

Cub Scout Pack 51



Schertz, TX

Parent Guide

**Alamo Area Council
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What Is Cub Scouting?

If you are a boy in first grade through fifth grade—or you’re 7 to 10 years old—then Cub Scouting is for you. It’s for your family, too. This is the first and the biggest of the three Scouting programs (Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing) from the Boy Scouts of America.

Cub Scouts Belong to Pack and Den

Every Cub Scout is a member of a Cub Scout **pack**. A pack is a large group of boys.

The pack is divided into smaller groups called **dens**. Each den has about six to eight boys. All of the Cub Scouts in a den are about the same age.

The Cub Scout pack belongs to a church, a school, or some other group of people in your community or neighborhood called a “charter organization.” The charter organization makes sure your pack has good adult leaders, a place to meet, and exciting things to do. Pack 51’s charter organization is Schertz United Methodist Church.

Cub Scouts Do Things and Go Places

Cub Scouting means “doing.” You have lots to do as a Cub Scout—crafts, games, sports, songs, stories, and puzzles, to name a few things. Much of the fun happens right in the den and pack. The den usually meets every Tuesday, and the pack meets once a month, normally the last Tuesday of the month, except for summer break. At den meetings and pack meetings, Cub Scouts do different things for fun and learning.

Cub Scouts also go to events like the annual Blue and Gold Banquet, field contests, and derbies such as the Pinewood Derby. They go on field trips. They go camping and have other kinds of outdoor adventures. They take part in community events. Cub Scouts do all sorts of exciting stuff! Whatever it is that you enjoy, you’ll have a chance to do it in Cub Scouting.

Cub Scouts Earn Awards

While you’re having fun, you’ll also be earning badges and awards. You’ll work on projects with your parents or other adults in your family, and all of you will feel good about the things you accomplish. When you have earned a badge, you and an adult member of your family take part in a ceremony. The badge is given to the adult, and he or she then gives it to you in front of the whole pack. This is a way of saying “thank you” to your family for their help in earning your award.

The most popular awards for Cub Scouts are the **advancement awards**. Boys do requirements to advance and earn their badges of rank: Tiger Cub, Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, and the Arrow of Light Award. The Arrow of Light is the highest award in Cub Scouting. Webelos Scouts also earn activity badges.

The Cub Scout **Academics and Sports program** is popular, too. Cub Scouts get to learn about favorite subjects such as art, math, science, and citizenship. Or they play individual and team sports such as archery, gymnastics, skating, or soccer. You don’t need to be a star athlete to play Cub Scout Sports. You’re a winner when you *do your best*.

Cub Scouting Has a Purpose

There is a reason for everything boys do in Cub Scouting. Apart from the fun and excitement, the aim of Cub Scouting is to help boys grow into good citizens who are strong in character and personally fit. This is why we say that Cub Scouting is fun with a purpose.

The 10 purposes of Cub Scouting are:

Character Development

1. Spiritual Growth



2. Good Citizenship
3. Sportsmanship and Fitness
4. Family Understanding
5. Respectful Relationships
6. Personal Achievement
7. Friendly Service
8. Fun and Adventure
9. Preparation for Boy Scouts

Parental / Family Involvement

The Parent's Role in Scouting

As a parent, you're a primary role model for your child. Scouting provides a time-tested structure that helps bond parent/child development through group and individual activities, recognition and advancement. Your child needs your guidance along his Scouting path, not to do the work for them, but with them.

Adult role models in Scouting provide an ideal learning experience for all youth. Every adult volunteer has something valuable to offer. On a typical weekend campout, a Scout might work with an adult volunteer who teaches the fishing merit badge, with a Scout mom teaching orienteering, go on a 5-mile hike with another adult leader, and end the day learning how to clean and cook fresh fish from his dad.

As your child progresses through the ranks of Scouting, your involvement and interaction with them will change. Cub Scouting requires much closer supervision and guidance on an individual project and activity level as you "do your best". As young boys learn to interact with others, the parent is constant—someone safe to return to—as they learn and grow in their world.

Scouting: Your Partner in Parenting

When you join the Boy Scouts of America, Scouting is like an extension of your family: it follows your values, it sees to the overall care and wellbeing of your child, and it's always there for you.

Scouting is also flexible and accommodates the need to balance the work and life requirements of a busy family. It's easy to plan for meetings and activities, and if something unexpected comes up, just let your leader know—it's expected in the life we live today.

What's also great about Scouting is that you and your child can work on achievements at your own pace. For example, if your child is in a spring soccer league and has to miss several meetings and activities, they still can complete and sign off on Scout activities to work toward the next level.

Plus, the skills and values your child learns through Scouting can be applied in any non-Scouting activity he participates in. You and your child work on bringing the positive influence that Scouting reinforces into everything he does. As your child builds character, this can be an especially valuable defense to the peer pressure all youth experience when growing up.

It's important to remember that Scouting is not an either/or choice you have to make for your child. It works with you to let you manage your time and other activities, and, like a family, will always be there when you return.

Losing Interest in Scouting

Scouting activities are planned to appeal to a broad range of interests while meeting the goals of the program. Despite this, there are many reasons why youth say they lose interest in Scouting: "It's no fun" or "It's boring" or "It's too hard". There may be a conflict of personality with others in the unit or a Scout



might feel their unit is too competitive. Whatever the reason given, there are as many good reasons for staying in Scouting.

