

New Scout Orientation Guide - Pack 102

Organizational Structure

We operate as a pack chartered by the Olmsted Falls Kiwanis and overseen by the Western Trails District of the Greater Cleveland Boy Scout Council. Smaller groups within the pack are called dens. These are as follows: 1st graders, Tiger Cubs; 2nd graders, Wolves; 3rd graders- Bears, 4th and 5th graders- Webelos I and II. Dens have leaders and meet once or twice a month.

Den meetings focus on projects and achievements toward the specific rank the boys are working on. Occasionally dens will have fun field trips to places of interest to the boys. 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 boys are doing at den meetings, as these are the perfect opportunities to spend quality time with your son.

The pack meetings center on one of the 12 character traits (honesty, resourcefulness, etc.) and include a program with an advancement ceremony for the boys 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, an Indians 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 monthly 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. Boys 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 boys earn their achievements and rank advancement we provide those awards.

You may purchase a Class B uniform from the pack for \$10. This is worn during more casual meetings or during community service events.

Family Involvement

Scouting is a joint adventure with boys 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

Cake Auction/Cubcake Contest – As our pack does not sell popcorn, this is one of annual fundraisers. Watch for details in the pack newsletter/on the pack website.

Santa's Secret Shop – first Saturday in December. This event is a combination of fund raising 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 Boy Scouts. 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 boys 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.

Pack Organization

[all positions require completing Adult BSA application]

Den Leader - Tiger (1st), Wolf (2nd), Bear (3rd), Webelos I (4th) & Webelos II (5th)

- Leads meetings 1 to 2 times a month with boys in the den
- Uses Cub Scout Program Helps as a planning guide
- Uses the rank-specific handbook to organize activities
- Encourages boys to earn their Bobcat and badges of rank
- Helps the den prepare a contribution to the pack meeting
- Attends pack meetings & pack outings with the den
- Provides immediate recognition to the boys

Cubmaster – Leads pack meetings of all Scouts and their families. Leads pack committee meetings and guides decision-making at the committee level. Traditionally someone fills this lead role for 1 or 2 years. Typically an Assistant Cubmaster moves up to become the Cubmaster, but this is not mandatory.

Committee Chair – Supports Cubmaster role by carrying out administrative tasks as needed.

Camping Chair - Coordinates our outdoor campouts and indoor camp-ins, including obtaining tour permits and reserving campsites and coordinating food and equipment.

Hospitality - Organizes food/drinks and other items for events like Blue & Gold, Santa's Secret Shop, and Pinewood Derby.

Treasurer - Keeps the finances in order, reimbursing leaders and event organizers for expenses, depositing fees paid for pack events.

Photographer - Captures pictures at our major events

Webmaster - Keeps our website up to date. Helps update the pack Facebook page.

Newsletter editor – Creates and distributes a monthly newsletter to help keep everyone up to date. Helps update the pack Facebook page.

Publicity chair – Coordinates publicity for pack events, including recruitment nights and school open houses.

FAMILY TALENT SURVEY SHEET

Each parent or adult family member should fill out a separate sheet and turn it in at this meeting.

Pack _____ Chartered Organization _____ Date _____

Welcome to the Cub Scout family of our pack. As explained to you, Cub Scouting is for parents as well as boys. We have a fine group of families who have indicated a willingness to help, according to their abilities. We invite you to add your talents and interests so that the best possible program can be developed for your boy and his friends.

Den leaders are always busy with den activities. Our pack leaders and committee members know you have some talent that will help in the operation of our pack. Although your help may not be on a full-time basis, whatever you can do will be appreciated.

