

June 15, 2022

To: Unit Volunteers and Parents  
From: Clint Scharff, Scout Executive  
Re: Council fee

Recently, the Council Board approved changes to the Council fee that will be implemented with new members joining starting August 1<sup>st</sup> and with re-charter this November. The national organization has now released their updated fee structure for the fall as well. We wanted you to be aware of these changes.

The local Council fee applies to all youth members (Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers and Explorers) and volunteers. The fee is in addition to the BSA membership fee.

The fee for Cubs, Scouts BSA & Venturing youth will be \$75/year pro-rated to \$6.25/month at time of enrollment; the fee for volunteers and Explorers will be \$12/year or \$1/month at time of enrollment.

Members and volunteers will not have to pay additional fees for District activities such as Camporee, Cub-O-Ree, Klondike, Winterall, or Pinewood Derby. In addition, all required BSA training will be provided to leaders at no additional charge. This will include IOLS/BALOO and supplemental basic trainings such as Training Academy.

Additional benefits of the local Council fee include free cloth-rank badges at all levels of Scouting from Lion to Eagle and Summit. There will be no charge for tent camping at Camp Big Timber. The fee will continue to pay for insurance costs, liability, auto, and camper accident/sickness for youth and adults. It will also fund volunteer recognition (awards, knots, certificates, which are an important part of volunteer retention).

Keeping the cost of Scouting affordable for every family is a major concern. NO family will be left behind. Every family that wants a Scouting experience for their child will be included. The Council will continue to make scholarships available through its campership/scholarship request forms to ensure we are awarding need-based scholarships and to collect data that will help us further fund those scholarships.

The Council will maintain a micro-website that will be accessible through the Council homepage [www.Threefirescouncil.org](http://www.Threefirescouncil.org) . Included on that site will be a FAQ, letters to parents, unit leaders, and district leadership as well as a simple infographic and video message.

We want to assure you that this change is about the Three Fires Council's financial sustainability, seeking to create a steady and dependable cash-flow model that will improve Scouting and facilities, and allow the council to maintain and IMPROVE service to units, volunteers and members. These dollars will stay in the TFC to deliver safe, relevant, meaningful and high quality programs to our local members.

Sincerely,

Clint Scharff, Scout Executive