



Ridgehaven Scout Group

New Member Parent Information Pack



V1.10 Feb 2023



Welcome to our Group

As a new member, or a returning member, we welcome you to Ridgehaven Scout Group and look forward to many rewarding years of fun and adventure with you and your child/children.

This booklet is designed to give you an insight into what lies ahead and to answer some of the questions you will no doubt have. There may well be questions that are not answered here; please feel free to ask any of the Leaders or Parent Committee personnel.

Hopefully we can catch up soon for a face to face in the near future.



Huw Williams—Group Leader



A little bit about Scouting...

The Scout movement, the World's largest youth organisation, exists in more than 180 countries Worldwide and has in excess of 25,000,000 members. Scouting has been in existence since 1907 - in Australia since 1908.

Boys and girls can join Scouting from 5 years of age, and may continue through the sections until they are adults at age 26. Many of our Leaders are ex Scouts themselves.

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. Scouting emphasises nature, adventure, citizenship, leadership & having great fun. It develops skills, knowledge and attitudes that benefit our children throughout their lives. From the Joey Section onwards, young people are gradually given more opportunity to work in small autonomous (but supervised) groups in order to develop leadership skills. Ridgehaven comprises sections for each age group—Joesy, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. Ask the leaders for details.



Come and Try

You are welcome to “Come and Try” scouts at Ridgehaven. Your child is automatically covered by the Scout Association Insurance for three weeks, allowing him/her to participate in the Group activities.

We invite you to fill in our Trial member application before you come or wait till you visit: <https://sa.myscout.com.au/formations/43600/trialyouth> or use the QR code on the back page.

After the 3 weeks, the ‘Application to Join’ should be completed, and membership fees (including Scout Association registration, group fees and Section fees) become due. You will get two emails with information on how to complete the application.

Once joined you will receive an account from the treasurer and an Investiture (joining ceremony) is conducted for new members, it is expected that an invested member wears their uniform to section nights (See Page 5).

Joining Checklist tick off as you go

Sections

Joey Scouts

(approx. 5 to 8 years old)

Monday 6:00 to 7:00 pm

Joey Scout Leader: Huw Williams
(Pinarroo)

Cub Scouts

(approx. 8 to 11 years old)

Tuesday 6.30pm to 8.00pm

Cub Scout Leader: Stacey Hardaker
(Rikki)

Wednesday 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Cub Scout Leader: Tom Williams
(Hathi)

Scouts

(approx. 11 to 15 years old)

Friday 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Scout Leader: Alan Bennett (Malta)

Venturers

(approx. 15 to 18 years old)

Friday 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Venturer Leader: Joella Wakefield

See Page 6/7 for contact details

Uniform

As per Page 5 of this information pack! The uniform is required for your child to be invested.

Forms

Have you completed the Youth Member application. This form is processed by the membership officer and Scouts SA HQ. An invoice will be sent to your nominated email address for membership fees.

Operoo

The group uses a third party application (Operoo) for managing permissions for attendance at events outside the hall and for upkeep of medical information, you will receive an invitation from the group to set up a profile in Operoo.

Record books

Scouts Australia runs an Award Scheme, requirements and achievements are maintained online. Optional physical record books are available to purchase, there are two types of books.

- **Outdoor Adventure Skills** record book which you use throughout your Scouting life and
- **Section Record Book** which would be replaced each time you link up to the next section.

These books are **\$15 each**.

Badges

When invested your child will receive a set of badges for the uniform and a scarf. See your section leader to see where they go.

Uniforms

From the night of investiture, your child will be expected to wear uniform. Scouts shirts are only available from the uniform department of the Exurbia Uniform shop, 134A The Parade Norwood or you can visit them online at <https://exurbia.com.au/scout-shop/>



Joey Navy/
Rust Polo
shirt only



Cub Navy/
Yellow Polo
or button shirt



Scout Navy/
Green Polo or
button shirt



Venturer Navy/
Maroon Button
shirt only

For formal occasions the uniform should be worn with stone coloured pants or skirt. For all other events can be either blue, black or stone pants or shorts.

