



Cub Scout Pack 951

# PARENT HANDBOOK

CHATHAM COUNTY, NC

Ver 9-2019



# Welcome to Cub Scout Pack 951!

Welcome to Cub Scout Pack 951 and the new adventures that await you! As a Cub Scout, you join a long tradition of boys and young men that began in 1910 when Sir Baden Powell first founded the Boy Scouts. You are part of a brotherhood that includes **Neil Armstrong** (first human on the moon), **John Beck** (Miami Dolphins quarterback), **Michael Bloomberg** (former mayor of New York City), **William DeVries** (surgeon who performed first successful heart transplant), **Charles McGee** (Tuskegee Airman), **Frederick Reines** (Physics Nobel Laureate), **Mike Rowe** (host of *Dirty Jobs*), and **Steven Spielberg** (film director, producer and screenwriter).

On your Cub Scout journey, you will not only prepare to become a Boy Scout but have a lot of fun along the way! We travel, we hike, we camp, we explore, and we learn about ourselves and our community. We do this while following the principles and traditions of the Cub Scout oath and values.

Through self-respect and respect for others, you are on a life-long journey to becoming brave young men and proud, reverent citizens of your country and your world.

As Cubmaster and Pack Committee Chair, we are committed to a diverse, inclusive and safe Cub Scouting environment. We are dedicated to the principles of Scouting and to your growth and success as a Cub Scout. Please reach out to either of us at any time for anything that we can do for you or your family on this journey.

  
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<https://ncscoutpack951.org/>



Chatham Pack 951

# Our Pack

Cub Scout Pack 951 is chartered by Evergreen United Methodist Church in Chatham County, North Carolina. We are part of the Shakori District (<https://sites.google.com/site/blackriverdistrictbsa/>), in the Occoneechee Council. The Occoneechee Council is the largest BSA Council between Washington, DC and Atlanta, GA, and comprises 12 counties in North Carolina. We are chartered annually by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, which is chartered by the Congress of the United States of America. Visit (<http://www.ocscouts.org/>) for more information.

Boy Scouts of America  
3231 Atlantic Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27629-1229

## Our Charter Organization

All Cub Scout Packs are associated with a chartering organization that sponsors them, provides meeting facilities, and approves the selection of Leaders. Pack 951 is chartered by Evergreen United Methodist Church (EUMC), located at 11098 US 15-501N in Chapel Hill. EUMC holds services each Sunday at 10:30am. Check out EUMC's website for other activities: <http://evergreen-umc.org/>. Scouting is a nondenominational religious and educational institution and all faiths are welcome. You do not have to be a member of Evergreen United Methodist Church to join Pack 951.

## Pack Organization

We are fortunate to have lots of caring, experienced Leaders who are very dedicated to making Scouting a fun, educational, and rewarding experience for your Scout and your family. Our Pack stresses the values of Scouting - being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

A group of approximately 5 to 10 Scouts of the same age who are working on earning the same rank make up a Den. All of the Dens together make up the Pack. Individual Dens have a Den Leader and an Assistant Den Leader. These Leaders plan and execute the Den Meetings.

A Pack Committee consists of interested parents, leaders, and members of the Chartered Organization who are responsible to support the Pack in areas such as to plan and implement Pack activities, fundraising events, field trips, outings, camping trips, banquets, derbies, etc. The Pack Committee is headed by the Pack Committee Chair, and includes the members in the following areas:

- Treasurer
- Advancement
- Membership
- Outings
- Communications
- Activities
- Secretary

The Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmasters plan and execute monthly Pack Meetings.

## Meetings

Your Scout's Den Leader will discuss your Den's Meeting schedule and location and will inform you of any changes. Please try to arrive at meetings on time.

The Pack Calendar is on the Pack website, <https://ncscoutpack951.org/>. Any updates to the calendar will appear in the Pack Newsletter, as well as communicated via email.

Please pick your Scout up promptly at the end of the scheduled meeting time. Leaders are required to stay with your Scout until you pick him up. Your promptness will help keep these volunteers from being inconvenienced!

**If the Chatham County Public School System cancels scheduled classes due to inclement weather (or for any other reason), the Den or Pack will not meet that day/night.**

## Den Meetings

Dens usually meet twice per month based on the schedule established by the Den Leader.

Den Meetings provide your Scout with opportunities to enjoy various planned activities, learn new skills, and have great fun. While parental attendance is not required at Den Meetings (except for Tiger Cubs), it is certainly encouraged! Some Dens will require parent participation at specific meetings. Please keep in touch with your Scout's Den Leader so that you will know what activities are taking place and can track the progress your Scout is making.

## Pack Meetings

Once each month, all Dens meet together for a Pack Meeting which all Cub Scouts and their families are encouraged to attend. The Pack Meeting is a fun time for everyone. Dens show off the projects they have been working on, lead songs, perform skits, and awards are presented to the Scouts. It is a time for family to get information on upcoming activities and share in the Scouting spirit. Please attend and join in the excitement while your Scout advances! **Awards are an**

important part of the Scouting program. They are intended to help build self-esteem by providing recognition for a Scout's hard work. We encourage you to celebrate all of our Scouts as they receive their awards at Pack Meetings.

