver Beaver awards presented each calendar year to the National Court of Honor no later than January 31 of the following year.

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# **George WP Magee Memorial Trust Donates \$40,000**

The Mayflower Council recently received a generous capital gift of \$40,000 from the George W. P. Magee Memorial Trust to fund two major camp projects at Camps Squanto and Resolute.

The first project involves building a new program pavilion at the shotgun range at Camp Squanto (located in the LeBaron R. Barker Scout Reservation and the Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth), while the second project entails installing a new metal roof at the Handicraft Lodge at Adventure Day Camp at Resolute (situated in the E. Paul Robsham, Jr. Scout Reservation located on Little Pond in Bolton, Massachusetts).

The Mayflower Council, established in 2017, is a result of the consolidation of Scouting programming that has served Greater Metro West and the South Shore areas of Massachusetts for over a century.

Comprised of territory that was once part of the Algonquin, Norumbega, Knox Trail, Squanto, and Old Colony Councils and stretches from Stow to Plymouth, Mass., the Mayflower Council is rich with the traditions and history of generations of scouts and scouting families.

Mayflower Council Director of Development James Corcoran expressed gratitude towards the Magee Trust for their continuous support, stating that the council and its predecessors have received over \$2,234,375 in capital and camp scholarship projects since 1944. "The Council is very grateful to the Magee Trust for their continued generosity," added Corcoran. "We could not have done these projects without the

annual support of the trust.” The George W. P. Magee Trust is a private trust that exclusively distributes income to Boy Scout Councils headquartered in Massachusetts for capital projects and camp scholarships.

Since its inception, The Magee Trust has distributed over \$10,700,000.00 to Massachusetts Boy Scout Councils.

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## **Mayflower Partners With Spartan Race**

***Join us on November 11 or 12 at  
Fenway Park...***

Have you heard the news?

Usually, Mayflower Scouts are *watching* the action at Fenway Park. However, this fall, our Scouts will *be in* the action at Fenway (just not in baseball).

Mayflower Council has partnered with Spartan Races and the Spartan Kids Foundation to provide complimentary racing tickets for any Scouts interested in participating in their Fenway Park Spartan Races on Nov 11th and 12th when they can join Spartan Races for the Epic Stadium Obstacle Course event.

Ages 5-13 may participate in the kid's event (two free spectator passes included), while ages 14+ will participate in the 5K stadium event (and spectator passes may be purchased).

Unit leaders should follow the QR code in the image below to request registration codes for their scouts.

So, be sure to share the flyer with your friends and family all around the United States.



# Mayflower Scouts earn your Spartan Medal!

Free Event at Fenway Park  
November 11, 2023

Scouts join us for an Epic Stadium Obstacle Course Event!

Kid's Event - ages 4-13 includes two free spectator passes for accompanying adults.

5k Stadion Event - ages 14+  
Specator passes can be purchased



Leaders to register your Scouts scan the QR Code and fill out the form that appears.



Registration is on a first come basis until all spots are filled. Last day to register is Oct. 27, 2023 We also have discounted registrations available for parents, siblings, friends, etc.

<https://race.spartan.com/en/race/detail/7942/overview> - just enter the code **MFBSAMA** at checkout and help us fundraise also!

Questions: Please contact [Logan@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:Logan@mayflowerbsa.org)

# **2023 Westborough Good Scout Award Dinner**

## **Westborough Good Scout Dinner**

**Tuesday, November 7, 2023**

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel**

**5400 Computer Drive, Westborough, MA**

**Reception 6:00 pm – Dinner & Program 7:00 pm**

### **2023 Honorees**



**Beverly and Bill  
Linnane**

Beverly and Bill have resided in the Town of Westborough for over 54 years. Throughout the years they have both been extremely active in numerous town committees and activities.

Bill is a fourth-generation resident of Westborough. He attended Westborough High School, class of 1958 and graduated with degrees from Wentworth Institute of Technology and Northeastern University. He is a retired Construction Management professional. Since 1960 through today, Bill has been associated with various town government and community groups.

Bill's town work has included: Advisory Finance Committee, Charter Review, WPL trustee, founding member of Music Parents WHS, to highlight a few. He has been involved in many organizations: Charlotte Spinney Mentoring Program, Westborough Connects, past member of the Good Scout Committee, Westborough Legends, Civic Club, Rotary Club of Westborough,

Beverly grew up in Calais, Maine. After graduation, she received her RN from Peter Bent Brigham School of Nursing, now Brigham & Women's. She worked a long nursing career in both Boston and Worcester, specializing in surgical care. After retirement, she established a business called Rabbit Hollow, handknits for kids. This is supported by many members of the community for which she is very grateful.

