



# ROUNDTABLE MATTERS

Pacifica District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council, BSA  
2020

September 9th,

Jeff Sorbello, Roundtable Commissioner

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## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**REOPENING PROTOCOLS** Council hosted a [reopening webinar on September 2<sup>nd</sup>](#). If you could not attend, we encourage you to watch the video and refer to the program matrix, but here are the highlights:

1. **Council Day Camps:** Council will continue to offer opportunities for Scouts, families and units to participate in both structured and unstructured in-person programs at our Council properties under the supervision of Council employees as permitted by Council's day camp license. Instructions for making a unit reservation at a Council property to run program or perform service will be posted shortly in the [Council newsletter](#).
2. **Units CANNOT hold in-person meetings** except at a Council property. No den, patrol, pack or troop in-person volunteer led meetings are allowed at this time. Please note that the webinar slides regarding small group activities were for ADVISORY purposes only and cannot be implemented until LA County updates its health orders.
  - a. The *one* exception provided by [County Health orders](#) is for small group youth sports activities. These activities are understood to mean physical exercise in the outdoors by a single cohort, such as walking, hiking or cycling (not, for example, shooting sports or Whittlin'/Totin' Chip instruction). In order to conduct an outing under this exception, units must obtain permission from the Chartered Organization, [follow all County protocols](#) and the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#), submit a [Scouting Activity Permit form](#), stay in an established cohort, and maintain adequate documentation to facilitate quarantining and contact tracing should a member of the cohort be diagnosed with COVID-19. Again, this exemption only applies to exercise -- not meetings.
3. **No carpooling.** In-person activity participants must travel as household units..
4. **Units must follow all LA County COVID health orders**, Council directives, and BSA's [SAFE reopening protocol](#), including obtaining permission from your Chartering Organization, before pursuing any in-person activities. Units must fill out a [Scouting Activity Permit form](#) and provide *all* participants the Chartering Organization's guidance and the applicable LA County health order(s).
5. Units should establish cohorts of youth carefully—units may need to re-arrange existing dens/patrols. Families who do not wish to participate in in-person activities should be placed in separate cohorts from those who do, so leaders can tailor appropriate programming to each group. Per County public health officials, cohorts should have no more than 12 youths and 2 adults. *No one, whether youth or adult, can be in more than one cohort.*
6. **In-person overnight activities (e.g. unit camping) are NOT allowed.**

**Failure to follow these guidelines puts youth at risk and may shift any liability to the volunteers leading the activities.** In this time of increased public doubt regarding the BSA's commitment to safety, please **[comply with public health orders without exception](#)**. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to your [Commissioner](#) for clarification.

**OBTAINING PROOF OF CURRENT YPT** Many units are having their parents take YPT this month to meet the annual certification required to recharter. This is a great practice! We're getting feedback that volunteers are not receiving completion certificates. Please urge your Scouters to take screen shots of [each completed module](#). (There are four: Overview and Policies v2, Sexual Abuse v2, Bullying v2, and Certification Test v2). Given current user volume, it may take up to a week for My.Scouting to sync. If it's been more than a week and your unit Training Chair is not seeing the most recent completion in My.Scouting Training Manager, contact Pacifica Training Chair Casey at [scoutercasey@gmail.com](mailto:scoutercasey@gmail.com)

**IOLS INSTRUCTORS NEEDED** We are looking for a few trained Scouters that can spend one or two weekends a year helping to train Pacifica unit leaders. If you are willing to lead, co-lead or staff IOLS, BALOO or other in-person training courses, please contact Casey Jones, Pacifica Training Chair at [scoutercasey@gmail.com](mailto:scoutercasey@gmail.com)

**REGISTRATION & RECHARTERING FEES** There's been some confusion about the difference between new members' initial fees and the fees that will be collected for rechartering. New families will pay *initial* registration directly to National/Council via Online Registration

- New Youth (never before registered in BSA)
  - Pay \$25 new member fee and \$11 per month registration fees . This membership allows the youth to start participating right away and runs through Dec 31st. System provides the option to add Boys Life.
- Lapsed Youth (still have a BSA ID from participating before a break in service)
  - Pay \$11 per month registration fees . This membership allows the youth to re-start participating right away and runs through Dec 31st. System provides the option to add Boys Life.
- New Adults:
  - Pay \$6 per month registration fees directly to National/Council via Online Registration. This membership allows the adults to start participating right away and runs through Dec 31st.

