

PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE



*WELCOME TO THE ADVENTURE
OF CUB SCOUTING*



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
GAMEHAVEN COUNCIL

CUB SCOUTING is a great program and we are excited to have you join our Scouting family. This parent guide will provide information to help your family get started in Cub Scouting.

How Does Cub Scouting Work?

One unique thing about Cub Scouting is that you, as the family, join in on the program for your child, and you will help them your Scout(s) along the way. Cub Scouting exists to support your family and enrich your family time together. Boys and girls have a different handbook at each grade level, with adventures that are age-appropriate for their developmental level. As your child advances through these books by working on adventures with you, he/she will earn badges and other recognition that can be worn on their uniform. Your child's success in Cub Scouting depends on you!

DENS

The Lion Den (Kindergarten level) - Parents are most involved in the Lion and Tiger levels. The parent and new Lion Cub join the den together and attend all meetings and activities together. Each Den also has a Lion Den Leader (usually one of the parents) who helps coordinate the meetings. Lions, like the older packmates will get to earn adventure loops. Over the course of a year, Lions will complete all five of the required adventures. They also may complete one or more of the nine elective adventures. Adventure loops are immediate recognition items, meaning packs should present them to Lions right away– not wait until a big event like a blue and gold. Adventure loops should be worn on the Cub Scout belt.

The Tiger Den (Grade 1) - Parents are most involved at the Tiger level. The child and his parent or guardian join the den together and attend all meetings and activities together. Each den also has a Tiger Den leader (usually one of the parents) who helps coordinate the meetings. The den usually meets weekly either at the homes of host parent –scout teams or at a designated facility. Youth participates in cub adventures; some of which involve outings, and attends the monthly pack meetings.

The Wolf (Grade 2) and Bear (Grade 3) Dens– Parents are vital to the Cub Scout dens both in the role of home support and to help the den leader. Children at this age are beginning to be more independent, and not every child needs a parent at every meeting. They usually meet once a week at a regularly scheduled time and place, and they also attend the pack meeting with their families.

The Webelos Scout Den (Grades 4 & 5) - The Webelos den is much like the Wolf and Bear dens, but there is more emphasis on youth learning to take leadership roles and preparing to become Scouts BSA.

SAVE 25% on ANY UNIFORM BOTTOM

**with the purchase of a
Uniform Top**

Promotion starts – now thru October 10, 2020

Items must be purchased at same time to get discount.

This does not include any already discounted uniform shirts.





The Bobcat rank is worn on the left pocket of the Cub Scout Uniform.

HELP YOUR CUB SCOUT EARN BOBCAT RANK

The first award that one can earn when they join Cub Scouts is the Bobcat rank. You can keep track of a Cub Scout's progress by signing off completed requirements in the book. You may have been given a "Trail to Bobcat" flier to keep track of one's progress as well, but you will still need to sign off the Cub Scouts requirements in the handbook.

SHOW THE DEN LEADER YOUR CHILD'S HANDBOOK

Once your Cub Scout has completed all of the Bobcat requirements, show the book to your Cub Scout leader. The Den Leader will make arrangements to have the award presented to your child at a pack meeting. The award is paid out of the pack budget. Most pack budgets are funded by Scout's dues, selling popcorn, or other fund-raising efforts.

PACK MEETINGS

The Cub Scout pack is made up of all the dens, which meet monthly at the pack meeting, led by the Cubmaster. This is the climax of the weekly den meetings and activities. There are games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of badges that children earned that month. This is where families— not just parents, but siblings too—can see the achievements of their Cub Scout.

The pack, including families, also participate in other special events throughout the year, including:

- **Pinewood Derby**
- **Blue & Gold Banquet**
- **Summer Camps & Polar Camps**



SHOPPING AT GAMEHAVEN TRADING POST:

With the Covid virus continuing we currently do not have families shopping in our Scout store. Units or Parents of Scouts can email the Council office with what they need or call our number below.

If this is your first time with Scouts, we recommend you call the office so we can ask questions and make sure you are getting what is needed for your new Scout.

Gamehaven Office & Trading Post Hours - Monday-Friday
8am-5pm

Location: 607 E Center St Rochester, MN (near Honker's Baseball Field)

Phone: 507-287-1410

Email: barbara.swan@scouting.org

COVID-19 has changed life for many of us. That includes how we take part in the Scouting.

Many organizations have had to struggle with how to do this. Since March our Cub Scout program has continued to improvise and overcome obstacles.

