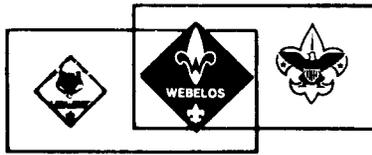


# ***SO YOU'RE A NEW WEBELOS DEN LEADER!***



Congratulations! Welcome to the challenges and opportunities, joys and satisfactions that will be yours as a Webelos Den Leader, guiding and influencing the lives of boys. By making the commitment to serve as a leader, you have joined the ranks of adult leaders in 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.)

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 **Webelos Scout Helps** and other information to aid you as a leader. Ask your Cubmaster to furnish you a copy of the current **Webelos Scout Helps** to use until your subscription begins:

1. Obtain (or borrow temporarily) the **Cub Scout Leader Book** and begin reading it. This book describes your role as a Webelos den leader and will give more information on the following items.
2. Get acquainted with your Cubmaster, who will see that you have the information and material you need to get started off on the right foot.
3. Visit another Webelos den's meeting. This will give you a good picture of what to expect in your own den. It is best to do this before you hold your first den meeting. Your Cubmaster will help arrange the visit.
4. With the help of the Cubmaster, assistant Webelos den leader, den chief, and **Webelos Scout Helps**, plan your first month's den meetings. The key to success is the word KISMIF (keep it simple, make it fun).
5. Get acquainted with the parents of the boys in your den. Hold a get-acquainted parents' meeting. Your Cubmaster will help you plan this meeting. You will be needing the parents' help, so get to know them early.
6. Get acquainted with the boys in your den. Establish a den code of conduct so they will know what you expect of them.
7. Ask your Cubmaster to help secure a Webelos den chief, and give him meaningful responsibilities.

8. Obtain and begin wearing the Webelos den leader'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. Your Cubmaster can tell you where to obtain the uniform and insignia.
9. Attend the monthly pack leaders' planning meetings (or meet regularly with the Webelos den leader coach).
10. Attend the monthly district Cub Scout leaders' roundtable. You will receive many good program ideas and get acquainted with Webelos den leaders from other packs who will share ideas and experiences with you. Your Cubmaster can tell you when and where the roundtable meets.
11. Attend Cub Scout leader training sessions as soon as possible. These will give you the foundation you need to become a successful leader. Every boy deserves trained and qualified leaders. Your Cubmaster can give you information about training.

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. (See last page)

By the time you have completed these steps, you will be well on your way to becoming a successful Webelos den leader.

## ***YOU, THE WEBELOS DEN LEADER***

You were selected as a Webelos den leader and approved by the pack committee because of your interest in boys. By making the commitment to serve as a Webelos den leader, you have accepted the following responsibilities:

- Plan and carry out a year-round program of activities for the Webelos den to achieve the purposes of the Cub Scout program.
- Lead the Webelos den in its participation at the monthly pack meetings.
- Cooperate with the other pack leaders.
- Have a plan for recruiting new boys.
- Train the Webelos den chief; guide him in working with the Webelos Scouts, attend the den chief training conference with him.
- Use **Boys' Life**, **Scouting** magazine, and **Webelos Scout Helps** as sources of ideas and information.
- Collect dues and turn them in to the pack secretary / treasurer.
- Encourage boys to advance. Maintain accurate records, and see that Webelos Scouts are appropriately recognized for their achievement. (See **Webelos Scout Book**)
- Instill Scouting's spirit and moral values through personal example, ceremonies, and meaningful activities such as goodwill and conservation projects.
- Work with pack committee to establish a good relationship with neighborhood Boy Scout troops. Try to graduate every Webelos Scout into a troop.
- Ask qualified persons, including adult family members of Webelos Scouts, to serve as activity badge counselors.
- Encourage fathers and other male relatives of Webelos Scouts to help plan and carry out dad-and- over-nights and other outdoor activities.
- Help the den earn the Cub Scout Summertime Award.
- Follow the policies of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Have a plan to ensure that a leader is available for all meetings and activities.
- Participate in the annual planning conference and the monthly pack leaders' meetings.

Your Cubmaster will be glad to explain any of these responsibilities that you do not understand.

All leaders bring to Cub Scouting their own talents and skills, their own backgrounds and interests. Your key to becoming an effective leader is to use your own abilities and interests, along with what you learn about Cub Scouting to plan and conduct the best possible program for the boys. What happens in the life of each boy during his formative years will determine to a great extent the kind of man he will become. What a tremendous opportunity and challenge for you, the Webelos den leader!

## ***THE WEBELOS DEN MEETING***

Webelos den meetings are usually held in the evening or on Saturday, once each week, in a home, church, or school. The meeting day and time is set by the Webelos den leader. It should be at the same time and place each week to prevent confusion. Den meetings last approximately 1 hour. Leadership responsibilities are shared by the den leader, assistant den leader, den chief, and denner.

The Webelos den meeting program includes the following:

1. **Gathering.** An activity to keep those who arrive early busy until time for opening.
2. **Opening.** Simple opening ceremony, den business such as attendance, dues, den plans, uniform inspection.
3. **Activity Badge Fun.** Instruction, practice, games, and contests related to the Webelos Scout skills.
4. **Preparation.** Making equipment and props for the den's part in pack meeting; getting ready for outdoor, goodwill, or other special activities.
5. **Closing.** Announcements, simple closing ceremony, den meeting place cleanup.

## **WEBELOS OUTDOOR PROGRAM**

Webelos Scouts are encouraged to have parent-son overnight camping experiences away from home. This is an important part of the transition from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting.

### **WHAT DO YOU INVEST IN CUB SCOUTING?**

- One evening or Saturday each week for den meeting.
- One evening each month for pack meeting.
- One evening each month for Cub Scout leaders' roundtable.
- One evening each month for pack leaders' planning meeting.
- Time spent in planning and organizing the den program activities.
- Cub Scout leader basic training.
- Cost of the Webelos den leader's uniform.
- The registration fee.

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?**

- One lively, never dull evening each week when you have the good fortune to view the world through the eyes of boys.
- One evening each month of fun and fellowship with other pack families, and a sense of pride as you watch Webelos Scouts receive recognition for their accomplishments.
- The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families.
- The privilege of getting to know boys in your neighborhood a little better and watching them all grow strong in mind and body.
- The opportunity to help boys learn good citizenship and help shape them into men with strength of character who are sensitive to the needs of others.
- A growing admiration for boys, and their growing respect for you as their leader and friend.
- 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 is a visible means of showing that you believe in and stand up for its ideals and objectives.

Number	Literature Resources	Number	Literature Resources
33220	Cub Scout Leader Book		Webelos Scout Uniform Inspection Sheet
33831	Cub Scout Leader How-To Book		Male & Female Leader Uniform Inspection Sheet
33222	Cub Scout Songbook	34263	Pack Description Sheets Duties
33122	Group Meeting Sparklers	34426	Local Tour Permit Application
33212	Staging Den and Pack Ceremonies	33853	Webelos Activity Book
33211	Den Chief Handbook	33748	Summertime Award Guide
	Webelos Scout Helps (Updated Annually)	33819	Pack Record Book with Finance Section
33012	Family Book B.S.A.	34187	Webelos Advancement Chart
33188	Your Flag	33850	Webelos Den Record
33234	Wolf Cub Scout Book	34209	Monthly Den Dues Envelope
33228	Bear Cub Scout Book	33852	Webelos Den Meeting Form
33235	Webelos Scout Book	34192	Cub Scout Advancement Chart
33229	The Official Boy Scout Handbook		