

**Questions and Answers from the January 5, 2023 Presentation
for United Methodist sponsored units**

1. Question - Will we get a copy of this presentation?

Answer - We will send a copy of the slide deck with the Q&A to all invited participants.

2. Question - In the original letter from the Council, option 1a indicated that if the local church officials elect to continue as the chartering partner, then no further action is needed. Is this still an option?

Answer - During discussions between BSA and the General Conference of the UMC in August and September, this appeared to be an option. The General Conference has since decided that the UMC will no longer serve as charter organizations. The local congregation does not have this option.

3. Question - if a private business decides to be a charter organization, does that business need to be a non-profit?

Answer - No. A private business does not need to be a non-profit business to sponsor a Scouting unit.

4. Question - If we initially charter thru CASA and we are able to find a new charter partner prior to 2024, can we move to the new charter partner mid charter period?

Answer - Yes. Units can change charter partners anytime during the charter year.

5. Question - What insurance does the new charter organization need?

Answer - the same general liability insurance that BSA has provided to charter organizations will be extended to the new charter organization.

6. Question - While we are chartered thru CASA, how is the appointment of the charter organization representative handled? Does the Scouting unit appoint or CASA? Will there be board meetings for the CR to attend?

Answer - The charter organization representative is typically a liaison from the charter organization to the scouting unit. One of their responsibilities is to approve the application of any adult leader. This involves doing whatever verification of the worthiness of the volunteer leader is necessary. Units that use CASA need to appoint a CR who will have this responsibility. The officers of CASA are not in a position to know the reputation of new adults in every community within the Council, so the units will need to be more involved in this process. CASA will have at least one meeting a year, probably held via Zoom, at which the unit CRs will represent their units. Unit CRs will

also have the opportunity to represent the unit at the district and council elections.

In the traditional charter organization relationship, if the charter organization sponsors multiple units, i.e. a pack and a troop, both units would have the same CR. Again, since CASA may sponsor units across the Council, packs, troops, crews, and ships that are associated with each other should have the same CR.

7. Question - Are we covered under the liability insurance while we go through re-charter?

Answer - If your charter has not expired, you need to make a decision about a new charter organization ASAP, and submit the necessary paperwork so the Council can record this change.

If your charter has expired, the unit has no insurance coverage. If you choose to meet, exercise reasonable precautions in the activities you conduct.

8. Question - Is our re-charter packet available at the Scout office?

Answer - Check with your unit serving executive. January and February re-charter packets have been prepared. March re-charter packets should be available soon if these are not currently available.

9. Question - If you work for a company who will make donations to organizations with an EIN, how will the donation be handled while we are chartered thru CASA?

Answer - The donation can be sent directly to the unit as the unit will use CASA's EIN.

10. Question - So are we adding multiple CRs to CASA?

Answer - Yes. The responsibilities of the charter organization representative for units sponsored by CASA will be conducted at the unit level. As indicated above, one of those responsibilities is approving adult applications. The CR in the local community is in a better position to check out the reputation of potential volunteers.

11. Question - How did the General Conference make this decision to no longer sponsor Scouting when its March 2022 meeting was postponed and they are not scheduled to meet until April, 2024?

Answer - The local council is not able to answer this question as the decision came from the General Conference.

12. Question - Do we renew membership online with the UMC as our charter organization as we did last year and then transfer to a new charter organization?

Answer - No. As of Dec 31, 2022, UMC congregations no longer are allowed to sponsor a Scouting unit. Your re-charter for the 2023 year

will need to be done manually. In the online re-charter process, there is no option to change the charter organization. Changing the charter organization is a manual process which the council registrar must do.

13. Question - We have a pre-scheduled trip at the end of January which will need to be paid at that time. Since we will need to open a new checking account, do you think we can process the charter before then?

Answer - Your unit needs to submit its paperwork for the new charter org ASAP so you can get the EIN and open the account.

14. Question - If we choose to go with CASA, you have indicated we need to inventory our unit equipment. What do we need to list in that inventory?

Answer - Your equipment inventory should include items with a replacement value of \$100 or more. Examples of items include trailers, tents cooking equipment, pinewood derby tracks, and ceremony items. Do not include items such as craft supplies, crayons, markers, rope, etc.