The Pack Meeting is usually the last Monday of each month but may change due to legal holidays or other events. See the Pack Calendar for exact dates and consult the website. Pack Meetings will take place from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM unless stated otherwise.

## Facility Guidelines

Please show respect for our Pack Meeting place, Evergreen United Methodist Church (EUMC). We are fortunate to have the support of the church leadership and we are proud to be associated with this church in our community. We have a long tradition of respecting property and do not wish to reflect negatively on Scouting or on EUMC.

We understand that "boys will be boys" and outbursts of enthusiasm will occur. However, there may be other groups meeting in the building at the same time we are meeting, so please be polite and reasonably quiet so as not to disturb what they are doing. We are guests in this building! Please avoid running and yelling and do your best to keep everything neat and clean. Please ask your Scout to stay away from any musical instruments or church equipment that may be present while we are meeting.

**It is the responsibility of everyone in the Pack to assist with cleanup following the Pack Meeting, especially when refreshments have been served.**

EUMC understands that on occasion accidents happen and that things get worn, dirty, or broken. Pack 951 is committed to act responsibly to prevent damage and to be good stewards of what we have graciously been given by the church. We will check all of the facilities before and after our meetings. **If you see any problems, please alert the Den Leaders or the Cubmaster right away!**

## Registration

Our Pack's charter runs from September to May each year, with a \$40 annual registration fee. We encourage all Scouts to renew for the next year no later than September 1.

A portion of this fee is paid to the BSA national organization and local Council to cover insurance, a national registration fee, and BSA operating expenses. The remainder of the registration fee (combined with proceeds of fundraising activities, dues, and nominal charges for some events) is used by the Pack to pay for Scout awards, Leader training, campsite rentals, Den

expenses, Pinewood Derby, craft supplies, facilities rental, Blue & Gold banquet, some field trip expenses, etc. You may optionally choose to subscribe to Boys Life magazine for an additional \$12. This magazine is geared towards boys, and ties in closely with our program activities.

The Pack provides through the registration fees the neckerchief, neckerchief slide, and all insignia for the uniform shirt. Families are responsible for purchasing the uniform and the Scout Handbook.

Because of insurance liability, Scouts who have not made at least a partial payment of the registration fee for the current year cannot participate in activities. Unregistered Scouts are not members of BSA and cannot earn badges or awards of any kind (the Council records system will not accept their entries!).

We'd like to see all boys able to participate in Scouting. **We do not want program costs to be an obstacle. If program costs place an excessive burden on your family's finances, please contact the Cubmaster, Pack Committee Chairman, or Pack Committee Treasurer to discuss alternate arrangements.**

## Cub Scout Values

Scouts are expected to follow Cub Scout Values, to their best and to help others. Scouts learn to do this through following the Scout Oath and the Scout Law.

### The 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.

### What the Scout Oath means

Before Cub Scouts agree to the Scout Oath or Promise, they need to know what it means. Saying "On my honor" is like saying "I promise." It means that you will do your best to do what the Scout Oath says. The Scout Oath has three promises. Let's look at what they mean:

1. **To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law ...** A duty is something you are expected to do. At home, you might be expected to make up your bed or take out the trash. You also have duties to God and to your country. You do your duty to God by following the teachings of your family and religious leaders. You do your duty to your country by being a good citizen and obeying the law. You also promise to live by the 12 points of the Scout Law.
2. **To help other people at all times ...** Many people need help. A friendly smile and a

helping hand make life easier for others. By helping other people, you are doing a Good Turn and making our world a better place.

3. **To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight ...** The last part of the Scout Oath is about taking care of yourself. You stay physically strong when you eat the right foods and get plenty of exercise. You stay mentally awake when you work hard in school, learn all you can, and ask questions. You stay morally straight when you do the right thing and live your life with honesty.

### The Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

### What the Scout Law Means

The Scout Law has 12 points. Each is a goal for every Scout. He does his best to live up to the Law every day. It is not always easy to do, but a Scout always tries.

More information about the Cub Scout Values can be found online at:

<http://www.scouting.org/Home/CubScouts/CubScouts/BeingACubScout/values.aspx>.



## Cub Scout Ranks

Cub Scout Packs are organized into four basic groups: Lion Cubs, Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts (Wolf and Bear ranks), and Webelos Scouts.

The Lion and Tiger Cub programs are significantly different from the rest of the Cub Scout program in terms of activities, recognition, and level of parent participation. It serves as a good introduction to Scouting for both the Scout and his parents.

The Cub Scout and Webelos Scout programs are similar in many respects. The Webelos program places more emphasis on outdoor activities. The focus of the Webelos program is to prepare the boys to enter a Boy Scout Troop.

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, and Bear are one-year programs. The Webelos program runs for up to 2 years.

All new Scouts (except Lions) must first earn the Bobcat badge. After earning the Bobcat badge, Scouts work towards the rank of Tiger, Wolf, Bear, or Webelos, depending upon their age. Each of these ranks has a unique handbook from which the boys work on their advancement. Lions will earn their Bobcat badge when they become Tigers.



