

Cub Scout Pack 305

Parent Handbook

What is Scouting?

*Scouting is the opportunity for boys and girls
to learn values while having fun and
picking up practical skills along the way.*

*Kids who succeed in scouting generally have parents
who are engaged in scouting*

Attendance

Each registered Cub Scout is encouraged to attend all scheduled den and pack meetings.

Parent/Guardian Participation

All scouts in the Lion and Tiger Dens should have a parent/guardian attend and participate in each meeting. This is a BSA council rule. Cub Scouting encourages closeness to family. There is opportunity for families to earn a scouting award together (the BSA family award). Some specific things you can do to help your son/daughter in Cub Scouting are:

- Work with your son/daughter on projects. It is very important that parents do not “do” the project for their child. We don’t want perfection. We want their best effort.
- Help your Cub Scout along the advancement trail.
- Participate in monthly pack meetings.
- Be an active participant in the pack committee.
- Go on family campouts with your cub scout.
- Provide support for your daughter’s/son’s den and pack.

Boys and girls often begin projects at den meetings and finish them at home with the help of a parent. If a scout needs to finish a project at home, the scout will then be required to show the finished project to his/her den at the next meeting. Because the purpose of a project is to teach a scout new skills, a project will challenge a boy or girl to do tasks that he/she hasn’t already mastered. It’s not uncommon, therefore, for a child to need help from his/her family to complete some of the projects. In Cub Scouting, boys and girls are not expected to do things entirely on their own. As long as a child does their best to do as much as they’re capable of doing, it’s perfectly acceptable for a parent or sibling to help.

Den meetings are between cub scouts and their adult leader. Pack meetings are for the entire family of each cub scout. At pack meetings, parents see their sons and daughters in action with their friends. Pack meetings highlight how Cub Scouting teaches boys and girls cooperation and collaboration. The pack meeting is also a monthly showcase for all that the boys and girls have worked on at their den meetings. Craft projects are on display, skills are demonstrated, and skits are performed to show the boys’ and girls’ command of the monthly theme. Your presence at these meetings is critical to underscore the importance of the lessons your child has learned.

It is strongly recommended that parents/guardians attend the pack meeting to get important information and dates.

Be an active participant in the pack committee. You have a responsibility to be an active member of Cub Scout Pack 305. Attending any pack meeting is an excellent way to help guide the entire pack and impact your child’s scouting experience.

The Advancement Trail

The advancement plan is designed for parents to use to create a learning environment in their home. With the Cub Scout Handbook as a resource, parents, boys and girls work together to complete the achievements required for each badge. The advancement plan provides fun for the boys and girls, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges and strengthens the family understanding as adult family members work with boys and girls on

advancement projects. As each task is done or each skill is demonstrated, the parent signs the Cub Scout Handbook to records its completion. It is also important for the scout to take his/her handbook to den meetings to allow the den leader to see the parent's sign-off on the achievements. When a scout has completed the requirements for a pin and/or adventure loop, the scout will need to ask for a Board of Review.

Adventure Loops and Pins

Adventure loops (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear) and pins (Webelos, Arrow of Light) are broken into two categories: Core (required) and Elective.

If your Cub Scout is in a community recreation or school program and fulfills the requirements for earning an adventure loop or pin, the scout is eligible to receive it. A parent should notify the leader that his/her son has completed the requirement for the adventure loop and/or pin. If a scout completes the requirements for an adventure loop or pin at the pack or council level, notify the leader.

Costs (Payable to "Cub Scout Pack 305")

- Scout Registration (National) - \$24 each year
- Boy's Life Magazine (optional, but recommended)

Dues

\$10/month for 10 months. Dues cover cost of scout books, neckerchiefs, slides, meeting supplies and awards presented at the pack meeting. Dues also cover the cost of leadership dues for National and an insurance fee per scout charged by the Council.

In order for pack to remain solvent, if a Cub Scout's dues are 3 months past due, he/she may be placed in an "inactive" status and suspended from all den and pack activities. When his/her dues are paid in full or a financial assistance form is completed and approved, he/she may resume participation. The reason for this is that the pack can't perform its activities without funding.

