

New Video Resources Can Help Den Leaders

With the pandemic limiting some in-person activities, these videos offer an easy-to-deliver virtual alternative for leaders. Your Content Goes Here

Council Support For Units & Scout Families

What Does Mayflower Council Do For Units & Scout Families?

To help unit leaders, the council maintains a service center with administrative staff to:

- Process registrations, Boys' Life subscriptions, and special requests to the National Service Center and other organizations.
- Maintain a supply of literature, insignia, forms, certificates, etc., needed by the leader to carry on the unit's program.
- Keep records of advancement, membership, training, etc. necessary to unit operation.
- Publish a weekly newsletter to keep leaders informed of the latest local and national Scouting news, coming events, etc.

- Produce notices, minutes, agendas, etc., for district and council committees that are developing programs for leader and unit benefit.
- Handle inquiries and visitors to our service center for information related to unit operation and Scouting procedures.
- Provide a myriad of forms, applications, certificates and literature helpful in the unit program.
- Produce district and council calendars and schedules, programs, kits and special aids to assist leaders and their committees.
- Manage reservations for long-term camping, short-term camps, camporees, jamborees, high adventure bases, training courses, meetings, annual council and district meetings, troop leader and den leader events.

To protect the unit leader, the council:

- Maintains a liability policy for the protection of all leaders and chartered organizations.
- Maintains accident and sickness insurance policy for all registered youth and leaders.
- Screens requests for services and money earning proposals, guarding against improper use of Scouting for commercialism and exploitation.
- Has staff members available on what is practically an around-the-clock, around-the-calendar basis to meet any emergency.
- Manages and processes CORI checks
- Provides assistance with any Youth Protection issues that may arise.

To help the leader develop unit program, the council provides without charge:

- Program helps, calendar of activities, meetings and special events.
- Awards, such as ribbons, certificates, recruiting

awards, etc.

- Recruitment supplies including posters, fliers and other materials.
- Sample ceremonies, parent's night program outlines, training aids, etc.
- Source materials and personnel.
- Materials, books, pamphlets, folders, videos and special helps from the National Council and cooperating organizations.

In the field of camping and outdoor activities, the council:

- Maintains three Scout camps, with a total of 1,500 acres, for year-round camping and Cub Scout family outdoor events. Our Scout camps serve as year-round activities, camping and training centers.
- Offers units the use of equipment for short-term, weekend, and year-round camping.
- Covers costs of camp improvement, repairs, replacement, maintenance, insurance and administration. These and other charges are not paid for by Scout's fees.
- Employs full-time camp rangers for the protection of the Scout camps and the convenience of units using facilities. They keep these facilities ready and available for unit and family use.
- Provides campers' early-bird savings discounts, unit leaders' guidebook, camp videos, literature and other aids to help units with their program.
- Provides scholarships or "camperships" for Scouts who need some financial help to have a summer camp experience.
- Offers units and individual youth access to high-adventure bases like Philmont Scout Ranch, Northern Tier and Sea Base, national jamborees, field days, camporees and other special events. These would not exist without the council giving leadership and coordination.

In educational and relationship building programs, the council provides the leader with:

- A library of videos, digital projectors and screens for use in training and promotional programs.
- Informal and formal training courses with most of the cost of literature and materials, etc., and all the staff time included in the council budget.
- Monthly roundtables for the benefit of leaders, committee persons, assistants, and den leaders, providing materials, staff and other costs.
- Scouter's Key, training awards, Den Leader's Training Award, Silver Beaver, District Award of Merit and other Scouter recognitions.
- A merit badge counselor corps in more than 130 subjects.
- A variety of advancement forms and certificates without charge.

Providing the unit with district and council activities and service, the council:

- Plans and conducts various types of activities in which units participate such as Merit Badge University, Pinewood Derby and Scouting for Food.
- Organizes camporees, Cub Scout day camps, jamborees, high-adventure trips, absorbing some overhead costs to keep participants' expenses to a minimum.
- Works with various community groups to arrange for Scout participation in civic affairs and Good Turn projects.
- Recruits and trains a corps of commissioners for assisting with unit program and maintaining standards.

To assist leaders, the council employs a trained full-time staff who counsel, guide and inspire:

- Through person-to-person counseling on unit relationships, administrative and operational problems.
- Through guidance of all committees, commissioners,

roundtables, meetings, conferences, courses, district and council activities in the development of programs that directly benefit leaders and units.

- Through contacts with the community resources (clubs, churches, government, etc.), secure help for all units that they alone could not obtain. The use of parks, recreational areas, use of buildings for special events, picnic areas, campsites, and meeting facilities are a few examples.

National BSA Member Fee Increase

Dear Scouting Family,

Today the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America announced an increase to the annual membership fees. These increases are a result of rising operational costs and COVID-19, which has created a substantial unplanned loss of revenue due to mandated Scout Shop closures and shortened high adventure base seasons.

