

## Virtual Roundtable – Membership Kick-off Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- 1. Can we expect to see Roundtables delivered in a virtual format if we are able to return to in person meetings?** Yes, currently the Erie Shores Council plans to delivery district and/or council Roundtable meetings in a virtual format via platforms such as Zoom or Google Meet. Your District Executive will be able to provide you with the meeting links.
- 2. Last year our unit received a Join Scouting Night Kick-off Kit, will those be available this year?** The Erie Shores Council will provide Join Scouting Night Kick-off Kits if requested. Resources will be available digitally by visiting [www.erieshorescouncil.org/recruitment](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/recruitment) Contact your District Executive to request your kit.
- 3. Will hard copy BSA Youth and Adult Applications be available and accepted for registration?** Yes! In addition, it is recommended that you unit look at all options available for registration in addition to hard copy applications. Parents may be more willing to register online via you unit's pin on BeAScout.org versus filling out a hard copy application. Contact your District Executive to request hard copy applications for your unit.
- 4. Is there a council-wide Join Scouting Night Date for 2020?** This year the Erie Shores Council is recommending that dates be set by school district or what is the best fit for each individual district.
- 5. Last year our unit received yard signs to use to promote our Join Scouting Night's, will they be available this year?** Yes! Erie Shores Council has a limited number of plastic corrugated yard signs available in the office currently. A new shipment of poly bag yard signs will be arriving in early August and units will be notified when they are available for pick up at the Jadel Leadership Center or through delivery with your District Executive.
- 6. Last year our unit received recruitment flyers to help promote our Join Scouting Night, will they be available this year?** Yes! Erie Shores Council has recruitment flyers in stock to promote Lion's, Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Exploring. Submit your flyer request by visiting [www.erieshorescouncil.org/FlyerRequest](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/FlyerRequest) Please allow 3-4 business days for your request to be completed.
- 7. My school will not hand out a hard copy recruitment flyer, is there a digital option available?** Yes! The BSA Brand Center has a wide variety of flyers that can be edited and shared digitally with your school or other methods such as email or social media. The BSA Brand Center can be found by visiting [scouting.webdamdb.com/bp/#/](http://scouting.webdamdb.com/bp/#/)
- 8. During the Virtual Roundtable a video was shared that can be used for recruitment with an Erie Shores Council tagline, how can we get a copy?** The Erie Shores Council has a selection of videos with our Erie Shores Council tagline ranging in length from less than a minute to just over two minutes. Visit [www.erieshorescouncil.org/recruitment](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/recruitment) to view and download.

9. **Last year our unit was able to visit our local schools and conduct a School Talk to promote our Join Scouting Night, what are our options if we are not allowed to do so this year?** Our National Council realized that that is a very good possibility for many units and the schools they service. They have created a series of School Talks that promote Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA from both youth and adult perspectives. Visit [www.erieshorescouncil.org/recruitment](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/recruitment) to view and download.
10. **What is a BeAScout unit pin?** Each unit across the council and nation has a “pin” that contains information that is specific to your unit. If a parents initiates a internet search on how to join Scouting, they will be directed to BeAScout.org They can search by zip code for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts. You want them to be able to find your unit when they search.
11. **How does our unit update our BeAScout unit pin?** Units can update their BeAScout unit pin by visiting [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org) Instructions are available by visiting: [www.erieshorescouncil.org/files/21979/BAS-Unit-Pins-pdf](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/files/21979/BAS-Unit-Pins-pdf) Units should update their BeAScout unit pin annually or as unit leadership changes.
12. **Our meeting location is not available to us due to COVID-19 restrictions, what are options can we use to meet in person for unit meetings?** At this time, we know that most schools will not be allowing visitors or organizations to use indoor facilities. Look at what is available outside of your meeting location for possible meeting locations such as playgrounds, sports fields, or sidewalks. Also consider what other areas are available such as public parks with gazebos or shelter houses, a leader’s home/yard, Camp Miakonda (if near the Sylvania area), or other community partners such as churches. No matter where you are meeting make sure to follow local and state guidelines for COVID-19.
13. **Our unit meetings exceed the current group size recommendation of 10 or less, how can we meet in person?** This is where you may need to become creative! Suggestions to be able to meet would be to split your den or patrol into smaller groups to maintain the recommended group size along with ensuring two-deep leadership. You can utilize a round-robin format or have groups arrive at staggered times. For pack or troop meetings, look at a drive-in option at your charter partner’s parking lot with families staying in their cars unless they are called up to receive awards. This can be done by rank/grade level or with the whole unit depending on unit size.
14. **With the Council’s Annual Popcorn Sale upcoming in September, what recommendations can you provide for our unit?** The Council Annual Popcorn Sale is set to begin on September 18. We are recommending units and Scouts be aware of current state and local guidelines when selling with door-to-door, take order, or Show and Sell’s. More information will be available at the district kick-off meetings to be held in August. Please visit [www.erieshorescouncil.org/popcorn](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/popcorn) for each district dates.