Regulation stone pants can be sourced from Exurbia or those found in local department stores are acceptable.

Your child will receive their Ridgehaven scarf, woggle and several badges at their investiture, the cost is included in your first account.

Please ensure all items of clothing are named. Most badges are provided by the Group. If these items are lost, we ask that you replace them at cost.

Optional items are available these are worn to some outside events, they are practical and also an easy way for everyone to identify members of our Group when not wearing uniform.

For details and sizing contact uniforms@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au.



Hoodies
\$60



Polos
\$42

Leader Teams

Joey Scouts

Our Joey Scout Leaders are:

- Huw Williams (Pinarroo),
- James Love (Magpie); and
- Charlotte Nitschke (Bilby),

Contact: leaders.joey@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

Cub Scouts

Our Tuesday Cub Leaders are:

- Stacey Hardaker (Rikki) and
- Chris Webber (Bagheera)

Contact: leaders.cubs.tuesday@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au



Our Wednesday Cub Leaders are:

- Tom Williams (Hathi), and
- Charlotte Nitschke (Keego).

Contact: leaders.cubs.wednesday@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

Scouts

The Scout Leaders are:

- Alan Bennett (Malta),
- Adam Simpson (Subway),
- Wendy Penhall (Wartu)
- Matthew Spencer (Spanner) and
- Katherine Carter (Dangerous)

Contact: leaders.scouts@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au



Venturers

The Venturer Leaders are:

- Joella Wakefield,
- Ashley Sykes and
- Thomas Milham
- Ann-Marie Russell

Contact: leaders.venturers@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

Parent Involvement

There is an expectation that parents/caregivers will be involved in Ridgehaven Scout Group. We appreciate that personal commitments will vary greatly but as we are a volunteer organisation every contribution counts toward providing the best Scouting experience for our kids. We cannot operate without parent input and there are a variety of ways that you can contribute

Assisting with Meetings

All sections would appreciate an extra pair of hands, eyes and ears at their meetings. You might be willing to attend camp or have a particular skill you can share. Please speak to your Section Leader about becoming a parent helper.

Joining the Committee

This is not a very hard task – it really only involves a monthly meeting and helping to organize a few fundraising activities and maintaining our grounds and equipment etc. It is expected that every family will be represented on the Committee, for a least one term of office, during their child's Scouting career.

Fundraising

10% (approx.) of the group's running costs need to be raised through fundraising. We expect that all parents will support these efforts. Fundraising activities have in the past included sausage sizzles, quiz nights and chocolate sales. Recently we have taken advantage of People's Choice Lottery tickets and Entertainment books. We also apply for grants from Government & other entities. New ideas are welcome, as are many hands assisting! Our fundraising committee would welcome your help.

Contact : fundraising.team@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au.

Transport Occasionally


Parent help is required to assist with transporting the children to various activities included in our program. With everyone contributing to carpooling we can avoid having to pass on transport costs for camps and excursions.

Working Bees

Once a term, if needed, the committee organises a working bee. This might be a general tidy-up or there may be some very specific jobs that need to be done. There is an expectation that all families participate at least once a year. These working bees are social events and are a great opportunity to meet other Scouting parents.

Becoming a Uniformed Leader

Of course, not everyone is able to do this, but if you are interested in becoming a Leader, please speak to any of the Leaders. They will tell you that they have just as much fun as the children and get a very real sense of achievement of doing something worthwhile for the community.



Remember, there is no such thing as a professional Scout Leader. We all used to be a Mum or Dad just like you. The Scout Association provides informative and enjoyable training which turns laymen into Leaders – and without Leaders we wouldn't have a Scout Group for your child to join.

Encouraging your child

At the heart of Scouting is the idea of 'Learning by Doing'. Scouting is not about sitting on the sidelines and watching but 'having a go' and developing perseverance.

