

SO YOU'RE A NEW PACK COMMITTEE MEMBER!



Congratulations! Welcome to the challenges and opportunities, joys and satisfactions that will be yours as a pack committee member, guiding and influencing the lives of boys. By making the commitment to serve as a leader, you have joined the ranks of more than 600,000 adult leaders in 53,000 packs around the country who are giving time, ability, enthusiasm, and energy to build a better future for our nation. As you give leadership in Cub Scouting you help enrich the lives of boys and make a difference in the kind of men they will become. An exciting and rewarding experience lies ahead of you.

This leaflet is designed to help you get started as a successful leader. A multitude of resources are available for your use. There are many people who are interested in helping you be successful in your job, and training opportunities are provided so that you may continue to grow in effective leadership. So, good luck, and welcome to the wonderful world of Cub Scouting!

WHAT IS CUB SCOUTING?

The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America, as incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress in 1916, is to provide for boys and young adults an effective educational program designed to build desirable qualities of moral strength and character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop physical, mental, and emotional fitness.

Since 1930, younger boys have had the opportunity to be Cub Scouts in a year-round, home-centered program that helps to strengthen the family. Cub Scouting is the largest of the BSA's three divisions (the others are Boy Scouting and Exploring).

PURPOSE OF CUB SCOUTING

Cub Scouting is for boys who are in the first through fifth grade. Parents, leaders, and organizations work together to achieve the following:

- Influencing the development of character and encouraging spiritual growth.
- Developing habits and attitudes of good citizenship.
- Encouraging good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong in mind and body.
- Improving understanding within the family.
- Strengthening the ability to get along with other boys and respect other people.
- Fostering a sense of personal achievement by developing new interests and skills.
- Showing how to be helpful and do one's best.
- Providing fun and exciting new things to do.
- Preparing them to become Boy Scouts.

THE CUB SCOUT PROGRAM

Like other phases of the Scouting program, Cub Scouting is made available to groups having similar interests and goals. Sponsors include professional organizations, government bodies, and religious, educational, civic, business, labor, and citizens' groups. These sponsors are called chartered organizations, since they are chartered by the Boy Scouts of America to use the Scouting program. Some chartered organizations sponsor a whole Scouting family (Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop, Explorer post). Each organization appoints one of its members as a Chartered Organization Representative, to be the liaison between the organization and the Scouting units and between the organization and the local Scout council. Your chartered organization, through you pack committee, is responsible for leadership, a pack meeting place, and related materials for pack activities.

Any boy who is in the first grade through fifth grade may join a Cub Scout pack. He is assigned to a den, which is usually made up of Cub Scouts in the neighborhood. Den meetings are held each week under the supervision of an adult volunteer den leader; often the mother or father of one of the boys. Also helping in the den is an assistant den leader, a den chief (an older Boy Scout or Explorer) and a denner (a boy leader elected by the members of den). All parents are expected to assist when called upon to help with den activities. At den meetings the boys enjoy games, crafts, stunts, songs and ceremonies. Dens also enjoy service projects, physical fitness activities, and field trips. Cub Scout dens work on projects related to a monthly theme. Webelos dens work on one of the 20 activity badges each month and other projects which help prepare them for Boy Scouting. (See **Cub Scout Leader Book**, No. 33220, for more information on Webelos Dens.)

THE PACK COMMITTEE

You were selected as a member of the pack committee because of your interest in and concern for boys. Regardless of the size of your pack committee, certain jobs must be performed if Cub Scouts are to receive the type of fun filled and meaningful program to which they are entitled. By making the commitment to serve as a leader, you share the following responsibilities with other members of the pack committee:

- Recruit the best person available for Cubmaster and one or more assistant Cubmasters.
- Provide adequate and safe facilities for pack meetings.
- See that a year round pack program is conducted according to Boy Scouts of America policies.
- See that the pack program, leaders, and Cub Scouts reflect positively the interests and objectives of the chartered organization and the Boy Scouts of America.
- Encourage all leaders and boys to have and properly use the uniforms, badges, and insignia.
- Establish a good relationship with neighborhood Boy Scout troops.
- Try to graduate every Webelos Scout into a troop.
- Assist with pack charter renewal, reregistering at least 50 percent of present members each year.
- Establish a sound financial program with a pack budget plan and adequate financial records.
- Stimulate the interest of parents through proper programming.
- Work with the Cubmaster to make the pack program effective so that each boy advances the rank for his age. See that proper recognition is given promptly.
- Maintain an inventory of pack equipment.
- Work with the Cubmaster to conduct periodic training for parents, including an annual pack parents' meeting.
- Recognize pack leaders periodically to show them that their efforts are appreciated.
- Maintain through the Scouting coordinator and unit commissioner a close liaison with the district committee and its resources to help the organization and the pack.
- Conduct an annual survey of boys for systematic recruiting of new boys from within the organization.

The Pack Job Description Cards give specific information on the responsibilities of the pack committee chairman and members. Your district chairman, unit commissioner, and district Scout executive will be glad to explain any of these responsibilities that you do not understand.

WHAT DO YOU INVEST IN CUB SCOUTING?

- One evening each month for pack meeting.
- One evening each month for pack leaders' planning meeting.
- One evening each month for Cub Scout leaders' roundtable.
- Four Cub Scout leader basic training sessions.
- Cost of the Cub Scouter's uniform.
- The registration fee. (In Pack 957, Leader's Registration Fees are paid by the Pack)

This is a small investment compared to the dividends you will receive. And of course, the more you invest, the more you can expect to receive in return.

