



## **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Effective April 1, 2024 / BSA Membership Fees**

On January 11, 2024, the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America announced the below changes to national fees effective on April 1, 2024 (UPDATED). On January 18<sup>th</sup> the Executive Board of the Heart of New England Council made the below decision on local program fees to take effect on April 1, 2024.

Effective **April 1, 2024**, the BSA **will eliminate the \$25.00 dollar one time joining fee** for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting.

- **\$85 National Membership Fee** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts participants (\$5 increase)
- **\$80 Local Program Fee** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts participants (no change in fee)
- **\$65 National Membership Fee** for all adult volunteers - includes cost of background check (\$5 increase)
- **\$18 Local Program Fee** for all adult volunteers (no change in fee)
- **\$100** for a unit charter/affiliation fee (no change in fee)
- **\$25 National Membership Fee** for Merit Badge Counselors (no change in fee; applies only for Merit Badge Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- **\$15** for Scout Life magazine (no change in fee)
- **\$50 National Membership Fee** for Exploring participants Youth & Adult (no change in fee)
- **\$18 Local Program Fee** for Exploring participants Youth & Adult (no change in fee)

#### **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.

#### **What does the Local Program Fee cover?**

The local Program fees help cover accident and sickness insurance that is supplemental to your current insurance coverage. Program fees also help cover the cost of council operations to include camp maintenance and improvements, program delivery, unit support, trainings, and property insurance. The Council provides financial assistance to families if needed, through unit leaders.

Participation in Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments that can be made in youth today. We remain grateful to our dedicated volunteers, families, and staff for the vital role they play in delivering the Scouting program.

If you have any questions related to this upcoming fee change, please contact Brian Anders, Council Commissioner, at [Commissioner@HeartofNewEnglandBSA.org](mailto:Commissioner@HeartofNewEnglandBSA.org)

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