Certainly, real problems do occur, and if your child does not feel safe in this environment, this needs to be addressed. But, if their interest simply begins to wane, it's important to remember that you and your child are on a path in Scouting together, and any road to achievement and reward will have its ups and downs.

As a parent, you have great influence over making Scouting a successful experience for your child—especially in Cub Scouting—but you're not in Scouting alone. If you sense your child is beginning to lose interest, talk with them to find out their likes and dislikes about Scouting. Talk with the unit leader and other parents to see what they've experienced in this situation. Your situation may be isolated or you may find that it's time to review the unit's program and give it a boost. Whatever the outcome, it's no coincidence that the units that deliver the best programs are those that get the most support from parents working together.

The Need for Volunteers

When a pack relies on the same few people to plan and run all of their activities, it can get ... well, pretty boring for the scouts. The planning and running of the events tend to lose the focus on fun and slowly start to lack originality in how they are run. Also, when a pack relies on the same few people time after time, events beyond the pack's control can wreak havoc on those plans – such as work schedules, family matters, vacations, military deployments, etc.

Parent volunteers are one part of the solution. Volunteering does not need to be something frightful. It doesn't mean you'll be handed a large project and left alone to figure it out. Volunteering can be as easy as attending pack committee meetings once a month and providing ideas and direction to pack events, or helping your den leader with a weekly meeting. You can also help out by assisting to plan or coordinate one or two small parts of an event, help run a sales booth, or be a line judge at a race. Of course, if you really want to tackle a big event as the main chairperson for it, you're welcome to do that, too! Volunteering can be as simple, or as complicated as you want it to be. There is always room in our pack for you to help us run an interesting, fun, and quality program for your boys! Simply put, we need and highly desire your help! If you tell us what you CAN do and how much time you can give us, we can find a place for you.

Cub Scout Values

As a Cub Scout, you *do your best* and you *help others*. You learn the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack. You also learn what they mean.

The Cub Scout Promise

*I promise to do my best
To do my duty to God and my country,
To help other people, and
To obey the Law of the Pack.*

It's important not just to say the Promise, but to know what it means.

The Law of the Pack

*The Cub Scout follows Akela.
The Cub Scout helps the pack go.
The pack helps the Cub Scout grow.
The Cub Scout gives goodwill.*

Just as the parts of the Cub Scout Promise have a meaning, each part of the Law of the Pack has a meaning.

Akela means “good leader.” To a Cub Scout, Akela may be a parent, a teacher, a religious leader, a Cub Scout leader, or another guide. A Cub Scout should choose a good leader to follow.

Cub Scouting

Boys of different ages have different **ranks** in Cub Scouting. As you go from Tiger Cub (age 7) to Webelos Scout (age 10), you learn new things and new skills that you use to meet new challenges as you get older.



A parent or guardian is required to attend all den and pack meetings with their Tiger Cub. For all other ranks, we highly encourage parents and guardians to attend den and pack meetings. Cub Scouts is **not** a babysitting service, but is a family involvement program.

Tiger Cubs. First-grade boys join a Tiger Cub den, where each boy works with an adult partner on the requirements to earn his Tiger Cub badge.

Wolf Cub Scouts. Second-grade boys graduate into a Wolf den. They go to weekly den meetings, and their families still help them work on the requirements for the Wolf badge.

Bear Cub Scouts. Boys in the third grade are members of a Bear den. They also work with their families to do the requirements for the Bear badge, but boys this old have enough knowledge and skill to take on more of the work by themselves.

Webelos Scouts. Boys in the fourth and fifth grades become Webelos Scouts. Webelos Scouts do more advanced activities to get ready to graduate into Boy Scouting. They take on more responsibility towards conducting the den meetings and adding content to the pack meetings.

Where you begin in Cub Scouting depends on your age at the time you join. If you join when you're in first grade, you will begin as a Tiger Cub. If you do not join until the third grade, you'll begin as a Bear Cub Scout. You won't have to go back and earn the Tiger Cub and Wolf badges.

The Arrow of Light Award

The highest award in Cub Scouting is the Arrow of Light Award, which you will begin working on as a Webelos Scout. It is the only Cub Scout badge that you can wear on the Boy Scout uniform. As you work on the Arrow of Light Award, you practice outdoor skills, get physically fit, and learn more about citizenship and working with others. All of these things prepare you for the next stage of Scouting.

Cub Scout Camping



Cub Scout camping has day camps, resident camps, Webelos den overnight campouts, family camps, and pack overnights. The primary scout camps used by the Alamo Area Council are McGimsey Scout Camp off NW Military Dr and Bear Creek Scout Camp near northwest of Kerrville near Hunt, TX.

Day Camps

Day camp lasts for one day to five days. It's for Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts. Day camps are held during the day and campers do not stay overnight. Events range from swimming, BB gun and archery, sports, crafts, and outdoor projects. Each Scout is usually worn out at the end of each day!

Camp Akela

Camp Akela is a four-day campout for Webelos and their parent/guardian, and involves camping overnight each night. During the day, Webelos can work on up to seven of their Activity Badges required

to earn their Webelos rank and Arrow of Light. Both Day Camps and Camp Akela rely heavily on parent volunteers to help run the events and watch the boys!

Webelos Den Overnight Campouts

Webelos dens can go on overnight campouts. Each Webelos Scout camps with his parent or guardian. The campers learn the basics of Boy Scout camping, under the direction of the Webelos den leader. Sometimes, leaders from a Boy Scout troop may join you.