Units will need pay the following to Council by mid-November, so presumably you will need to collect from families:

- Rechartering Youth (regardless of when they initially registered)
  - \$99 pays all National and Council fees for 1 Jan-30 Sep 2021. Boys Life is optional at an additional \$9. You'll want to add whatever fees the unit may need to collect. (For example, "dues" to cover the \$75 unit fee to recharter and advancement expenses )
- Rechartering Adults (regardless of when they initially registered)
  - \$54 pays all National and Council fees for 1 Jan-30 Sep 2021.

[This graphic](#) may help.

**ONLINE REGISTRATION HAS BEEN UPGRADED!** The online system now collects Council, as well as National, fees, so there's no better time to go paperless when registering new families. Please go to settings in My.Scouting/Organization Manager to update your fee message, as discussed at the [May Roundtable](#). The system can't yet handle transfers or position code changes, so continue to email digital copies of those [youth](#) or [adult](#) applications to [nancy.hodgkiss@pacificabsa.org](mailto:nancy.hodgkiss@pacificabsa.org) for processing.

**MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS** – Following the success of our first **Cabrillo Merit Badge Day Camp** last month, we plan to offer more over the weekends of Sep 25-27, Oct 23-25 and Nov 13-15. Cabrillo and Trask are currently the only places where we can offer merit badges with a practical component in a group setting under COVID conditions, and we need counselors to run these classes! If you would be willing to run a class, please contact Pacifica's MB Counselor Dean, Alison Crompton, at (310) 991-8172 or [meritbadge@pacificabsa.org](mailto:meritbadge@pacificabsa.org) ASAP.

The next **Pacifica Big Online Merit Badge Weekend** will be held on Sep 19-20 and Scouts can sign up NOW at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/118205719489/>. We are always looking for MB counselors who can run online merit badge classes for Scouts who aren't ready to meet in person yet. If you are available to host an online class, please contact Alison Crompton for details. More online merit badge weekends will be held on Oct 17-18 and Nov 7-8.

(PSSSST! Wood Badgers! Did COVID-19 shut down one of your tickets? Council and district merit badge camps and classes are a great way to fulfill your ticket requirements!)

To sign up as a new counselor for merit badges or NOVA awards, or to change your existing offerings or information, check out the instructions on the [Pacifica advancement webpage](#) or simply contact Alison Crompton for the details.

**NATIONAL FAMILY FUN FEST:** [Family Fun Fest](#) is this weekend! This nation-wide event is broadcast on Facebook Live and is a great opportunity to engage both current and prospective Cub Scouts, so tune in & invite your friends!

**POTENTIAL SERVICE PROJECT** South Coast Botanic Garden is looking for a Scout/Eagle candidate who is interested in building a display about the Garden's history as a former landfill. Since this display is meant to be in place for the Garden's 60th anniversary celebrations, it would ideally be completed by the end of the calendar year. To explore this opportunity, contact Kelly Krusee, Director of Learning and Engagement, at [kelly@scoutcoastbotanicgarden.org](mailto:kelly@scoutcoastbotanicgarden.org).

**LAW MERIT BADGE IN NOVEMBER** On Saturday, November 14, Scouts ages 14 and up can explore criminal law, civil law, and legal history as well as participate in a mock trial. [Click here](#) for more information and registration. (password is GLAAC) or email questions to [Hannibol.Sullivan@Scouting.org](mailto:Hannibol.Sullivan@Scouting.org)

**UNCLAIMED UNIT AWARD RIBBONS** There are still many units who have not claimed their earned award ribbons from this years District Awards Dinner! They can be picked up by \*contacting Sheryl Ruskin/District Awards Dinner Coordinator at [shusue@rocketmail.com](mailto:shusue@rocketmail.com).

**SCOUTCYCLE VIRTUAL CLOSET:** Several Packs have been using this time to clean out their storage closets. They are looking for homes for Pinewood Derby Tracks and Soapbox Derby cars. If your Pack has a need for these items (and the room to store them!), contact [nancy.hodgkiss@pacificabsa.org](mailto:nancy.hodgkiss@pacificabsa.org).