Beverly has been a member of Westborough Garden Club for many years serving as community beautification chairman for 13 years and past president. She served on the downtown community beautification committee with many accomplishments. She loves Westborough and has great satisfaction in helping to beautify the town with gardens and flowers. To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

Beverly and Bill have been married for 58 years and have two wonderful and successful children, Jennifer, and Sean and a beautiful, talented granddaughter, Madigan. They are overwhelmed to be the 2023 Good Scout receptionists.

# About The Good Scout Award

The Good Scout Award is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated integrity and genuine concern for others in both their professional and personal lives.

The recipients need not have been Scouts but must carry the "Spirit of Scouting" into their adult lives. They are people who have been unselfish in their service to others on an individual and community basis. They seek no return for their service other than the satisfaction of aiding their fellow citizens, their community, and their nation.

The Good Scouts are people who truly capture the respect and imagination of our youth.

**You may register and pay online or fill out the mail-in registration form.**

**Registration and program book ad's must be received by October 27, 2023.**

If you have any questions, please email: Westborough Good Scout Committee

Ad Specifications  
Program Ad Specifications  
[Register Online Here](#)

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# Slices for Scouting

## A Night With Friends & Fun to Kickstart a New Year of Scouting in the Mayflower Council!

### What It Is

**What:** Fun, easy-to-host, one-night “pizza party” launch for 2022 – 2023 “sponsored” by the Mayflower Council

**When :** Any date in October 2022

**Where:** Your unit at the venue of choice...just need a YouTube-ready TV

**Who:** You, your Scouting group and prospective Scouting families

**How:** See the agenda for the evening below

### The Agenda: What Happens At Slices For Scouting

Scouts & friends eat pizza

Watch the Mayflower Council video on YouTube

Units share a slide show

Scouts share stories & upcoming adventures

Answer questions & invite to next meeting

Give out prizes to those in attendance  
Ready to join? Fill out application online

## How It Works: Your Step-By-Step Guide

1: Choose a Slices for Scouting Party Host Rick Riopelle 2022-08-12T16:15:36-04:00

### 1: Choose a Slices for Scouting Party Host

Choose a parent who will lead your “Slices for Scouting” party event.

Duties will be to lead the next steps.

2. Order Your Party Pack Rick Riopelle 2022-08-12T16:26:11-04:00

### 2. Order Your Party Pack

Order your Slices for Scouting Kit below!

Loading...

3: Confirm Date/Location Rick Riopelle 2022-08-12T16:27:31-04:00

### 3: Confirm Date/Location

**Determine date, time and location** for the unit Slices for Scouting Party with parents/unit leadership.

The council video will go “live” on YouTube at 6 p.m. on Friday, October 1 and be available any time thereafter.

4. Promote on Social Media and Accept Requests to Attend Rick Riopelle 2022-08-12T16:38:29-04:00

## **4. Promote on Social Media and Accept Requests to Attend**

1. Create a Google Form to collect names of prospective Scouts who would like to attend in response your Facebook Post. The form should include:
  - YES! I would like to attend your Pizza Party to learn more about Scouts BSA!
  - Name
  - Phone Number
  - Email Address
  - How did you hear about us ?
  - Questions/Comments

2. Promote your pizza party on your unit Facebook page and share in your community Facebook pages with a link to the Google Form. Be sure to include information on the date, time and location of your party, as well as a date for them to sign up by. SAMPLE:

*From taking your first hike in the mountains...to starting your first campfire...Scouts BSA is about testing your limits and pushing yourself to do things you never thought possible. Don't let adventure pass you by! Check out our troop today!*

*Learn more at our New Member Pizza Party on Friday, October 14th from 6 to 7:30PM at First Congregational Church, 123 Main Street; Milford! Click the link below for your personal invitation!*

5. Invite Your Guests via Text (Sample Copy & Image)Rick Riopelle2022-08-12T16:42:23-04:00

## **5. Invite Your Guests via Text (Sample Copy & Image)**

**Text for parents to send to friends:**

*Hi (NAME)! Our Scout unit is hosting a pizza party to kick off the new school year and I'd love to invite you and (SON/DAUGHTER). We'll have pizza, prizes and would love to share some of the fun we have in store to get our kids unplugged, outdoors and having fun this year!*

**Text for Slices for Scouting Party Host or leader to send to Scouts who dropped or have requested more information from your area (the Mayflower Council will send you a list of any prospects):**

Hi (NAME)! My name is (YOUR NAME) and I'm with Scout (troop/ship/crew NUMBER). Our Scout unit is hosting a pizza party to kick off the new year of Scouting and I'd love to invite you and (SON/DAUGHTER). We'll have pizza, prizes and would love to share some of the fun we have in store to get our kids unplugged, outdoors and having fun this year!