### Lion (Kindergarten)

Kindergartners work toward the Lion rank. The Lion rank is earned by completing five adventures as described below. Although participation with an adult partner is required for all Lion awards, recognition items are for Scouts only.

Complete the five required adventures:

1. Lion's Honor
2. Animal Kingdom
3. Fun on the Run
4. King of the Jungle
5. Mountain Lion

Outside of these requirements, Lion scouts can complete any number of seven electives.



### Bobcat

The Bobcat badge is the first badge that is earned by all Tiger, Cub, and Webelos Scouts. This badge is required for all boys because it involves learning the Cub Scout Promise, the Law of the Pack and other fundamental aspects of Cub Scouting.

Completion of this badge gives the Scout the right to wear the Bobcat patch on his uniform (in the twelve o'clock position of the front left shirt pocket) and the right to proceed to his next rank (which will vary based upon age).



### Tigers (1st Grade)

In the Tiger Cub program, an Adult Partner (a parent, grandparent, or other guardian) always accompanies each boy. The Tiger Cub and Adult Partner form a team. The first few Tiger Cub Meetings are organized and run by the Tiger Cub Den Leader in order to introduce the Tigers and Adult Partners to Scouting. After that, each Tiger/Adult team selects a topic from the Tiger Cub book and presents the topic to the Tiger Group (one topic per meeting).

The Tiger Cub earns belt loops towards his Tiger Cub badge. Completion of this badge earns the right for the Scout to wear the Tiger patch on his uniform (in the six o'clock position of the front left shirt pocket, directly beneath the Bobcat patch). At the end of the Scout year (in May), Tigers graduate into a Wolf Den.

## Bridging to Boy Scouts

An important part of the Blue & Gold Banquet for Webelos II Scouts is the ceremonial 'bridging' from our Cub Scout Pack into a Boy Scout Troop. The goal of the Webelos program is to prepare boys to succeed as Boy Scouts. As such, and in line with the standard Boy Scout troop program, our Pack "bridges" the boys to their new troop as part of the annual Blue & Gold banquet in late February / early March, where they will also be awarded the Arrow of Light. This is the appropriate time to bring the new boys into the troop, as the troop program at that time expects incoming Scouts, and can integrate them into the troop with their peers in time to get them ready for summer camp. When your Scout completes the Cub Scout program, we hope he'll continue participating in Scouting and join a Boy Scout Troop. **The Webelos Den Leader and other Pack Leaders will be delighted to help your Scout connect with a Boy Scout troop.**

## About Advancement

All rank advancements must be turned in to the Den Leader at least one week before a Pack Meeting. The Leaders must turn in an advancement report to the Advancement Chairman on that date in order to get the awards in time for the Pack Meeting. If your Scout has worked on his advancement on his own, make sure he brings his book (signed by you where applicable) to the meetings. The Den Leader is required to do the final sign-off for all advancement.

If the advancement is not turned in at least a week before the Pack Meeting, the award cannot be presented to the Scout until the next Pack Meeting, which will certainly be a big disappointment to your Scout! Scouting is a family adventure and your assistance and cooperation is essential to your Scout's success in earning his rank.

The standard to apply when determining if your Scout has accomplished an achievement or elective is simply "did he do his best?" While that is somewhat subjective, and obviously not the same from Scout to Scout, it is the standard used in Cub Scouts. As such, that is why advancement is something to be done under the parent's guidance, where he/she signs off in the handbook as the "Akela."

Advancement is a good indicator of how much a Scout is participating in the program and how successful he has been in learning the new things that the program offers. As a parent, you will see ups and downs over your Scout's Scouting career with an occasional lack of interest. This is normal, especially with all of the activities kids are involved with these days, such as sports programs and other extracurricular activities. Please encourage your Scout and help motivate him to hang in there and earn his advancement. **Don't let a sports season end a Scouting career.** We realize how

### Wolves (2nd Grade)



In the Wolf program, completion of achievements in the Wolf handbook leads to earning belt loops towards the Wolf badge. The Wolf handbook includes many activities that are family oriented. Your Scout will need your assistance to earn this rank.

Completion of this badge earns the right for the Scout to wear the Wolf patch on his uniform (in the nine o'clock position of the front left shirt pocket). At the end of the Scout year (in May), Wolves graduate into a Bear Den.

### Bears (3rd Grade)



In the Bear program, completion of achievements in the Bear handbook leads to earning belt loops towards the Bear badge. The Bear handbook includes many activities that are family oriented.

Your Scout will need your assistance to earn this rank. Completion of this badge earns the right for the Scout to wear the Bear patch on his uniform (in the three o'clock position of the front left shirt pocket). At the end of the Scout year (in May), Bears graduate into a Webelos Den.

### Webelos (4th Grade)



The Webelos program (and there is always an S at the end of Webelos) is designed to transition the boys from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. In the Webelos program, boys earn activity pins in areas such as geology, scholarship, fitness, and outdoorsmanship that count towards the Webelos rank. The Webelos program is broken into two phases (I and II), based upon the rank badge being earned.

