



Saint Mary of the Hills Cub Scout
Pack 2
New Member Orientation Guide

*Welcome to the Adventure
of Cub Scouting!*

On My Honor Timeless Values

How Cub Scouting Works

Scouting is Family Oriented:

- Activities are intended for the whole family.
- You work with your son on his various award requirements.
- Many of the skills your son will learn are family oriented.

The Cub Scout Den:

- Your boy is a member of a Cub Scout den.
- The den meets once a month.
- The den is led by a den leader (usually a parent)
- The den leader is usually assisted by an co-den leader, a den chief (an older Boy Scout), and a Denner (Cub Scout elected by the den members)
- Den meetings have games, crafts, songs, ceremonies, and lots of FUN.

The Cub Scout Pack:

- Your boy is a member of a Cub Scout Pack.
- The Pack meets once a month.
- The Cubmaster leads the Pack.
- The Pack attends district events.

The Pack Committee:

- The Pack Committee runs the Pack. The committee is comprised of volunteer parents.
- The Pack Committee is made up of den leaders and assistants, Webelos leaders and assistants, and the Cubmaster and assistants as well as 2 – 5 parent committee members. Most of these leaders are parents of the boys in the Pack.
- The Committee meets once a month.
- A chairperson leads the Committee.
- The Committee selects leaders, performs record keeping, manages pack finances, orders badges, maintains pack equipment, helps train leaders, and recognizes leaders.

Your Chartering Organization:

- The pack is sponsored by a chartered organization.
- Chartered organizations include schools, parent associations, religious organizations, service clubs, and other groups interested in youth.
- The chartered organization approves leaders, provides a meeting place, and operates packs within the guidelines and policies of the chartered organization and the Boy Scouts of America.
- The chartered organization selects a chartered organization representative who serves as a liaison between the pack and organization.

The Advancement Plan

The responsibility for a boy's earning of awards in Cub Scouting lies with the family and not with the pack. Some advancement requirements are done at den meetings, but most are completed with you. You can sign off on his requirements when you and your son feel that he has done his best. As a result, the awards he earns raise his self-esteem and confidence.

You can be a part of it by participating in the Cub Scout program with him. The rank awards he earns are listed below.



Tiger Cubs (First Grade)

A Cub Scout who has completed kindergarten (or is age 7), works on achievements and electives. A Tiger Cub participates in the cub scouting program with an adult partner.



Bobcat (Earned by ALL NEW Cub Scouts, regardless of grade)

All boys, regardless of age, earn the Bobcat badge first by learning the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack, handshake, salute, sign, motto, and the meaning of "Webelos." After receiving the Bobcat badge, the boy works on requirements based on his grade or age.



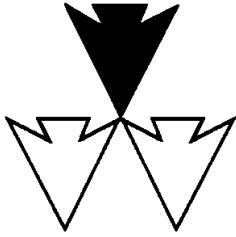
Wolf (Second Grade)

A Cub Scout who has completed first grade (or is age 8), works on 12 achievements to earn the Wolf badge. Each achievement is designed to teach simple skills and initiate family discussions on values, drug awareness, health, etc.



Bear (Third Grade)

A Cub Scout who has completed second grade (or is age 9), needs to complete 12 of 24 achievements to earn the Bear badge.



Arrow Points

After he earns his Wolf or Bear badge, a boy may work on electives in different interest areas until he is old enough to begin work on the next rank. For every 10 electives a boy completes, he earns an Arrow Point. A boy may earn as many Arrow Points as he wishes. Parents help boys learn more complicated life skills and values.



Webelos Scouts (Fourth and Fifth Grade)

When a Cub Scout has completed the third grade (or becomes 10 years old), he transfers to a Webelos den, led by an adult Webelos leader. 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 the boy for Boy Scouting.



