

Council Fiscal Strategies Benefiting Units and Families

As part of our ongoing effort to grow local Scouting and keep it as affordable as possible, we would like to share an update on both recent highlights and the challenges we continue to face.

COUNCIL FEES

We plan to maintain the current council fee of \$50 for a total of 3 years with 2026 being the second year of the initiative. While contingent on stable fundraising and manageable expenses, this fee is below the average of \$75 that other New Jersey councils are currently charging.

We continue to subsidize the cost of joining for families in need, providing more than \$15,000 in registration assistance annually.

PPC Adventure Programs (\$20-\$30 average price) consistently sell out and several have wait lists thanks to the value of the programs we are offering.

New for 2026 - Any troop that attends summer camp at a PPC facility will now receive unlimited free tent camping at any of our properties. With the typical cost of a tent site being \$100+ per weekend this makes unit events more affordable throughout the year!

DISTRICT EVENTS

Despite increased operating costs, we plan to maintain the minimum program fee at \$30 for the foreseeable future thanks to great programs and growing attendance. We also remain more affordable than the YMCA (our closest comparison) while offering significantly more program hours.

In 2025 we stopped charging adults to attend events unless they participate or have a meal.

With units doing a good job coordinating attendance and cost for events, we remain committed to offering scholarships for events for families in need so that every youth has an opportunity to participate.

COST SAVING MEASURES

We have worked to offer AOL crossover activities at no cost to help support retention.

The council has absorbed the impact of shrinking popcorn margins for several years to ensure units and families receive the highest possible return. In 2025 more than 100 units shared more than \$400,000 (40%) of sales.

Every dollar of any operating surplus goes directly back to our programs and facilities.

SUMMER CAMP

Over the past several years, we have continually found ways to subsidize camp fees and offer discounts to support families. In 2025 more than \$405,000 was earmarked for units and families camping at a PPC summer camp.

Our summer camp pricing is now in line with peer councils and is then further reduced when factoring in scholarships and incentives.

AREAS OF REINVESTMENT

Over the past 5 years Patriots' Path Council has invested more than \$2 million in our properties ranging from critical safety enhancements to numerous new or renovated facilities to support our families' and units' safety and experience.

SUPPORT SCOUTING

Scan the QR Code to donate to local Scouting initiatives and scholarships.

