



NORTHERN STAR COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

www.northernstarbsa.org

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

Since its inception in 1910, the Boy Scouts of America has been serving the youth of America. The purpose of the organization is to provide an educational program for boys and youth adults, to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness. Scouting achieves this mission by working in close conjunction with chartered partners such as religious institutions, schools, businesses, and other community-based organizations that share a common mission.

WHO OWNS THE UNIT?

First of all, a unit is a generic term used in Scouting to describe a Cub Scout Pack, a Boy Scout Troop, a Varsity Team, Venturing Crew, Sea Ship, Exploring Post, or Learning for Life Group. Each unit must be chartered ("registered" or "sponsored") to a permanent institution in the community. Thus, the institution owns the unit(s) it charts. The institution becomes a chartered partner when they agree to the following four obligations:

1. **Leadership.** The chartering or sponsoring organization secures and maintains an active committee and unit leaders.
2. **Meeting place.** The chartering or sponsoring organization provides adequate meeting facilities for meetings.
3. **Support of the program.** The chartering or sponsoring organization cooperates with the committee and the leaders in plans for special meetings, securing equipment, helping with special financial needs as deemed necessary, and youth and leader recruitment.
4. **Policies.** The chartering or sponsoring organization ensures that the unit(s) program follows the established policies of both the organization and the Boy Scouts of America.

WHAT SUPPORT WILL THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION RECEIVE FROM THE COUNCIL?

The Northern Star Council will assist the sponsoring organization in the deliverance of the Scout or Learning for Life program. The council will help in the recruitment and training of adult leaders. Various activities and outdoor education programs will be offered. For example, the council operates eight Scout camps – two of which offer Boy Scout resident camping and one (Base Camp) Northern Star Council's outreach program facility. Council and district activities include camporees, day camps, merit badge clinics, and training for both youth and adults. The Council's Volunteer Service Centers (St. Paul and Golden Valley) supports the various programs; which, in turn, supports each sponsoring organization. A professional Scouter (District Executive) is available to help each individual sponsoring organization. This person serves a geographic, culturally specific or program specific area and maintains the program by working in close cooperation with volunteers and community leaders.

WHAT ABOUT FEES?

Beyond a \$40.00 per unit, annual, insurance-related fee, chartering or sponsoring a unit involves no specific financial obligation. However, many organizations include some funds in their annual budget to support their Scout and/or Exploring program.



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