WHAT DO YOU RECEIVE IN RETURN?

- An evening each month of fun and fellowship with pack families, sharing their pride in their sons' accomplishments.
- The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families.
- A chance to help boys learn good citizenship and to help shape them into men who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.

- The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of boys as they grow strong in mind and body.
- A code to live by which will set a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.
- The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and pride in being publicly identified as a part of this organization by wearing the uniform which in a visible means of showing you believe in and stand up for its ideals and objectives.
- And many other dividends which will enrich your life as you dedicate your time, talent, and enthusiasm to the Cub Scouting.

Don't hesitate to ask for help. There are many people who want to help you provide the finest possible Cub Scout experience for the boys in your den. By the time you have completed these steps, you will be well on your way to becoming a successful pack leader.

Once each month, all den families gather for a pack meeting under the direction of the Cubmaster and pack committee. The pack meeting is the climax of the month's den meetings and activities. It gives the dens something to look forward to and work toward. It gets the parents involved in activities with their sons. It is an opportunity to provide recognition for boys, parents, and leaders. And it gives the boys a chance to "show off" before their parents and the other boys, things they have learned during the month. Pack meeting activities are planned around the monthly theme and Webelos activity badge for the month. Pack meetings are fun for the whole family. (See **Cub Scout Leader Book**, for more information on the pack meeting.)

The Cub Scout program includes a plan of advancement in which a boy learns by doing. The boy works on requirements based on his grade. Sometimes advancement requirements are started in den meeting, then completed at home with the parents' help. Parental involvement is a vital part of the advancement plan. After he earns the badge for his grade, a boy may work on elective projects in 20 different interest areas until he goes into the next grade. (See **Cub Scout Leader Book**, for more information on advancement.)

WEBELOS SCOUT TO BOY SCOUT

When a boy begins the fourth grade, he transfers to a Webelos den, where the boy works on requirements for the Webelos badge, 20 activity badges, and the Arrow of Light Award (the highest award in Cub Scouting) which prepares him for Boy Scouting.

This system of recognition for learning new things and doing his best is a step toward self-reliance and motivates a boy to achieve. When a boy reaches 11 years of age, or completes his Arrow of Light, or completes fifth grade, he graduates from Cub Scouting into a Boy Scout troop. An impressive graduation ceremony is conducted jointly by the Cubmaster, Webelos den leader, and Scoutmaster at a pack meeting. One of the aims of Cub Scout program is to graduate every boy into a Boy Scout troop.

Conducting a successful Cub Scout program in the pack can be compared to the successful operation of a business. The pack committee is like the board of directors. The Cubmaster is like the president. The den leader coach is like a department head, guiding the den leaders and Webelos den leaders who, with help from den chiefs, deliver the product (the Cub Scout program) to the consumers (Cub Scouts and their families).

SURE, I SIGNED UP... BUT WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Now that you have registered as a den leader, you will receive **Scouting** magazine, which includes helpful information to aid you as a leader. You should do these things:

1. Obtain (or borrow temporarily) the **Cub Scout Leader Book** and begin reading it. This book describes your role on the committee and will give more information on the following items.
2. Get acquainted with the other leaders in your pack. All leaders need to work together for a successful pack program.
3. Attend the monthly pack leader's planning meeting. This meeting is led by the pack committee chairman and Cubmaster, and it is where pack plans are made.
4. Attend the monthly district Cub Scout leader roundtable. You will receive continuing help on pack management and will get acquainted with leaders from other packs who will share ideas and experiences with you.
5. Attend Cub Scout leader training sessions as soon as possible. These will give you the foundation you need to become an effective leader. Every boy deserves trained and qualified leaders.
6. Obtain and begin wearing the Cub Scouter's uniform as soon as possible. It is attractive, comfortable, and suitable for all Cub Scout meetings and activities. Wearing the uniform properly is important in setting a good example for the boys.

7. If you are pack committee chairman, get to know the Scouting coordinator, and keep this key person informed of the needs of the pack.
8. If you are pack committee chairman, get acquainted with your district chairman. This volunteer heads the district chairman. This volunteer heads the district committee and is interested in the successful operation of your pack.
9. If you are pack committee chairman, get acquainted with your unit commissioner. The commissioner is a friend to your pack and will be glad to answer questions and help in other ways.
10. If you are pack committee chairman, get to know your district Scout executive. This professional Scouter is employed by your council to serve all Scouting units in your district, and will do everything possible to help you be successful.
11. If you are pack committee chairman, begin to develop a close working relationship with the Cubmaster. The two of you will be working as a team to make the pack program successful.

LITERATURE

3220	Cub Scout Leader Book
3831	Cub Scout Leader How-To Book
3222	Cub Scout Songbook
3122	Group Meeting Sparklers
3214	Staging Den and Pack Ceremonies
3211	Den Chief Handbook
7259	Cub Scout and Webelos Scout Program Helps
3707	Citizenship Through Service
3846	Cub Scout Family Book
3188	Your Flag
3207	Wolf Cub Scout Book
3228	Big Bear Cub Scout Book
3232	Webelos Scout Book
7282	Cub Scout and Webelos Scout Uniform Inspection Sheet
7281	Female Leader Uniform Inspection Sheet
7284	Male Leader Uniform Inspection Sheet
4263	Pack Job Description Cards
4426	Local Tour Permit Application
4427	Unit Money Earning Application
3748	National Summertime Pack Award Guide
3819	Pack Record Book with Finance Section.

See *Cub Scout Leader Book* for list of other resources.

NOTE: Most packs maintain a pack library of literature available for use by pack leaders.