Locally, our council is also facing financial challenges and we are doing our best to address the impact of three months of office closure, activity cancellations, diminished fundraising campaigns, and the loss of some of our summer camp season. We know, however, that our staff and volunteers will continue to do their best to offer high-quality Scouting experiences during these challenging times.

We understand many of our Scouting families are also dealing

with similar financial issues. We do not want finances to be a barrier to participation in Scouting, and will do our best to assist families who need it, to the fullest extent possible.

We are aware some of our members may have heard about these fee changes this weekend via social media. The Mayflower Council did not share this information previously because the National Council requested that all councils wait until June 1st before distributing this news. Some councils, unfortunately, chose to share the information prematurely, which may have spawned some confusion. The Mayflower Council apologizes for any inconvenience this action may have caused.

Please review the infographic below. [Click here](#) to view the frequently asked questions about the fee increase. As more information is released, we will share the most up to date information here.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our Scouts. As Scouting navigates these turbulent times, we stand together to achieve our shared mission: helping young people in our community learn, grow, and thrive.

If you have specific questions regarding these changes, please contact your district executive or [email us](#).

Yours in Scouting,

Mike Rotar
Council President

Josh Paulin
Council Commissioner

Bryan Feather
Scout Executive / CEO



2020 BSA National Membership Fees

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

EFFECTIVE



FOR ALL
NEW
MEMBERS

EFFECTIVE



FOR ALL
RENEWING
MEMBERS
(RECHARTER)

\$66/YR

Participants in kindergarten through age 20.



\$42/YR



Participants age 10 - 20.

\$42/YR



All registered adult volunteers in unit and non-unit positions. (Volunteers with multiple registrations will continue to pay for only one position).

NEW-MEMBER JOINING FEE

EFFECTIVE



ONE-TIME

\$25

TO JOIN

Same flat fee no matter when you join during the year. (no prorating)
New members pay joining fee in addition to membership fee.



No joining fee for adult volunteers, Exploring participants, participants previously registered in any BSA program, or those transferring from one program to another.

UNIT RECHARTER FEE

EFFECTIVE



\$75/YR

For all new and rechartering units.

Inaugural Class of Female Eagle Scout Extension

Details on Extension for Eagle Boards of Review for Those Who Wish to Be in the Inaugural Class of Female Eagle Scouts

These are historic times for our Movement. The coronavirus pandemic is having a direct impact in many Scouts' ability to continue on their trail to Eagle – especially having completed all their requirements prior to the boards of review that are to be held from 10/1-31/2020.

Because we want all girls who joined in 2019 and wish to be a part of the Inaugural Class of female Eagle Scouts to have the benefit of such an experience, and after carefully considering recommendations from stakeholders, including feedback from volunteers and professionals, we will be extending the period for boards of review from 10/1/2020 – 1/31/2021. To further support the Inaugural Class, all boards of reviews will be dated with the same date by the National Service Center.

While this notice discusses the Inaugural Class of female Eagle Scouts, the lengthening of the Eagle board of review window is applicable to all Scouts who were granted the inaugural extension, regardless of gender.

As a reminder, all requirements must be completed while the individual is a registered member of Scouts BSA, or as a member of a Venturing crew or a Sea Scouts ship after achieving First Class in Scouts BSA, per the Guide to Advancement.

Play Family Feud with your Patrol

Troop 314 Scoutmaster Paul has collected answers from Scouters around our district. Top 100 answers on the board!

Download the attached excel file to have the categories and answers for your virtual game of Family Feud, Scouting Patrol edition!

[Patrol-Feud-Survey-ResultsDownload](#)

Requesting Adv. Extensions Due To COVID-19

As of March 20, 2020, the National Council of the BSA released new guidelines for Rank Advancement for all Scouting programs during COVID-19 related social distancing (link: <https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>)

Mayflower Council's Advancement Committee has been assigned permission to grant extensions for Eagle Scout, Venturing Summit Award, and Sea Scout Quartermaster.

Extension Process

If a Scout meets the requirements outlined in the "Specifics" below please follow this process for submitting a petition for an extension

- A petition for an extension may be filed by the Scout, their parent or guardian, their unit leader, or a member of the unit committee
- Petitions should include information such as:
 - Scout's name, unit, town, rank and mailing address (we will mail you a letter with the committee's decision)
 - Unit leader name (Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, Skipper), their contact information (phone, email)
 - Completed requirements, requirements in progress
 - Reason for requesting additional time
 - Status of advancement towards the rank/award
 - Expectations/plan/time frame needed to complete requirements
- The petition is sent to the council's designated appeals coordinators at the following email address: advancementextension@mayflowerbsa.org
 - Please submit requests before the Scout's 18th birthday to allow the committee to conduct the process for approval
- When the council receives a COVID-19-related request for a time extension, the petition coordination team will review the request and approve it if appropriate.