Pack expenses include pinewood derby car kit, awards, Blue and Gold banquet, neckerchiefs & slides, general program expenses and extra pack activities. There are occasionally times when parents will have to pay for scouts to attend pack trips. Costs for these will vary depending on the event. The pack tries to absorb as much of the cost as possible. Camps are paid by scouts individually with our annual popcorn fundraiser as a major opportunity to earn camp funds.

Uniforms

Class A uniform is required at all den and pack meetings, campouts, field trips and parades unless otherwise indicated by your den leaders. Boys and girls are encouraged to wear their scout uniform to school on meeting days.

Class A uniform. Blue slacks or jeans and blue button down shirt. Khaki shirt and olive green pants for Webelos. Patches, hat, belt, neckerchief and neckerchief slide. The Pack usually provides the neckerchief and slide. The approximate cost of above items is \$60 and can be purchased at Gottschalk Scout Shop at 12401 West Maple Road.

Class B uniform. Class B uniform is a tee shirt that the pack typically designs. It can be worn at summer activities and other casual events.

Uniform Exchange Program. New in 2016, the pack started a uniform exchange program. All scouts are invited to hand in their clean neckerchiefs and slides at the end of the scouting year (a few weeks before advancement ceremony) for a \$5 credit on May dues. If there is any delinquency in family scout account, the credit would be applied to delinquency first.

As available, all scouts are invited to accept a used slide/neckerchief at our Spring Advancement for their next rank. By doing so, you will receive \$5 credit on May dues (credit will first be applied to any delinquencies in family scout accounts). If there is greater interest in the uniform exchange than there are items available, a simple lottery will be managed by the Pack Leader.

The amount of credit will be evaluated annually by leadership to ensure we are offering the maximum credit without negatively affecting the pack finances. Our goal is to keep costs for families to a minimum.

Conduct

Please refer to the BSA training.

Additional conduct reminders for meetings:

No running.

No child is allowed outside without adult supervision.

Bathroom trips should have an adult or fellow Cub Scout buddy (except den/pack meetings).

Leave no trace (clean up after yourself).

All scouts in the pack are expected adhere to the guiding principles of conducting themselves in such a manner as to bring good credit upon themselves, their parents, the pack and the BSA.

Any misconduct on the part of a scout will be handled by his/her den leader. If the leader feels the situation warrants the attention of the Cubmaster, he or she may bring this to the Cubmaster's attention for review and recommendation. The Cubmaster and den leaders are authorized to take such action as necessary to correct the situation within the limits as specified in the following paragraphs. As scouts, the boys and girls will do great and this is unlikely to occur.

Gross disobedience or misbehavior at a den or pack meeting are a serious breach of discipline and will be dealt with at the discretion of the den leader or Cubmaster in accordance with the guidelines. Very unlikely in Pack 305.

Authority

Den and assistant den leaders may call the parent/guardian and have the scout leave the meeting if misbehavior occurs. If there is a repeat or extremely serious issue they may suspend the scout for one den meeting. If the scout is suspended, the Cubmaster will be notified within 24 hours.

Cubmaster – upon reviewing the case may suspend the scout from all den and pack activities until the next committee meeting.

Pack Committee - the committee will decide if a suspended scout will be returned to his den or dropped from Pack 305. If the scout is retained, a letter will be sent to the parent/guardian explaining exactly what is expected for future behavior. Any scout who is suspended from school is not to participate in any scout activities for the time they are not in school.

Role of Siblings

Siblings may accompany parents at den events with the den leader's approval. Please do not expect leaders to oversee siblings. While the den leaders will do their best to include siblings in appropriate den activities, please plan or bring activities for siblings to enjoy. Additionally, please be aware that children may not play outside without supervision.

Spectator Conduct

Appropriate conduct and decorum is essential at all scouting events. Verbal abuse or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated and will result in removal from the event. An unlikely occurrence at Pack 305.

Cub Scouting is about fun and “doing your best”-- not winning or losing. The decisions of judges and leaders are final.