Depending on the Section your child is joining there are many opportunities to earn badges.

As your child progresses through the Sections they will be expected to take more responsibility for themselves and their achievements, commensurate with their greater experience and maturity.

The costs of any badges are covered in your fees. If you need any information about how to support your child in earning badges or any other area of Scouting, please do not hesitate to speak to your Section Leader who will be more than happy to help.

Your Expectations

Now, what's in it for you and your child? You can reasonably expect your child to be in the hands of capable and caring Leaders who have a commitment to provide a stimulating and interesting program designed to assist children to develop into self-reliant and responsible members of the community.

All our Leaders have undertaken thorough training and have Police Clearances and a working with Children Check.

The Leaders take their task of fulfilling the aims of Scouting very seriously. They undertake to take every reasonable care of your child, and to do their best, in partnership with you, to help your child to develop to their full potential.

In Summary

Your child will get out of Scouting not only what they put in, but what you as a family are able to assist with. Our Group works hard to build a "family" of many families who help each other to provide the best possible resources, facilities and support in order to provide great Scouting to the Youth Members in our care.

We encourage you to get involved, meet other families and help out where you can and we thank you for taking the time to consider Scouting at Ridgehaven.

Financial

Fees are due at the start of each school term. Your prompt payment of your account will ensure we can access resources for the term's activities. Options are available to pay a whole year up front.



If, however, there are any extenuating circumstances that prevent you from meeting your account payment on time, then please contact the Group Leader or the Treasurer. All matters are treated with the strictest confidence.

Scouting is a Not-For-Profit organisation and the fees are used to cover items such as:

- New equipment and resources such as boats, tents, kayaks, ropes, cooking gear, games equipment etc.
- Insurance
- Badges, certificates etc.
- Maintenance of the Scout Hall and equipment as well as utility bills (water, electricity, insurance)
- Leader uniforms and training

All of the above costs the Group over \$40,000 per year.

Fees include Group running costs, Section budget contribution. Note, fees are reviewed annually.

Affiliation to Scouts SA,, is billed separately when its due, on joining and in your anniversary month

Fees	1st Child	2nd Child +
Ridgehaven Membership Fee (Per Term)	\$75.00	\$65.00
Scouts SA Affiliation fee (Per Year)	\$150.00	\$150.00
Scarf Pack in first account	\$20.00	\$20.00

Naturally with Scouting being fundamentally an outdoors-based program there will, from time to time, be sleepovers, camps, hikes and other excursions, which your child will no doubt want to attend. The cost of these activities, which is kept to a minimum, covers items like food and site fees, is in addition to the termly fees.

Who's Who at Ridgehaven

Contact Us

ridgehaven@sa.scouts.com.au

PO Box 93, St Agnes SA 5097

Group Leader:

Huw Williams (Pinarroo) - 0403 178 691

Contact: gl.ridgehaven@sa.scouts.com.au



Assistant Group Leader:

Wendy Simpson (Alinga)

Contact: agl.ridgehaven@sa.scouts.com.au

Group Committee

The Group Committee is elected at each AGM (normally March).

The current committee members are listed below - please feel free to contact them with any queries or feedback. The role and responsibilities of the Parent Committee include organising all the fees, fundraising and maintenance of equipment, along with other fun activities planned throughout the year.

Chairperson : Alan Chilman

chairperson@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

Secretary and publicity : Pauline Huettenrauch

committee.secretary@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

Treasurer: Deb Russell

treasurer@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

Quartermaster and Membership Officer: Shane Warner

quartermaster@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

membership.officer@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au

Committee Members:

Scott Greenwood (Grants), Chris Sykes (Bottle Recycling),
Geoff Denton (Maintenance) and Kyly Page

Where to Find Us

Scout Hall : 449 Milne Rd Ridgehaven SA 5097



<https://www.facebook.com/ridgehavenscoutgroup>



<http://www.ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au/>

Trial Member Application