Going to a Den or Pack meeting is a great experience for our Scouts, but with safety being our first priority Cub Scouting this fall might include a combination of outside meetings, Drive-by events, virtual meetings or some hybrid form of all of the above.

HOW MUCH DOES SCOUTING COST?

1. **Youth New Member Joining Fee** - One time \$25 joining fee for new program participants (youth) in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts. There is no joining fee for participants previously registered in any BSA program, those transferring from one program to another, or adult volunteers.
2. **Youth Registration Fee: \$132** -This fee includes the following
 - **\$66 Boy Scouts of America annual registration fee**
 - ◇ The national membership fee helps pay for the cost of essential services, including program resources, liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, youth protection and other local council resources.
 - **\$66 Gamehaven Council annual Registration fee**
 - ◇ Local insurance Coverage, including injury and wellness
 - ◇ Gamehaven Scout Reservation use fee
 - ◇ Program supplies for District and Council wide events (this covers items usually budgeted by the council for patches, property use fees, program supplies and some meals. This fee does not cover all events. Events such as Summer three Day Family Camp where program is provided by paid staff and includes several meals. It also does not include Merit Badge Fair at Willow Creek. MB Fair has costs associated with building usage fees, but will cover lunch cost and merit badge fair patch. It also does not cover weekend food costs at events like camporee, as those are usually provided by the unit.
 - ◇ Polar Cubs
 - ◇ Camporees/Klondike Derbies
 - ◇ District Pinewood Derbies
 - ◇ Cub Scout Overnights
3. **Adult Registration fee: \$55**
 - **\$42 Boy Scouts of America Annual registration fee**
 - ◇ The National membership fee helps pay for the cost of essential services including; program resources, liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, youth protection, and other local council resources.
 - ◇ Criminal Background checks
 - ◇ Scouting magazine
 - **\$13 Gamehaven Council annual registration fee**
 - ◇ Local insurance coverage, including additional automobile coverage and injury and wellness.

Books— Youth handbooks are the Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos handbooks. Adult leaders will use one or more of the following resources: The *Cub Scout Leader Book*, *Lion Leader Guide*, *Tiger Den Leader Guide*, *Wolf Den Leader Guide*, *Bear Den Leader Guide*, and *Webelos Den Leader Guide*. Gamehaven Council's Trading Post will have these items available for purchase.

Pack Dues— The amount varies by pack, depending on money-earning projects conducted by the pack to decrease the amount needed to run the pack program. We encourage all Scouts to participate in fundraising and to help raise money for additional activities like summer camp enrollment, or other outings the pack may decide to do.

Uniform—There is nothing that helps get a child excited about Scouting more than having a uniform and feeling like part of the pack. Uniforms and cost vary by program for youth and adults. Our Recommendation for youth is that you buy a uniform a little large so that your Scout can grow into it. Recommended items for a Cub Scout are: Cub Scout shirt, Scout pants, Cub Scout belt, neckerchief and slide, Cub Scout hat, Council patch, World Crest patch and ring, pack numbers and den numbers. If you have a Lion Cub starting (Kindergarten age) their uniform consists of a Lion t-shirt, Lion Cap, pants, and Lion Workbook.

Where can I buy what I need for my Scout? - Gamehaven Council Office, has a trading post where you can buy uniforms, books, advancements, and many other items. ***Please see page 3 for details on handling orders during the Covid pandemic.***

WHO PAYS FOR SCOUTING?

Youth members and their families...

Members buy their own uniforms, handbooks and personal equipment, and pay their own camp fees. Some units cover part or all of their fees with money earning projects.

And Packs.....

Dues and funds from approved money-earning projects meet expenses for supplies and activities in the Cub Scout Pack. These monies help pay for special activities, and program materials.

And Community Organizations.....

Each chartered organization using the Scouting program provides a meeting place and adult volunteer leadership for its BSA unit(s). The chartered organization and local council must approve unit money-earning projects before the launch of the project.

And Gamehaven Council...

Each year Gamehaven Council establishes a budget to provide unit service, administration, training, outdoor and camping facilities and quality program activities in the continuing effort to serve more youth. Just as your pack raises funds for unit operation through dues and money-earning projects, the council raises funds for council operation through grants and other methods.

Our council conducts an annual Friends of Scouting campaign to provide opportunities for parents, Scouters, and community members to financially support the growth of the Scouting program.

And the National Organization...