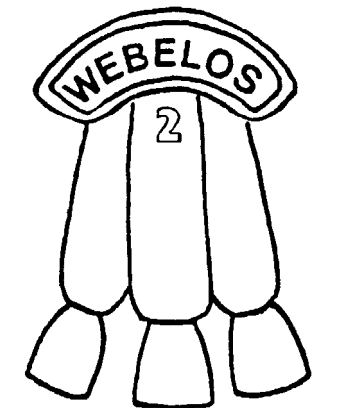
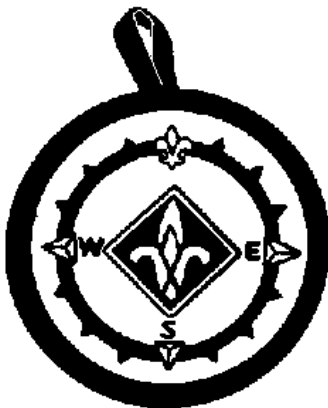
Arrow of Light (Fourth and Fifth Grade)

The highest award a boy can earn in Cub Scouting -- also the ONLY (non-religious) award from Cub Scouts which can be worn on a Boy Scout Uniform.



Boy Scouts

When a boy earns the Arrow of Light or reaches 11 years of age or completes the fifth grade, he may graduate from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting at an impressive graduation ceremony. We aim to graduate every Cub Scout into Boy Scouting. Generally, your son will be prepared to join a Boy Scout troop in February or March of his fifth grade year.



Cub Scout Special Activities

- **Good Turn** – This is a pack service project to benefit the community, such as a park clean-up, food shelf collection, or tree planting!
- **Pinewood Derby** – Parent and son work together to build a gravity-powered miniature racecar from a special kit. Most packs conduct the derby races annually.
- **Blue and Gold Banquet** – This is a birthday party for your Cub Scout pack and is usually held in February.
- **Cub Scout Day Camp** – Day Camp is an exciting summertime activity that includes archery, BB guns, crafts, games, sports, songs, and skits. This one week program is held at a Council camp facility. Cub Scout Day Camp is an excellent way to introduce youth to the outdoors and teach them new skills. It also helps strengthen the pack's summer program.
- **Boys' Life Magazine** – This magazine for boys and adults has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, science and U.S. history. There are also jokes, comics, and short stories.



What you should do now to get started in Cub Scouting.....

- Carefully review this booklet so you know what Cub Scouting is all about and how you and your son can get the most out of it.
- Consider becoming a Cub Scout Leader for your son's Cub Scout den. Your son's experience in Cub Scouting depends on your involvement. Details are in the last pages of this book.
- Find out what kind of activities your Cub Scout Pack is doing in the next few months, and put them on your calendar so you can participate.
- Scouting is more fun with friends! Every boy can join Cub Scouts at any time, not just in September/October. Talk to other parents and boys and have them join your son's Cub Scout den now to make Cub Scouting even more fun.
- Purchase a Cub Scout shirt for your son to wear his awards on. Be sure to get a size large enough to last a few years as your son grows.

Helping your Son's Pack

How can you help?

Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Volunteer Cub Scout leaders as an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. Naturally, parents are a primary source of leaders in the Scouting program. You volunteer not only to serve Scouting, but also to serve your son and his friends, and to have the chance to be a positive influence on the youth in your community.

What do you receive in return?

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

- Fun and fellowship with other families, sharing your pride in the boys' accomplishments.
- The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families.
- A chance to help boys learn good citizenship and to help shape them into men who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.
- The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of boys as they grow strong in mind and body.
- A code to live by which will set a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.
- The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and pride in being publicly identified, as a part of this organization – 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.

Adults like you, who work directly with the boys and organize the activities in which they participate, hold volunteer positions in the pack.

