

Creating A Scouting Unit

Not every community, church, school, or organization has a Scouting pack, troop, or crew associated with it. Sometimes, starting a new group is the best way to bring Scouting to your community. With a willing group of volunteers and interested youth, it's easy to get Scouting started near you.

How Scouting Units Are Organized

Every Scouting unit requires adult leaders, youth, and a chartering organization. First the chartering organization agrees to adopt the Scouting program. Then you must recruit and train the leaders. Once you have trained leaders ready to start, recruit the youth. From there you can plan your program year, complete the paperwork, and hold your first meeting.

Resources:

- New Unit Organization Process
- New Unit Development
- BSA Fact Sheet

What is A Chartering Organization?

A chartering organization, such as a church, school, concerned citizen's group, agrees to work with the specific pack, troop, or crew. They'll provide meeting space, help find and approve adult leaders, and appoint an individual as the Chartered Organization Representative. This representative works as a liaison between the organization and the Scout group.

Any organization can be a chartering organization and there are no special qualifications. The chartering organization falls under the insurance of the Boy Scouts of America.

Resources:

- Chartered Organizations Resource Guide
- The Charter Organization (tri-fold)
- The Chartered Organization Representative
- The Charter Organization Representative Guidebook

What Leaders Are Needed?

There are different leader requirements for different types of Scouting units. All units must have a Chartered Organization Representative. If a single organization sponsors more than one unit (like a Pack and a Troop), that representative must be the same person for both units.

For a Pack you need:

- Cubmaster (plan and lead the monthly pack meeting, keeping the youth and families engaged and excited)
- Committee Chair (lead behind the scenes administrative tasks and support efforts to run the pack)
- Chartered Organization Representative (act as a liaison between the pack and chartering organization)
- Two Committee Members (work with the committee chair to run the pack in roles like treasurer or secretary)
- Den Leader (plan and lead the den meetings for one age group, helping the youth earn advancements)
- Not required but recommended: Assistant Cubmaster(s), Assistant Den Leader(s), additional committee members

For a Troop you need:

- Scoutmaster (support and guide the youth leadership as they plan and lead the troop meetings)
- Committee Chair (lead behind the scenes administrative tasks and support efforts to run the troop)
- Chartered Organization Representative (act as a liaison between the troop and chartering organization)
- Two Committee Members (work with the committee chair to run the troop in roles like treasurer or secretary)

- Not required but recommended: Assistant Scoutmaster(s), additional committee members

For a Crew you need:

- Advisor (support and guide the youth leadership as they plan and lead the crew meetings)
- Committee Chair (lead behind the scenes administrative tasks and support efforts to run the crew)
- Chartered Organization Representative (act as a liaison between the crew and chartering organization)
- Two Committee Members (work with the committee chair to run the crew in roles like treasurer or secretary)
- Not required but recommended: Associate Advisor(s), additional committee members

What Paperwork Needs to Be Filled Out?

For a new unit, you'll need to turn in a new unit application, a signed charter organization agreement, and applications for every adult leader and youth member.

You get to pick your unit number, but we can't guarantee that every number is available. Don't get your hopes up about being Troop 123 without first checking to see if that unit already exists!

Resources:

- New Unit Application
- Annual Unit Charter Agreement
- Youth Application
- Adult Application

William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award

Organizing a new unit can be hard work, between corralling people and filling out the paperwork. To recognize the volunteers who have dedicated their time and energy to

expanding Scouting to new communities, we give out the William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award. William D. Boyce was the founder of Boy Scouts in America – he learned about Scouting in England and organized the first ever Scouting units here. In his honor, you'll receive a certificate and a knot to wear on your uniform.

Resources:

- William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award Info & Application

Want to Get Started?

Contact your district executive or district membership team and they'll get you started on your journey!