Webelos dens also have joint overnight campouts with a Boy Scout troop. Each Webelos Scout has a parent or guardian with him on these joint campouts, too.

Council-Organized Family Camps

Family camps are overnight camps for more than one Cub Scout pack. In the Alamo Area Council they are called “Cub N Ones” and will probably be the main type of you camping you do, besides the Family Campout. Each Cub Scout and Webelos Scout camps with a parent or guardian.

Family Campout

Cub Scouts’ brothers and sisters can go on this pack overnighter. Every young camper is responsible to a specific adult. In Pack 51, this is usually held in May just before the school summer break. It is an opportunity to celebrate each Scout’s crossover to the next rank. The Webelos Scouts, and their leaders/parents, are responsible for organizing this event. Boy Scouts from our associated Troop 51 also help out with the Family Campout.

Outings and Field Trips

“Outings” are a big part of Scouting. Cub Scouts get out and about with many kinds of outdoor fun, such as field trips, hikes, nature and conservation activities, and outdoor games.

Field Trips

Do you like to visit museums, businesses, parks, and other fun and interesting places? Field trips often tie in with the monthly theme or activity badge, to show you firsthand the things you’ve been learning about. Talk to your den leader to find out what they have planned.

“Go See It”

Tiger Cubs and their adult partners go on a Go See It outing every month. The Go See It may meet part of a Tiger Cub advancement requirement.

By going on these outings, Tiger Cubs learn about their community, places where adults work, community services (fire, police, hospital, etc.), nature centers, animal care centers, and other interesting places. A Go See It is a great way to learn new things, learn to understand and respect other people, become better citizens, and have fun.

Hikes

A hike is a journey on foot, usually with a purpose, a route, and a destination. Tiger Cub and Cub Scout dens take short hikes, and Webelos dens work on activity badges during their hikes.

Games and Sports

Outdoor games and sports teach you the skills of good sportsmanship—following the rules, taking turns and sharing, getting along with others, and fair play. Every Cub Scout can have the chance to learn the basic skills of a sport or game. Playing and doing your best and having fun are more important than winning!



Blue and Gold Banquets

We celebrate Scouting Anniversary Week in February with a “birthday party” called the Blue and Gold Banquet. It is the highlight of the year! It brings families together for an evening of fun and cheer. It’s also the pack meeting for February.

The purpose of the banquet is to celebrate Cub Scouts’ anniversary, thank pack leaders and other adults who have helped the pack, and inspire the leaders, Scouts, and parents. Our banquet involves a dinner that is centered on a certain theme, followed by advancement ceremonies for each rank, and songs or skits. The only items awarded at the banquet are ranks – other types of awards such as belt loops, beads, or patches will not be handed out in order to keep the length to something more manageable.

A good banquet needs lots of planning. This is done at the monthly Committee Meetings, so be sure to attend those if you’d like to help!

Cub Scout Derbies

Racing in a Cub Scout derby is great fun. You’ll get to design your racing vehicle, work with a parent to build it, and see it perform on race day. Win or lose, you’ll take pride in having *done your best*. When you race in a Cub Scout derby, you learn craft skills, the rules of fair play, and good sportsmanship—things you will remember all your life.

Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood Derby is one of the most popular and successful family activities in Cub Scouting. Pinewood Derby cars are small wooden models that Cub Scouts make with help from their families. Then they race the cars in competition. The cars are powered by gravity and run down a track. Every boy designs and build his own car to enter in the race with help from an adult as needed. Adults and siblings can enter a car in the “non-Scout” race portion of the event.

Raingutter Regatta

In the Raingutter Regatta, boats race down a narrow channel using sailboats the Scouts build from pack provided kits. Boats may range from the Cub Scout standard sailboat to catamarans to whatever your imagination can create.

Space Derby

Another popular family-son project is the space derby. It’s like the Pinewood Derby except the models are miniature rockets. The rockets “fly” along a heavy line that hangs in the air. They’re driven by propellers powered by rubber bands. Our pack may substitute another race or event in lieu of the Space Derby since it is a very time consuming event to host. Check with your den leader for details.

Competition and Prizes

Each family that competes in a Cub Scout derby follows a set of simple, easy rules. The winners get prizes, and every boy is recognized for taking part. Always remember that in Cub Scouting, it’s more important to “*do your best*” than to come in first. The big thing about a derby isn’t the competition or the prizes. It’s the fun you and your family will have.

Service Projects

Doing service projects together is one way that Cub Scouts keep their promise “to help other people.” While a Scout should do his best to help other people every day, a group service project is a bigger way to help people. While you’re giving service, you’re learning to work together with others to do something that’s good for your community.





Service projects may help the natural world, the community, or the chartered organization. Here are some service activities Pack 51 is involved with:

Helping the natural world

- Pack sponsored trash pickup day in our local community
- Cub N One projects such as planting trees or building bird/bat houses

Helping the community

- Give a flag ceremony for a school.
- Collect food for food banks.
- Make cards for a care center such as Autumn Winds or Silver Tree.
- Flags at Ft Sam – placing flags on veterans' graves for special holidays

Helping the chartered organization

- Do a cleanup project.
- Plant and care for trees.
- Conduct a flag ceremony.
- Help set up for a special event.
- Hand out programs or bulletins at a meeting of the organization.

Your Cub Scout Uniform

The following is the official uniform of Pack 51:

Hat (ball cap style) – do not wear to pack meetings since we meet in the sanctuary portion of the church. Always remove your hats indoors unless you are part of a flag detail.