- Upon approval, a written response stating the outcome of the extension request will be sent to the Scout and their unit leader.
 - If approved, the notification must be attached to the youth's Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster rank application.

Specifics:

- Extensions can be granted for up to three months beyond a Scout's 18th birthday (or three months beyond their 21st birthday for Venture Scouts and Sea Scouts).
- Extension petitions will only be accepted until **December 31st 2020 – please do not wait until 12/25 to email for an extension.**
- Scouts BSA requesting an extension must already have achieved the rank of Life Scout.
- **For Scouts in Troops: Upon turning 18, the Scout must submit a completed adult application and successfully complete YPT;** their participant code will now be UP (Unit Participant) for Scouts BSA Troops or VP (Venturing Participant) for Venturing and Sea Scouting. You MUST fill out a FULL Adult application, CORI form, Additional Disclosure, and complete Youth Protections training on my.scouting.org.
 - Failure to register as a Unit Participant as close to your 18th birthday will result in delays and processing issues when you complete your Eagle Scout Board of Review, and could result in your Eagle Application being denied.
 - Please look [here for the complete adult application packet](#)
 - And please look [here for the Mayflower CORI form](#)
- Extension requests for more than 3 months beyond the

youth's 18th/21st birthday must be sent to the National Service Center following the process outlined in the (Guide To Advancement) GTA – these requests will go through a different process than what is outlined below.

- **Note:** A “month” in BSA advancement is defined as a day from one month to the next. For example, March 5 to April 5.

Note from the decision committee: We expect Scouts and their Units to adjust by using digital tools for completing their advancement process. The following will all be important items to consider as you move forward: digital signatures, video chat with two adults present, digital fundraising with District approval, showing leadership while maintaining social distancing and utilising all methods of virtual connection and document sharing.

Below: guidelines from the National Council about advancement

<https://www.mayflowerbsa.org/rank-advancement-and-covid-19-coronavirus/>

Planning Your Next Den Meeting Just Got Easier

If you're a den leader, you're going to love the latest update to [Scoutbook](#)! The Boy Scouts of America's online tool for

tracking Scouting advancement just rolled out a new update that's going to make it easier than ever for den leaders to prepare for and lead meetings, track advancement and attendance, and more.

Guide to Safe Scouting Has Been Updated

All participants in official Scouting activities should become familiar with the Guide to Safe Scouting. The Guide to Safe Scouting is an overview of Scouting policies and procedures gleaned from a variety of sources. For some items, the policy statements are complete. Unit leaders are expected to review the additional reference material cited prior to conducting such activities.

The Guide to Safe Scouting has been updated for 2019. Download or view the latest version by [clicking here](#)

UPDATES TO THE GUIDE TO SAFE SCOUTING:

1. Updated language throughout to reference "Scouts BSA" rather than "Boy Scouts."
2. Youth Protection and Adult Leadership Clarified language in the Adult Supervision and Accommodations sections.
3. Camping Updated information about Webelos overnight camping. Corrected publication number for Pack Overnight.
4. Campout Site Appraisal Form and provided URL to access form.
5. Sports and Activities Clarified Sea Scout participation in Climbing and Rappelling section.
6. Animal and Insect Hazards Replaced entire chapter.

7. Incident Reporting Provided URL for incident reporting.

8. Appendix Replaced Event Safety Checklist.

For more information about Scouting Safety [click here](#).

Time To Renew!

To date, nearly half of the units in the council need to log onto the Internet Rechartering System to review and submit their charter renewals for 2019. It's important to finish this process soon to avoid any lapses in registration and ensure all members are registered properly. Need assistance.....

If your unit needs assistance and/or its access code, please contact your unit commissioner, district commissioner or district executive.. You can always email, Council Registrar [John Fortini](#) for assistance. Thanks!

[For More Information on Internet Rechartering](#)

Headwaters Roundtable Handouts December

If your Unit was not able to attend our December 6th Roundtable, do not worry. We are making all the event flyers, training newsletters and other information available!

[Click here for PDF of all December Roundtable Handouts](#)

Check the PDF for Nomination Forms for the District Award of

Merit and other District Awards! All of these are due by February 8th 2019.

Our December Roundtable featured:

- Upcoming Klondike Derby in February
- Summer Camp Opportunities for Packs and Troops
- Breakout sessions for Packs to discuss what makes a good Blue and Gold Dinner and Troops to learn about opportunities for Youth Leadership Training
- District leadership and Commissioners remind everyone to reach out if you have any rechartering questions or paperwork to turn in. To get in touch email: Headwaters@mayflowerbsa.org
- Our Chapter of the Order of the Arrow, Taunkacoo Chapter, held their Chapter meeting

Questions, comments, or ideas for the District's leadership?

Send an Email to: Headwaters@mayflowerbsa.org

[Our next District Roundtable](#) will be:

January 3rd at 7:00 pm at Milford High School, 31 W Fountain St
Milford, MA 01757