

Parent's Guide To Cub Scouting



SCOUT ME IN™





PURPOSES OF CUB SCOUTS



The mission of Boys Scouts of America is to prepare youth to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of Scouting.

You and your son or daughter are about to begin on adventure- an adventure of learning, sharing and loving fun, together. This Parents Guide will help you make the most of your scouting experience.

Cub Scouting is a home and neighborhood centered program serving boys and girls who are in Kindergarten through fifth grade (or 5 through 10 years of age). Cub Scouts, families, leaders, and chartered organizations work together to achieve the 10 purposes of Cub Scouts:

- positively influence character development
- positively influence spiritual growth
- help youth develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship
- encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong mind and body
- improve family understanding
- value respectful relationships
- help foster a sense of personal achievements through developing new skills and interests
- provide friendly service to the community
- provide fun and exciting adventures
- preparation for Scouts BSA

Welcome to the Adventure

What are Cub Scouts?

For more than 100 years the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has provided high quality, fun and educational programs designed to help young people build moral strength and character, develop fitness, and become active, responsible citizens.

Cub Scouts emphasizes a year-round, home-centered program at the local level that helps to strengthen the family. Cub Scouts - including Lions, Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos - is the largest of BSA's programs. The other programs are Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts, and Exploring.

Starting in 2018 girls can also join Cub Scouts! Pack 222 has chosen to accept girls and boys.

Your Child's Safety: Our Top Priority

Boy Scouts of America's number one priority is the safety and protection of your child while involved in any Scouting activity. For this reason, we work closely with our chartered organizations to help recruit the best possible leaders for their units. We take great pride in the quality of our adult leadership and in our application review process. Each registered adult leader goes through an extensive background check and is required to take Youth Protection Training courses every two years.

As a major youth-serving organization, the Boy Scouts of America has a unique opportunity to help protect the youth of our nation. In addition to helping families address the problem of child abuse, BSA has adopted a comprehensive set of policies and procedures designed to ensure that Scouting continues to be safe for all participants. BSA is a national leader among youth-serving agencies in addressing the potential threat that child abuse poses to young people.

**For more information visit
www.Scouting.org/YouthProtection.**



How Cub Scouting Works

Your child, scouting and you...

As a parent you want your child to grow up to be self-reliant, dependable and caring. Scouting has these same goals. For more than 100 years we have been helping children be prepared for life through fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, citizenship, and physical and mental fitness in youth.

But children don't join Scouting to build character. They join because it is filled with fun adventures!

The Cub Scout Pack

The Cub Scout pack is a group of Kindergarten through fifth graders. Led by the volunteer Cubmaster, the pack meets once a month. There are games, skits, stunts, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of awards earned that month.

The pack also runs many special programs, such as Pinewood Derbies, hikes and weekend campouts.



The Dens

The larger pack is broken into smaller groups of 6-8 children by grade levels, called dens. Den meetings are led by volunteer den leaders and assistant den leaders with help from the other parents. Den leaders and parents decide on a convenient meeting place and time, and meet weekly to work on age appropriate activities. The activities are designed to complete "adventure requirements" to advance in rank. Lion dens are Kindergarteners, Tiger dens are first-graders, Wolf dens are second-graders, Bear dens are third-graders, and Webelos dens are fourth and fifth-graders.

The Pack is Run by the Cubmaster and the Committee. Together They:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Select Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Manage Pack Finances | <input type="checkbox"/> Perform Record Keeping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help Train Leaders | <input type="checkbox"/> Order Awards and Badges | <input type="checkbox"/> Organize Fund Raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Find Meeting Places | <input type="checkbox"/> Recognize Leaders | <input type="checkbox"/> Establish the Program |

Leaders and the committee meet regularly to plan events, review budget, and coordinate den programs.

Every Pack is Established by a Chartered Organization and has a Chartered Organization Representative.

- A. The Chartered Organization could be a parent-school organization, religious organization, service club, or other organization interested in youth.
- B. The Chartered Organization Approves leadership, helps secure a meeting place, helps keep the pack within the organization's and BSA's guidelines and policies.
- C. Selects a chartered organization representative (a liaison between the pack and its chartered organization).