15. **Due to COVID-19 restrictions many of our meetings are now being held in a virtual format, is there specific training available to support the virtual Scouting environment?** There are not specific trainings that have been developed for the virtual Scouting environment. We recommend that leaders and parents refer to resources already available concerning youth protection.
- Cyber Chip: [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/)
  - BSA Social Media Guidelines: [scoutingwire.org/social-media-guidelines/](http://scoutingwire.org/social-media-guidelines/)
  - BSA Youth Protection: [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/)
  - Guide to Safe Scouting: [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a](http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a)
16. **Many different councils are offering video resources to support the delivery of the Cub Scout program, will the Erie Shores Council be creating video resources to help deliver Cub Scout Adventures locally?** The National Council is currently working with local councils from across the nation to create video/virtual resources to help support the delivery of Cub Scout Den Meeting Virtual Resources. Erie Shores Council had the opportunity to learn about how to create video/virtual resources as part of Camp-To-Go! and are assisting in this effort. The National Council is anticipating these resources will be available by mid-August after the All Staff Conference.
17. **How can our unit support Scouting for families that do not have access to technology for virtual Scouting?** This is a hard question to address as it is unique to each family. If a family does not have access to a personal computer with a camera and microphone access, do they have a tablet, smartphone, or device provided by their school that does? The common virtual meeting platforms have applications that work on these devices in addition to a personal computer. If the issue is not having access to an internet connection, can they go to a location with free WiFi and access safely from in their car or at a safe social distance? Buckeye Broadband FreeNet may also be an option. FreeNet is an ad-supported Internet Product available to anyone in the Buckeye Broadband service area. For more information, visit [www.buckeyebroadband.com/freenet](http://www.buckeyebroadband.com/freenet)
18. **What free or low-cost web meeting resources are available?**
- Free Conference Call [www.freeconferencecall.com/](http://www.freeconferencecall.com/)
  - Webex [www.webex.com/](http://www.webex.com/)
  - Go To Meeting [www.gotomeeting.com/](http://www.gotomeeting.com/)
  - Join Me [www.join.me/](http://www.join.me/)
  - Google Meet [meet.google.com/](http://meet.google.com/)
  - Google Classroom [edu.google.com/products/classroom/?modal\\_active=none](http://edu.google.com/products/classroom/?modal_active=none)
  - Zoom <https://zoom.us/>
19. **How can we eliminate the “screen time” related to virtual Scouting?** A group of no more than 8 Scouts with two leaders for two-deep leadership fits into the current recommendation for small groups of 10 or less. Unless future local and state COVID-19 guidelines that reduced this number are announced, small group meetings can happen following this scenario and reduce the need for “screen time.”

20. **How can our unit help our parents with providing oversight to their Cub Scouts with their Adventures?** Our recommendation is for den leaders to utilize the new Den Leader Experience which is included as part of Scoutbook. The Den Leader Experience makes it easier than ever for den leaders to prepare for and lead meetings, track advancement and attendance, and more. For more information, please visit [scoutingwire.org/this-new-video-series-delivers-the-ultimate-den-leader-experience/](https://scoutingwire.org/this-new-video-series-delivers-the-ultimate-den-leader-experience/)
21. **Will Erie Shores Council offer in person trainings at this time?** Currently the Erie Shores Council will not be offering training sessions for courses that are available online by visiting the BSA Learn Center at My.Scouting.org. Trainings requiring a hands-on component such as Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO), Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS), or Wood Badge will be scheduled and held at a future dates. For the more information, please visit [www.erieshorescouncil.org/training](http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/training)
22. **Our unit would like to host a meeting or campout at Camp Miakonda, how do we make scheduling arrangements?** At this time Camp Miakonda is open for cohorts of 10 people or less with seven groups allowed on the property at one time. Scouts BSA Troops and Venturing Crews can also tent camp for no more than two consecutive nights in cohorts of 10 people or less. For all cases, two-deep leadership must be part of all cohorts. To schedule, email Samantha Andreas at [Samantha.Andreas@scouting.org](mailto:Samantha.Andreas@scouting.org)