In the First-Year Webelos program (Webelos I), the boys work on their Webelos badge. Additional achievements beyond the Webelos badge earn the Compass Emblem and "Compass Points". The focus of the Webelos Den is to work together as a team, much like a Boy Scout Patrol. This includes Webelos Den camping. The Webelos program prepares the boys to enter the Boy Scout program. (Webelos is an acronym for "We'll Be Loyal Scouts").

### Arrow of Light (5th Grade)



The Second-Year Webelos (Webelos II) work on the Arrow of Light award. You may find some literature that refers to the Second-Year Webelos as an Arrow of Light Den. *The Arrow of Light is the highest award that a Cub Scout can earn and one of the few Cub Scout emblems that may be worn on the Boy Scout uniform.*

important sports and other seasonal or short-term activities are to the boys and their families. Please try to participate as often as you can, even if you have to show up late and in your soccer uniform! And plan to get back into the swing of things as soon as you can. Our Leaders will be happy to help your Scout get caught up with the rest of the Den.

If you are concerned about the quality of any aspect of the program or about your Scout's level of interest in the program, please talk with his Den Leader or the Cubmaster right away. Scouting is the best youth program anywhere, but like anything worthwhile, it takes commitment from everyone involved. You only get out of the program what you are willing to put in. Your Scout cannot benefit from Scouting if he drops out!

**Your Den Leader will try to let you know what the Den will be doing each week in advance. If you are unable to attend a Den Meeting, consider doing the same activity with your Scout at some other time so that he will not feel as though he is dropping behind the other Scouts in his Den.** Each Scout has until the last meeting in April to earn his current rank badge. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact the Cubmaster as soon as possible.

## Uniforms

The Boy Scouts of America is a uniformed organization. We encourage you to acquire a uniform for your Scout at least by the time of the October Pack Meeting so that he may proudly wear his Bobcat badge and other awards on it.



BSA has many reasons for requiring uniforms - among them are quick identification of the group, providing a place to display emblems representing hard work by the Scouts, and to foster a sense of brotherhood and pride.

We realize that uniforms can be expensive, so we suggest you start with the shirt and encourage grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. to purchase

Scouting uniform parts, equipment etc. as gifts throughout the year. *Occasionally, the District may sponsor a 'uniform exchange' at local malls, where used uniforms, which a Scout has outgrown, can be traded, sold, or purchased at a discount.*

Pack 951's uniform is the official uniform designated by the Boy Scouts of America. An official uniform (including the BSA shirt, hat (optional), neckerchief, emblems, and so on) is known as a "Class A" uniform (i.e., a dress uniform). Occasionally, it is appropriate for Scouts not to wear their "Class A" uniform), but still be quickly recognizable as Scouts. (For example,

while playing outdoor games or while on a hike). In these cases, Scouts may wear an optional "Class B" uniform consisting of blue jeans or shorts, a printed T-shirt (often with a Scout theme), and their Cub Scout hat. **If not otherwise indicated, Scouts should wear their Class A uniform.**

**Lion Cub Scout uniforms** consist of the following:

- Lion t-shirt
- Belt with metal Cub Scout buckle

Lion cap and neckerchief with slide are optional.

**Tiger, Wolf, and Bear Cub Scout uniforms** consist of the following:

- Cub Scout Shirt (blue)
- Cub Scout Pants or Shorts (blue)
- Hat (optional)
  - Tiger Cubs - Orange front
  - Wolf - Yellow front
  - Bear - Light Blue front
- Neckerchief
  - Tiger - Orange
  - Wolf - Yellow
  - Bear - Blue
- Neckerchief Slide

**Webelos Scout uniforms** consist of:

- Webelos Shirt (tan)
- Webelos Hat (Plaid front - optional)
- Webelos Pants or Shorts (green)
- Webelos Neckerchief and slide

The uniforms also sport an assortment of emblems that identify the Scout's council, pack, rank, and certain accomplishments. Many of these emblems are described on the inside covers of the book for each rank.

BSA requests that Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos Scouts wear a complete uniform including the official pants (or shorts) and socks. We encourage each boy to wear the complete, official "Class A" uniform, but at least have the shirt, hat, and neckerchief for each meeting.

Webelos Scouts are in transition from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. They may also be at an age where they are outgrowing their Cub Scout uniform and need a new one, even though they'll bridge to Boy Scouts soon. *For this reason, BSA provides the option that Webelos Scouts may wear the blue Cub Scout uniform until they outgrow it.* Webelos Scouts purchasing a new uniform should buy the tan and green Boy Scout uniform. All Webelos Scouts should be wearing the tan and green uniform by the time that they earn the Arrow of Light and bridge into a Boy Scout Troop.

Webelos Scouts also wear a set of colorful, braided ribbons called the "Webelos Colors" on their uniform. The activity pins that they earn should be displayed on the Webelos Colors.

Cub Scouts will find that some belt loops fit on the blue Scout belt easier than on other belts and may wish to include this belt as part of their uniform.

