

Scouting Ireland  
National Office  
Larch Hill  
Dublin 16

T +353 (0)1 495 6300  
F +353 (0)1 495 6301  
questions@scouts.ie



**BOD-OUT-47-2019**

TO: Provincial Commissioners & County Commissioners  
CC: Honorary Vice-Presidents, Staff team, Group Leaders, Groups Contact, Groups Secretary

11 June 2019

**Re: L47/2019 – Commissioners Meeting**

Dear Colleague,

Thank you to everyone who attended our meeting in Larch Hill on Sunday – we hope that you found it beneficial and arrived home safely.

Please find below a copy of the handout given to you yesterday and a copy of the presentation attached. Please use these to brief your Provincial Management Support Team and/or County Management Committee at the next available opportunity. We will be writing to Scout Groups in the next week or so to officially notify them of the changes to the Annual Registration Fee and other measures discussed but briefings can take place before this.

Thanks again for your work to date and continuing support. As always, questions and feedback can continue to be submitted to board@scouts.ie.

Yours in Scouting,

*The Board of Directors*

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Reg. No. 397094  
Charity No. CHY3507

PATRON Michael D. Higgins PRESIDENT OF IRELAND



Member of World Organisation of the Scout Movement

Directors: A list of names and personal details of every director of the company is available for inspection to the public at the company's registered office for a nominal fee. Scouting Ireland is a company limited by guarantee exempt from using the word "limited". Registered Office: Scouting Ireland National Office, Larch Hill, Dublin 16

# Key Financial Decisions in order to ensure the viability of Scouting Ireland as a Going Concern

Briefing for Provincial and County Commissioners, 09 June 2019

There are four key matters to consider in ensuring that Scouting Ireland is a Going Concern:

- Providing for the Historic Child Sex Abuse Fund
- Providing for a Victim Support Programme out of the Solidarity Fund
- Providing for the new Governance Structures
- Legal requirement under Company Law to maintain adequate Cash Reserve

The Board, after much deliberation and advices from legal and accounting experts, have determined that certain measures must be put in place to safeguard the organisation so that it can continue to survive and grow in the current climate.

Some of these measures, when taken on their own, may appear challenging. However, the Board have made the following difficult decisions in order to ensure that the organisation can continue to operate successfully, ensure that each Scout Group is fully supported by properly resourced County Teams and that the Groups have the opportunity to not only defray extra costs regarding membership, but also the opportunity to increase funding for their Group whilst supporting the Solidarity Fund.

With that in mind, the Board have decided the following:

- The Annual Registration Fee for all members, adult and youth, will be the same flat fee as of the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.
- The fee will move to €65 per person per annum (and the equivalent in Sterling), again as of from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.
- To offset this increase, Scouting Ireland will organise a new all-island fundraising event for circa April/May annually to fund the Solidarity Fund. However, 50% of the funds raised will stay with the Group to support Scouting in the local community and the other 50% will go to Solidarity Fund (less the costs of running the event)
- The Board has decided that in order to support the Groups in every Scout County, that the County Rebate, which will fall due after the January 2020 returns, will be restored in full.

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- There is an added piece to the restored rebate in that it will be greater, in value, than before due to the increase in the registration fees. This will equate to a rebate of circa €6.50 per individual member in each Scout County based on all Groups making their returns by the due date.
- Finally, the 12 Days of Christmas draw will move to 80% retained by the Groups and 20% sent to central funds. In relation to Scout Groups in Northern Ireland, the Board will look into developing a second fundraising opportunity in lieu of the 12 Days of Christmas which is not accessible for these Groups.

These changes are the key ones that directly impact on the membership and the Scout Groups. Other measures from a management accounting perspective are being taken to reduce costs where possible in the administration and management of the organisation. Added to this, the Board is actively exploring other income streams for the organisation.

It is important to note that the increase in the Registration Fee, which equates to an extra 38c per week, can be directly recouped by the Groups through participation in the new national fundraiser. This will also allow for an extra income opportunity for every Group.

As already stated, these measures raise the necessary funding to meet the needs of Scouting Ireland whilst, at the same time increasing, our support at County level and provide for an extra funding opportunity for each and every group on the island.

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