Parent Volunteers

Adult volunteers are the essential ingredients in running a quality Cub Scout pack program. Each parent is encouraged to volunteer in some capacity. There are many, many needs – parents are asked to sign up as their schedule permits:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Duties</u>
• Committee Chairperson	Organize leadership advisory committee of parents
• Cubmaster	Plan and run pack meetings and activities
• Assistance Cubmaster	Assists the Cubmaster
• Treasurer	Manage pack funds
• Secretary	Maintain Troop Tracker and keep committee meeting minutes
• Advancement Chairperson	Monitor advancement, procure and provide awards
• Pack Trainer	Monitor and facilitate training of adult leaders
• Lion Den Leader	Plan and run Lion Den meetings and activities
• Lion Assistant Den Leader	Assist Lion Den Leader
• Tiger Den Leader	Plan and run Tiger Den meetings and activities
• Tiger Den Assistant Leader	Assist Tiger Den Leader
• Wolf Den Leader	Plan and run Wolf Den meetings and activities
• Wolf Den Assistant Leader	Assist Wolf Den Leader
• Bear Den Leader	Plan and run Bear Den meetings and activities
• Bear Assistant Den Leader	Assist Bear Den Leader
• Webelos Den Leader	Plan and run Webelos Den meetings and activities
• Webelos Den Assistant Leader	Assist Webelos Den Leader
• Fundraising Committee Chair	Coordinate fundraising opportunities
• Outdoor activities Chairperson	Coordinate opportunities for camping and outdoor recreation
• Pinewood Derby Chairperson	Coordinate Pinewood Derby race
• Blue and Gold Chairperson	Coordinate Blue and Gold Banquet celebration

Fundraising

Fundraising plays an important role in scouting to keep our program costs low. All pack members are asked to participate in this critical part of Scouting to the best of their ability. The annual Popcorn fall fundraiser supports the Mid-America Council as well as Pack 305.

We strongly encourage you and your scout to participate in a minimum of two fundraisers per scout year for several reasons:

- Knowing he/she is paying his/her own way increase a scout’s self esteem;
- It relieves parents from a substantial financial commitment;
- Your Scout is eligible to receive recognition and prizes for success in fundraising; and
- The Law of the Pack states: *“a Cub Scout helps the Pack go.”*

Our primary source of fundraising is popcorn sales, but others may be necessary if enough funds are not raised to cover pack expenses. The revenue raised from the popcorn sales covers the cost of maintaining the pack and providing the boys and girls with a variety of activities and awards. The earnest effort of all scouts is needed for participation in this activity.

Family Scout Accounts

Family scout accounts serve as a motivator for scouts to reach their full potential and “earn their way” in scouting by selling to fund the program extras. For example, a portion of the popcorn fundraiser sales goes to the family to be applied towards camps, etc.

Through these family scout accounts, boys and girls can pay for scouting costs & fees including summer camp, trips, uniform costs, registration, Boy’s Life magazine, and dues.

If a family registers for a scout activity themselves, they can request reimbursement from their family account by submitting a receipt to the pack treasurer.

Any positive balance in the family scout account when a cub scout discontinues scouting will be transferred to the general Cub Scout Pack 305 bank account after 30 days of scout’s departure unless the below criteria are met:

If the cub scout joins another pack or becomes a boy scout and has no younger siblings that are in the pack, the family scout account balance will be transferred to the new scouting organization for deposit into the respective individual scout account.

Donations

Donations are always welcome to benefit the pack. Certain donations are tax deductible. See the pack treasurer for more details.

Financial Aid

No boy or girl should be denied the scouting experience for financial reasons. If your family’s situation is such that you require assistance with any financial aspect of scouting, please see your den leader, the committee chairperson or Cubmaster. Your request will be handled in confidence.

If a scout receives financial aid, he/she is strongly encouraged to volunteer additional hours for the pack as a way of contributing to the best he/she can. If a scout receives financial aid for a specified event, but then does not attend that event, parents are responsible for refunding the financial aid.

Health Forms and Medical Information

Must be provided and updated every year.

Photographs and Video

Any picture or video taken may be used by Pack 305 without compensation at this time or any other time. Notify Cubmaster or pack committee, in writing, if you would rather photographs and video not be used. Your signature in this handbook indicates your permission unless there’s a written note stating “no” to photographs.

Adult Leaders

Adult leaders, who in the opinion of the committee are not fulfilling their duties, will be contacted by the committee chairperson to discuss the situation. If the circumstances warrant, the committee may vote to remove the person from