Uniform items that are easily removable (such as hats, neckerchiefs, and neckerchief slides) should be marked permanently with the Scout's initials so that lost items can be returned to their owner. *Pack 951 will provide a neckerchief and slide of the appropriate rank when Scouts join and also when they advance to their new Den. If a Scout loses these items, it is the Scout's responsibility to replace them.*

Uniforms can be purchased at the Scout Shop (<http://scoutstuff.org>) at 3231 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh. You can contact the Scout Shop directly at 919-850-0301.

**Directions to the Scout Shop:** From the beltline take the Capital Blvd exit and head north (away from downtown Raleigh). Make a left at the first light (Highwoods Blvd) and a right onto Atlantic Ave at another light. The Scout Shop is approx 500 ft down on the left).

## Handbooks

Owning a copy of the handbook for their rank is important. The book provides the requirements for each activity and a place to record progress. Each Scout is expected to own a copy of the handbook appropriate for their rank and to bring the handbook to each Den Meeting.

Scouts should write their name in permanent ink on the title page (inside the book) in the space provided for this purpose. If you lose your handbook, replacements can be purchased at the Scout Shop.

## Awards

The Pack pays for all awards and presents them to the uniformed Scout at Pack and Den Meetings. **The Pack does not cover the cost of replacement awards.** Additionally, in some cases a Scout may repeatedly earn an award (for example, belt loops); however only a single award is presented by the Pack.

Check your handbook and the Pack website for information on various awards your Scout can earn. Not all awards can be worn on the uniform shirt. For information on where these items belong on the shirt, see the Cub Scout and Webelos Scout Inspection sheet at <http://www.scouting.org/forms/34282.pdf>. Rank patches, unit insignia, and other badges are to be worn on the uniform shirt. If a badge is not shown on the uniform, then it is not appropriate to wear on the shirt. Examples of these patches would include patches from hiking, fundraising, camping, and other outings.

These patches can be worn on a red Scout vest that can be purchased at the Scout Shop.

## Activities

Aside from normal Den activities and occasional field trips, there are a number of activities that are worth mentioning. **To receive proper credit for all of the activities which your Scout participates in, please make sure that he signs up in advance, checks in with his Den Leader, and signs in as appropriate.**

### Camping

Scouting is an outdoor-based program. Camping is permitted by Cub Scouts only in an age-appropriate context.



Scouts must have an adult family member with them at all times when camping. **Please do not ask the Den Leader or Cubmaster to take responsibility for your Scout. It is not possible for the Leaders to conduct the program, watch their own children, and be responsible for your child.**

All camping is in accordance with BSA policy, as spelled out in the Guide to Safe Scouting, which can be viewed at <http://www.scouting.org/pubs/gss/>. Part of this policy includes two-deep leadership. In addition, for Pack camping (which is open to all family members) at least one Leader must have completed Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO). For Webelos Den camping (which is open to just Webelos Scouts and parents) at least one Leader must have completed Introduction to Outdoor Webelos Leader Skills (IOWLS). BSA has specific rules and prohibitions with respect to camping, which must be adhered to at all times.

### Annual Big Trip

Our Pack has set a goal of having one Big Trip each Scout year. It is usually planned for the April or May timeframe. Past 'big trips' have included the USS Yorktown at Patriot's Point (Charlestown, SC) and the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher (Kure Beach, NC)!

### Popcorn Show & Sell

Every year, the Pack participates in the Boy Scout Popcorn Sale, which usually occurs in October. Scouts who participate receive a



'fundraiser' patch and other recognition. **This is the major fundraiser of the year for our Pack, and our program relies heavily on funds generated. Full participation is expected and appreciated. The Pack retains 30% of the proceeds of the popcorn sold.**

## Pinewood Derby

Once a year, around the end of January, the Pack has a Pinewood Derby race. The Pack provides each Scout with Derby Kit at least one month before the event. Each Scout (with the help of their parents) designs and builds their car from a block of pine and wheels included in the kit. Each car must meet very specific rules (including weight and size requirements) and must be built from the official BSA Pinewood Derby kit. The cars are judged for speed in different age groups and for appearance. Pack champions go on to compete with other Packs in our District Pinewood Derby. The official rules for the Pack 951 Derby are distributed to each boy with the kit. *If you are interested in assisting with the Pinewood Derby, please contact the Pack Committee Chair.*



## Blue & Gold Banquet

Each year the Cub Scouts celebrate the anniversary of the founding of Scouting in the U.S. with a Blue & Gold Banquet. This is traditionally a dinner (either catered or potluck) where the entire family is encouraged to attend. It is usually held in February, and it takes the place of the Pack Meeting for that month.



## Graduation Ceremony

For Webelos II, the final night of being a Cub Scout is at our Blue & Gold Banquet. In addition to a "bridging" ceremony to Boy Scouts for those boys who are continuing the Scouting adventure, we also present graduation "arrows of light" to the boys for them to remember their time in Pack 951.

## Pack Family Campout

Pack 951 traditionally ends the regular Scout year in May with a Den promotion ceremony. As scheduling and weather permits, this may be combined with an opportunity to go camping.