Starting the Adventure

All scouts start their adventure in Cub Scouts by earning the Bobcat Badge, regardless of their age or when they join Scouting. Lion's are not required to earn this badge, until they become Tigers. The Bobcat Badge is earned by learning the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout Motto, Scout Sign, Scout Salute and Scout Handshake, and completing the Cyber Chip requirements.

Recognition is important to young children. The advancement plan provides fun, gives Scouts a sense of personal achievement, and strengthens family understanding, participation and appreciation. The responsibility for a Cub Scout's advancement in Scouting lies with the pack *and* with the family. Most "adventure" and "rank" requirements for advancement are completed during den meetings or at campouts, and some are done at home with the family.

Lion

The Lion program is for Kindergarteners and their adult partners. They work on Adventures like the older grades, but they do not earn Bobcat first.



Wolf

A Cub Scout who has completed first grade (or is age 8) works towards the Wolf badge. Scouts learn about the outdoors and *Leave No Trace*, our neighborhoods, community service, and good health.



Bobcat

Beginning in Tiger year, all new Cub Scouts earn the Bobcat badge first by learning the Scout Oath and Scout Law, the Cub Scout handshake, salute, sign, and motto, and earning the Cyber Chip Award.



Bear

A Cub Scout who has completed second-grade (or is age 9) works towards the Bear badge. Scouts will learn about nature, how to take care of themselves, the value of helping others, having fun, and patriotism.



After receiving the Bobcat badge, each Cub Scout works on requirements based on grade level.

Tiger

The Tiger program is for first-grade (or age 6) children and their adult partners. Tigers, working with their adult partners, earn the Tiger badge. Adventures include indoor and outdoor activities just right for a first grader.



Webelos

A Cub Scout who has completed third grade (or becomes 10 years old) transfers to a Webelos den and works on requirements for the Webelos badge and the Arrow of Light - the highest award in Cub Scouts! Camping and outdoor programs are an important part of the 18-month Webelos program. Webelos are introduced to Scouts BSA and visit troops. In the spring of the 5th grade year, a Webelos graduates from Cub Scouts into Scouts BSA. Many packs celebrate this with impressive "cross over" ceremonies.



Things To Do In Cub Scouts

Pinewood Derby

Scouts and their parents build a race car made from a block of wood.

This is among the best known Cub Scout activities. Be there the day of the big race!



Boys' Life Magazine

Boys' Life



Magazine

A monthly magazine for Cub Scouts and adults. Boys' Life has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, science and U.S. history. There are also jokes, comics and short stories.

(The name of the magazine will change in 2019, but the content will remain just as great as always.)

Trailblazer Adventure Days, In Fall and Spring at Belk Scout Camp

How exciting to have a park and camp dedicated to, and maintained by, the Cub Scouts and Friends of Scouting annual donations!

At this bi-annual adventure day, scouts get to learn skills such as archery, slingshot (with paintballs), air rifle gun target practice, climbing tower, BMX biking and so much more!



Outdoor Adventures

Cub Scouts take part in outdoor adventures. The Pack enjoys family camping trips, picnics, hiking, fishing, and campfires. A Cub Scout's first summer camp is usually day camp. Come to one of our local camps and experience a wide range of fun outdoor adventures!



Scouting For Food

Our annual food drive, Scouting for Food takes place on the first two Saturdays in November every year. Most years Scouting for Food collects over 1,000,000 pounds of food for local food banks!



Blue & Gold Banquet

The most exciting celebration of the year! A birthday party for Cub Scouting, usually held during February. Families gather with food, fun and games, and we recognize our scouts accomplishments.

What Will Scouting Cost Me?

Dues vary by pack; every pack's program is different. Each pack has to pay the same, annual recharter fee per scout, but has different interpretations of activities to earn ranks. Therefore, costs associated vary from pack to pack. Some packs do money-earning projects like selling popcorn or camp cards to reduce the out-of-pocket dues expense. Our pack currently sells Holiday Wreaths and other greenery items to offset annual dues, and then camp cards in the spring earn extra *Scout Money* to pay for summer camps.