In making this survey, your pack committee wants to uncover ways you can enjoy giving assistance. Please answer the following as completely as possible:

1. My hobbies are: _____
2. I can play and/or teach these sports: _____
3. My job, business, or profession would be of interest to Cub Scouts: _____
4. I am willing to help my boy and the pack as: pack committee member, Cub Scout den leader or assistant, assistant Cubmaster, Webelos den leader or assistant, Cubmaster, Pack trainer.
5. My Scouting experience: Cub Scout _____ Boy Scout _____ Girl Scout _____
 Explorer _____ Rank attained _____
 Adult leader _____

6. I can help in these areas (please check applicable boxes for all ranks):

General Activities

- Carpentry
- Swimming/watercraft safety
- Games
- Nature
- Sports
- Outdoor activities
- Crafts
- Music/songs
- Citizenship/flag etiquette
- Bookkeeping

- Computer skills
- Drawing/art
- Radio/electricity
- Dramatics/skits
- Cooking/banquets
- Sewing
- Transportation
- Hiking
- Other _____
- _____

Special Program Assistance

- I have an SUV or van or truck.
- I have a workshop.
- I have family camping gear.
- I can make contacts for special trips and activities.
- I have access to a cottage or camping property or a boat.
- I can help Webelos Scouts with Boy Scout skills.
- I can give other help. _____

Tiger Activity Areas

- Nutrition/health
- Magic
- Biking
- Astronomy
- First aid

Wolf Activity Areas

- Knots
- Sign language
- Coin collecting
- Physics
- Math/codes
- Collections
- Disabilities awareness
- Dinosaurs
- Compass use
- Health
- Gardening
- Civil service/military

Bear Activity Areas

- Pocketknives/wood carving
- Camping
- Carnival games
- Citizenship/flag etiquette
- Fishing
- American Indian culture
- Animal care
- Forensics
- Physics
- Marbles
- Robotics
- General science

Webelos Activity Areas

- Outdoor cooking
- First aid
- Camping
- General science
- Disabilities awareness
- Survival skills
- Geocaching
- Geology
- Engineering
- Home repair
- Game design
- Wildlife
- Plant life
- Moviemaking

Name _____ Home or cell phone _____
 Street address _____ Business phone _____
 E-mail address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____



CUB SCOUTING AND YOUR FAMILY

The Cub Scout program helps to meet your boy's growth needs. As a boy develops, he has specific developmental needs such as:

- 1 To learn new physical skills.** He can do this through games, sports, and crafts. As he develops his coordination, he gains a sense of worthiness and acceptance by his peers.
- 2 To learn to get along with boys of his same age.** He needs to form friendships with other boys. He needs to learn how to balance giving and receiving affection if he is to relate well to his peers. He needs to belong to a group of boys his own age. Being a part of a Cub Scout den helps fulfill these needs.
- 3 To develop his mental processes.** He can develop his mental process by reading, writing, and calculating. He needs opportunities to use language to express ideas and to influence others. He must move from a preoccupation with self to understanding how and what others think of him. Opportunities for observation and experimentation will help him learn self-reliance. Den activities and meetings, along with the advancement program, help him develop mentally.
- 4 To develop a value system.** He is developing a sense of what is right and wrong and what is fair and unfair. He will do this by cooperating with other boys, by being taught, by examples of adults, and from positive reinforcement. He begins to develop democratic social attitudes.
- 5 To develop personal independence.** He is becoming less dependent on adults. His same-age friends become important to him. In his den, and in the pack, he exercises his independence while learning to get along with others.

Your son also needs to belong to a "group" of boys his own age. This group is a key component of the Cub Scout program. A den is like a neighborhood group of six or eight boys in which he will achieve status and recognition.

As you learn more about how Cub Scouting works and what goes on in a den and a pack, you will see that the program helps your boy in these five important developmental needs. The uniqueness of Cub Scouting is that you, as his family, join the program with your boy. You will help him all along the way.

To find out how you can support your boy by becoming a Cub Scout family, please turn the page and complete the Family Talent Survey Sheet*. **Please turn it in at this meeting. Your cooperation and help are appreciated.**

* Also may be titled Parent and Family Talent Survey Sheet.