



**TO:** UNIT LEADERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS, COMMISSIONERS & CHARTERED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

**FROM:** JOHN G. CABEZA, DENVER AREA COUNCIL SCOUT EXECUTIVE/CEO

**DATE:** OCTOBER 9, 2019

**REGARDING:** REGISTRATION FEE INCREASE FEEDBACK

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We have received some feedback on how the previously announced membership fee increase is bad timing, unfair and may impact whether a Scouts family and/or a volunteer will remain in Scouting.

We share your concerns and agree this could not have come at a more challenging time. We are sensitive to what the costs will likely be and are preparing for the worst.

**To help support you and your efforts as unit leader:**

- We are not passing on the charge for insurance to each member. The Denver Area Council covers the accident and health insurance of all our registered youth and adult members.
- Beginning in 2019 many Scout Councils around the country made the decision to pass along the cost of liability, accident and other insurance cost to its members ranging from \$6-12 annually. The Denver Area Council chose not to take that action and will bare this expense as part of our annual operating budget.
- We are not charging a “Program Fee” like many other Councils.
- We will provide as much timely communication as we can, as we receive news from National.
- The council sponsored annual Popcorn and Camp Card sales provide an excellent vehicle to defray the cost of Scouting to your Scouts families.

**Please keep in mind:**

- Scouting is still the best character development program available for our youth
- Regardless of the amount of the fee increase, this program remains one of the most affordable programs compared to other youth programs.
- 100% of membership fees are paid to National organization to underwrite their operating cost

These are challenging times for all of us; but I believe in the end Scouting will grow and be even stronger. Together we continue in our mission to teach the values of the Scout Oath and Law to thousands of men and women throughout the communities we serve.

If there are other things that we can better support you and your unit with at this time, please reach out to your District Executive or our Deputy Scout Executive Robert Nakagawa at [robert.nakagawa@scouting.org](mailto:robert.nakagawa@scouting.org).

Yours in Scouting,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John G. Cabeza".

John Cabeza  
Scout Executive/CEO