Pack 222 annual dues are \$200. Annual pack dues include BSA registration and insurance, one Boys' Life subscription per household, funds for patches, awards, loops, pins, trophies and activities, one Class-B t-shirt, Pack 222 Logo Sleeve patch, neckerchief, neckerchief slide, Webelos Sleeve Colors, one Pinewood Derby Car Kit, costs for den activities, rental fees for pack-wide events, leader registration, Pack 222 car magnet and more. Some activities, such as family camping or Blue & Gold Banquets, may have separate costs or you may be asked to bring a food dish. Uniforms can cost between \$50 and \$100. They can last several years, depending on how fast your child outgrows them. We recommend you buy shirts one to two sizes larger to avoid resewing patches on new shirts, or your child outgrowing them. Uniforms may be purchased at the local Scout Shop.

Uniform Checklist For Items Parents Purchase:

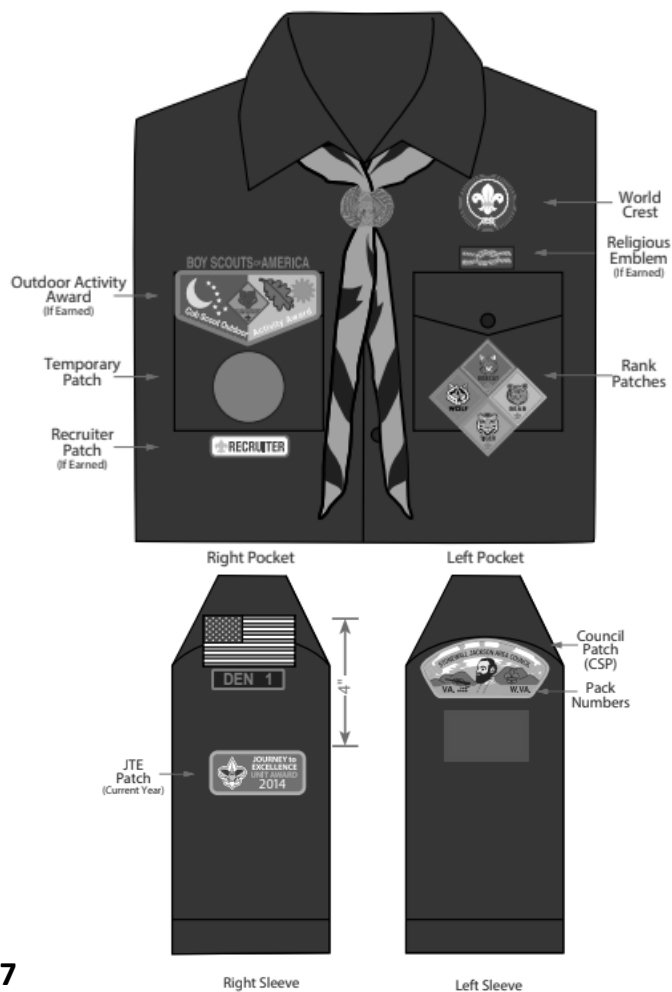
- Cub Scout Rank Appropriate Class A Button Down Shirt
- Cub Scout Rank Appropriate Color Shorts/Pants
- Correct Color Socks
- Mecklenburg County Council Patch
- World Crest Patch
- World Crest Ring Patch
- Appropriate Color Scout Belt and Scout Buckle

Scout Shop:

Mecklenburg County Council BSA Store
 1410 East 7th St., Charlotte
 (704) 333-5471

You do not need to purchase hats or handbooks or anything else.

Patch Placements



Cubs Need Leaders... And Leaders Need Support

Parents

You are a primary role model for your child. Children need your guidance along their Scouting path, not to do the work for them, but with them. All parents help their children with advancement and assist their pack or den with special projects. Here's a look at some of the people and resources available to help you and your child:

Cubmaster

Conducts the monthly pack meeting. Aids den leaders by coordinating the monthly program for all leaders. Attends monthly pack leaders' meeting.

Committee Chair

Conducts monthly pack leaders' meeting to help plan the program. Ensures the Cubmaster and den leaders receive adequate support from committee members.

Committee Members

The pack committee helps plan the program and take care of records, finances, advancement and membership.

