

CUB SCOUT PARENT'S ORIENTATION GUIDE



Welcome to the Adventure of Cub Scouting!

We hope that this orientation guide will help
Inform you about the wonderful world of
Cub Scouting that you and your son are about to enter.

www.pack7.com

Any questions please contact Cubmaster Jason Dubois at 762-8115 or jdubois@pack7.com or
Committee Chair Lorie Goudreau at 356-1048 or lgoudreau@pack7.com.

Akela Parents Page

Welcome!

Pack 7 Slatersville invites you and your son to come join in the fun! Our goal is to create an environment that reinforces the positive values of our community and scouting. We are a very family oriented Pack. Siblings and parents are welcome to participate in most of our events.

Unlike the Boy Scouts, **Cub Scouts is very parent driven.** In fact, the program will not work unless parents are involved. We are fortunate in that North Smithfield parents care about their boys' program and really help to make it succeed. Our parent committee is very active in supporting and guiding our program. All our parents are welcome to participate and share their ideas.

Join In!

Unfortunately, our boys grow up and pass through our Pack too quickly. As Akela Parents, we are here to participate for only a few years. We welcome you to join in the fun! Who knows, you might be our best leader!

Your Scouts Participation

To get the most out of Pack 7, please encourage your son to participate as much as possible. If he's not enjoying the program, let's find out how we can make it better for him!

Each Cub Scout is required to have a Handbook for their rank and a uniform. Scouts should wear their uniforms to Den Meetings and Pack Meetings. They should also wear them on field trips (yes, the Dens really get around!) Please refer to the Handbook for correct placement of uniform patches and badges. Most Dens collect dues at each meeting to offset supplies and sometime cover a year-end Den party.

Between Den Meetings, your scout should be working on and completing his rank requirements and electives. Some Dens cover some of the requirements during Den Meetings. Your Den Leader can help with any questions about requirements.

If you find that you have a situation in which it is difficult for your son to participate, please let us help. We are here for our scouts. No boy should ever have to miss out on the opportunity for growth, development, friendship, and fun.

Youth Protection

Pack 7 adheres strictly to the TWO PARENT DEEP code. At NO TIME is there to be less than two adults (not a married couple) alone with a scout. The majority of our leaders have been trained in youth protection. Please feel free to stay at Den Meetings. Many parents do so since meetings are not too long and are fun.

www.pack7.com

“We’ve just joined Pack 7 . . . now what do we do?”

➤ *If you are a Tiger Scout (Grade 1):*

- The first Tiger Den Meeting will be on **Thursday, September 16th, 2010 at Scouters’ Hall at 7:00 PM.**
- The boys will be making Name Tags for this month’s Pack Meeting. Den assignments will also be given that night.
- When you get your Scout handbook, you can begin working on the requirements for Bobcat, the first rank for all scouts regardless of age. Most of the requirements can be worked on at home with a parent.
- The first Pack Meeting will be on **Friday, September 24th, 2010 at Scouters’ Hall at 6:30 PM.** Please try to have your Tiger in uniform!

➤ *If you are a Wolf, Bear, or Webelos Scout (Grades 2-5):*

- Your new den leader will be contacting you within a few days to fill you in on upcoming meeting and events.
- When you get your Scout handbook, you can begin working on the requirements for Bobcat, the first rank for all scouts regardless of age. Most of the requirements can be worked on at home with a parent.
- The first Pack Meeting will be on **Friday, September 24, 2010 at Scouters’ Hall at 6:30 PM.** Please try to have your scout in uniform!

➤ *Uniform and books (All Scouts):*

- At Pack 7, we ask each scout to have a scout book, hat, shirt and neckerchief that correspond with his rank. You can either get a long sleeve or short sleeve shirt. You might want to get it larger than necessary, as he will grow fast over the next few years. In addition, **your scout will need a “Slatersville” patch, a “RI” patch, a “7” patch and a den number patch.** The staff at the Scout Shop can help you.

www.pack7.com

Why Scouting?

The purpose of the Boys Scouts of America is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build desirable qualities of character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness. Personal fitness includes physical, mental, and emotional fitness.

Tigers and Wolves and Bears ... Oh My!

In Cub Scouting, your son is an animal – a Tiger, Wolf, Bear or that strange creature called a Webelos Scout. Which animal depends on what grade he is in.

Bobcat. When boys in grades one through five first join Cub Scouting, they earn the bobcat badge, which teaches them the basics of the program. After receiving the Bobcat badge, boys move on to the Tiger, Wolf, Bear or Webelos program depending on their age.

