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NEW-UNIT APPLICATION

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Cub Scouting

Purpose of the Boy Scouts of America

Its purpose is to promote, through cooperation with other agencies, the ability of youth to do things for themselves and others, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred virtues. In achieving this purpose, emphasis is placed upon its educational program and the oaths and codes for character development, citizenship training, leadership, and mental and physical fitness.

Pack

Cub Scouting is for parents, leaders, and organizations to use with boys and girls who are kindergarten-age through fifth grade.

Troop

Scouts BSA is an educational program filled with fun and adventure that appeals to boys and girls. Youth can be Scouts if they have completed the fifth grade and are at least 10 years old, OR have earned the Arrow of Light Award and are at least 10 years old, OR are age 11 but have not yet reached age 18.

Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship

Venturing and Sea Scouting will help your organization meet the needs, desires, and concerns of young adults. Young men and women must be at least 13 years old who have completed the eighth grade, or age 14 and not yet 21.



Venturing



Scouts BSA



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®



Sea Scouting

A CHARTERED ORGANIZATION

The chartered organization selects one of its members to register as chartered organization representative who may also serve as chair or as unit committee member if needed. All units must have a unit leader and a minimum of five paid youth or program participants. There must be at least three committee members, with one named chair. Packs must have a den leader who should be registered as an adult in the pack. Cub Scout dens must be single gender—all boys or all girls. The chartered organization also provides meeting facilities for the unit. No one may register in more than one position in the same unit, except the chartered organization representative.

Unit Liability Insurance Fee. Units are required to pay an annual unit liability insurance fee of \$75. This fee must be submitted with the unit's charter application and will help defray the expenses for the general liability insurance program.

Chartered Organization Certification. The executive officer of the chartered organization, by signature, certifies that the organization approves the charter application. The executive officer also certifies that the organization has approved all registering unit adults. The responsibility for approval of unit adults can also be given to the chartered organization representative. The chartered organization certifies that all registered adults: agree to abide by the Scout Oath and the Scout Law, the Declaration of Religious Principle, the policy of nondiscrimination, and the Charter and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America; agree to respect and obey the laws of the United States of America, and to meet age requirements as follows:

- **Packs**—All leaders must be at least 21 years of age except assistants, who must be at least 18 years of age. Lion and Tiger adult partners must be at least 18 years of age.
- **Troops**—Assistant Scoutmasters may be 18. All other adults in the troop must be at least 21.
- **Crews/Ships**—All leaders must be at least 21 years old.

CHARTERED ORGANIZATION USE OF THE SCOUTING PROGRAM:

1. Chartered organizations must use the Scouting program to accomplish their objectives in a manner consistent with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, guidelines, policies, and other publications available on the BSA national website, located at www.scouting.org.
 - The Charter and Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America
 - The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America
 - The Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America
 - The Scout Oath and the Scout Law, including Duty to God
 - BSA Youth Protection policies and guidelines, including mandatory reporting
 - The *Guide to Safe Scouting*
 - The Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety
 - Scouter Code of Conduct
 - Chartered Organization Agreement
2. Chartered organizations must utilize the Scouting program to accomplish specific objectives related to one or more of the following:
 - Youth character development
 - Career skill development
 - Community service
 - Patriotism and military and veteran recognition
 - Faith-based youth ministry
3. Chartered organizations must not use the Scouting program to pursue any objectives related to political or social advocacy, including partisan politics, support of or opposition to government action, or controversial legal, political, or social issues or causes.
4. Chartered organizations must not use their chartered organization affiliation or the Scouting brand as a means to imply Scouting's endorsement of the objec-

tives of their organization except with respect to youth development consistent with the goals and objectives of the Scouting program.

5. Chartered organizations must not use the Scouting program to obtain financial support or assistance except as authorized for the chartered unit.
6. To your knowledge, your organization, or anyone currently employed/affiliated with it, has never been investigated for, accused of, or charged with violence or abuse of another; possession, manufacture, or distribution of illegal substances or pornography; or engaged in behavior that may call into question their suitability to work with youth.
7. The Boy Scouts of America requires that all chartered organizations, adult leaders, adult program participants, and youth members subscribe to the Declaration of Religious Principle, or "duty to God," as set forth in the Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America as follows.

Clause 1. The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God. In the first part of the Scout Oath the member declares, "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law." The recognition of God as the ruling and leading power in the universe and the grateful acknowledgment of His favors and blessings are necessary to the best type of citizenship and are wholesome precepts in the education of the growing members. No matter what the religious faith of the members may be, this fundamental need of good citizenship should be kept before them. The Boy Scouts of America, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but it is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and the organization

or group with which the member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life.

Clause 2. The activities of the members of the Boy Scouts of America shall be carried on under conditions which show respect to the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion, as required by the twelfth point of the Scout Law, reading, "Reverent. A Scout is reverent toward God. A Scout is faithful in fulfilling religious duties. A Scout respects the beliefs of others."

All new organizations applying for a charter must have an approved code issued by the National Council. As a private organization, the Boy Scouts of America is the sole arbiter of

whether it will issue a charter to any organization. The Boy Scouts of America may deny a charter for any reason or revoke a previously issued charter for failure to abide by these guidelines.

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL THROUGH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA:

1. Helps you organize your unit.
 - Provides unit committee with proven and accepted methods to recruit leadership.
 - Outlines suggested procedures to recruit youth.
 - Conducts organization meetings.
 - Shares in approval process for unit leaders.

2. Provides training opportunities for your Scouting leaders.
3. Provides year-round help.
 - Leader roundtables
 - Commissioner service
 - Concerned district personnel
 - Special activities and events
4. Maintains a council service center.
 - Program resources
 - Latest editions of literature
 - Professional staff assistance

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Special Interest. A special-interest code and description should be entered for units with a special interest. Use the following descriptions and codes: Soccer through Scouting—code 0414, and Scoutreach—code 0418. Use one of the following disability codes when registering a unit with a majority of members who have special needs: Mentally Disabled—code 0416 or Physically Disabled—code 0417.

Who Can Join? It is the philosophy of Scouting to welcome all eligible youth regardless of gender, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, or gender identification, who are willing to accept Scouting's values and meet any other requirements of membership.

Who Can Volunteer? To be eligible for registration, an adult leader must agree to: subscribe to the Scout Oath; fulfill the obligations of his or her position; and perform his or her duties in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, policies, and guidelines of the Boy Scouts of America. The Boy Scouts of America allows chartered organizations to select adult leaders without regard to sexual orientation, continuing Scouting's long-standing policy of chartered organizations selecting their leaders. This allows Scouting's members and parents to select local units, chartered to organizations with similar beliefs, that best meet the needs of their families. This change also respects the right of religious chartered organizations to continue to choose adult leaders whose beliefs are consistent with their own.