## Council / District Activities

Throughout the year, the council coordinates events for Scouts from all packs to participate in. This includes events such as BugFest at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Science, as well as Day Camp. We encourage everyone to take advantage of these opportunities. These events will be publicized via the Pack website, Pack newsletter, and emails.

## Summer Activities

The Pack will not schedule activities during the summer months.

## Safe Scouting

The Guide to Safe Scouting can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/pubs/gss/>. Den Leaders are expected to become familiar with the contents of the Guide and to follow it strictly. Den Leaders having questions related to the interpretation of any safety guidelines or questions related to a planned activity which they believe could pose an increased risk of harm to Scouts must discuss planned Den activities with the Cubmaster prior to the activity. **Non-adherence to the Guide to Safe Scouting puts Leaders at personal liability risk, and that's no small matter in this day and age!**

All Scouting activities are in accordance with national BSA health and safety standards, as dictated by the Guide to Safe Scouting. All participants (Scouts, siblings, parents) must complete a BSA medical form (parts A and B) each year. The form can be found at: [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001\\_AB.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf).

## Liability Insurance

Part of every Scout's fees in Occoneechee Council pays for accident insurance that supplements your family's accident insurance policy to help cover the medical expenses should your Scout become injured while participating in a Scouting activity. If you are transporting other Scouts to an activity, you must provide the Pack with information regarding your vehicle, your driver's license, and your insurance coverage. This is necessary in order for us to get a Local or National Tour Permit, without which our BSA accident and liability insurance will not cover us. Your liability coverage only covers the Scouts if they are injured while being transported by you to or from the activity, not for any injury occurring while at the event destination. All local and state traffic laws must be followed at all times, and all passengers in any vehicle must wear a properly fitted seatbelt while the vehicle is in motion. Riding in the back of pickup trucks, flatbed trucks, or trailers is not allowed.

## Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco Use

Illegal drugs and alcohol are not allowed at any Scouting activity and persons under the influence of drugs or alcohol are not allowed to participate or be present at any Scouting functions. Any violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from the event and possible intervention by law enforcement agents.

Scouting provides a tobacco-free environment for the boys and smoking is not allowed in the presence of the Scouts. If you must smoke or use tobacco products, please do so outside and out-of-site of the boys and always remember to keep the area free of cigarette butts and trash.

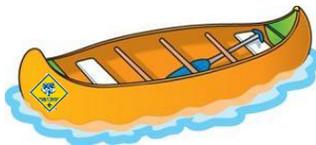
## Knives & Firearms

No fixed-blade sheath knives are allowed at any Scout activity. A Cub Scout can only carry a pocket knife once he has learned the safety rules for using a knife and earns his Whittlin' Chip card in the Bear Den or Webelos Den. Knives can then only be used under direct adult supervision. **If a Scout is found handling his knife improperly, it will be taken away from him and given to the parents.** Each time this happens a corner of the Whittlin' Chip card is to be snipped off. If all corners are removed the Scout no longer is allowed this privilege. In addition, any adult who sees a Scout with a knife can ask him to produce his Whittlin' Chip. If he cannot do so, the knife will be taken away from him and given to his parents.

Archery equipment, air rifles and B-B guns are not allowed in the Cub Scout program except under stringent supervision by a trained adult on a safe firing range **at a council or district-sponsored event.** Pistols are not allowed. Firearms are not allowed except under certain demonstration conditions and can only be handled by qualified adults. Use of firearms by Cubs is not allowed. See national BSA Health and Safety standards for details. Contact the Cubmaster before planning any Den Meetings that involve firearms. Except for police officers in their jurisdiction, there are to be no firearms at any of our activities.

## Aquatic Activities

All aquatic activities must be supervised by trained, qualified adults while strictly following the BSA's Safe Swim Defense Plan for swimming activities and Safety Afloat Plan for boating. There are no exceptions. See national BSA Health and Safety standards for details. Contact the Cubmaster before planning any Den Meetings that involve aquatic activities.



## Adult Leadership

All Dens must maintain two deep leadership at all times. If for some reason a Den is not be able to have two registered Leaders present, the Den Leader will have to cancel the meeting or activity. Please do your part to help us provide a quality program signing up to be an Assistant Den Leader. Our Pack is entirely dependent upon volunteers to operate. None of our Leaders are paid Scouters. Many other packs require a certain level of involvement by the parent(s) in order for the boy to participate. Pack 951 may have to adopt that policy in the future.

Many parents are reluctant to volunteer to be a Cub Scout Leader because they have never been in Scouting and are unfamiliar with the program. Many of our

current Leaders also lacked prior experience with the Scout program, but they volunteered anyway and now they're having as much fun as the Scouts! BSA provides a number of excellent tools to help you come up to speed as a new Leader. Remember that you have other experienced Den Leaders in our Scouting family to draw upon. In addition, there are many, many ways to volunteer with the Pack other than being a Leader. **If you have any time to give, please contact the Pack Leadership, and we will find a way to put your talent to good use!**

Scout Leaders receive no pay for their time but may be reimbursed for actual expenses that are approved in advance and documented by receipts. In addition, registered Leaders may be able to claim certain deductions on their taxes, such as mileage. Please consult your tax professional for details. The leadership of the Pack is as follows:

**Cubmaster(s)** - responsible for all the Leaders and keeps up-to-date on Den activities. He or she is responsible for the running of the Pack Meeting.

