



## Council Operations FAQ'S Concerning UMC Registration/Rechartering

Q: Will our units need to renew their adult and youth registrations as normal prior to the Unit Charter Expiring?

**A: Yes. Units will continue to renew registrations for both adults and youth and add additional enrollments as they join Scouting. They will pay the normal annual registration fees by your council prescribed date. The unit will fill out and submit the normal recharter information online. However, UMC units will not be required to pay the annual Unit Liability Fee (organizational recharter fee) of \$75 when adult and youth registrations are renewed. Please note this is a temporary accommodation for the United Methodist Church, all other Chartered Organizations are expected to pay the Annual Unit Liability Fees for their units.**

Q: If the unit is paying their annual fees, but the United Methodist Church has only extended Charters with the BSA through March 31, 2022, how will Rechartering take place?

**A: The Annual Charter Agreement with the UMC has been extended with the UMC in order to allow the Boy Scouts of America and United Methodist Leadership time to continue to work together to resolve matters related to the BSA's financial restructuring. We remain optimistic that the UMC and Scouting will continue their strong partnership to benefit our youth. A new agreement will be put in place after the March 31, 2022, extension expires, and the annual Unit Liability Fee will be payable at that time.**

Q: The registration system requires a Unit Liability Fee (Charter fee) of \$75 and the units should turn in the Annual Charter Agreement from the Church, how will we properly record this in the system?

**A: Working with Information Technology, we will have the system reflect that no Unit Liability fee is due at this time for UMC Chartered Units. this change will be effective when the new system goes live. Units will have to have been coded correctly in order for the system change to be effective. A new Annual Charter Agreement will not be required until March 31, 2022.**

Q: Our United Methodist Churches have said they will not adhere to the Church recommendation and will only allow facility use agreements. What do we do to help them understand that the Charter agreement remains in effect?

**A: The United Methodist Church has sent the joint statement to every conference "to strongly recommend to United Methodist Church chartering organizations and Boy Scout Councils to extend existing Charter Agreements and Facility Use Agreements in force at this time through March 31, 2022". They have asked Conference leadership to share this information with their congregations. They are hopeful that all Churches will look to the recommendation and pause changes until the Church and the BSA have time to resolve the important issues that impact the**

**Church. If the Church indicates that it is not familiar with or agreeing to the charter extension, please do not attempt to engage the local Church. Rather, if there are issues or problems you should contact your council leadership for assistance.**

Q: We have other chartered organizations consideration terminating their partnership with the BSA, what can we do?

**A: First, share the insurance information and other information provided regarding protections for chartered organizations and reinforce the advantages of continuing the partnership with the BSA. If the organization is part of a larger national organization, please *contact* your Scout Executive, they will contact the National organization for assistance.**

Q: What if the BSA and the UMC are unable to come to an agreement, will our units expire on March 31, 2022?

**A: Again, we remain optimistic that the UMC and the BSA will continue to be partners and the UMC will remain a Charter Partner. If there are any indications that will not be the case, we will provide additional guidance as soon as the information is available.**

Q: Should we try to engage members of the Church on these matters if they do not want to continue the Charter Partner Relationship with the BSA?

**A: Please work to maintain positive relationships with your local leaders and Church members, however, as the communication from the National Key Three states; "To be clear, you should not attempt to engage representatives of the Church directly or indirectly on these matters." Please contact your Council leadership for assistance with any issues, they have been provided the contacts at the National Organization that can provide additional information.**

Q: What if the local UMC church still requires a Facilities Use Agreement?

**A: You may share with the Church and sign the approved FUA, this agreement was a collaboration of United Methodist Men and the Boy scouts of America. No other agreement can be signed unless it has been approved by the BSA legal department. We continue to have discussions with church leadership on this issue. If you cannot reach a resolution with the church on the FUA, it would be appropriate to begin the process of identifying a new meeting location and or chartered organization.**

Q: What type of insurance policy does the BSA have in place today to protect our Charter Partners?

**A: The BSA has a comprehensive general liability insurance policy. This coverage provides primary general liability coverage for Scouting units and chartered organizations on a primary basis. It also provides primary coverage for registered volunteer Scouters with respect to claims arising out of official Scouting activities, which are defined in the insurance policy as activities that are consistent with the values, Charter and Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, operations manuals, and applicable literature of the Boy Scouts of America. This insurance coverage responds to allegations of negligent actions by third parties that result in personal injury or property damage claims.**

**The BSA general liability insurance program also provides volunteers and chartered organizations additional excess coverage for automobiles a volunteer's personal or chartered**

***organization's auto or watercraft liability policy and then above the local council's automobile liability policy. The owner's vehicle or watercraft liability insurance is primary. The excess insurance, whether it is the local council auto or BSA general liability, is available only while to the extent the vehicle or watercraft was in the actual use of a Scouting unit and being used in connection with an official Scouting activity.***

***The insurance provided to unregistered Scouting volunteers through the general liability insurance program is excess over any other personal insurance the volunteer might carry, usually a homeowners', personal liability, vehicle, or watercraft policy.***

***The current primary insurance provides \$1M/occurrence, \$10M/aggregate. The first excess policy is \$6.5M/occurrence, \$13M/aggregate. BSA's insurance program for Charter Organization is robust with overall coverage at \$135M for 2021.***

Q: Does the BSA insurance policy cover facilities that provide meeting space for units (including facility use agreements)?

***A: As with any location that is considered a unit's meeting place or location of an official Scouting activity, the local council can provide a certificate of insurance (COI) that names the location/organization as an additional insured to be covered under the policy. A COI can be created and provided directly by the local council. Coverage provided in connection with facilities use agreement is limited to the terms of that agreement and may be more limited than the coverage general liability coverage provided to a Chartered Organization.***