Tiger Cubs. Tiger Cubs are first-graders. They work directly with a den leader and an adult partner (usually a parent) as they explore such “big ideas” as “know your community”, “Fitness and Sports”, and “Family Entertainment”.

Wolf. Boys in the second grade are called Wolf Cub Scouts. To earn their Wolf badge, these boys complete 12 achievements, like “Feats of Skill”, “Family Fun”, and “Your Flag”. Wolf Cub Scouts can also earn arrow points for completing extra projects.

Bear. Third-graders are Bear Cub Scouts. Their program is similar to the Wolf program, although the activities are more advanced.

Webelos scouts. Fourth and Fifth graders are called Webelos Scouts. Boys usually work on the Webelos badge in fourth grade and the Arrow of Light (Cub Scouting’s highest award) in fifth grade. The Webelos program helps prepare boys to become Boy Scouts at the end of fifth grade.

(“Webelos” means “We’ll Be Loyal Scouts”)

Cub Scout Promise

I,....., promise to do my best
To do my duty to God and my country, to help other people,
and to obey the law of the pack.

Pack 7 Slatersville

Statement of Policy

Pack 7 Slatersville is a non-profit organization. Our organization functions under the authority and guidelines of our Committee. Our Committee is made up of the Committee Chair, the Administrator, the Treasurer, and Den Leaders. Together, with the Cubmaster, the Committee makes all decisions concerning the Pack. The Committee makes policy decisions, within the guidelines of the Narragansett Council Boy Scouts of America.

The Pack 7 Committee meets regularly, at least once a month, for about two hours to plan events and make decisions concerning policy, spending, fundraising, etc. Parents in the Pack are welcome to attend these meetings to participate in expressing their views and ideas. The meetings are posted on the web, in the hall or you can ask your Den Leader for the next date and time.

The Committee wishes to inform and in some cases remind members of Pack 7 of the following policies:

- Pack 7 is non-profit.
- Pack 7 is a non-political organization
- Pack 7 is non-denominational.
- The Pack Committee determines Pack 7 policy, not individuals.
- Pack 7 does not organize boycotts of businesses, organizations or products.

A few things to keep in mind:

Over the last thirty-plus years Pack 7 has built a positive reputation in our community as a program that promotes growth and development for boys. Many parents in our community have in the past stepped forward to lead Pack 7. Some of these past leaders are still in town. Some are prominent community leaders who still serve in various organizations and businesses. A major part of Pack 7's strength is through its past. Pack 7 is also the beneficiary of goodwill by individuals in the community through financial and material support. It is our intention that the activities of our Pack and of our Cub Scouts can be looked upon as a source of pride for our community.

Thank you for your understanding.

Pack 7 Committee

THE CUB SCOUT PACK

ALL FIRST THROUGH FIFTH GRADE BOYS ARE MEMBERS OF A PACK

1. Packs are made up of all the dens.
2. Packs meet once a month --- all Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear and Webelos families are expected to participate.
3. The pack meeting is led by the Cubmaster.
4. The pack meeting is the highlight of the month.
5. Pack meetings have games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of badges that the boys have earned during the month.

THE PACK IS RUN BY THE PACK COMMITTEE

1. All parents, Den Leaders, and pack leaders are members of the pack committee.
2. The pack committee meets once a month or more often if needed.
3. Committee meetings are led by the Committee Chairperson.
4. The committee selects leadership, finds meeting places, performs record keeping, manages pack finances, orders badges, coordinates fundraising projects, helps train leaders, and recognizes leaders.

THE PACK IS OWNED BY A CHARTERED ORGANIZATION

1. Chartered organizations include schools, religious organizations, service clubs and other organizations interested in youth.
2. Chartered organizations approve all leadership in the pack, helps secure a meeting place for the pack meetings, and helps the pack follow the BSA guidelines and policies.
3. The chartered organization selects a Chartered Organization Representative who serves as the contact person for your pack.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

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

WHAT DO YOU RECEIVE IN RETURN?

Being a leader is fun, challenging, and rewarding. Leaders find that their experiences in Cub Scouting 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 participating 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 includes setting a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.
- The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and the pride in being identified as a part of the organization. Wearing the Scout uniform is a visible means of showing you believe in and stand up for the values of the BSA.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

DEN LEADER

Lead the den at weekly den meetings. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meetings.

PACK COMMITTEE

Pack committee members perform administrative support functions of the pack. May serve as the pack popcorn coordinator or newsletter editor.

FOOD COMMITTEE

Parents/family members who help run the food component of pack events and campouts. This is a very important part of our pack and we need **MANY** people to help with this.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

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

PARENT HELPERS

Perform "one time" program jobs such as coordinating pack participation in events such as Scouting for Food, Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Banquet, Day Camp, etc. These jobs are of short duration.

