

WELCOME TO PACK 401

This year Cub Scouting will hold many surprises for our new Cub Scouts and their families. The Pack and dens will be holding many exciting events throughout the year, including: the Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Banquet, and marching in the Holiday and July 4 parades.

The Cub Scout program is designed for boys grades one to five. Each grade level represents a different rank in scouting. Each rank has its own handbook and variations to the basic Cub Scout Uniform. As the boys join Cub Scouts, we organize them into dens based on their current grade level. Each den will have a minimum of three den meetings per month and will usually meet at St. James United Methodist Church, or the Den Leader's home. Meetings usually last from 1 to 1 1/2 hours and include activities such as crafts, working on achievements, skits, songs, and FUN!!!

Pack 401 gathers monthly for the Pack meeting on the second Sunday of the month at St. James United Methodist Church. Pack meetings begin at 6 PM and are for the entire family. At these meetings, the boys may display their crafts, give demonstrations, entertain everyone with skits and songs they have learned in their den meetings. Most importantly, Pack meetings are when the Scouts are recognized for their advancement through the Cub Scout ranks and other achievements.

We want parents to be active as well! We have numerous positions available, ranging from a once-a-year commitment, to Den Leader to Pack administration. We have a Pack Committee made up of leaders and other adults, and that is always open to parents that usually meets once a month to discuss and plan events and the fund raising necessary to help the pack go and to support the plans made by Den leaders.

We encourage parents to consider a role in which they can best use their talents and skills (i.e., Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Committee Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Fund raising, Advancement, Activities Chairs or as an assistant to a position). And not to worry, there are plenty of training classes to help you along if you feel don't know what to do. Remember, all of the current adult leaders started out where you are - so just jump right up and ask the Cubmaster or another leader how you can help. And parents - don't tell the scouts - but sometimes we have as much or more fun than the boys do.

Unless you have prior experience in Cub Scouting, you probably have several questions on how to get started, what do you need, who do you talk to and so forth. This packet was designed to try to answer as many of those questions as possible. If you still have questions after reading through the entire packet, please don't hesitate to ask any of the Pack or Den Leaders for assistance.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The following listing indicates uniform requirements by rank for CLASS A Uniforms. Class A uniforms are the official uniform as defined by the Boy Scouts of America. Some modifications have been adopted by the Pack Committee and are also listed as alternatives. The Cub Scout's family is responsible for obtaining the Class A uniform, the handbook and any optional accessories. If financially this is a problem, please contact your Den Leader, Cub master or Committee Chairperson. Occasionally, slightly used uniforms are donated to the District and may be available for those who need help in obtaining uniforms.

First Grade - Tiger Cubs and Tiger Adult Partners:

NOTE: Tigers must have a registered adult partner over the age of 21 in order to participate in any meeting or activity.

- o Tiger Cubs wear the official BSA blue shirt, long or short sleeved. This shirt will be worn three school years.
- o Tiger Cubs wear the official BSA blue slacks or **navy** blue jeans or slacks. Sweatpants and other colored jeans are not allowed.
- o Tiger Cubs wear the official BSA orange neckerchief and Tiger Cub slide.
- o Hats are optional, but if desired Tiger Cubs should wear the blue hat with orange front panel.
- o Tiger Cubs should wear the official BSA blue belt with Cub Scout or Tiger Cub belt buckle. Although belts are listed as optional, Tiger Cubs will be given a Tiger Cub Recognition Belt totem and should wear them as part of their uniform.
- o Tiger Cubs need a Tiger Cub Handbook.
- o Patches that are required on all Tiger Cub uniforms include, Council Strip, Den Numeral, Brotherhood of Scouting Patch, Veterans Strip and Pack Numeral. These five patches may be purchased through the BSA store or directly from Pack 401..
- o Socks are optional, but if desired, Tiger Cubs should wear the official BSA blue Cub Scout socks.