Funds to support the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America comes from registration fees, local council service fees, investment income, *Scouting* and *Boy's Life* magazines, sales of uniforms and equipment, contributions from individuals and foundation grants. These monies help more than 263 councils deliver the Scouting program to chartered organizations to meet the needs of their youth.

Parent Involvement

Kids grow up quickly. The best way for you and your Cub Scout to get the most of Scouting is for you to be involved as a parent volunteer. All packs are operated by parents who will welcome you to share the fun with them.

- ◆ **Go to Den Meetings**— Parents are always welcome at den meetings. Go with your Cub Scout and have some fun.
- ◆ **Be a Den Leader or an Assistant Den Leader** — You can volunteer to be a Den Leader or an Assistant Den Leader. Den Leaders plan and carry out the den meetings with the help from other parents and trainers. There are lots of resources to help new den leaders. Dens should meet at least twice a month, while some meet every week. In den meetings, Cubs play games, do crafts and complete requirements from their Cub Scout handbook.
- ◆ **Go to Pack Committee Meeting and Volunteer to Help with a Pack Activity** — Attend the pack's committee meeting and be part of activity planning. Pick one or two fun, easy activities to help out with. Many hands make light work.
- ◆ **Check Out Roundtable!** - Each month, the local district hosts a meeting called "Roundtable". This idea sharing forum is a great place to make friends, learn details about upcoming events, learn about training opportunities, get tips and suggestions on working with kids, and ideas on fun things to do with Cub Scouts. Roundtable dates can be found on the council calendar. Website is www.gamehavenbsa.org.



There is a lot to do in Cub Scouts!

- Popcorn sale
- Scouting for Food
- Family Camping
- Pinewood Derby Races
- Summer Resident Camp
- Summer Day Camp
- Archery & BB Gun Range
- Community Service Opportunities
- Community Visits
- Swimming and fishing at Camp
- Honkers Scout Night – watch baseball game and other activities
- Blue and Gold Banquet

GET A PACK CALENDAR

Pack Calendar's are essential for planning!

DEN MEETINGS

Parents and guardians are always welcome at den meetings. Lion Cubs and Tiger Cubs and their adult partner attend all of the den meetings together. Den meetings should be held at least twice a month. If you are asked to become a Den Leader, there is training online and leader resources at the local Scout shop.

PACK MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

Pack meetings are fun for the whole family. Annual high-lights each year include pinewood derby race, summer camp outs, and the "Blue and Gold Banquet" held each February to celebrate Scouting's birthday. Packs also have their own family camp outs, and special events like basketball games, and participate in district and council events like the "Scouting for Food" service project during which we collect food for the local food banks in our communities.

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Scouting, like other non-profits, depends on donations of time and money to fulfill our mission. Each year families are given an opportunity to donate to Scouting. Generous gifts to Friends of Scouting help to keep Cub Scouting affordable and available to all members.

CUB SCOUT SUMMER CAMP

Packs select a summer camp session, and register as a pack on the council website at www.gamehavenbsa.org. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend camp with their Cub Scout. Camps also have special program nights for the whole family to attend.

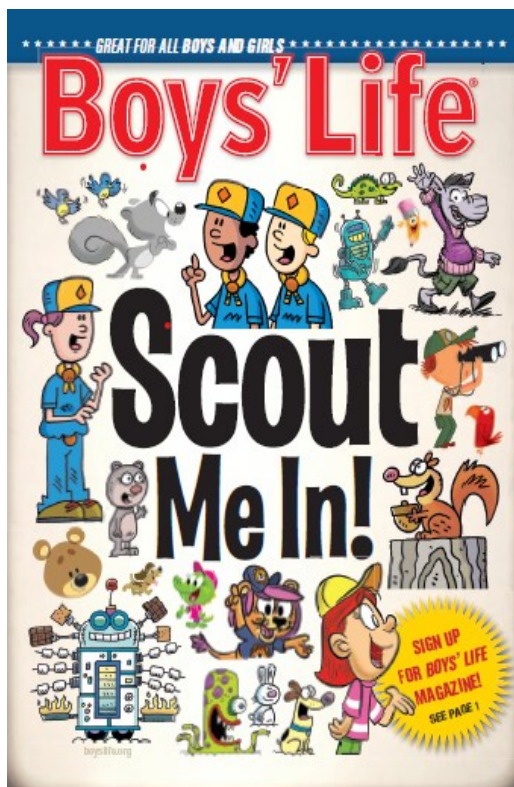
CHARTER RENEWAL & BOY'S LIFE

Each November the pack renews the registration for all of its youth and adults for the coming calendar year. Make sure you are registered with the pack for the next year and that your Cub Scout is signed up to receive Boy's Life magazine. Boy's Life Magazine features great feature stories, jokes, games, hobbies, projects and more. Only \$1 per issue.