The Language of Cub Scouting

- Arrow of Light** - The highest award a boy can earn in cub scouting -- also the only (non-religious) award from cub scouts which can be worn on a boy scout uniform.
- Bear Cub** - Third grade cub scouts
- Committee** - The group of adult volunteers who “run” the pack. Any interested adult is welcome to attend any committee meeting.
- Council** - The organization of professional scouter’s that oversees all cub scout packs, boy scout troops and other units in an area. Pack 2 is part of the Boston Minuteman Council.
- Court of Honor** - A special awards ceremony. Awards may be presented at any pack meeting, but there is a special ceremony for presentation of awards at a court of honor.
- Cub** - Any member of boy scouts in first through fifth grade (or age 7 — 11)
- Cubmaster** - The chief adult volunteer leader. The Cubmaster runs the pack meetings, and advises all other leaders.
- Den** - The smaller group, generally same-age, who meet weekly, bi-weekly, etc. Depends upon the needs of the Den leader and the scouts within the den. Composed of 4 to 20 boys, depending upon leadership. (usually there are 4 to 6 boys per adult leader)
- Den Leader** - The adult volunteer who is in charge of planning and running den meetings.
- District** - Each council is divided into a number of districts. Pack 2 is part of the Metro Harbor District.
- Handbook** - Each level of scouting has its own handbook. The handbook is essential for your scout, as it spells out the requirements for advancement, as well as providing a place to record completion of the same
- Pack** - What the whole group -- all of our dens and families together -- is called.
- Sponsor** - Each unit must have a sponsoring organization, such as a church, service club, etc. Pack 2 is sponsored by st. Mary of the hills church
- Tiger Cub** - First grade cub scouts
- Tiger Partner** - Adult partner of a tiger cub - usually a family member
- Uniform** - The proscribed clothing for any and all official cub scout events. In Pack 2, the minimum uniform consists of a shirt, neckerchief, slide and a handbook appropriate for rank.
- Webelos Scout** - Fourth and fifth grade cub scouts
- Wolf Cub** - Second grade cub scouts (or boys who start cubs in 3rd grade and choose to be wolf cubs)
- Unit** - Each individually chartered pack, troop, post or lodge is a unit

Parent Volunteer Positions in the Pack

Cubmaster:

Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Emcees monthly pack meetings, and attends pack leaders' meeting and monthly roundtable meeting.

Committee Chair:

Presides at all pack leader meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders. Also attends pack meeting and roundtable meetings.

Den Leader(s):

Plans and leads the den at monthly den meetings. Attends the monthly pack leaders' meeting and roundtable meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Keeps all records for the pack, including pack bank account, financial records, etc. Attends pack meetings and pack committee meetings.

Advancement Coordinator:

Maintains advancement records. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Attends pack meetings and pack committee meetings.

Den Leader Coach:

Meets with den leaders monthly to plan pack program with the help of the pack committee. Attends pack meeting, pack committee meetings, and roundtable meetings. The Cubmaster may perform this function in a small pack.

Tiger Cub Coach:

Helps the Tiger Cub Den(s) stay active and participate with the pack.

Parent Helpers:

Each year the pack will undertake several short term projects. Parents and other volunteers are needed for activities such as pack fund-raisers (*popcorn sale*), Scouting for Food, pack Good Turns, Pinewood Derby, blue and gold banquet, Friends of Scouting, pack graduation and day camp. These jobs are of short duration and still enable all families to assist with pack responsibilities.

Parent Volunteers. You are not alone!

- Cub Scout and Webelos Scout Program Helps contain meeting plans for dens and packs and show you how to do crafts and games. All leaders working with Cub Scouts or Webelos Scouts receive Program Helps in scouting magazine.
- Most packs have a pack library that contains the leader books you need and fast start training videotapes and view guides designed to help you do your job.
- Monthly roundtable meetings for all Cub Scout volunteers are held. Participants receive help with crafts, games, skits, and songs for use at den and pack meetings. It's a great place to ask questions and share ideas.
- Your district volunteer crew, called the District Committee, performs quality district-wide programs in which youth can participate.
- Your district has another volunteer crew, called the Commissioner Staff. Individuals on the staff serve as the sales and service crew. They check on the health of your pack and are a communications link between your pack and the scouting organization.
- Your district has basic leader training available. All leaders need training! The district will also help you with Fast Start training.
- A full-time District Executive serves each district.
- Staff members at the local council service center can help or put you in touch with someone who can help you succeed.
- For those connected to the internet, you may enjoy visiting the Boston Minuteman Council website at www.bsaboston.org, or,
- Visit the National BSA website for a wealth of BSA information: www.bsa.scouting.org.