CUBMASTER

Helps plan the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Serves as the master of ceremonies at the monthly pack meeting. Attends the pack committee meetings.

ASSISTANT CUBMASTER

Assists the Cubmaster as needed. Fills in for the Cubmaster when necessary.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Presides at the pack committee meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders. Runs day to day operation of the pack. Also attends pack meetings.

VOLUNTEER TRAININGS

STEP 1 --- FAST START AND YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

If you have access to the internet, you can complete the Fast Start training, This is Scouting and Youth Protection Training by visiting our website –www.narragansettbsa.org.

STEP 2 --- NEW LEADER ESSENTIALS/CUB SCOUT SPECIFIC

The next step is to attend a Scouters Training session conducted in your area. This training will give you a more in-depth understanding of your new leadership position and the Cub Scouting program. These sessions are scheduled to be conducted in both the fall and the spring. Ask your Committee Chair for the date, time and location of the session nearest to you. These sessions are free of charge.

STEP 3 ---SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING

After you have completed Fast Start and New Leader Essentials, you will be well on your way. But every good leader looks for opportunities to expand their skills, so the Narragansett Council offers supplemental training sessions such as Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO), Webelos Leader Outdoor Training (WLOT), and Wood Badge courses. Look for information about these training opportunities by visiting the council website.

STEP 4 --- SCOUTING MAGAZINE, COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AND THE INTERNET

When you become a registered leader, you will start receiving issues of *Scouting Magazine*.

This publication will keep you up-to-date with new information. You can also visit the Narragansett Council website for even more information!

YOUTH PROTECTION

Rules & Guidelines

After selection of the best possible leaders, additional protection for children is built into the program. The BSA has adopted the following policies to provide security for youth in scouting.

Two Deep Leadership – Two registered adult leaders or one registered adult leader and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age, are required on all meetings, trips and outings. The chartered organization is responsible for ensuring that sufficient leadership is provided for all activities.

No One-on-One Contact – One-on-One contact between adults and youth members is not permitted in any situation that requires a personal conference. The meeting should take place in view of other adults and youths.

Respect of Privacy – Adult members must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes or taking showers at camp. Adults should intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. They should also protect their own privacy in similar situations.

Separate Accommodations - When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian.

Proper Preparation for Activities – All activities should consider the capabilities of the participating Cub Scouts. No activity should be undertaken without the proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures.

No Secret Organizations – The B.S.A. does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program. All activities are open to observation by parents and leaders.

Appropriate Attire – Proper clothing for activities is required.

Constructive Discipline – Discipline used in Cub Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. *Corporal punishment is never permitted.*

Hazing Prohibited – Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.

Parents are a critical element in the education of Cub Scouts and child abuse. The BSA publishes a booklet, "How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide," that is inserted in the front of each Cub Scout handbook.

THIS I BELIEVE:

A Hundred Years from Now
will not matter what my bank account was,
The sort of house I lived in,
Or the kind of car I drove.
But, the world may be different,
Because I was important in the life of a boy.

-Forest Witcraft



THE NARRAGANSETT COUNCIL TRADING POSTS

West Bay Scout Shop

1276 Bald Hill Road
Route 2, Warwick, RI
(401) 821-7005
Located in Summit Square Plaza
Across from Target

East Bay Scout Shop

79 Swansea Mall Drive,
Swansea, Mass
(508) 675-1528
Located across from Swansea Mall
Route 195 East to Mass Exit 3

Store hours

Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm

Sunday 12:00pm to 6:00pm

Pack 7 Scouts wear the BSA Blue or Khaki Shirts, along with the BSA hat and neckerchief, appropriate for their rank. This is the "Class A" uniform. Scout pants, and belt are optional. Each scout is required to have a handbook appropriate for his or her rank also. Scouts receive patches and rank achievements at Pack Meetings.

When you purchase a shirt, remember to also get the patches that go on the shoulder sleeve (the "Slatersville" patch, the "RI" patch and the number "7"). When you know what number Den you are in, you should also get the "Den Number" patch.

The trading post has inventory for all your scouting needs: uniforms, hats, belts, handbooks and more.

For Every One Hundred Boys Who Join Scouting:

- *Two will become Eagle Scouts*
- *Rarely will one be brought before juvenile court*
- *Twelve will have their first contact with a church*
- *One will enter the clergy*
- *Eighteen will develop hobbies that will last through their entire adult life*
- *Five will earn their church's Religious award*
- *Eight will enter a vocation that was learned through the merit badge system*
- *One will use his Scouting skills to save a life*
- *Seventeen will be future Scout volunteers*