Den Leader

Works with a group of 6-8 Cub Scouts (on average), meeting weekly to work on advancements and activities.

New Member Coordinator

Helps welcome new families into the pack. Attends committee meetings.

Unit Commissioner

This volunteer checks on the health of the pack and is a communication link with the district and council.

District Executive

Your local professional staff member can help you with training, membership, popcorn and a whole lot more!

LEADER TRAINING

Every Cub Scout deserves a trained leader! The local training team conducts regularly scheduled Cub Scout leader training year round. Basic Leader Training, Youth Protection Training, monthly roundtables, and semi-annual training extravaganzas help leaders at all levels succeed.

Check with your pack leadership or visit our Mecklenburg County Council Training website sites.google.com/sites/bsamcctraining to find the dates and location of the next training course, and check out all great training videos available online for free at my.Scouting.org!

ROUND TABLE

Roundtable is a monthly leaders' meeting for all adult volunteers in your area. Get help with crafts, games, skits and songs for den and pack meetings, and many other ideas for successful Cub Scout programs. It's a great place to ask questions and share ideas!

POW WOW

When: Every November

What: A learning extravaganza for Cub Scout leaders! It's an annual get-together, hands-on workshop and a convention all in one.

Who: Adults from across the Council who want to know more about Cub Scouting!

Classes: Dozens of "classes" are available, covering topics from A to Z. Each leader chooses exactly what they need to make their volunteer time more satisfying.

Why Be A Leader?

Being a leader is fun, challenging and rewarding. Leaders find their experiences help them to become better parents, co-workers and friends. The following are some of the many benefits that will enrich your life as you dedicate your time, talent and enthusiasm to Scouting:

- ❖ Fun and fellowship with other families, sharing your talents and your pride in the children's accomplishments.
- ❖ The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families in your community.
- ❖ A chance to help children learn good citizenship and to help shape them into adults who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.
- ❖ A code to live by that will set a worthwhile example for both children and adults.
- ❖ The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of young people as they grow strong in mind and body.
- ❖ The satisfaction of being a member of a world-wide movement and pride in being publicly identified as a part of this organization – wearing the Scouting uniform is a visible means of showing you believe in and stand up for the ideals and objectives of the Boy Scouts of America.



The adult leaders welcome you and need your help! We volunteer our time to make scouting fun for your kids and ours. You do not need any previous scouting experience to be a leader, or even just to lead an activity. We will provide you with any training you need. All you really need is a sense of adventure, a desire to affiliate with the number one organization for youth in the world, and to provide the necessary volunteer support to make our pack work.

We would love to hear about any skills, talents, hobbies or interests that you would love to offer. Thank you for stepping up and into Scouting!

Important Information (If you prefer to write it down)

My pack number is 222
My den number is _____
My Scouting district is Hornets Nest District
My council is Mecklenburg County Council # 415
My den leader's name is _____
My den leader's phone number is _____
E-mail _____
My den meets on _____
My den meets at _____
My Cubmaster's name is _____
My Cubmaster's phone number is _____
E-mail _____
My New Member Coordinator's name is _____
My New Member Coordinator's phone number is _____
My New Member Coordinator's e-mail is _____
My pack meets on _____
My pack meets at _____
My Committee Chair's name is _____
E-mail _____
My pack's website is www.Pack222NC.COM



Parent Help Information

Each parent must be willing to assist the pack for the program to work. The following positions all need to be filled for our pack to have a successful year. Please indicate your first few choices of committees and positions you would be willing to support this coming year. Some of these positions are short-term and others are year-long. Any help is appreciated.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Cub Master |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Forms Keeper/Records Keeper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Pack Holiday Party Chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pinewood Derby Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack Photographer | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scouting For Food Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/Spring Camping Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blue & Gold Coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Cub-o-ree, Webelos Adventure Camp or other camp coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising Committee | |

Hobbies: _____

Sports Interests: _____

Occupation: _____

I have a Truck _____ Van/SUV _____ Trailer _____ Other Large Vehicle _____ I have a workshop _____

Parent's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Scout's Name: _____ Grade: _____

E-mail address: _____