



CUB SCOUT PARENT GUIDE



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®
BUCKEYE COUNCIL

WELCOME

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Scouting! Your child's Cub Scout den should be getting ready to meet and soon the fun and excitement of being a Scout will unfold. There will be many opportunities for adventure throughout the year!

Here is a quick start guide to ensure your family has a wonderful Cub Scout experience.

- Soon you will receive a copy of the Cub Scout pack's annual calendar so you can attend the fun Cub Scout activities in which your pack is participating in.
- Within 3 weeks of joining Scouting you should know when and where "den meetings" and "pack meetings" will be held. If you do not, please contact your child's leader.
- Also within 3 weeks of joining you should have your child's Cub Scout handbook. The first two things you should do once he or she has their handbook are review the Parents' Guide in the front and help your son or daughter earn their Bobcat Rank so they can be recognized at their first event of the entire Cub Scout pack.

Here are a couple other ideas for making sure your child's Cub Scout experience gets started on the right foot.

- Visit the website www.homescouting.org/join. This website has a lot of information about resources, camps, activities, and training that may be of interest to your family. **While you're there, make sure to register for the free Rocket Academy which is an at-home, STEM-focused program created with an exclusive partnership with NASA.**
- Visit our Scout Center listed on the last page of this guidebook. At our Scout Center you can get advice, information, uniforms, handbooks, and other Scouting supplies.



Please also know that the Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. To maintain such an environment, the BSA developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides parents and leaders with resources for all programs, all of which are available at www.scouting.org. In addition, a pamphlet is provided at the front of your child's handbook for your family's use.

This is the beginning of a once-in-a-lifetime journey filled with exciting opportunities. Enjoy the adventure!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jesse Roper II".

Jesse Roper II
Scout Executive



MY SCOUT DIRECTORY

Complete this quick reference guide to save important information about your pack and leaders

Pack Number _____

Sponsoring Organization _____

Pack Meeting Location _____

Next Meeting Date & Time _____

Den Meeting Location _____

Den Meeting Date & Time _____

Cubmaster _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Den Leader _____

Phone _____

Email _____



CUB SCOUTS DO YOUR BEST. HAVE FUN DOING IT.

As a parent, you want your son or daughter to grow up to be a self-reliant, dependable and caring individual. Scouting has these same goals in mind for them. Since 1910, we have been weaving lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, good citizenship, and physical fitness for youth.

Scouting teaches positive youth development. However, we know that kids don't join Scouting to get their character built. They join because it's fun!

CUB SCOUTS IS A FAMILY CENTERED PROGRAM FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

The best way to find out what you do best is to do it. Swing a bat. Pitch a tent. Build a Pinewood Derby Car. Cub Scouts are at that magical age where everything is new and fun. They live in a world of "firsts" – first homerun, first campfire, first checkered flag – where their game is their imagination.

The most valuable rewards are the friends they make for life and a parent's proud smile. These are invaluable experiences that can be had in Scouting.

YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A DEN

- A den is 5-8 boys or 5-8 girls, similar in age, who meet with adult leaders to play games, learn skills, complete adventures, perform skits and songs, and take field trips.
- Dens meet at the convenience of leaders and families, at least twice a month, perhaps weekly.
- A Den is led by a Den Leader (parent volunteer) and other parent helpers who share the fun.

YOUR CHILD AND THEIR DEN ARE MEMBERS OF A PACK

- Each Pack is made up of one or more Dens
- Once a month, all Cub Scout families attend a Pack meeting with games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of badges that boys and girls earned that month.
- The Pack Meeting is led by the Cubmaster with help from other parents.
- The Pack families will also have other activities, like Pack Family Camping, Pinewood Derbies, and Field Trips.



THE ADVANCEMENT PLAN

A Cub Scout Den provides your child with a group of others their own age in which he or she can earn awards and recognition. In their Den, your child will gain a sense of personal achievement for the new skills learned. Each Cub Scout learns to respect their home, country, God, and other people. Most advancement adventures can be done at Den meetings and Pack activities, but all can also be done at home with the family.



RANK ADVANCEMENT

The Adventures a Cub Scout works on are found in the Cub Scout Handbook for their age or grade, and they will work toward the rank for that age or grade. Kindergarteners use the Lion Handbook and work towards the Lion Rank, 1st Graders use the Tiger Handbook and work towards the Tiger Rank, 2nd Graders use the Wolf Handbook and work towards the Wolf Rank, 3rd Graders use the Bear Handbook and work towards the Bear Rank, 4th Graders use the Webelos Handbook and work towards the Webelos Rank, 5th Graders continue using the Webelos Handbook and work towards the Arrow of Light Rank.



The Adventures for each rank in each handbook are aged based and progressive, so that each year the Scout has more and more exciting and challenging adventures. Every level of Cub Scouting has plenty of hiking, camping, games, exploring, campfires, swimming, and boating...over 20 adventures that can be done at each level, year-round!



Each Rank is earned by completing 7 adventures from the handbook, plus some Cyber Safety exercises – and your Scout earns an Adventure Loop for each adventure completed.