Boy's Life Magazine

Check out this link to see what Boy's Life Magazine is all about.

<https://boyslife.org/section/magazine/>



The Pack Committee

Every Cub Scout parent or guardian is invited to become a member of the pack committee. Pack committee members perform administrative functions of the pack. The committee meets monthly and includes the responsibilities below.

Committee Chair - Presides at all pack committee meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders and attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meetings.

Advancement Chair - Maintains advancement records for the pack. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Membership Chair - Manages the transition of new Scouts into the pack and coordinates orientation for new Scouting families. Responsible for the marketing and recruiting initiatives of the pack, as well as the growth and retention of the unit.

Secretary/Treasurer - Keeps all records for the pack, including pack bank account, financial records, etc. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Pack Trainer - Coordinates training for the adults. Promotes leader training and roundtable meeting attendance. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Training

The Boy Scouts of America offers convenient training for parents who volunteer to serve as leaders. As a new parent, you can learn all about Cub Scouting and how quality Scouting programs are built at the pack level. Log on to my.scouting.org and create an account to gain access to all available training content. For more information about training at all levels of the program, go to www.scouting.org/training.

We encourage all parents to take the BSA's Youth Protection training, which is required for all adult leaders. To find out more about the Youth Protection policies of the Boy Scouts of American and how to help Scouting keep your family safe, see the *Parent's Guide* in any of the Cub Scouting or Scouting BSA handbooks, or go to www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx. Completion of the "Exercises in Personal Safety Awareness" in the Parent Guide with your child is a requirement for rank advancement.

Youth Protection

Child abuse is a serious problem in our society, and unfortunately, it can occur anywhere, even in Scouting. Youth safety is of paramount importance to Scouting. For this reason, the BSA continues to create barriers to abuse beyond what have previously existed in Scouting.

The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on providing the most secure environment possible for its youth members. To maintain such an environment, the BSA has developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides parents and leaders with numerous online and print resources for the Cub Scout, Scout BSA, and Venturing programs.

Youth Protection training is required for all BSA registered volunteers. Parents are strongly encourages to take Youth Protection training to become familiar with policies, procedures, and guidelines.



New leaders are required to complete YPT training at the time they are completing registration. To take the training online, go to My.Scouting.org and create an account. Once the mandatory training is completed, log back in to your account and print a completion certificate to submit with your registration application. Your BSA local council also provides training on a regular basis if you cannot take it online.

Youth Protection training must be taken every two years. If a volunteer's Youth Protection training record is not current at the time of recharter, the volunteer will not be registered.

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PACK

Pack # _____ **District Name** _____

Charter Organization _____

The Cub Scout Pack is part of the Chartering Organization. It may be a church, service club, or other community organization that uses Scouting as outreach into the community; your pack is part of your chartering organization.

Charter Organization Representative _____

This person as a representative of the chartering organization, approves all of the adults who will volunteer with the pack.

Pack Committee Chairman _____

This parent volunteer holds the pack committee/parent's meetings, and helps keep the calendar and pack moving forward.

Pack Committee Members

Cubmaster _____

Plans and carries out the monthly pack meeting for the youth in the pack and their families.

Assistant Cubmaster _____

Works with the Cubmaster to provide the monthly pack meeting.

Lion Cub Leader _____

Works with the Kindergarten youth and their adult partners. A parent or guardian is required to be at all Lion Cub Activities. (Boy or Girl Dens)

Tiger Den Leader _____

Works with the first graders and their adult partners. A parent or guardian is required to be at all Tiger Cub Activities. (Boy or Girl Dens)

Wolf Den Leader _____

Works with second graders. (Boy or Girl Dens)

Bear Den Leader _____

Works with third graders. (Boy or Girl Dens)

Webelos Den Leader _____

Works with fourth and fifth graders. (Boy or Girl Dens)



SCOUT OATH —On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

SCOUT LAW—The Scout Law has 12 points and a Scout tries to live up to the law everyday.

- Trustworthy
- Loyal
- Helpful
- Friendly
- Courteous
- Kind
- Obedient
- Cheerful
- Thrifty
- Brave
- Clean
- Reverent

CUB SCOUT MOTTO-

“Do Your Best”

