

Updates to Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

(Effective 9/1/2023)

The BSA has adopted the following policies for the safety and well-being of its members. These policies primarily protect youth members; however, they also serve to protect adult leaders. All parents and caregivers should understand that our leaders are to abide by these safeguards. Parents and youth are strongly encouraged to use these safeguards outside the Scouting program. Registered leaders must follow these guidelines with all Scouting youth outside of Scouting activities.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

The chartered organization representative, or in their absence the executive officer of the chartered organization, must approve the registration of the unit's adult leaders. Registration Includes:

- Completion of application including criminal background check and mandatory Youth Protection training
- Volunteer Screening Database check

Current Youth Protection training is required for leaders when renewing their registration or at unit charter renewal. Adult program participants must register as adults and follow Youth Protection policies.

ADULT SUPERVISION [Begin Effective 9/1/23]

Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any activity involving female youth. Notwithstanding the minimum leader requirements, age- and program-appropriate supervision must always be provided.

All adults accompanying a Scouting unit who are present at the activity for 72 total hours or more must be registered as leaders. The 72 hours need not be consecutive.

CUB SCOUT PROGRAMS- OVERNIGHT EXCEPTION:

Cub Scout parents or legal guardians taking part in an overnight Cub Scout program with their own child or legal ward are not required to register as leaders. All adults must review the "How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide" that can be found in the front of each Cub Scout Handbook. In addition, the parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a registered leader at any time they are with youth members other than their own child/ward. All other overnight adults must be currently registered in an adult fee required position. **[End Effective 9/1/23]**

HOW DOES THIS EFFECT SCOUTS BSA/SEA SCOUTS/VENTURING LEVEL CAMPING MOVING FORWARD (at Camp La-No-Che)?

- When registering for a Scouting Event each unit must have 2 registered adult leaders attend from their unit.
 - Scouts BSA Units from the same Charter Org **MUST** have 2 separate leaders attending from each unit
 - Scouts BSA Units for Girls must have one of these Unit Leaders be female

- Scouting units from the same Charter Org, must register for camp separately (under 2 registrations) to ensure leader requirements are met, and that campsites are assigned accurately.
- If a Scout is attending camp without 2-unit leaders and Provisional Camping is an option the Scout will be placed in this unit (which may have an additional fee).
- If a group of Scouts is attending from the same unit in our Provisional Troop, single leaders or parents cannot attend camp with their Scout as a leader or provide supervision.

BSA Reference: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/scoutings-barriers-to-abuse/>