In late winter or spring of a Scout's 5th grade year, they graduate from Cub Scouting into the adventures of Scouts BSA at a crossover ceremony with a Troop. Generally, your son or daughter will be prepared to join a Scouts-BSA Troop in February or March of their Fifth Grade year in time to plan for their first Scouts-BSA summer camp experience.



DID YOU KNOW?

"SCOUTS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO EARN A COLLEGE DEGREE COMPARED TO THOSE WHO WERE NEVER SCOUTS"

Source: Harris Interactive Study, 2005



THE BOBCAT TRAIL

THE SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF CUB SCOUTS

All new Cub Scouts who start in Tigers through Webelos first work on earning the Bobcat Badge when they join Cub Scouts. Lions complete the Bobcat Badge at the end of their Lion year. When your Cub Scout earns their Bobcat, they'll know the signs, symbols, and big ideas of Scouting.

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.

Scout Law

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

The Cub Scout Sign

The Cub Scout sign is made with the right arm held high and straight up above the shoulder, with the index and middle fingers forming a V. The other fingers are held with the thumb. The two extended fingers stand for the parts of the Scout Oath to help others obey. They also stand for the two alert ears of a wolf. This is the sign for Cub Scouts all over the world.



The Cub Scout Handshake

The Cub Scout handshake is done by putting the index and middle fingers of the right hand against the other person's wrist when shaking hands. Cub Scouts and Cub Scout leaders use this handshake everywhere in the United States. The handshake signifies that those who use it help others and obey the Scout Oath and Law.



The Cub Scout Salute

The Cub Scout salute is made by joining the index and middle fingers of the right hand, holding the other fingers with the thumb and touching the extended finger to the cap visor or forehead. The hand is held the same as for the Cub Scout sign, except the two fingers are together. The Cub Scout salute is used to salute the flag when in uniform and to show respect to the den and Cub Scout Pack leaders. It can be used when greeting other Scouts.



THE BOBCAT BADGE

YOUR GUIDE TO EARNING THE BOBCAT BADGE

A Cub Scouts' family plays an important role. Complete the requirements below to earn the Bobcat Badge.

1. Learn and say the Scout Oath, with help if needed.
2. Learn and say the Scout Law, with help if needed.
3. Show the Cub Scout sign. Tell what it means.
4. Show the Cub Scout Handshake. Tell what it means.
5. Say the Cub Scout Motto. Tell what it means.
6. Show the Cub Scout Salute. Tell what it means.
7. With your parent or guardian, complete exercises in the pamphlet "How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide." (This is located in the front of each Cub Scout Handbook or at homescouting.org/join)



Parent/Guardian OK

Date

Den Leader's OK

*Show this completed page to your Den Leader and at your next Pack meeting your Scout will receive their **Bobcat Badge!***





SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

HomeScouting Adventure Club

The Buckeye Council has developed an engaging and exciting program designed to help families bring Scouting adventures to life at home! The HomeScouting Adventure Club provides monthly digital content that kids and parents can utilize to continue their adventures at home. The best part? It's completely FREE for Buckeye Council scouts and families. **Learn more and sign up at homescouting.org/join**

Free Rocket Academy – Happening Now!

Make sure to participate in the free at-home Rocket Academy! After you register as a Cub Scout, unlock immediate access to the Rocket Academy at homescouting.org/join. Here you will learn how to build your free model rocket, participate in at-home STEM activities, and register for the Family Adventure Camp in your area to launch your rocket!



Cub Scout Family Adventure Camps

Cub Scout Family Adventure Camps occur during the fall around the Buckeye Council area. Families will go camping, shoot BB guns and bows and arrows, roast marshmallows, and so much more!

Day Camp

Day Camp is the pinnacle of outdoor fun in the Cub Scouts. Cub Scouts will have an adventure building on the skills and friendships experienced each day. Day Camp includes crafts, games, nature, sports, songs, and skits. Camp usually lasts 1 week.

Cub Scout Summer Camp

Cub Scout Resident Camp is a 3-day overnight campout in June, July or August for Cub Scouts entering 2nd through 5th grades. Summer Camp programs are held at Seven Ranges Scout Reservation in Kensington, Ohio.

Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood Derby is an annual parent-child project where you can design and build a race car from a block of wood. Cub Scouts learn the valuable lesson of sportsmanship by racing their cars on a gravity track against their fellow Scouts.

Blue and Gold Banquet

Celebration of the birthday of Scouting in February with a Party! This is a big Pack event, usually full of food, skits and awards. Many times, Scouts receive their rank advancements at this event.



HOW CAN I 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 fill a role in Scouting, but also to help your son or daughter and their friends, and to have the chance to be a positive influence on the youth in your community.

WHAT DO YOU GET IN RETURN?

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

- Fun, Fellowship with other families, AND sharing your pride in the Scouts' accomplishments.
- The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families.
- A chance to help boys and girls learn good citizenship and to help shape them into young men and young women who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.

Den Leader(s)

Leads the Den and Den and monthly Pack meetings and activities. Participates in monthly Pack leaders' meeting.