**Social Media Images to Include** (right click to download)



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YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE.**

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6. Follow Up, Confirm RSVP by September 17Rick Riopelle2022-08-12T16:43:10-04:00

## **6. Follow Up, Confirm RSVP by September 17**

Slices for Scouting Party host should follow up with parents about attendees and prepare the pizza order.

7. Create a SlideshowRick Riopelle2022-08-12T16:44:01-04:00

## **7. Create a Slideshow**

Assign an adult or Scout to create a short photo slideshow presentation of your unit's adventures. This is an easy, friendly way to get your Scouts talking about the fun things you do!

8. Prepare to Party!Rick Riopelle2022-08-12T16:45:11-04:00

## **8. Prepare to Party!**

Party packs will be delivered the week of September 22.

It will include your \$30 Dominos gift card which should cover at least 3 medium pizzas. (You may need to order more.) It will also include prizes, quick start guides and more. Instructions & tips for a successful event will also be

included.

9. Follow Up After the Party (Sample Copy) Rick Riopelle 2022-08-12T16:45:53-04:00

## 9. Follow Up After the Party (Sample Copy)

Follow up with prospective Scout parents with the following:

*Hi (NAME)! It was so great to have you at our pizza party! I hope you enjoyed it. Do you have any further questions? I'd also like to invite you and (SON/DAUGHTER) to our upcoming Scout meeting on (DATE/TIME) at (LOCATION/ADDRESS). It's going to be super fun!*

Scouts BSA Boy Troop Mayflower Council YouTube Video

Scouts BSA Girl Troop Mayflower Council YouTube Video

## Pizza – Party – Prizes

Hosted by You, Sponsored by the Mayflower Council



**Deadline to Register:  
September 18, 2023**

Register Your Scout Unit Today!

## What you'll receive:

- \$30 gift card to order Dominos pizza
- Prize pack including fun giveaways, stickers & more
- Event "how-to-guide"
- Quick start guides
- Online application QR code

## Keys to Success

**Keep it Personal:** Have each parent invite one other new parent/child

**Keep it Simple:** You may elect to have a game or activity or keep the "party" as simple as you like.

**Keep it Small:** this allows for more conversation and questions with new parents & Scouts.

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## National BSA Member Fee Increase 2023

Dear Scouting family,

We received the following very important message from our national council and wanted to share it with you in its entirety.

BSA's emergence from bankruptcy represents a pivotal milestone in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA)'s financial restructuring case and solidifies a path forward for survivors and the

Scouting movement.

To preserve its mission, the BSA has had to take some extraordinary steps over the past three years to reposition the organization for the future. The BSA has streamlined its professional staff and volunteer structure, reducing costs throughout the movement while maintaining essential services to support the local councils who were critical partners during the bankruptcy.

To position Scouting for the future, the BSA will be required to increase the national annual membership fees for both youth and adults. This has been a difficult decision that involved the engagement of key stakeholders, but is essential to building a strong, safe, and vibrant Scouting program for our nation's youth.

Effective **August 1, 2023**, the BSA will implement the following national membership fees which were approved by the National Executive Committee:

- **\$80** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- **\$60** for all adult volunteers (\$15 increase to provide general liability insurance and enhanced background checks)
- **\$25** one-time joining fee for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting (Not prorated and no change in fee)
- **\$30** for Scoutreach (Not prorated)
- **\$25** for Merit Badge Counselors (New Fee applies only for Merit Badge Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- **\$50** for Exploring participants Youth & Adult (\$5 increase)
- **\$100** for a unit charter/affiliation fee (no change in fee)
- **\$15** for *Scout Life* magazine

## **New Annual Membership Fee Process Announced – BSA Will No Longer Prorate Fees for New Members beginning August 1, 2023**

Beginning August 1, 2023, all new youth and adult members who join Scouting will be enrolled in a 12-month membership cycle and BSA will cease prorating fees. Both youth and adults will pay the full annual membership fee and will renew their membership on the anniversary date of joining Scouting. All proration of membership fees will be eliminated. Each registered member of the BSA will receive an email notice with a registration renewal link beginning 60 days before the anniversary date they joined Scouting. Unit leaders will receive a copy of the email and should stay engaged in the membership renewal process just like rechartering.