Second Grade - Wolf Cubs

- o Wolf Cubs wear the official BSA blue shirt, long or short sleeved. This shirt may be worn for two school years.
- o Wolf Cubs wear the official BSA blue slacks or **navy** blue jeans or slacks. Sweatpants and other colored jeans are not allowed.
- o Wolf Cubs wear the official BSA gold neckerchief and Cub Scout slide. Wolf Cubs may wear neckerchief slides they make during scouting activities.
- o Hats are optional, but if desired Wolf Cubs should wear the official BSA blue hat with gold front panel.

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- o Belts are optional, but recommended. If desired, Wolf Cubs should wear the official BSA blue belt with Cub Scout belt buckle.
- o Wolf Cubs will need a Wolf Handbook.
- o Patches that are required on all Cub Scout uniforms include, Council Strip, Den Numeral, Brotherhood of Scouting Patch, Veterans Strip and Pack Numeral. These five patches may be purchased through the BSA store or directly from Pack 401.
- o Socks are optional, but if desired, Wolf Cubs should wear the official BSA blue Cub Scout socks.

Third Grade - Bear Cubs

- o Bear Cubs wear the official BSA blue shirt, long or short sleeved. This shirt may be worn one school year.
- o Bear Cubs wear the official BSA blue slacks or navy blue jeans or slacks. Sweatpants and other colored jeans are not allowed.
- o Bear Cubs wear the official BSA light blue neckerchief and Cub Scout slide. Bear Cubs may wear neckerchief slides they make during scouting activities.
- o Hats are optional, but if desired Bear Cubs should wear the official BSA blue hat with light blue front panel.
- o Belts are optional, but recommended. If desired, Bears should wear the official BSA blue belt with Cub Scout belt buckle.
- o Patches that are required on all Cub Scout uniforms include, Council Strip, Den Numeral, Brotherhood of Scouting Patch, Veterans Strip and Pack Numeral. These five patches may be purchased through the BSA store or directly from Pack 401.
- o Bear Cubs will need a Bear Handbook.
- o Socks are optional, but if desired, Bear Cubs should wear the official BSA blue Cub Scout socks.

Fourth and Fifth Grade - Webelos

- o Webelos wear the khaki shirt, long or short sleeved, with blue applets on the shoulders. This shirt will be worn in Cub Scouts for 1-1/2 years and then may be worn in Boy Scouts.
- o Webelos wear the official BSA olive green slacks or navy blue jeans. Sweatpants and other colored jeans are not allowed.
- o Webelos wear the official BSA plaid neckerchief without the gold border and a Webelos slide. Webelos may wear neckerchief slides they make during scouting activities.
- o Hats are optional, but if desired Webelos should wear the official BSA olive green hat with the plaid front panel.
- o Belts are optional, but recommended. If desired, Webelos should wear the official BSA olive green belt and Webelos belt buckle.
- o Webelos will need a Webelos Handbook.
- o Patches that are required on all Cub Scout uniforms include, Council Strip, Den Numeral, Brotherhood of Scouting Patch, Veterans Strip and Pack Numeral. These five patches may be purchased through the BSA store or directly from Pack 401. Cub Scout rank insignia should not be moved from the blue shirts to the khaki shirts as was previously done. Only the Quality Unit Strip, Recruiter Strip and any Religious Knots that have been earned should be sewn onto the Khaki shirts.
- o Webelos wear Webelos Colors, which is a pin holding gold, red, and green cords used to hold Webelos Activity Pins.
- o Socks are optional, but if desired, Webelos should wear the official BSA olive green socks.

Leaders - All registered Adults over 21 years of age.

- o Leaders wear the khaki shirt, long or short sleeved, with blue applets on the shoulders. Female leaders may choose to wear the yellow blouse with blue applets as an alternative to the khaki.
- o Leaders wear the official BSA olive green slacks, navy blue jeans, or olive green slacks as closely matched to the official BSA colors. Female leaders who wear the yellow blouse should wear blue slacks or navy blue jeans.
- o Socks are optional, but if desired, Leaders should wear the official BSA olive green socks with khaki shirt, or official blue socks the yellow blouse.
- o Belts are optional, but recommended. If desired, leaders wearing the khaki shirt should wear the olive green belt. Female leaders wearing the yellow blouse should wear the blue belt.
- o Tiger Den Leaders wear the official BSA Tiger Den Leader neckerchief and the Cub Scout slide.
- o Wolf and Bear Den Leaders and Assistant Den Leaders wear the official BSA Den Leader neckerchief and Cub Scout slide. Assistant Den Leaders may also choose to wear the neckerchief for the appropriate rank and use the Cub Scout slide.
- o Webelos Leaders and Assistant Leaders should wear the Official Webelos Leader plaid neckerchief with the gold trim and the Webelos slide.
- o Leaders may wear neckerchief slides they make during scouting activities.
- o Leaders may wear any neckerchief or bolo tie associated with an official Scout Activity (ie, NH Jamboree, National or World Jamboree).

