

25TH STIRLING (DUNBLANE) BOYS' BRIGADE
Registered Charity in Scotland No SCO40043

Payment and subsidy policy – August 2018

25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade is a fully registered charity. As such, several of the leaders are Trustees of the charity and bear associated legal responsibility for the stewardship of its funds. Our annual accounts are audited independently and scrutinised by OSCR (Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator).

For this reason, we must take care to ensure that money donated to us or raised through fundraising activities of any type is used carefully and with a high level of respect towards the efforts and generosity of donors and those who gave their time and talents to raise such funds.

With this in mind, we are introducing the following simple policy for all subsidised Boys' Brigade events:

If a boy withdraws from an event after the confirmation deadline for any reason other than genuine illness, and his place cannot be filled by another boy, it is then expected that parents will pay the full, unsubsidised cost of his participation.

For example, a weekend away may have an advertised cost per boy of £75, but if we use our funds to subsidise this, the actual expenses being paid out of our could be as high as £100 per boy. In the event of withdrawal after a deadline, parents/ carers will now be asked to pay this additional £25.

Many events and trips we take boys to require full, non-refundable payment to be made from our funds well in advance of the date of the event. You will understand, therefore, that withdrawal after such a time means money has already left our account.

It is our belief that it is not right for the charity to be out of pocket by subsidising an empty bed on a weekend away, an empty seat at a concert or football match, etc. if the charity is not at fault. The charity regulator could justifiably question us on this.

From August 2018 onwards, we will clearly state in e-mail invitations to events with a cost what both the standard and unsubsidised charges are so you are fully aware. Note that some events offered as free-of-charge may actually incur a real cost.

Making payments

We ask that all parents register for and use our online payment Direct Debit system through Online Brigade Manager and GoCardless. This eliminates the need for leaders to make weekly trips to increasingly hard-to-find bank branches! This is now common practice with school meals and trips, milkmen and window cleaners, etc. so it should not seem unusual to use it for BB payments. Thanks for your support.