- Neckerchief (provided by pack if you attend the Family Campout crossover) and slide.
- Shirt
- Handbook
- Flag, Council and Pack 51 patches, den number
- Belt and belt buckle
- Rank badge (badges of office for adult leaders)
- We do not require the boys to purchase or wear the official pants and socks, but they may be worn if desired. Otherwise, pants should be appropriate for the activity and in good condition (no holes, tears, clean, etc.).
- A red felt patch vest is optional for displaying patches and pins not authorized for wear on the shirt.

Our local Scout shop is Musselman Scout Shop located at McGimsey Scout Park, 2226 NW Military Hwy, San Antonio, TX 78213. A map can be found on the council website at <http://www.alamoarea-boyscouts.org/>. In addition, many items may be purchased online at <http://www.scoutstuff.org/>.

Wearing the Uniform

Unless your den leader says otherwise, you should wear your Cub Scout uniform to all Scouting activities—not only den and pack meetings, but every activity in which you take part with other Cub Scouts. Your pack T-shirt is considered an informal uniform but is perfect for wearing to den meetings and outings where the official uniform could get dirty or ruined. In general, if you going out in public to act on behalf of Cub Scouts or the pack, wear your blue uniform and don't forget the cap.

Official placement of insignia may be found on the inside front and back cover of the Scout Handbook.

The Advancement Trail

On the advancement trail, a Cub Scout progresses from rank to rank, learning new skills as he goes. Each of the ranks and awards in Cub Scouting has its own requirements. As you advance through the ranks, the requirements get more challenging, to match the new skills and abilities you learn as you get older.

Advancement

Advancement is the process by which youth members progress through the ranks in the Scouting program by the gradual mastery of Scouting skills. Ranks are simply a means to an end, not an end in themselves. Everything boys do to advance and earn these ranks, from the day they join until the day they leave the program, should be designed to help boys have an exciting and meaningful experience.

Bobcat

No matter what age or grade a boy joins Cub Scouting, he must earn his Bobcat badge before he can advance to the rank of Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, or Webelos. A boy must complete the Bobcat requirements, which include:

- Learn and say the Cub Scout motto, the Cub Scout Promise, and the Law of the Pack and tell what they mean;
- Show the Cub Scout sign, salute, and handshake and tell what they mean; and
- Show that you understand and believe that it is important to be honest and trustworthy.

Tiger Cub

To begin his path to the Tiger Cub rank, the Tiger Cub (age 7) must learn the Cub Scout promise, the Cub Scout sign, and the Cub Scout salute. When he has learned these, he gets his Tiger Cub emblem, which is a tiger paw with four strings for beads. He wears the emblem on his right pocket.

As a boy finishes each part of the five Tiger Cub achievements, he earns an orange bead (for den activities), a white bead (for family activities), or a black bead (for “Go See Its”). The beads are meant as instant recognition and will be handed out at den meetings by the den leader as they are earned. When the boy has earned five beads of each color, he can receive his Tiger Cub badge. The Tiger Cub badge is given to the boy’s adult partner at a pack meeting. Then, during a grand ceremony, the adult gives the badge to the boy.

Wolf

The Wolf rank is for boys who have finished first grade (or who are 8 years old). To earn the Wolf badge, a boy must pass 12 achievements. His parent or guardian approves each achievement by signing his book. When the boy has met all requirements, the Wolf badge is presented to his parent or guardian at the next pack meeting, the parent or guardian then presents the badge to the boy.

After he has earned the Wolf badge, a Wolf Cub Scout can work on the 23 Wolf electives until he finishes second grade (or turns 9 years old). He can choose from more than 100 elective projects that may show him new hobbies and teach him skills that will be useful during his Boy Scout years. When he completes 10 elective projects, he earns a Gold Arrow Point to wear under the Wolf badge. For each 10 elective projects after that, he earns a Silver Arrow Point.

Bear

The Bear rank is for boys who have finished second grade (or are 9 years old). There are 24 Bear achievements in four groups. A boy must complete 12 of the achievements to be a Bear Cub Scout. These requirements are harder and more challenging than those for the Wolf badge. When a boy has earned his Bear badge, he may work on electives to earn Arrow Points to wear under his Bear badge.

Webelos

Webelos dens are for boys who have completed third grade (or reached age 10). The Webelos den program is different from the Cub Scout den program. Everything in the Webelos Scout program is more challenging than what younger boys in the pack do. Webelos Scouts get to work on the 20 Webelos activity badges:

Physical Skills	Community	Outdoor Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aquanaut• Athlete• Fitness• Sportsman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Citizen• Communicator• Family Member• Readyman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forester• Geologist• Naturalist• Outdoorsman
Mental Skills	Technology	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artist• Scholar• Showman• Traveler	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Craftsman• Engineer• Handyman• Scientist	

Webelos Scouts work on requirements during their weekly den meetings. Once a boy learns a skill, he practices it at den meetings and at home on his own. His family helps him at home. Webelos Scouts bring the projects they do at home to the den meetings to show others, and to have the Webelos den leader approve their projects.

When a boy has done the requirements for an activity badge, the Webelos den leader or activity badge counselor, rather than a parent, approves most of the activity badges. It takes three activity badges, including Fitness and Citizen, to earn the Webelos badge.

