



Unit Finances Fact Sheet

It is important to remember that the unit belongs to the Chartered Organization (Charter Partner), not the Boy Scouts of America. In any question of tax liability, the unit assumes the same tax status as the Charter Partner. A unit uses the tax identification number (TIN) of the Charter Partner or applies for its own. The latter is not recommended since there is an expensive application fee. The Charter Partner should audit the unit finances annually and make this data available to the membership of the Charter Partner.

The unit committee is responsible for finances. A treasurer is assigned and the committee chairperson should receive the bank statement to reconcile. All unit funds should pass through the bank account; this includes but is not limited to dues, fundraising, popcorn and activity fees and gifts. An exception might be registration fees which are collected as part of an organized School Night program. In this case, fees are collected by District/Council representatives and are transmitted to the Council Service Center. Those not needed for registration at that time are deposited in the Unit Account.

Unit funds should be deposited in a checking account that requires two signatures on every check. If your bank requires a TIN, give them the Charter Partner's TIN. Family members must not approve payment or be the second signature. The unit leader could be one of the signees (but it is recommended it be a committee person). All unit money-earning projects must be approved in advance by using BSA's Unit Money-Earning Application (#4427). This is usually done at the district level but is always subject to review at the council level.

It is recommended that units have a Unit Account at the Council Service Center. This aids in the purchase of needed supplies and advancement from the Council Trading Post and can be used to pay camp fees, district activity fees or registration and Boy's Life fees. The unit may open the account with a deposit of \$25.00, and must always maintain a positive balance. No charges will be permitted if the account is negative or will be when the charge is applied. Statements are available on request.

It is suggested that you insure your equipment. A unit is usually an unincorporated association, not a legal entity that can bear title to property. The Charter Partner owns the unit and all property and funds used by the unit remain the responsibility of the Charter Partner as long as the charter issued by the BSA remains in place. It is recommended that an inventory of a unit's equipment be given to the Charter Partner annually.

In the event of the dissolution of a unit or the revocation or lapse of its charter, the unit committee shall apply unit funds and property to the payment of unit obligations and shall turn over the surplus, if any, to the Council. In the case of a Charter Partner, any funds or equipment which may have been secured as property of the unit shall be held in trust by the Charter Partner or the Council, as may be agreed upon, pending reorganization of the unit or for the promotion of the program of the Boy Scouts of America.