



Mittagong Scouts

***The home of Scouting in the
Southern Highlands***

Welcome to the
1st Mittagong Scout Group!

- Want to know more about Scouting and what's involved?
- How did it start?
- Can anyone join?
- What happens?
- How much does it cost?
- Can I help out?
- When can we start?

Read on to find out more...

FUN, ADVENTURE, TEAMWORK, COMMUNITY



www.mittagongscouts.com

Why enrol your child in scouts?

By enrolling your child in Scouts you are giving them the opportunity for a fun, educational experience above and beyond what the school system offers. In this respect, Scouting is often referred to as non-formal or experiential education.

Scouting has the aim of developing young people physically, intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and socially. Children are accepted into Scouting from 6 years of age, and may continue through the different sections until they are young adults at age 26.

Scouting emphasizes nature, adventure, teamwork, citizenship, leadership and of course having fun. From the Cub Section onwards, young people are gradually given more opportunity to work in small autonomous (but supervised) groups in order to develop leadership skills.

How did it start?

Scouting has officially been in existence since 1907, and since 1908. 1st Mittagong has itself a very long, proud history and has been around since 1925.

It was originally started by Robert Baden-Powell to channel these characteristics into appropriate activities, equip them for later life.

When Lord Robert Baden Powell (or BP) returned from the War he found the youth of the British Isles playing games, which had been taken from a handbook he had written for army scouts. "BP" was persuaded to rewrite his book and named it 'Scouting for Boys', and so Scouting began.



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Scouting has spread right around the world and is currently active in over 216 countries with more than 26,000,000 members.

Scouting is not affiliated with any particular religion, nor is membership of a church a prerequisite of joining the Movement.

Through our program, we seek to encourage in young people, attributes which will stand them in good stead throughout the rest of their lives, such as initiative, self-reliance, responsibility, respect and consideration for others, while taking into consideration the level of development of the age group and of individuals.

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

Scouting is a formula that has survived for over 100 years! The principles of Scouting have proven to be just as relevant today as they were when Scouting began. In fact Scouting is experiencing a surge in membership and growth everywhere.

What is a Scout Group?

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

Each Mob, Pack, Troop or Unit is managed by a Leader who is helped by Assistant Leaders, and in the Joey Scout and Cub Scout sections, parent helpers are encouraged to support the leader. The Group as a whole is managed and guided by a person known as the Group Leader.

At Mittagong we cater for Joeys, Cubs and Scouts. We also have access to a Southern Highlands Venturer Unit for when they get older.

Becoming a uniformed Leader

Scout Leaders are volunteers from the community, often the parents of Scout-age children, who have an interest in developing young people's potential. Leaders are put through a rigorous selection and training process. All potential Leaders are given full police and referee checks, then supervised and trained fully before they are able to work with young people on their own.

Did you know that Scouts is an accredited training organization? Often the courses and training you receive may be used in your career or work environment.

Mittagong Scouts will always welcome new leaders. Leadership may not be 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 young people and the community. Becoming a leader of youth is worthwhile and personally rewarding.

How do you join?

Easy. First, come and see for yourself. Your child is welcome to attend Scouts on a trial basis for six weeks. After the initial six weeks, should your child decide to become a Scout, you will need to pay the joining and registration fees. Your child will then be invested as a member of Scouts Australia.

Please Note: Due to legal and insurance obligations these days, you will need to complete an "Application for Youth Membership" form (Y1) before your child can participate in any Scout meetings. This will give automatic insurance cover for your child whilst they are "trying out" Scouts.

Parents who assist with the Scout group are also required to sign a Prohibited Employment Declaration (M5) Form.

Fees

The Fee Structure consist of three parts:

NSW Branch Joining Fee	\$.....(this is a one-off payment)
Registration/Insurance Fee	\$.....
Section Fees	\$.....

Naturally, with scouting being fundamentally an outdoors-based program, from time to time there will be pack holidays, camps, hikes etc. The cost of these activities is an extra expense but you can be sure that our aim is to keep the price of such activities down to a minimum.

Parent Involvement

Scouting is a voluntary organisation, and we rely heavily on parent support. Obviously, the level of support given will depend on the individual circumstances of each family.

Each section requires different levels of supervision and assistance. As Joeys are the youngest, parents are generally expected to help out on the night and are also required to attend camps with their children. Cubs only need a little parent assistance on Cub nights but extra helpers are frequently required on camps to help with cooking and other activities. Scouts are more self sufficient and parents are only required to help with transport to and from events.

Areas in which you can help:

- Transport:** Occasionally the children will need to be transported to various activities included in our program.
- Maintenance** of the Scout Hall: It is important that the place in which our children gather is clean, hygienic and safe. Assistance may be required to ensure this is the case through the occasional working bee.
- Parent Roster:** Leaders can always do with an extra pair of hands, eyes and ears. If we call for a little extra help, it is good to know that there are parents willing to assist.
- Attendance** at committee meetings. The parent committee is essential to the success of the Scout Group. Committee meetings are held monthly and allows you the opportunity to stay informed.

Fundraising

A Scout Group is entirely self-funded. The expenses of a Scout Group are various. The Group meets the cost of maintaining camping equipment in first class, safe condition as well as paying for and maintaining the Scout Hall itself. There are also Leader training costs, which are met by the Group. As well as the general Group running costs, there is the cost of providing new equipment and resources such as tents, ropes, cooking gear, games equipment etc.

Uniforms

From the night he or she is invested, your child will be expected to wear full uniform. Uniforms can be bought through any Snowgum Store, online, or by phone (details below) or, you can visit our scout shop.

Scout Shop

85 Wentworth St. Port Kembla
Ph. 4274 1193..

Snowgum

PO Box 1343, Clayton South Vic 3169
Phone: 1800 811 312
Online at: www.snowgum.com.au
Email: customer.service@snowgum.com.au

Barbecues Galore at Goulburn also have some items available

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

The 1ST MITTAGONG SCOUT GROUP

- Joey's:** Thursdays 6.00 - 7.00 pm
Mob Leader: Michele Jutrisa (Taz)
Tracy Poulter (Glider)
- Cubs:** Wednesdays 6.00 - 7.30 pm
Pack Leader: Tracey Wilson (Akela)
Steve Boniface (Hawkeye)
- Scouts:** Fridays 6.00 – 8.00pm
Troop Leader: Mert Southcott (Woody)
Greg Connolly (Billy)
- Group Leader:** Currently vacant
- Committee:** President - Jenny Woolard
Secretary - Joe Jutrisa
Treasurer – Michael Abela
- Our Website:** www.mittagongscouts.com
Our Blog: www.mittagongscouts.blogspot.com

Joey Scout Promise

I promise to do my best
To love my God
And be helpful.

Cub Scout Promise

On my Honour
I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to my God, and
To the Queen of Australia (or, Australia)
To help other people, and
To live by the Cub Scout Law.

Scout Promise

On my Honour
I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to my God, and
To the Queen of Australia (or, Australia)
To help other people, and
To live by the Scout Law.

Joey Scout Law

A Joey Scout cares
A Joey Scout shares.

Cub Scout Law

Cub Scouts are loyal and obedient
Cub Scouts do not give into themselves.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy
A Scout is loyal
A Scout is helpful
A Scout is friendly
A Scout is cheerful
A Scout is considerate
A Scout is thrifty
A Scout is courageous
A Scout is respectful
A Scout cares for the environment.