Besides earning activity badges, Webelos Scouts can earn the compass points emblem. This emblem is awarded after a Webelos Scout has earned seven activity badges. For each four activity badges a Webelos Scout earns after that, he receives a compass point—east, west, north, and south.

Arrow of Light

The highest rank in Cub Scouting is the Arrow of Light Award. Earning this rank prepares a Webelos Scout to become a Boy Scout. Webelos Scouts who have earned the Arrow of Light Award have also completed all requirements for the Boy Scout badge.

This award is the only Cub Scout badge that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform when a boy graduates into a troop. Adult leaders who earned the Arrow of Light Award when they were young may also show their achievement by wearing a special square knot on their adult uniform.

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program

The Academics and Sports program gives Cub Scouts extra activities to do. In Academics subjects and Sports, Cub Scouts learn new skills, become better scholars, learn sportsmanship, and have fun. You can get to know a sport or an academic subject that's new to you—maybe astronomy, chess, computers, or

science; or golf, gymnastics, ice skating, or tennis, to name a few of the subjects and sports that are in the program.

Academics and Sports Subjects

Cub Scout Academics

- Art
- Astronomy
- Chess
- Citizenship
- Collecting
- Communicating
- Computers
- Geography
- Geology
- Heritages
- Language and Culture
- Map and Compass
- Mathematics
- Music
- Science
- Weather
- Wildlife Conservation

Cub Scout Sports

- Badminton
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bicycling
- Bowling
- Fishing
- Flag Football
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Ice Skating
- Marbles
- Physical Fitness
- Roller Skating
- Soccer
- Snow Ski and Board Sports
- Softball
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Ultimate
- Volleyball

Academics and Sports Belt Loops

You earn a belt loop to wear with your uniform when you complete three specific requirements for each Academics or Sports activity. You can take part in three ways: (1) by yourself or with your family, (2) in your den or pack, or (3) in school.

Academics and Sports Letter and Pins

Once you have earned the belt loop, you can stop. But if you want to do more with the activity, you may complete extra requirements to earn a pin.

A good place to display Academics and Sports pins is on the Academics and Sports letter. You can wear the letter on a sweater or a jacket, or display or frame it. The letter does not go on the Cub Scout uniform. There are no special requirements for earning the letter, because it's just for displaying the pins.

Other Awards You Can Earn

Besides the advancement awards and the Academics and Sports belt loops and pins, Cub Scouts may earn other individual awards. Set your sights on these:

Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award

Tiger Cubs, Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts may earn the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award. This award recognizes the Scout for taking part in outdoor recreation and conservation projects. In many cases, you can earn this award while doing other Scouting activities.

Religious Emblems

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, many religious groups have programs for young people to earn a religious emblem. The Boy Scouts of America approves of these programs and allows the religious emblems to be worn on the official uniform.

Cub Scout World Conservation Award

Webelos Scouts can earn the Cub Scout World Conservation Award by earning the Forester, Naturalist, and Outdoorsman activity badges and taking part in a den or pack conservation project.

Cub Scouting's Leave No Trace Awareness Award

Leave No Trace is a plan that helps people take better care of the environment and protect it for future generations. Cub Scouts and their leaders may earn the Leave No Trace Awareness Award.

Emergency Preparedness Award

“Emergency preparedness” means being ready for all kinds of emergencies. It means you’re ready and able to help in times of trouble to save lives and property and to help a community—or even a nation—get back to normal after a disaster happens. To encourage Scouts of all ages to be prepared for emergencies, the BSA has approved an Emergency Preparedness Award program for members of all ages.

Medals

Cub Scouts who compete in Cub Scout derbies, field days, and other competitive events can win medals to wear on their uniform

Awards for Your Den and Pack

Just as Cub Scouts can earn individual awards for themselves, they can also work together to earn awards for their whole den or their pack. Getting together to work on these awards is a great way to practice teamwork and to show every Cub Scout how important he is as a member of his den or pack.

National Summertime Pack Award

A pack can earn the National Summertime Pack Award by doing three pack activities when school is out for the summer—one activity each in June, July, and August. Packs that qualify get a colorful streamer for their pack flag. Pack members who take part in all three events are eligible for the National Summertime Pack Award pin, to wear on the right pocket flap of their uniform.



The Family Campout counts toward the month of June. Each month we will have at least activities scheduled plus any council event will count towards that month’s activity! Just be sure to tell your den leader so they can keep track. All it takes is one event per month.

National Quality Unit Award

To earn this award, packs need well-trained leaders and they must meet several other requirements, such as holding regular pack meetings, qualifying for the National Summertime Pack Award (above), going on an outdoor activity, doing a service project, having at least three-fourths of the Scouts advance in rank, and having all Scouts subscribe to *Boys’ Life* magazine.

All members, both youth and adults, of a pack that earns this award may wear the Quality Unit emblem on their uniforms. The pack may also display a streamer on the pack flag.

ScoutTrack.com



Pack 51 mainly uses the online scout tracking program ScoutTrack.com which can be found at <http://scouttrack.com/>, or accessed from the pack website at <http://www.bsa-pack51.org>. When you join, an account and user name will be setup and emailed to you by the pack webmaster. If you lose your login information you may contact your den leader who can re-send the information to you.

ScoutTrack is an online tracking system where parents can see and log off their Scout’s progress. It contains all of the academic and sports belt loops and pins, advancement requirements, attendance, pack roster, pack calendar, and email links to the pack leaders.

