



Parents Hand Book

2nd Baulkham Hills Scout Group

Ver. 2017 a

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Designation

Group	2 nd Baulkham Hills
District	Hills (South)
Region	Greater Western Sydney

Address Details**Hall address**

Tory Burns Reserve
25 Jasper Rd (opposite Eames Ave)
Baulkham Hills

Mailing address

2nd Baulkham Hills Scouts
PO Box 327
Baulkham Hills 1755

Web site

<http://www.2bhillscoutgroup.com/>

Glossary of Scouting Terms**Akela**

Name of Cub Leader

Jamboree

A national / international camp of scouts full of fun and activities. Run every 3 years, usually for 7-10 days

Cuboree

Similar to a jamboree except for cubs. Usually runs for 3-5 days

Jamborette

Similar to a Jamboree except it is a regional event. It runs for 3 days, every year

CSL, Cub Scout Leader

GL Group Leader

JSL Joey Scout leader

PL Scout Patrol Leader

RA, Rover Adviser

Sixer Leader of a Cub six (patrol)

SL, Scout Leader

VL, Venturer Leader

ACSL, AJSL, ASL, AVL

Assistant leaders

Group Committee

Parent group who help manage the group

Group Council

Meeting of all leaders

Scout Group

Collective name of Joeys, cubs, scouts etc

Drop-Off & Pick-Up on Meeting Nights

We ask that you arrive just before starting time and don't leave your child until there are two leaders present and the hall is open. This is a safety and logistics issue as if the second leader doesn't arrive then the night may be cancelled.

At closing time please arrive early enough to come into the hall and listen to messages on closing parade and meet other parents and the leaders (they are parents as well). We do not wish to have the children running off to a car in the car park as it is dark and dangerous, and it may not be the correct car.

Parents are welcome to stay for the night watch or even join in.

Leaders

Remember, there is no such thing as a professional Scout Leader. Most Leaders are just a mum or dad like you, but the Scout Association provides wonderful training that turns laypeople into Leaders – and without Leaders we wouldn't have a Scout Group for your child to join!

All of our leaders have given their time to complete their basic training and some have gone on and have completed their Advanced Leadership Training as well as first aid and several other significant qualifications.

The leaders will strive to

- Help your child to be accepted as a part of our scouting family
- Provide your child with safe, approved activities
- Provide your child with appropriate equipment and facilities for activities
- Help your child know, understand and live by the Scouting Law and Promise

Becoming a Leader or Assistant Leader and what that would involve.

As a volunteer organisation we always need to be looking for new leaders. If you are willing to help out as an assistant leader we will assist you by funding you scout leadership training, and can offer you some of the best time and experiences helping children grow and learn.

As a leader you need to be aware that you take on a responsibility to care for the children of your section. As well as the meeting night (1~2 hrs) there is planning and preparation time, week end activities and training courses, as well as a monthly meeting of leaders in the group and a monthly meeting of the leaders in the district.

Meeting Times & Contact Numbers**New Parents Interview**

By arrangement		
Group Leader	John Gale (Leader in Charge)	9894 4128

Joey Scouts

Boys and Girls aged between 6 and 8 years old
Meeting times TBA

Cub Scouts

Boys and Girls aged between 8 and 11 years old
Meeting times Monday evening 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Cub Scout Leader	Jenni Page	9639 9899
Assistant Cub Leader	Taylor Page	9639 9899
Assistant Cub Leader	Karlina Waciega	8807 5955
Assistant Cub Leader	Wendy Dunnachie (in Training)	0434 728 384

Scouts

Boys and Girls aged between 10 ½ and 15 years old
Meeting times Thursdays evening 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Scout Leader	Eric Harris	9659 3449
Assistant Scout Leader	Paul Jefferies	9639 6497
Assistant Scout Leader	Artie Shahho (in Training)	8883 3925
Assistant Scout Leader	Ross Thomson (in Training)	9686 2225

Venturer Scouts

Boys and Girls aged between 15 and 18 years old
Meeting times Friday evening 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Venturer Leader	Michael Fry	9686 8236
Assistant Venturer Leader	Wendy Sheppard	9686 1940

Rovers

Young Men and Women aged between 18 and 26 years old
Meeting times Thursdays evening 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Rover Crew Leader	Sally Gorman	0408 588 066
Rover Adviser	John Gale	9894 4128

Rovers (Outdoor)

Young Men and Women aged between 18 and 26 years old
Meeting times Tuesday evening 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Rover Crew Leader	Bailey Harris	9659 3449
Rover Adviser	Joanne Tyler (in Training)	9686 7115

Group Committee

Meeting times first Thursday evening of the month, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Chair person	Clare Gretch	0404 834 873
Secretary	Margi Conn	8856 4693
Treasurer	Hannah Clasic	9838 0367

Please refer to the group web site for up-to-date details <http://www.2bhillsscoutgroup.com/>

Group Leaders Message

Welcome to everybody who has joined the world wide brotherhood of Scouting.