**UNIT ANNUAL PLANNING AND BUDGETING** Now is a great time to make plans for the upcoming program year! Given the dynamic nature of COVID, you may need to two plans—one for in-person and for one for virtual Scouting. If you need help, Journey to Excellence guidebooks (<https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/guidebooks/>) are great resources, as are [Unit Commissioners](#).

**ORDER OF THE ARROW** The Lakota Chapter meets at the same time as Roundtable. Members who are current on their dues can request a link to the meeting by emailing Chapter Adviser Bob Hodgkiss at [oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org](mailto:oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org). This month's business objective is to continue officer elections; our fellowship activity is soap carving.

Order of the Arrow provides incredible leadership and growth opportunities to youth. To schedule a Unit Visit, Unit Election, or Camp Promotion, visit please contact the Lakota Chapter Chief at [lakotachief@gmail.com](mailto:lakotachief@gmail.com) or the Chapter Adviser, Bob Hodgkiss, at [oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org](mailto:oachapteradviser@pacificabsa.org).

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### CHECK US OUT!

Virtually all info is available online: Events, Dates, Fliers, Contacts, Training, Etc.

Pacifica District Website: [www.pacificabsa.org](http://www.pacificabsa.org)

GLAAC Website: [www.GLAACBSA.org](http://www.GLAACBSA.org)

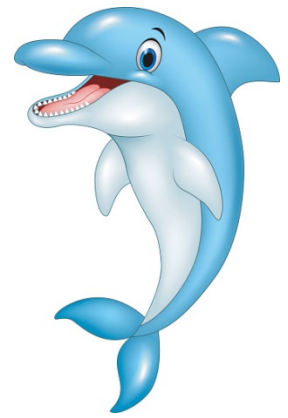
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**PROMOTION AT ROUNDTABLE** Have an event you'd like to promote at Roundtable or flyer you'd like to include with "Roundtable Matters"? We welcome all [appropriate additions](#) to our Roundtable program. Send an email proposal to [jeffsorbello@att.net](mailto:jeffsorbello@att.net) two weeks before Roundtable to get started.

# aRTie's mailbox

## “Fun with a Porpoise”

### September 2020



Scouters can “Ask Artie” questions that are on their minds by posting a note at Roundtable, asking your Unit Commissioner, or emailing District Commissioner Nancy Hodgkiss at [nancy.hodgkiss@pacificabsa.org](mailto:nancy.hodgkiss@pacificabsa.org).

#### **Can parents connect to Scoutbook without completing**

**YPT?** Yes! While YPT open and available to anyone and strongly recommended for all parents, it's not required for Scoutbook access. Scoutbook does, however, restrict certain functions to registered members, so unregistered parents are mostly confined to [viewing their Scouts' records](#).

#### **Who can approve applications in the online registration system?**

For youth, any Key 3 member (unit leader, committee chair, or COR) can approve. For adults, only the COR can approve. See more details in the [Online Registration Unit Guidebook](#).

#### **Can someone other than a Den Leader plan and lead a den meeting?**

It's a great idea to get parents to share in planning and preparing for den meetings. It's perfectly OK to have “guest presenters,” but the meeting must still meet the [two-deep requirement](#) for supervision. Ideally, one of those supervisors is a trained Den Leader, but in a pinch, two registered Scouters who aren't Den Leaders could be OK.

#### **We only have a few girls in our Pack. Can we run co-ed dens?**

No. While Packs can serve boys and girls, dens **must be single gender**. Remember that any activity (even a virtual meeting) that includes girls must have a [registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over present](#).

#### **If, for some reason, we need to change our Chartered Organization, how do we transfer assets?**

If you think you will be changing your Chartered Organization, please alert your Commissioner. There is a process that needs to be followed, and your Commissioner can guide you through the process.

#### **What training will we need for recharter? Is YPT an annual requirement?**

This year's recharter guides are posted on the [Council recharter website](#). Unit Leaders and Den Leaders will need to be [position trained](#) in order to recharter. All rechartering adults will need to have taken YPT in 2020.

#### **Artie, where do dolphins sleep?**

In a water bed.

**Sea you next month!**