While parents (for Tigers, Wolves, and Bears) are primarily responsible for logging events and completed requirements, den leaders will ensure the accuracy of the data at least one week prior to the monthly pack meeting. Webelos den leaders are the primary authority for signing off Webelos requirements. Please

remember that since it takes time to retrieve the data from ScoutTrack and purchase the necessary items for the pack meeting, any requirements entered during the 7-days prior to the pack meeting will be awarded at the next pack meeting.

There are several peculiarities within the program to point out such as problems entering dates so the items stay signed off and occasions of items showing up as “presented” when they have not been. Try entering the date as *mm/dd/yyyy* (i.e., “01/25/2007”). The point to remember is the shopping list for awards and ranks is only as accurate as the data in the program, so please ensure you periodically check ScoutTrack to make sure your Scout will get the credit he deserves.

Unfortunately, a full accounting of how to use the program is beyond the scope of this parent guide. If you encounter problems or need assistance learning the program, please contact the webmaster.

Cub Scout Books

The Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos handbooks give you step-by-step help as you move along the Cub Scout trail. No matter how old you are, you have a book written especially for you, with information and activities for your rank and age. And along with the books, *Boys’ Life* magazine has fun Scouting things for you: stories, comics, jokes, games, and more.

Tiger Cub Handbook

This book for first-grade boys and their adult partners tells about the Tiger Cub program and gives information about dens, leaders, uniforms, and advancement.

Wolf Handbook

Second-grade boys use this book as they move along the trail to earn their Wolf badge.

Bear Handbook

Boys in the third grade do the achievements in this book to earn their Bear badge.

Webelos Handbook

Boys who are in the fourth or fifth grade use this handbook as Webelos Scouts. Everything in the Webelos Scout program is more challenging than what younger boys in the pack do.

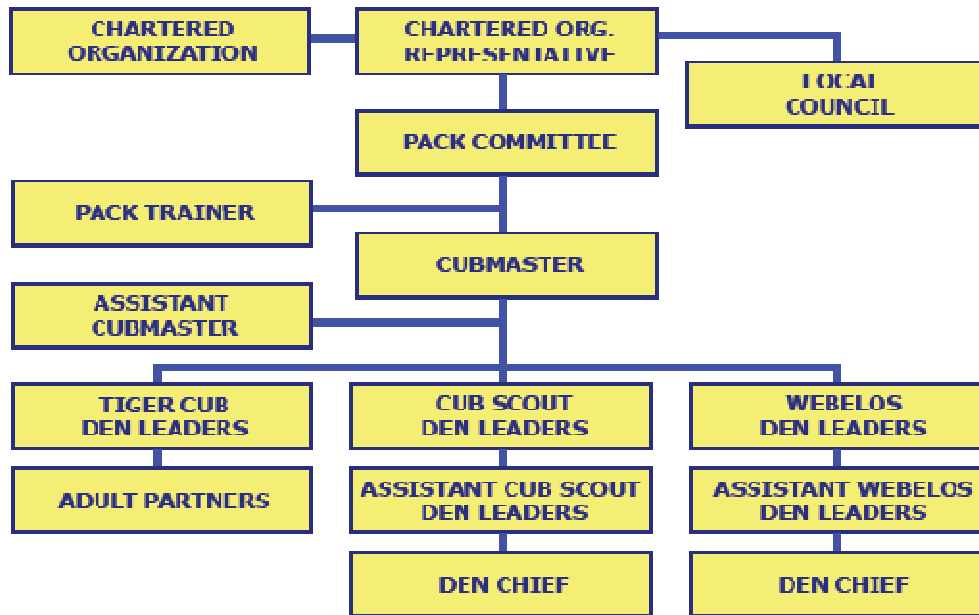
Boys’ Life Magazine

Boys’ Life is the magazine for all boys. The *Boys’ Life* Web site has information about the current issue, games to play, projects to download, and more.

Pack Organization

Pack 51 is a volunteer-run pack. This means it takes parents to get involved and help provide a quality program for our boys. Since we live in a military community, quite a few families move in or move out each year, which means we are always looking for new den leaders and event organizers. Without parent involvement, we can’t provide the type of quality program that our boys want and deserve. **Get involved today!**





The following is an outline of the duties of the key leaders within the pack:

Cubmaster:

Plan and help carry out the Cub Scout program in the pack. This includes leading the monthly pack meeting, with the help of other leaders.

- Help the pack committee with a year-round recruitment plan for recruiting boys into Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouting, and Webelos Scouting.
- See that the pack program, leaders, and Cub Scouts positively reflect the interests and objectives of the chartered organization and the BSA.
- Work with the pack committee on (1) program ideas, (2) selecting and recruiting adult leaders, and (3) establishing a budget plan.
- Guide and support den leaders. See that they receive the required training for their positions.
- Maintain good relationships with parents and guardians. Seek their support and include them in activities.
- Encourage high advancement standards for all Cub Scouts.

Den Leaders:

Give leadership in carrying out the pack program in the den.

- Lead the den in its participation at pack meetings. Serve as den host or hostess for den family members at pack meetings.
- Help the Cubmaster (or assistant Cubmaster) and pack committee recruit new boys throughout the year.
- Help train the den chief and guide him in working with Cub Scouts. See that he receives recognition for his efforts at den and pack meetings.
- Maintain a friendly relationship with Cub Scouts; encourage them to earn advancement awards. Keep accurate advancement records and see that boys receive recognition for their achievements.