**Den Leaders** - work directly with the Scouts at the Den level. They have direct responsibility for the Scouts and their rank advancement.

**Pack Committee Chair** - Responsible for the overall planning of the Pack activities and maintaining an open communication between the District, Council and the Church.

**Chartered Organization Representative** - This person is the liaison between the church and the Cub Scout Pack. They are responsible for representing the Pack to the church and relaying information to the Pack Committee. In addition, the Pack Committee includes a number of parents who arrange outings, create newsletters, plan fundraising activities, handle public relations, plan the Blue & Gold Banquet, coordinate membership track advancement, plan the Pinewood Derby race, maintain the website, etc. **If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please contact the Pack Committee Chair.**

## Behavior and Discipline

It is important that proper behavior be demonstrated by Scouts at all Den and Pack Meetings and all Scouting events. Behavior is a synonym for a word that has fallen on hard times, and that word is discipline. Often times discipline is thought of in a negative form (namely punishment). But the word actually means "training" or "a system of rules governing conduct."



The first form of discipline, which is the most important, is *self-discipline*. Lacking that, the Den

Leaders have direct responsibility for maintaining the behavior of the boys in their Den.

Rather than attempt to enumerate a complete list of “do’s and don’ts”, the following principles apply with regards to expectations on behavior:

- Scouts are expected to act like Scouts. The rest of the world has a reasonably accurate concept of how a Scout should act, and your **Scout should have that concept as well.**
- A Scout’s conduct should never be something that would bring discredit to themselves, their den, pack, or the Boy Scouts of America.
- Fighting / bullying or any form of physical or non-physical harassment, including verbal harassment, will not be tolerated.

Please take the time to discuss with your Scout the importance of not disrupting Den and Pack Meetings. It’s not fair to the other boys and the Leaders for activities and meetings to be interrupted due to behavior issues.

If a boy becomes a behavior problem that the Den Leader cannot handle, the Cubmaster will be informed and a parent / Leader meeting will be held to discuss the problem and possible action. If the problem cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned, the Scout may be asked to leave the Pack. Please have your Scout “do his best!”

## Scout Sign

Cub Scouts learn the “Scout Sign” very early (with your right hand facing away from you, extend your index and middle fingers to form a ‘V’ and curl the remaining fingers into the palm of the hand.) The Scout Sign has a very important use during Den and Pack Meetings. Whenever a Leader puts the Scout Sign up, the Scouts, parents, and other Leaders are expected to become quiet and also put the sign up. This allows the Leaders to bring a room to order very quickly, without having to say a word. Please make sure that your Scout understands how to behave when the sign’s up.



## Financial Records

The cost of running a Cub Scout Pack such as ours exceeds \$8,000 per year. This includes payments that the Pack must make to the BSA national office and local Council, den and pack supplies, awards, Pinewood derby expenses, Blue & Gold expenses, and much more. A portion of these funds come from the registration fee that each Scout pays. A significant

portion comes from fundraising activities, namely the annual Popcorn sale.

Pack 951 will provide access to detailed financial records at any time and hopes that each parent will have at least a high-level awareness of our Pack’s finances. The Treasurer reports all income and expenses at Pack Committee Meetings, and summaries of the Pack’s finances will be reported regularly. A Pack budget is updated at least once per year. Parents are encouraged to participate in planning sessions related to our Pack’s finances. Any questions regarding our Pack’s finances may be directed to the Treasurer or Pack Committee Chair.

## Communications

In this busy society we live in, communication is at the heart of every successful organization. The same is true for Cub Scouts. We want to avoid using meetings for the purpose of communicating information.

We use 2 primary forms of communication - 1) Email and 2) Pack Website.

### Email

The primary communication method of the Pack is email. If you are unsure if you are on the email list, please contact the Cubmaster immediately. **It is essential that you check your email - and if requested, respond timely.** If email does not work for you, contact the Cubmaster so that an alternate arrangement can be made.

### Pack Website - [www.ncscoutpack951.org](http://www.ncscoutpack951.org)

Pack 951 maintains a website to keep parents, Scouts, Leaders, and members of our chartered organization informed of our activities, progress, and changes of plan. We encourage parents to bookmark the site and check it often - it’s an excellent tool for us to keep you up to date. The Activity Calendar is also available on our website.

## Media Coverage & Privacy

We will occasionally post photographs of Den and Pack activities on this website. It is also possible that local newspapers and television stations may provide coverage of some of our activities and your Scout’s name and photograph may appear in a publication or on TV. If you object to having your Scout appear on the website or in the media, please let our Pack Leaders know (in writing) as soon as possible. For maximum protection of your Scout, it is our policy that:

- No Cub Scout will ever be identified on the website by his full name. Scouts will be referred to by initials, such as “B.M.” and “T.K.”

