



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL

To: All Unit Leaders, Committee Chairmen, Chartered Organization Representatives, District Committee Members & Commissioner Staff Members

From: Craig Poland, Scout Executive

Date: September 7, 2017

Re: Important Issues

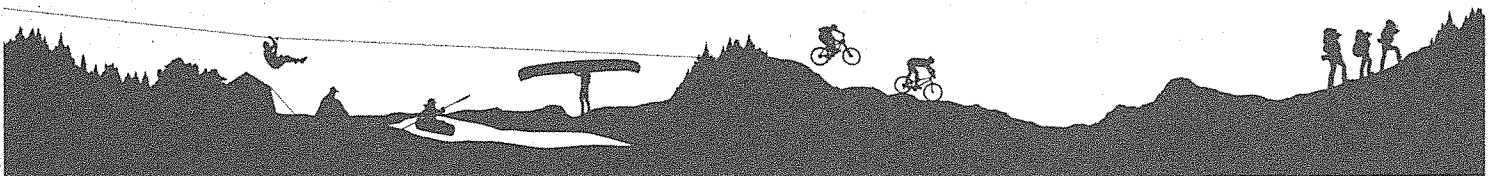
As we head into fall and what should be another successful Scouting season, I want to take a moment and share several very important changes that will be occurring on the national level. Each of these changes will have an impact on the upcoming re-charter process beginning December 1, 2017.

1. **Registration Fees** – The national registration fee will increase to \$33 for all registered youth and adult leaders effective December 1, 2017. This increase is necessary to manage the growing cost of liability insurance and other related expenses which account for nearly \$17 of every membership fee. There have been 10 fee increases during the 107-year history of the BSA with the last occurring in 2014. We realize this may create the need to adjust unit program budgets, and the Council is willing to help units identify solutions to problems that might arise from this increase.
2. **Youth Protection Training** – Effective immediately, Youth Protection Training will be required for all new adult leaders at the time of registration. Additionally, expiration dates for Youth Protection Training for existing leaders must extend past the effective date of charter renewal (this means if your unit re-charters in December, all volunteer YPT expiration dates must extend until at least January). **Please note: Minsi Trails Council has been implementing this policy for several years, so this will not result in any change to our Council's existing practice for new or existing volunteers. We are merely making you aware of the national change in requirements.**

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- 3. Enhancements to Online Re-chartering** – Several new features have been added to the Online Re-chartering page. There are new navigational screens with enhanced abilities for reporting, tracking, managing reports and submission of information. Another addition includes using a credit card for payment. ***Please note: Minsi Trails Council will not be using the credit card function at this time.*** Unfortunately, most charters require modification after they are submitted. These modifications almost always result in a change to the overall fee. When paying by unit check, these changes are easily managed through credits and debits of the unit account. As most credit card transactions would involve personal credit cards, the resolution of these matters would be significantly more difficult and likely result in confusion for the card holder. **Please do not use the credit card option when re-chartering. Please choose the cash option, which will allow payment when you submit your charter during district re-charter day or at the Council office.**

Thank you for your attention to these important issues. Should you have any questions, please contact your District Executive.