- Stimulate the Cub Scouts' imaginations on the program theme for the month and help the den prepare its stunts and exhibits for the pack meeting.
- See that a leader is available for all den meetings and activities. Call on the assistant den leader to fill in when necessary.
- Take part in the annual pack program planning conference and pack leaders' meetings.
- Help set a good example for the boys through behavior, attitude, and proper uniforming.

Assistant Den Leaders:

Help the den leader as needed.

- Carry out the duties assigned by the den leader.
- Be ready to fill in for the den leader in case of an emergency.

Special Event Coordinators:

Plan, coordinate, and organize special events

- Acquire volunteers for setup and take down of event
- Provide for refreshments as required

Pack Committee

Key Committee Positions include the following:

Committee Chair – supervise pack committee

- Secretary – notes, schedules, pack correspondence
- Treasurer – maintain finances for pack
- Advancement Chair – track/acquire awards, badges, ranks for pack
- Public Relations/Webmaster – run pack website
- Outings Chair – plan/coordinate for pack outings, campouts
- Membership/Registration – recruitment drives, registration paperwork, rechartering
- Pack Trainer – ensure all leaders are council trained and qualified

Committee Meetings.

The Pack Committee meets the Monday following the first Thursday of each month to discuss pack business. (Council Roundtables are scheduled for the first Thursday each month and provide memos and information for the committee.) The meetings are open to parents, registered members of Pack 51 and non-key Committee officers. These meetings are more than just for the committee, they are the parents' venue to help provide direction and ideas to the pack. Historically, we have very little turn out at these meetings. If you have a better way of the pack or dens doing something, wish to help create the pack's annual calendar of events, or just to help out with special events, this is your conduit to getting that done. Parents and guardians are always welcome!

Adult Leader Training

All adult leaders are required to get official training provided by the council. A schedule of when training is offered can be found at the Alamo Area Council website, as well as on the Pack 51 website. In general, this training is valid for 3 years before needing to re-accomplish. However, you do not need to be an adult leader to receive it! Training is open to anyone in the pack that is interested. Cost is usually minimal, about \$6.00 per person. Topics include den leader training, outdoor leader skills, Youth Protection, and more.

In addition to the council provided training, Sioux District also provides training each month during their Roundtables. Roundtable is held at the Latter Day Saints Church in Gruene, 1390 Hanz Dr. New



Braunfels, TX at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday each month. Roundtables provide a chance to disseminate information to each pack in the district, as well as offer ideas for crafts, games, pack cheers, and a chance to interact with other packs in your area. Again, Roundtables are open to anyone in the pack, and we highly encourage you to try attending one to see what goes on “behind the scenes” in the pack.

Youth Protection

Program Summary

Child abuse is a major problem affecting our society. Each year more than 2 million cases of suspected child abuse are reported. This means that 1 percent of American children are experiencing physical abuse, 1 percent are experiencing sexual abuse, and 2 to 5 percent are experiencing emotional maltreatment or some form of neglect. Because of the significance of this social problem, The Cub Scouts has declared child abuse as one of the “unacceptables” to receive special attention by those involved in the Scouting program.

The BSA has developed a five-point plan to combat child abuse and to improve the environment in which young people live. The key elements of this strategy include the following points:

Educating Scouting volunteers, parents and Scouts themselves to aid in the detection and prevention of child abuse.

Establishing leader-selection procedures to prevent individuals with a history of child abuse from entering the BSA leadership ranks.

Establishing policies that minimize the opportunities for child abuse to occur in the program of the Boy Scouts of America.

Encouraging Scouts to report improper behavior in order to identify offenders quickly.

Swiftly removing and reporting alleged offenders.

Parents guide

The Cub Scouts has developed materials for use in the Scouting program that provide essential information to members and their families. A detachable booklet in the front of each rank’s Scout Handbook, “How to Protect Your Child from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parents Guide,” provides information to help families to increase self-protection skills.

Pack 51 and the Youth Protection Program

Pack 51 is committed to following all guidelines of the Youth Protection program. Any suspected offenses of the Youth protection program must be reported to the Committee Chairman, the Scoutmaster or the Council Executive. All incidents reported to the Committee Chairman or the Scoutmaster will be reported to the Council Executive. All reports are taken seriously and appropriate action is taken to ensure the safety of the youth.

Who Pays For Scouting?

You do. Your annual registration fees go to paying certain items at the national and district levels, such as certain full-time leadership salaries, and overhead costs. That’s why we normally charge annual pack dues to support our pack. But that still is a very little part of our program costs. We rely on fundraisers of some type to raise funds to pay for **advancement ranks for each scout, special awards, trophies, derby car and regatta boat kits, campouts, neckerchiefs when your scout crosses over to the next rank, and even computer support and web fees (such as for Scout Tracks)**. The pack is self-sufficient and does not receive funding from district or national levels.



Our biggest fundraiser each year is the annual popcorn sales in the fall, and it serves as the highest source of revenue for the pack. The overall method of sales has changed slightly from year to year, but currently consists of an initial “blitz” of door-to-door sales of popcorn on-hand by the entire pack, followed by individual scout door-to-door sales– much like Girl Scout cookie sales.

The pack will seek a volunteer to be the Popcorn Sales Chairman during a committee meeting. The chairman will be responsible for attending council sponsored training and determining the amount of popcorn to be ordered, usually based on the previous year’s sales. The details of any popcorn booths, door-to-door sales, or door-to-door orders will be decided in conjunction with the pack committee.