- No addresses or phone numbers will be posted on the website, except for Adult Leaders who consent to making this information available.

If you believe that any of these policies have been violated or if you have any other concerns about the website or privacy issues, please contact a Scout Leader in our Pack immediately.

## Parent Responsibilities

Pack 951 simply cannot be successful without your involvement. As a Cub Scout parent, we hope you'll recognize and take seriously the following:

- Understand the requirements for your Scout's rank advancement; assist him in fulfilling these requirements; help keep the record of his achievements accurate and up to date and make sure that he brings his book to each Den Meeting.
- Assure that your Scout has a Class A uniform (as described elsewhere in this handbook) and that he dresses appropriately for all Scout functions.
- Notify your Scout's Den Leader whenever your Scout participates in a Scout activity that is not sponsored by the Pack (for example, Cub Scout Day Camp), so that he'll receive proper credit.

- Notify your Scout's Den Leader whenever your Scout will be absent or late for a meeting.
- Volunteer to be a Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, Den Parent, Assistant Cubmaster, Cubmaster, or member of the Pack Committee. Or volunteer time to help organize and execute one or more specific Scout activities throughout the year (such as banquets, fundraisers, derby races, field trips, etc.).
- Support the Pack's financial goals by understanding the Pack's budget and participating in fund raising activities. If personal commitments prevent you from sharing your time with the Pack, consider making a monetary donation.
- Complete the BSA Youth Protection Training, available online at <http://www.myscouting.org> within 30 days of your Scout joining the Pack. Once you have completed this training, be sure to notify the Pack membership chair.
- Complete parts A and B of the BSA medical form for EVERY family member who will be participating in any of our outings. Turn this and a copy of your insurance card into the membership chair. This form can be found at [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/parts\\_ab.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/parts_ab.pdf).



# 10 Commandments for Cub Scout Parents

## 1. Thou shall be prompt in arrivals, departures, turning in monies or forms due, and responding to email from Leaders.

Prompt arrival ensures activities get started on time and your Scout doesn't miss anything. Picking up your Scout on time allows the Leaders to pick up their Scout and get on with their life. Getting monies and forms on time enables the Leaders to make effective use of their time and energy in planning and delivering a quality program that benefits the entire group.

## 2. Thou shall see that thy Scout arrives in uniform with appropriate supplies.

Uniforms are easy enough to remember when you're playing sports, but may get forgotten for those weekly meeting. Uniforms create a sense of belonging to the group and build a sense of pride as your Scout shows off her awards and accomplishments. You wouldn't show up to sports without the right clothing and supporting equipment. Scouts is no different. Be sure they have their handbook every week.

## 3. Thou shall not wait to be called upon to help.

Plan on staying at meetings to help once in a while. Often times with a Pack this size, on any given evening there is a need for additional adult help. I know we're all busy, but a little help goes a long way. If every parent who's involved puts in a little effort it would go a long way with the volunteers who make your Scout's Den and Pack possible.

## 4. Thou shall take time at home to help thy Scout with his achievements.

Leaders cannot possibly do all achievements at their meetings without boredom soon setting in and lack of time to complete them all. Some achievements must be done at home. The same goes with practice for any sport or requirements for any club. Your child spends a limited time at Scouts. To get the most from his experience, he will need to put in some time at home.

## 5. Thou shall accompany thy Scout to events.

If thou cannot, thou shall make arrangements with another parent to take responsibility for your Scout's transportation and behavior. This other parent is NOT to be the Leader. Cub Scout Leaders already put in a lot of time to assure your Scout has a quality program. They have a lot to organize for any event they attend. Don't add to that. Finding another parent

to help you out allows the Leader to concentrate on his own duties. An important note: be sure the Leader knows if your Scout will be going home with another parent.

## **6. Thou shall keep thy own Scout under control when you are present at functions.**

It is awkward for a Leader to reprimand a child when her parent is sitting right there! Thou shall reinforce with thy child that the rules of the meeting place are to be obeyed. If you have other children with you, they need to behave also. Nothing is more disruptive than children running through a meeting and can be dangerous if a little one wanders onto a ball field.

## **7. Thou shall set a good example for all Scouts during functions and activities.**

Thou shall be a good sport about participating in the fun and games and keeping annoying chit-chat to a minimum during ceremonies and awards. OK, perhaps grown-up chit-chat during quiet events is even more disruptive than unruly children. It certainly sets a bad example and tells the children that their event isn't important to you.

## **8. Thou shall honor thy Scout Leaders with TLC.**

A smile and a kind word of gratitude will make up for a lot of noise and rowdiness. From experience, I can tell you this is so true! Leader, coaches and any volunteer who works with children expects a certain amount of craziness, and that's OK, but it can be tiring. Sometimes simply knowing they're appreciated makes all the difference.

## **9. Thou shall notify thy Leaders in advance when thy Scout has to miss a meeting.**

Sickness, vacation, and many other things come up. Please be courteous to your Scout's Leaders and let them know in advance of any absence.

## **10. Above all, thou shall remember that the Leader's job is one you didn't want.**

Please do whatever you can to make that job easier. Many hands make light work!