

Welcome to 1st Balgownie Scout Group



What is a Scout Group?

Scout Groups are formed and maintained by the community, because parents believe in the benefits and teachings that Scouting has to offer and want to make it available to their children.

1st Balgownie Scout Group consists of Four Sections called:

Joey Unit (6 - 8yrs). Tuesday Night 5.15 - 6.15pm

Cub Unit (8-11yrs). Tuesday Night 6.30 - 8pm

Scout Unit (11-15yrs). Thursday Night 6.30 - 8.30pm

Venturer Unit (15 -18yrs). Thursday Night 6.30 - 8.30pm

Each Unit is managed by a qualified Leader who is helped by qualified Assistant Leaders. In the Joey Unit and Cub Unit sections, parents are encouraged to become Parent Helpers to support the Leader. The Group as a whole is managed and guided by the Group Leader. The Group Leader is supported by a committee of parents, ex-Scouts, and community members.

Scouting is a voluntary organisation and we rely heavily on parent support.

A Scout Group is entirely self-funded. The expenses of a Scout group are various, including the cost of maintaining camping and other equipment in first class and safe condition, purchase of new equipment, hall maintenance, electricity, insurance, badges etc. Leaders must ensure their qualifications are current in the activities in which they lead the youth, and these training costs are met by the Group. Note: the term 'Scout' below refers to youth members of any of the Scouting sections.

Joining – how does it happen!

Your child is welcome to attend Scouts on a trial basis for a few weeks before any commitment.

New youth members are required to complete a Youth Membership Application Form (Y1) to join Scouts NSW

“Application for Youth Membership” Y1

<https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/become-a-youth-member/>

Your child will be invested as a member after fees are paid

You will need to purchase a uniform (Section Shirt) and a woggle at this time, from Scout Shop at Port Kembla.

The Scarf and badges will be provided by the group at investiture.

Your section Leader will advise you on the investment ceremony.
Family members are welcome to attend this ceremony.

Joining and Membership Fees

Joining Scouts for the first there is a one-time joining fee of \$50, an annual Scouts NSW membership fee of \$240, you do not need to pay this in full. You can pay \$60 each term or use your Active Kids Vouchers. Which is paid direct to Scouts NSW This covers personal accident and public liability insurance cover with Scout NSW.

Group Fee of \$45.

This is used for bills (water & electricity), hall maintenance and equipment.

Active Kids Vouchers

Two vouchers are now available annually, ensuring families who want their children to enjoy the Scout program can send their children to Scouts.

Families can apply for their Active Kids voucher via Service NSW from 1 January. The second voucher cannot be redeemed from 1st July. Both vouchers cannot be redeemed in the same term.

This voucher will cover your Membership fees with Scouts NSW or Joining fees. You cannot use it to pay your fees with the group.

Term Fees

Our Group fees are \$45 which covers the cost of bills (water & electricity), hall maintenance and equipment.

Group Treasurer will send out invoices each term for this fee,

Payment is required in the first 3 weeks of each term. Members not up to date with the fees will be resigned from the group if not rectified by the end of that quarter,

Group Fees are to be paid direct into the Group bank account

Scouts NSW will email out invoice for each child who is registered in our group the first day of each quarter (ie Apr, Oct). And you pay them direct

Active Kids Vouchers can be used for this

Methods of Paying Fees

o 1st Balgownie Scout Group bank details for direct deposit (Commwealth Bank)

BSB 062-624

Account No. 00911848

Your Child Name & Purpose as the Reference - eg. (Lisa Smith T2 Fees)

Notes

All our notes for camp and activities go out in Operoo

Once your child's initial application is endorsed by the group leader you will receive an email from 'Operoo' for you to complete other general and medical details. All sections use Operoo for activity notes so it is important to do this so you will obtain those notes and can approve (or not approve) your child attending the activities.

Operoo is a parent-controlled Electronic Health Form (EHF) for organisations with a duty of care. Parents can easily update medical information and provide consent for activity attendance with the click of a button, while providing Scout Groups with the ability to create electronic permission forms and instant access to this emergency information if it is required.

Parent Helpers

We are all ways looking for parent helpers with the hopes of you loving it so much you will join us as Leaders.

Scouts is just as much fun for parents and volunteers as it is for the children. Get involved in adventurous and fun activities that the whole family can experience together. Get involved with a great team of people and make life long friendships

You need complete A2 online form,

Working with Children Check

- Complete NSW government website application online
- <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>
- Fill out details. Select 'Volunteer' for purpose and 'Parent Volunteer - other'
- You will need to visit service NSW to valid ID for the application
-
- Complete the A2 Application (similar to the Y1 for youth)
- <https://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/adult-helper-application/>
- That is it. Group Leader will endorse it as it comes through.

Camps

All Parent's are welcome to attend, however you must have a Current WWC and fill out a Parent Helper online A2 Form, which must be provided to Barry "Eagle" Scolnik prior to the weekend.

Group Committee

Meets once a month

Makes decisions regarding administration of group, hall and funds

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask one of our Leaders from the various sections:

- Group / Cub Leader - Barry Scolnik (Eagle/Kaa) barry.Scolnik@nsw.scouts.com.au
- 0407785317
- Joey Leader - Simon Lee Simon.Lee@nsw.scouts.com.au
- Scout Leader - Keith Garrash (Mang) Keith.Garrash@nsw.scouts.com.au
- Venturer Leader - Lisa Sheedy lisa.sheedy@balgowniescouts.org.au