Scouting is a community affair. Scout Groups are formed and maintained by the community because parents believe in the benefits that scouting has to offer and want to make available to their children.

Throughout all sections of the Movement, the aim is to encourage the physical, mental, social and spiritual development of our young people so that they may play a constructive role in society.

We achieve this through:

- Voluntary membership of a uniformed group, which, guided by adults is increasingly self governing in its successive age groups.
- Commitment to a code of living, expressed in the Promise and Law.
- The provision of a wide range of attractive, constructive and challenging activities, including opportunities for adventure and exploration both indoors and outdoors.
- The provision of opportunities for leadership and responsibility.
- Learning by doing.
- Encouragement of activity in small groups.
- An award scheme that encourages participation in a full range of activities and provides recognition of individual achievements.

It is a formula that has survived for more than 100 years! The principles of Scouting are proven to be just as relevant today as they were when Scouting began in 1907.

Regardless what people say as to the purpose of Scouts, it is all about fun for **our** children.

I encourage all families to be involved; it is part of your children's life and it is fun.

Yours in Scouting

John Gale (LiC)

- **Volunteer Camp Staff:**
On some activities we need and appreciate the help of parents with transport, cooking, running activities, first aid. Everybody has a great time getting involved.
- **Participate where possible**
In group organised events such as:
 - The Annual Group Camp
 - End of Term Break-Up Parties
 - Group social activities and field days
- **Joining the Parent Support Group:**
This is not an onerous task – the really hard work of building the Scout Hall and providing major resources has already been done by past committees. It really only involves a monthly meeting and helping to manage and maintain the resources of our Group as well as the occasional social activity.
- **Becoming a uniformed Leader:**
Leadership is not for everyone, but if it interests you, please speak to any one of the Leaders. They will tell you that they get just as much fun out of it as the kids, and a very real sense of achievement as well as doing something worthwhile for our youth and the community.

"Scouts is NOT a baby sitting club, your participation is vital to its existence"

Your Expectations

Now, what's in it for you and your child? You can expect that your child will have a fun time.

You can reasonably expect that your son or daughter will be in the hands of capable and caring Leaders who have a commitment to providing a stimulating and interesting program designed to assist children to develop into self-reliant and responsible members of the community.

Scouting was started by Robert Baden-Powell to cater for children's sense of adventure and love of independence and to channel these characteristics into appropriate activities, which will equip them for later life. Leaders take the task of fulfilling the Aims of Scouting very seriously. We undertake every reasonable care of your child when you entrust him or her to us, and to do our best in partnership with you, to help your child to develop to his or her full potential.

We have all undertaken thorough and ongoing training, and we give freely of our time and efforts to enable us to do this. We would not do it unless we were convinced of the value of Scouting in the lives of our children.

We hope that after your child has been with us for a short time, you will be likewise convinced.

include: attendance at group functions, helping at meetings, providing transport or helping with badge work. Your child's leader may have other suggestions.

- **Help improve group facilities**

While we aim to continually improve and add to the facilities available to your child, this can only be done with your support. Your support can take many forms. These include: support for fundraising, attendance at working bees, donations of materials or equipment, becoming a member of the parent committee.

- **Accept the group ethos when attending group events**

Our leaders always attempt to provide a model to your child by adopting the values of Scouting's law and promise. When attending group functions we expect parents to provide a similar model by behaving in ways that are congruent with those values.

How Can You Get Involved

The most important aspect of parent involvement is the encouragement you give to your child. The boys and girls who get the most out of Scouting are those who put the most into it. All children have times when they need a gentle push, and certainly times when they need some help. This is where you come in.

If your child wants to do some test-passing or earn a badge, please go through the requirements and check that he or she has the knowledge needed and that all aspects of the test are covered. If your child hasn't done anything for a while, you may need to offer some extra encouragement to get started. The pride on their faces when they come to the front of the parade to receive their badges makes the effort well worthwhile.

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

The support given will depend on the individual circumstances of each family. Areas in which regular help is needed are:-

- **Transport:**

Occasionally transporting the children to various activities included in our program.

- **Cleaning/Maintenance of the Scout Hall:**

It is important that the place in which our children gather be maintained in a clean hygienic fashion.

- **Fund Raising:**

So as to keep fees under control as a group we will run a couple of fund raising events through the year, and it is hoped that all families will be involved.