Here's how to welcome girls into Scouts BSA

Use These Guidelines to Help You Know the Right Way to Refer to Scouts BSA and the Girls Who Will Join

Boy Scout/Venturing Peer Recruiting Drawing

MORE FUN WITH FRIENDS – NOVEMBER PEER-TO-PEER RECRUITMENT

DRAWING

Scouting is even more enjoyable when Scouts can participate with their friends. This is designed to encourage Scouts to bring in new membership by inviting their friends to participate in what the Scouting program has to offer.

Scouts who successfully recruit a friend to join Scouting in November will have a chance to win one of these great prizes:



GRAND PRIZE

Discovery WiFi Drone

One Prize Winner



SECOND PRIZE

Sennheiser Wireless Headphones

Two Prize Winners



THIRD PRIZE

UFO Quadcopter Drone with LED Lights

Three Prize Winners

Both the Scout and the new member recruited will receive a prize. Contest is open to Boy Scouts and Venturing.

Here's How It Works:

- Scout invites a friend to “check-out” Scouting and attend a meeting or event
- Friend joins a Scouting unit and completes an application
- Application and applicable fees are turned into council service center and online entry form is completed
- Scout is entered into the prize drawing. The more friends a Scout recruits, the more chances to win!
- Scout is eligible to wear the Recruiter Strip on their uniform – First one free with an entry during the campaign. Normally available for \$1.79 w/tax at the Scout Shop.
- Be a Salesman for Scouting: Recruit new members with a

personal invitation!

To help entice potential new Scouts to join your unit, give your current Scouts Bring-A-Buddy cards to hand out to their friends and classmates. Bring-A-Buddy cards are available to download below. Include event date, time, place, and contact information.

Bring-A-Buddy Cards

Troop and crews are encouraged to hold events, parties, ice cream socials, etc. where they invite a friend to join them and give their friends a taste of Scouting!

Scouts BSA Marketing Assets Are Available Now

Scouts BSA tools and assets are available to help you create awareness and interest among youth and adults.

How to Offer Families a Second Chance to Join

There are a variety of ways to help families join who may have missed the sign-up night. Here are a few strategies.

How This Webelos Den Leader Is Welcoming Girls

“I’m back at it and loving every minute of it,” she says.

Who Gets Scouting Magazine?

When *Scouting* – back then more newsletter than actual magazine – sent out its first issue in 1913, readers were told that they’d receive the publication at no additional cost.

This essential resource for BSA news, inspiration and ideas, *Scouting* wrote, would be included in a volunteer’s registration fee. But there was a caveat: the offer was only “for the time being.”

Update BeAScout Pins to Reflect Status

Updating unit pins on BeAScout is an important step in helping prospective Scouts and their families get in touch with units in your council.

BeAScout is open for units to indicate boy-only (default),

family pack, or girl-only AND the date that they will begin accepting female applications.

1. Log in to your My.Scouting account; select Menu at the top left
2. From the drop-down menu, select your unit
3. Select Organization Manager
4. Select the Settings tab
5. Scroll to Family Scouting
6. If remaining boy-only, do nothing (this is the default setting); otherwise, select girls only or boys and girls
7. Enter the date that the unit will be welcoming girls.
8. Click Commit

For a pdf with instructions, [click here](#).

Lion Scouts Update

The National Executive Committee and Board voted that the Lion pilot has proven successful and is ready to officially join the Cub Scouting family! Research and feedback says... Developing character is the #1 reason to join Scouting, according to parents. 61% of Lion youth are new families to Scouting!

Springtime Recruitment

It's Springtime In The Mayflower Council!

And that means Spring Recruitment season is in full swing! We hope you are busy planning and organizing your recruitment nights for this Spring! This year, all scout units should consider adding extra attention to the recruitment of Tigers and Webelos. These two age groups will provide more members for our packs and troops. While recruiting scouts in your spring recruitment, consider this: As of June 1st, current kindergarteners can participate in all of your packs summer activities.

On another note, if any Webelos II's need assistance finding a troop to cross over into, contact your DE and they will be more than willing to assist you!