



Flagstaff Hill Scout Group

Membership Fees 2016

Introduction

Our Scout Group is entirely self-funded. Major costs include utilities and maintenance for the Scout Hall, the purchase of badges, equipment maintenance, registration and insurance and leader training. All of this adds up to over \$50,000 per year at Flagstaff Hill, and we rely on membership subscriptions to fund most of these essentials.

In addition, the Group organises a number of fundraising activities throughout the year to make up any shortfall in our operating costs and to allow us to upgrade resources and equipment such as tents, ropes, cooking gear, games equipment, etc.

The only ongoing, fixed expense to families is that of the annual fees. The nature of our program means that there will, from time to time, be pack holidays, camps, hikes etc., normally over 2 or 3 days, which your child will no doubt want to attend. The cost, which covers items like food, camp fees where applicable etc, of these activities is an extra expense to yourself but you can be sure that we carefully aim to keep the price of such activities to a minimum – and we believe that these activities offer great value for money!

Fundraising Levy

Fundraising accounts for approximately 20% of our total income and as already noted is an important source of income for the group. We run numerous fundraising events which require your support. Fundraising is the responsibility of everyone within our Group as the funds are utilised to support the whole Group.

We therefore ask that every family helps out with fundraising at least once per year. This could be as little as one two hour shift at a sausage sizzle.

The Fundraising Levy applies to all families who do not participate in fundraising activities in our group.

Membership Fees 2016

The Membership Fees for 2015 have been set by the Parents Committee based on detailed and sound budgeting for the coming year. Fees will be invoiced twice – once for Term 1 and 2, and then for Term 3 and 4.

The FHSG has not increased fees for the past three years, absorbing increased costs including rises in Scout SA Membership over the past two years and again this year. Unfortunately, we can no longer absorb this and have found it necessary to include a modest increase in fees this year.

If the fee for the **whole year** is paid before, or at the designated time, a discount will be applicable (as per table below)

If the half year fee only is paid, there is no discount applied

For new members the fee will be pro-rated at time of joining

Child	Full Year Fee	Half Year Fee	Fee if paid by 19 Feb	Fundraising Levy
1 st child	\$270	\$135	\$235	\$30 (if selected)
2 nd child	\$210	\$105	\$180	\$0
3 rd child	\$140	\$70	\$120	\$0

It is requested that fees are paid by the due dates specified on the invoice.

New Members are invoiced their fees after the Y1 Youth Member Application is submitted to the Group – there is no need to pay fees prior to this time. Fees are due within 2 weeks of invoice being issued.

Joining Fee

A joining fee of \$20 is payable by new members upon invoice to cover initial expenses – investiture badges, neckies and record books. This is a once-off fee charged when a new member joins the Group.

Refunds

Refunds of unused full term fees will be available provided the group receives notification of your child's intention not to return at the start of the term. No partial term refunds will be given. Any discount received will also be forfeited. Refunds should be requested to the Treasurer at treasurer@flagstaffhillscouts.org

Extenuating Circumstances and Financial Difficulties

If there are any extenuating circumstances that prevent you from meeting your account payment on time, then please contact the Group Leader. All matters are treated with the strictest confidence.