- **Parent Roster:**

There are occasions when the Leaders can do with an extra pair of hands, eyes and ears. This is mainly needed when insufficient Leader are available. If we call for a little extra help, it is good to know that there are parents willing to assist.

About Scouting

Scouting as a movement for boys was started by Lord Robert Baden-Powell after he returned from the epic siege of Mafeking to find the youth playing games which they were basing on his handbook for army scouts.

He was persuaded to rewrite the book, renamed "Scouting for Boys", and the Scouting Movement began. Later he used the jungle stories of Rudyard Kipling, The Jungle Book, as a basis for the Wolf Cubs (now known as Cub Scouts) specially adapted for the needs and abilities of younger boys.

Scouting has spread right around the world and is currently active in over 220 countries with more than 26 million members.

The Scout Promise has three fundamental parts – duty to your religious belief, duty to other people and duty to one's self.

Through our programs we seek to encourage young people to develop attitudes which will stand them in good stead throughout the rest of their lives. These include initiative, self-reliance, responsibility, respect and consideration for others, while taking into consideration the level of development of the age group and of the individuals, within it.

Originally a 'boys only' organisation, the Scout Movement has progressively expanded its program to include girls. In 1989 the Movement became of mixed membership through all Sections.



About Sections and Activities

What is a Scout Group?

A Scout Group is a local organisation that offers different levels of Scouting to various ages. A full Group consists of five Sections called a Joey Mob, a Cub Scout Pack, a Scout Troop, a Venturer Unit and a Rover Crew.

Each Mob, Pack, Troop or Unit is under the control of a person known as a Joey Scout, Cub Scout, Scout or Venturer Leader who is helped by Assistant Leaders. In the Joey Scout and Cub Scout Sections they also have Parent Helpers. The Group as a whole is managed and guided by a person known as the Group Leader.

The Different Sections of the Scout Movement

Scouts are broken into different age groups to provide different activities, as interests are different as they develop

14 ½ - 17 ½

- **Joey**s aged 6 - 8 play games and learn to “Care and Share”
- **Cub**s aged 7 ½ - 11 do activities in small groups called “sixes” and are run by the leaders
- **Scout** aged 10 ½ - 15 do activities in patrols and the activities may be organised by the patrol, or patrol leader or the scout leaders
- **Venturers** aged 14 ½ - 18 run their own activities and program, guided by the leader
- **Rovers** aged 18 - 26 are self-governing and may have a leader as a friend, guide and philosopher.



Parent Involvement

Our Group has a commitment to quality scouting and to your child’s physical, mental, social and spiritual development.

We believe that development is best served when leaders and parents work in partnership.

In that partnership leaders will:

- **Help your child to be accepted as a part of our scouting family**
By becoming a member of scouting, your child has become a part of a worldwide family. Our Group is a unique part of that family and your child is a valued part of it.
- **Provide your child with safe, approved activities**
All activities provided by our Group have been planned in accordance with scouting safety standards and have been approved by the Group Leader. Your child will not take part in activities without your knowledge and written permission.
- **Provide your child with appropriate equipment and facilities for activities**
In the course of the program your child will be provided with the appropriate equipment. They will be taught how to use it safely and encouraged to care for it and to use it responsibly.
- **Help your child know, understand and live by Scouting’s Law and Promise**
Our law and promise provide a set of precepts for social living. Your child will see our leaders modeling these precepts will be explicitly taught them and will be encouraged to live by them.

In our partnership parents will be expected to:

- **Get to know their child’s leaders**
Parents should take time to speak to their child’s leaders to share information about their child, to discuss their child’s progress, to comment on activities and to keep them informed of events. They should take time to provide positive comment as well as to discuss problems.
- **Encourage children to participate in the Group tradition**
The tradition of our group is of a community where equity is valued, where enjoyable participation is more important than competition, where individual success is celebrated by all and where good humour is valued. Parents will be expected to encourage their children to enter into the spirit of these traditions.
- **Support group activities**
Scouting is an organisation staffed by volunteers and can only provide a quality program with support from parents. This support can take many forms. These might

Protecting your Child

Scouts are Australia's leading youth development organisation and we do our utmost to ensure that your children are kept safe in our care. Leaders and volunteers helping to run Scout activities undergo thorough training for 6 to 12 months before becoming Scout Leaders.

Scouts has a 'two deep' leadership policy, that is, two Leaders (a male and a female) is our preferred option; however if this is not possible there will always be at least one certified leader present. We will not run a meeting without at least one other adult also being present. We are required to have a female present in all meetings when a girls are attending, if possible.

It's reasonable to expect that sometimes due to sickness, or other reasons there is only one leader present. In these cases we may ask a parent to stay.