It is important to note, existing members will renew their membership during their normal registration/recharter cycle through March 2024. Moving forward all members will renew on their anniversary date.

- Existing members' Anniversary date will be their unit recharter month.
- New members' Anniversary date will be the month they joined.

This new process will help streamline the rechartering and membership renewal process for units and councils. *Additional information on this membership renewal process will be forthcoming in the very near future.*

## **Rules and Regulations – Local Council Annual Registration or Program Fees**

Under the Rules and Regulations of the BSA, a local council may charge an annual registration or program fee to youth members, adult program participants and Scouters whose primary registration is with the council in an amount not to exceed the amount of the applicable individual registration fee for their position established by the Executive Committee. In the

new Annual Membership fee structure, a local council may charge a maximum of **\$80 per youth** and **\$60 per adult**.

### **What does the National Membership Fee cover?**

The national membership fee helps cover the cost of essential services to the local council and units. Services include expanded liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, enhanced criminal background checks, a variety of program resources, youth protection and leader-specific training, and the development of intellectual property for national, council, and unit programs. As BSA moves forward, the organization will continue to look at the membership fee structure and how we deliver the Scouting program for future generations.

Across the country and in each of our communities, we know that Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments we can make in youth today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. Our dedicated volunteers, staff, and Scouting families make this possible. Thank you for continuing to support one of the most valuable opportunities available to young people today.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What is driving the youth and adult membership fee increase?**

- General Liability Insurance costs to protect volunteer leaders, staff, charter organizations, units, and youth.
- BSA restructuring costs.
- Enhanced Criminal Background check processes and investments in Youth protection and safety programs.

#### **What steps has the National Service Center taken to manage costs?**

- Completed a new staff structure and streamlined both the professional workforce and the volunteer structure, while maintaining essential services.
- Reduced the National staff workforce to support essential services.
- Reduced expenses throughout the National organization.

### **What is the new membership fee for youth and adults? Will the fees go up again?**

- The new adult membership fee is \$60, and the youth membership fee is \$80 annually.
- The BSA will continue to evaluate the membership fees and keep our councils and unit leaders informed of any further changes to the fee structure.

### **What benefits and services are provided to the local council with the new fee?**

- Expanded GLIP protections for Chartered Organizations and volunteers.
- Enhanced Criminal Background checks.
- Investments in BSA safety resources and training.
- The employment of a new Youth Protection Executive and support staff.
- The National Council provides the following essential services to councils:
  - The use of BSA Intellectual Property – Youth Safety, Cub Scouts, Scouts, BSA, Venturing, Camp Standards, Training and Program development etc.
  - Legal
  - Human Resources
  - Information Technology – Rechartering, Scout Book
  - Accounting Resources
  - Council Services Support

- Membership & Marketing Support
- Crisis Communications and support
- Safety & Membership Standards Support
- A variety of training support for youth and adult leaders
- Health Insurance & Benefits

**What benefits and services are provided to the unit with the registration fee?**

- Expanded General Liability Insurance protections for the chartered organization and unit leaders in the event of an incident.
- Program research and development including, Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Exploring.
- Access to Youth Protection Training, Incident Reporting and Scouts First Helpline: 1- 844-Scouts1.
- Access to leadership specific training for adult leaders.
- Investments in program literature and resource development.
- Ability to purchase Uniforms, Insignia and Recognition for youth and Adults.
- Provides access to Membership, Marketing, and Brand Center resources.
- Provides important technology support including Scout Book, on-line registration, on-line advancement, and rechartering, My. Scouting, BeAScout, and BSA Brand Center for digital assets.
- Access to the four BSA High Adventure Properties including Philmont Scout Ranch, Florida Sea Base, Northern Tier High Adventure Base, and the Summit Bechtel Reserve.

Mayflower Council understands that you may have more questions, and we will welcome them at our Summer Membership

Roundtable Series taking place in the coming months. You can register by clicking the date for July 11 and August 16.