The important part of the sales for parents to keep in mind is that a very large percentage of the overall sales goes to the pack to pay for awards, advancements, refreshments, events (such as Pinewood Derby trophies and medals), and such other items.

Your Scout will also receive a percentage, usually 10 percent, of his own sales in a “pack account” which can be used to offset annual registration and *Boy’s Life*, pay for pack T-shirts, Cub N Ones, Family Campout, etc. The pack will also setup an incentive program for the boys to earn prizes, usually in addition to the national sales program prize awards.

It benefits everyone from your own Scout to the entire pack to make your best effort to get out and sell some popcorn. Yes, it is a bit pricey compared to the grocery store microwave popcorn, but the proceeds come back to us and allow us to have a better program. I should note here that your Scout does not have to sell any popcorn – but from my experience I think it provides each Scout with a bit more self-confidence to get out and promote himself, his belief in Cub Scouting, and meet a few more of his neighbors. The majority of folks in your neighborhood most likely also believe in Scouting and what it teaches young boys, and they will most likely be willing to help out and buy a box or two.

Other fundraisers may include bake sales during many of our pack events, and the Annual Schertz Jubilee celebration each 4th of July. We always welcome ideas for fundraisers, and need your volunteer support to make them happen.

Inquiries And Complaints



Any organization of more than two people will, from time to time, have issues or ideas for improvement. We gladly except all suggestions and need to know of any problems or complaints so we may fix them. If you have any inquiries, complaints, suggestions, or compliments we ask that you first contact your den leader, or any den leader if need be, with your problem. If your issue cannot be resolved by your den leader, or if it involves your den leader, please get in touch with your Cubmaster, or come to the monthly committee meeting and discuss it with the pack leadership as a whole. As a last resort, you have the option of contacting the pack’s Alamo Area Council Sioux District representative for assistance. They can be reached by contacting the Alamo Area Council via their website phone listing at <http://www.alamoarea-boyscouts.org/>.

Don’t wait until you and your Scout have had enough and are walking out the door for good to let someone in the pack know about your problems. Every leader in the pack wants a strong program for the boys and wants the boys interested, motivated, and happy. So pass along the compliments as well and let us know how we’re doing.

Fly With the Eagles and Other Famous Scouts

How many names do *you* recognize?

Hank Aaron, Baseball Hall of Fame member

Neil Armstrong, astronaut, first man to walk on the moon (Eagle Scout)

Bill Bradley, Basketball Hall of Fame member (Eagle Scout)

Jimmy Buffet, musician

Bill Clinton, 42nd U.S. President

Walter Cronkite, journalist, anchorman and commentator

Gerald Ford, 38th U.S. President (Eagle Scout)

Harrison Ford, actor (Life Scout)

Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft (Life Scout)

John Glenn, astronaut, first man to orbit Earth

Dan Janssen, 1994 Olympic speed skating Gold Medalist

Michael Jordan, Basketball Hall of Fame member, two-time Olympic basketball Gold Medalist

John F. Kennedy, 35th U.S. President, first Scout to become president

Jim Morrison, lead singer of The Doors, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member

Bill Marriott Jr., president of Marriott Corporation

Branford Marsalis, Grammy-winning musician (Life Scout)

Sam Nunn, U.S. Senator from Georgia

Ronald Reagan, 40th U.S. President

Richard Roundtree, actor

Donald Rumsfeld, Former U.S. Secretary of Defense (Eagle Scout)

Nolan Ryan, Baseball Hall of Fame member

Steven Spielberg, Oscar-winning filmmaker (Eagle Scout)

George Strait, country & western singer

Sam Walton, founder of Wal-Mart stores (Eagle Scout)

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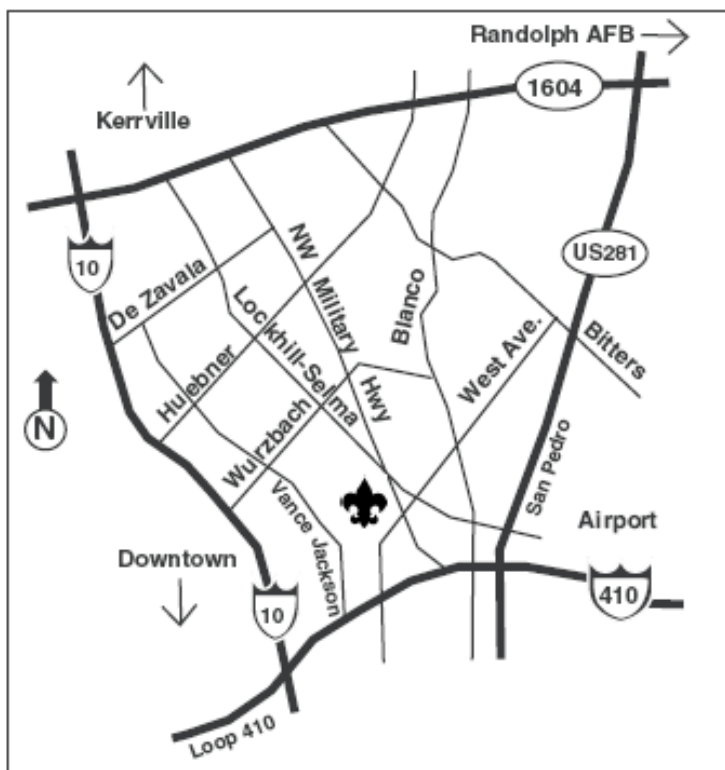
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