Miscellaneous Awards and Items

- o Tiger Recognition Belt Totem - The Pack presents each Tiger with a belt totem on which he places beads earned as he progresses towards his Tiger Badge of Rank. This totem should be worn as part of the uniform on the Cub Scout belt or another belt if desired.

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- o Wolf and Bear Cub Recognition Totems - Each Wolf and Bear Cub will be given a plastic totem to be worn under the flap of the right pocket on the Class A Uniform. Beads will be given to the boys as they earn their way towards their badges of rank.
- o Badges of rank (Tiger, Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and Arrow of Light) and arrow points should be sewn onto the uniform in their proper locations as soon as possible after they are presented.
- o **The Recruiter Strip** is a badge earned by a Scout for recruiting another scout. It is presented after the new Scout completes three months with the Cub Scouts. To qualify the Recruiter's name should be written on the top of the new Scouts application. Pack numbers should be included if the boys are in different Packs.
- o **Quality Unit Strip** is a badge that may be earned by the Pack for meeting a number of criteria.
- o **Religious knots** are earned by completing a religious program designed by and for various organized religions. Packets defining the requirements for the Scouts own religion are available at the BSA store. This award is earned through the church, not through Cub Scouts.
- o **Activity patches** are sometimes presented to the Scouts for attending various activities sponsored by the Pack, the District or the Council. These patches are considered temporary patches. We recommend they not be sewn onto the uniform. The two most common ways to display these patches are: 1) Red Patch Vest available through the BSA store. Patches may be sewn onto the vest and worn with the uniform - except during an official uniform inspection. 2) Temporary patch holders may be purchased through the BSA. These holders can be worn on the right pocket, one patch at a time. Patch collector books are another way to save these patches.
- o **Belt Loops** that are earned should be placed on the Cub Scout Belt.
- o Adults should wear the Official Shoulder Insignia appropriate for their position.
- o Leader's that receive Service Pins, Training Knots or other patches and awards should consult the Leader's Insignia Guide for the proper placement of these items.
- o **Class B or summer uniform** - The current Class B uniform is a gold T-shirt with the Pack logo on the front. Navy blue short or long jeans should be worn with the T-shirts. Official Cub Scout hats or Pack hats are optional. These items may be purchased directly from the Pack.

SUPPLIERS

Uniforms, books and Cub Scout supplies can be purchased from the following places:

- o **Scout Store** - located Camp Carpenter in Manchester, NH.
- o **Campers Inn**, Route 3, Merrimack, NH. Campers' Inn carries the uniforms, books and some limited supplies. Not all patches are available at this location.
- o **BSA Catalog**. As registered scouts, you should receive a copy of the Cub Scout catalog with hundreds of items that you may purchase. Some items that must be earned, such as badges of rank, are not available in the catalog.

REGISTRATION & FUNDRAISERS

Membership in the Cub Scouts is an annual membership. Pack 401 charges each Scout an annual fee of \$40 to help cover the cost of the national membership, insurance, subscription to Boy's Life and other expenses incurred by the Pack. This fee is non-refundable.

Fundraisers are held to finance the Cub Scout program not covered by the registration fees. Each Scout is expected to help with these fundraisers and in doing so, will "earn" credits that can be used to help pay for camp, registration, field trips, or to purchase scout related items.

Once again, welcome to Pack 401. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call your Den Leader, Cub master, Michael Beck (424-2611) or the Committee Chairperson, Kevin Berube (424-0396). We look forward to working with your son and with you during this coming year.