Scouts NSW ensures that all of its volunteers comply with current legislation including the Prohibitive Employment Declaration (PED). In addition, Leaders undergo police record checks., and we ask all parents to complete a PED form as well.

Nut Policy

The Group has adopted a NO NUT policy in the hall and on activities.

Lost Property

Any thing left behind from camps or meeting nights will be placed in a 'Lost Property Box'. If not claimed after a few weeks it may be given away, placed in the clothing pool or thrown out.

Hall Rental

As part of our fund raising, the hall is available for rental for activities. This is not done on meeting nights, but the hall should be kept tidy at all times to make rental viable.



The Range Of Activities

Depending on their age; there are many types of activities which your children may get involved with.

- Abseiling
- Camp cooking
- Camp fire
- Camping
- Canoeing
- Caving
- Community Service
- Craft
- First aid
- Flying
- Games
- Gangshow (Theatre)
- Map and Compass
- Pioneering (Knots and Lashings)
- Rock Climbing
- Sailing
- Scuba diving
- Skiing
- Team Activities

The sections will only undertake activities which the leaders have been trained for or that other trained leaders or instructors will be present at.

The Award Scheme & Badges

With the exception of Joeys all sections have an Award scheme where the children can work learn skills and achieve a badge as recognition.

Cubs can learn skills to achieve their Bronze, Silver and Gold Boomerang and then the Yellow Cord. In Scouts they can work towards their Red, Blue and Green Cords and go on to the Scout Medallion. The Venturers are encouraged to complete the Queens' Scout Award while the Rovers strive towards the BP Award.

Ask a leader or refer to the web site for more information.



Things You Should Know

Joining

Before your child can participate in any Scout meetings you will need to complete an “Application for Youth Membership” form (Y1). This will give automatic insurance cover for your child whilst they are a New Chum. There is also a Free Trial period of 6 weeks, before you are required to pay membership fees. This will give you and your child a chance to enjoy Scouting before you make a financial commitment.

After the initial six week period, the Group Leader or Section Leaders will discuss a date for Investiture. The Joining Fee and Registration Fee must be paid on investiture. These fees will be sent together with the Y1 form to the Region office. Your child will then be registered as a member of the Scout Association.

Uniform

From the night he or she is invested, your child will be expected to wear the Scout uniform which now only consists of a section shirt. Scout shorts or pants are optional. The Hills District Scouts have decided to go with the Navy Blue coloured pants, for which you can use King Gee, or school pants (if the right colour). For official Scout functions, Scouts are required to wear Bone pants.

Uniforms are available from Snowgum online (Scout Shop): www.snowgum.com.au or the South Coast Scout Shop on 4274 1193 or sctshop@nsw.scouts.com.au

From time to time, we have second hand uniforms available or we may be able to source these from another Group, so please ask your Leaders regarding this.

Handbooks

There are very informative and useful handbooks produced for each Section of the Scout Movement, these are also available from the Snowgum.

The Cub Scouts book is called “Book of Cub Scout Challenges” and it contains all the information needed to pass the tests for Bronze, Silver and Gold Boomerang Badges, as well as all the requirements for all the Achievement Badges that the Cub Scout can earn. Obviously this book is a worthwhile investment if your child is to get all he or she can out of the Cub Scout Section.

Similarly, there is the “Australian Scout Fieldbook” which is relevant to the Scout Section. This text covers the Red, Blue and Green Cord level badge information, and is worth buying if your child is Scout aged.

Financial

A Scout Group is entirely self-funded. The expenses of a Scout Group are varied. A major cost is the purchasing of badges, certificates etc., (badges are presented as soon as they are earned and there is no call for parents to purchase their child’s badges).

The Group must also meet the cost of maintaining and providing new equipment and resources such as tents, ropes, cooking gear, games equipment, as well as paying for and maintaining the Scout Hall itself. Naturally we also have electricity, insurance and the like to pay. Even though all of the leaders are volunteers and pay for their own uniforms and Camp Fees the Leader training costs which are met by the Group.

The purchase of these capital items is the subject of fundraising. There is also ongoing fundraising for Cuboree and Jamboree activities. Every Section helps raise the necessary funds to continue the successful running of our Scout Group

Since Scouting is fundamentally an outdoors-based program, from time to time there are pack holidays, camps, hikes etc., normally over 2 or 3 days, which your child will want to attend. The cost of these activities is an extra expense to you although we aim to keep the price of such activities to a minimum.

Joining Fee (once only)	\$30.00
Registration and Insurance (Annual Fee) (2017)	\$160.00 p.a.
Troop Fees (Annual Fee) (2017)	\$100.00 p.a.

Insurance

A Portion of the annual membership payed to State Head Quarters goes towards an Insurance policy which covers all registered members while on authorised or recognised Scout Association activities.