Cubmaster (and Assistants)

Helps plan and carry out the Pack program with the help of others. Emcees the monthly Pack meeting and attends the Pack leaders' meeting.

Pack Committee

Pack committee members (some positions listed below) perform administrative functions of the Pack.

PACK COMMITTEE POSITIONS (All scouting is local; your pack may have different or additional roles)

Committee Chair

Overall coordination of Pack plan and volunteers. Presides at all Pack leaders' meetings. Helps recruit adult volunteers.

Secretary/Treasurer

Keeps record of Pack funds (collections and expenses) and reports to the committee.

Parent Helpers

"One shot" program jobs of short duration coordinating pack participation in sales events, Pinewood Derby, day camp, etc.

Membership/Marketing

Coordinates recruitment events and opportunities. Helps promote events on social media.

Advancement

Maintains advancement records for the Scouts. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia.



EVERY SCOUT DESERVES A TRAINED LEADER

Leading your child's Cub Scout Den or Pack is a great journey where you two will share many lifelong memories. The first step in that journey is to complete training. The main purpose of training is to provide you with the tools you need to put on a quality program for the kids and to help you have a fun time leading them.

Youth Protection Training

In order to be a leader of any sort, it is required that you complete "Youth Protection" Training before you turn in your adult application. The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. Youth Protection Training covers the BSA's Youth Protection policies, kinds of abuse, how to respond to disclosure of abuse, and proper reporting procedures. In order for an adult to remain a registered leader in the Boy Scouts of America, Youth Protection Training is required every two years.

Position Specific Training

"Job Specific" Training is designed to present in-depth information for a new leader in a specific leadership position, such as Den Leader, Cubmaster, etc. This course is presented several times a year in your district as well as available online. Be sure to ask your Unit Trainer or check the Council Website for an upcoming in-person training date.

To Take Youth Protection and Position Specific Training:

1. Go to www.my.scouting.org and create an account profile. This account will be useful to access other online tools and resources.
2. Click "E-learning" under "Training"
3. Scroll down to "Youth Protection Training" (YPT) to take this course.
4. Upon completion, print two copies of your certificate(s). Keep one copy for yourself and give one to your unit to attach to your application.

DID YOU KNOW?

"88% OF VOLUNTEERS SAY THEIR TIME INVESTED WITH THE BOY SCOUTS HELPS THEM TO BE BETTER PARENTS"

Source: Volunteer Outcomes Study, 2003

FUNDING SCOUTING

The Popcorn Sale

One benefit to Cub Scouting is our goal to keep Scouting affordable for you while offering the highest quality programs and events. Each fall the Buckeye Council conducts a popcorn sale to benefit the Scouting program of our Packs, Troops, Crews, and the Council. Popcorn helps pay for camp experiences, registration dues, handbooks, and more.



Scouting is for everyone, and selling popcorn allows your family to participate in Scouting with minimal additional costs. By participating, your son or daughter can earn their way to camp or other fun activities the Pack plans to participate in.

- 70% of the money raised directly supports your Pack, the Buckeye Council, and Scout programs!
- Your child will gain confidence and the value of earning their own way, while having the opportunity to win prizes and be invited to special events.
- Fully fund your entire program with one fundraiser

The Popcorn Sale is going on now! Ask your leader how you can start selling today or go to leadscouting.org/popcorn to download order forms and other seller resources!

Investment in Character Campaign

It takes more than \$2.8 million per year to ensure the programs, properties, and people are in place to make Scouting the premier choice for youth and families in and around North Central Ohio. Our largest expenses are for programs and activities that directly benefit the youth we serve in our Council service area.

As a nonprofit organization, the Boy Scouts of America relies upon the generosity of charitable donations from families like yours to help support its ongoing operations. Each gift, regardless of size, provides invaluable funding for BSA programs that benefit Scouts from across our community. Each year a personal appeal is made to parents and leaders at a pack meeting. When you hear "Investment in Character" please consider contributing to the growth of Scouting in the Buckeye Council.



COUNCIL INFORMATION

Hoover Service Center & Scout Store

2301 13th Street NW
Canton, OH 44708

P: (330) 580-4272
F: (330) 580-4283

Mansfield Service Center

40 W 4th St, Ste 117
Mansfield, OH 44902

P: (419) 522-8300
F: (419) 755-8150

Marion Service Center & Scout Store

1310 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Marion, OH 43302

P: (740) 389-4615
F: (740) 389-4437

Canton Scout Shop

2301 13th Street NW
Canton, OH 44708
P: (330) 455-3100

Marion Scout Shop

1310 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Marion, OH 43302
P: (740) 389-4615

Camp Information

Seven Ranges Scout Reservation
7070 Meter Road NE
Kensington, OH 44427

Scout Shop Hours of Operation

Monday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Tuesday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Friday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am – 2:00pm
Sunday	Closed

Scout Shop Hours of Operation

Go to
buckeyecouncil.org/MarionStore
to see the current hours

Camp McKinley
37748 Furnace Road
Lisbon, OH 44432

Camp Rodman
11400 State Street NE
Alliance OH 44601

Closed 2-2:30 for lunch

