

## New Scout Orientation Guide - Pack 102

### Organizational Structure

We operate as a pack chartered by the Olmsted Falls Kiwanis and overseen by the Lake Erie Council. Smaller groups within the pack are called dens.

These Dens are as follows: Kindergarteners; Lion Cubs, 1st graders, Tiger Cubs; 2nd graders, Wolves; 3rd graders- Bears, 4th and 5 th graders- Webelos and Arrow of Light (AOL). Dens have leaders and meet once or twice a month.

Den meetings focus on projects and achievements toward the specific rank the scouts are working on. Occasionally dens will have fun field trips to places of interest to the scouts. We've had trips to a police & fire station, the Plain Dealer, TV stations, BW's radio station, nature centers, and the zoo.

We encourage parents to be involved with what the scouts are doing at den meetings, as these are the perfect opportunities to spend quality time with your son or daughter.

The pack meetings center on one of the 12 character traits (honesty, resourcefulness, etc.) and include a program with an advancement ceremony for the scouts who have completed achievements since the last meeting. Some meetings are given over to events like the Pinewood Derby or the Blue and Gold Banquet -- fun for all. We also will have scheduled outings such as to SkyZone, a Guardians game, and to area parks for hikes and campouts.

### Calendar

Packs run on a school-year calendar but the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) runs on a calendar-year schedule as far as membership and renewal of our charter (December of each year). Recruiting happens in September when the school year starts. We publish a pack update email or newsletter with pack and council events of note.

### Uniforms

A Class A Uniform is the blue or tan "formal" shirt. Caps are optional, as well as the belt and pants. Boys typically wear blue jeans. Scouts are expected to wear their uniform to den and pack meetings. These can best be purchased at the Scout Shop in Cleveland [2241 Woodland Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115 // 216-861-6060] or online at <http://www.scoutstuff.org/>

The scout shop sells a product called Badge Magic, which uses heat transfer to secure the patches, eliminating the tedious need to sew.

**You need the following: Council Patch, Pack 102 numbers, neckerchief slide. The pack provides books & neckerchiefs. As the scouts earn their achievements and rank advancement we provide those awards.**

You may purchase a Class B uniform shirt from the pack or the Uniform exchange closet located at the scout barn behind Falls-Lenox school. This is worn during more casual meetings or during community service events.

### Family Involvement

Scouting is a joint adventure with scouts and their parents, and we need parents to participate in making the pack run smoothly. We depend on parents helping with all of our functions. There are lots of ways to help out. When you sign your boy up, we expect as parents you will be committing your time and energy to help as well. Most of the major

positions are detailed below under Pack Organization. We ask all families to volunteer for at least 2 activities that we sponsor as a pack throughout the year.

## Pack Volunteer Opportunities - Time & Talent Form

The reason we are able to put on the events we do is because parents have stepped up and helped out. There are lots of potential ways in which you can help. Please turn in this sheet with at least two areas in which you are willing to share your time, talent, and energy.

### Major Pack Events

- **Santa's Secret Shop** – usually the first Saturday in December. This event is a combination of fundraising and community service. We organize an auction in combination with a shop for children under 12, who can shop for holiday gifts for family members with the help of our “elves.” This is our primary fundraiser for the year, and we ask that everyone who can help out do so.
- **Pinewood Derby** – another major event for us. We typically have more than 100 people attend and need help with food service, set up and clean up.
- **Blue & Gold Banquet** – This banquet marks the transition between ranks for all scouts. The "Guests of Honor" are the oldest boys, who receive their Arrow of Light and have the opportunity to cross over to a BSA (Boy Scouts of America) Troop. We need help planning and preparing this meal.
- **Crossover** – this is our last meeting of the year in May. We use the covered bridge in town. The scouts move from one side of the bridge to the other, enjoying a candlelight ceremony in the middle where they receive their next year's neckerchief and book.
- **Fundraising** – Scouts Own Maple syrup and Trails End Popcorn portions of the sales go directly back to your scout and the Pack. Watch for details in the pack update email /on the pack facebook.