



## Cub Scout Pack 1530

### Parent Handout: 2011 - 2012

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#### **What is Cub Scouting?**

Since 1930, the Boy Scouts of America has helped younger boys through Cub Scouting. It is a year-round family program designed for boys who are in the first grade through fifth grade (or 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 years of age). Parents, leaders, and organizations work together to achieve the ten purposes of Cub Scouting which are:

- Influence character development
- Encourage spiritual growth
- Develop good citizenship habits and attitudes
- Encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong in mind and body
- Improve understanding within the family
- Strengthen the ability to get along with other boys and respect people
- Foster a sense of personal achievement by developing new interests and skills
- Show how to be helpful and to do one's best
- Provide fun and exciting new things to do
- Prepare them to become Boy Scouts

As a worldwide brotherhood, Scouting is unique. It is based on the principles of loving and serving God, of human dignity and the rights of individuals, and of recognizing the obligation of each member to develop and use his potential. It is a movement dedicated to bringing out the best in people. Scouting is one of the few programs left in the world that doesn't emphasize winning as an end result, but rather the far more demanding task of doing one's best.

#### **The Cub Scout Pack Organization**

Pack 1530, founded in 1967, mainly serves boys who live in the Waples Mill Elementary School district, but boys attend many different schools (Flint Hill, Hunters Woods, Nysmith, etc.). Cub Scouts join the pack and are assigned to a den, usually a neighborhood group of six to eight boys. Tiger Cubs (first-graders), Wolf Cub Scouts (second graders), Bear Cub Scouts (third graders), and Webelos Scouts (fourth and fifth graders) normally will meet 2-3 times per month.

Once a month, all of the dens and family members gather for a pack meeting under the direction of a Cubmaster and Pack Committee. The committee includes parents of boys in the pack and members of the chartered organization. The Pack meeting is the climax of the month's den meetings and activities. It gives the den something to look forward to and work toward. It gets parents and families involved with the boys, and is a chance to recognize boys, parents, and leaders.

Every Cub Scout Pack belongs to an organization with interests similar to the Boy Scouts of America. For Pack 1530, our chartering organization is Vale United Methodist Church. Though all are welcome to attend Vale United Methodist as their place of worship; it is not a requirement to become members of Pack 1530. Members of many faiths belong to the pack.

**It's important to remember that Cub Scouting is a year-round family program.** Much of the activity happens in the boy's own home, so the family is an important part of the organization. Cub Scouting is for families. Most activity in the program occurs during the school year. However, there is usually only one activity planned per month in June, July, and August. Summer camp is the highlight of this period. The Pack sends boys either to: one-week day camp, one-week overnight camp, 4-day overnight camp or 3-day overnight camp.

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## **Meetings**

Pack 1530 Pack meetings are held monthly, normally on the third Friday, at Vale United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Fox Mill and Vale Roads in Oakton, Virginia. Meetings begin promptly at 7:30 PM and typically last approximately one hour. Occasionally special Pack meetings are scheduled at other locations, such as the campfire/overnight meeting in September, held at a local park, and the Blue Gold Banquet at Waples Mill Elementary School.

The den organization allows boys to get to know one another better and provides opportunities for activities that would be difficult with a large group. The den also provides leadership opportunities for the boys. Den meetings are held periodically throughout the month as established by the den leader and parents.

## **Who pays for Scouting?**

Groups responsible for supporting Cub Scouting are the boys and their parents, the pack, the chartered organization, and the community. Our Pack earns extra income by selling Scout Popcorn in September and October. This is our one fund raiser of the year and covers Pack costs over and above yearly dues. Additionally, the community, including parents, supports Cub Scouting through the United Way, Friends of Scouting enrollment, bequests, and special contributions to the BSA local council. This financial support provides leadership training, outdoor programs, council service centers and other facilities, and professional service for units.

Pack 1530 has set an annual fee of \$150.00 per boy (a \$25.00 discount is given if paid by September 30). The fee covers a number of things:

- BSA registration fee, Boys' Life magazine subscription, and insurance;
- Boy's awards and badges;
- Family's fee for Blue Gold Banquet;
- Funds for Den activities
- Pinewood Derby and Raingutter Regatta kits;
- Fall, April and June Campouts
- Leader supplies and training

Please note that we want boys to participate. If these costs present a financial hardship for your family, please see either the Committee Chairman (Mark Sargent) or Cubmaster (Tom Heitman). Pack 1530 has a "Scoutership" program to help in these situations.

## **Den Costs**

Each den has the flexibility to make their own plan of activities to attain achievements necessary for rank advancement, so each has their own budget. Typically extra costs will be collected on an as-needed basis; however, the Pack gives each den some funds to cover the costs of den activities. Please note that we try to take the boys on a "big" overnight trip once every year or two after the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. (Port Discovery, Lighthouse at St. Michaels, Submarine in Baltimore, etc). These trips often cost about \$30. Since these are optional and typically don't occur each year, they are paid for by the family at the time of the outing.

## **Uniform**

The pack pays for virtually everything that goes onto the "Class A" uniform, but the basic uniform itself is paid for by the family. In total, the cost runs \$50-\$60 for the basic uniform components, but items like the belt and shirt last several years.

Shirt: \$23 - \$27

Belt: \$4 - \$10

Cap: \$13

Neckerchief slide: \$4

TOTAL: \$44 - \$54

We have a small inventory of used items that have been donated by families for use by other scouts. The Pack provides a rank-appropriate neckerchief and Class "B" uniform (a more casual, but Pack 1530 "logoed", t-shirt).

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## ***How to Register***

To register a new boy into the Cub Scouts, he and his parent/guardian completes the *Application to Join a Pack*. The boy signs a pledge that shows he has read the Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack (included on the application) and promises to try to live up to them. He also agrees to attend Den and Pack meetings regularly and promises to do his best to be a good Cub Scout. The parent signs an agreement to help with advancement, to attend monthly Pack meetings, to take part in other Den and Pack activities, and to assist Den and Pack leaders. When a boy completes these joining requirements, he and his family are inducted into the Pack and assigned to a den.

**New boys:** send a completed Boy Scouts of America Youth Application and Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A and B) to Nancy Jacobs with a \$150 check made out to "Pack 1530".

**Returning boys:** provide a completed Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A and B) to your Den Leader with a check for \$150 made out to "Pack 1530".

Note:

The Boy Scouts of America Youth Application can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/524-406A.pdf>

The Annual Health and Medical Record (parts A and B) can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx>

## ***Expectations for Family Involvement***

Cub Scouting gives families an opportunity to spend quality time together. ***This is not a "drop-off" program. Parents will need to be involved, helping with activities and rank advancement.*** Some examples of family involvement include:

- Working with their Cub Scout on achievements and electives;
- Attending Pack meetings with their Cub Scout;
- Presenting advancement awards to their son at Pack meetings;
- Helping at an occasional den meeting on a specific project or activity;
- Helping with Pack administration or special events;
- Providing refreshments and transportation;
- Assisting with Den outings;
- Helping teach a Webelos activity badge;
- Attending adult partner-boy campouts with their Cub Scout.

Just as parents have obligations to the Pack, the Pack has the following responsibilities to the parents:

- Provide a well-planned, year-round program of activities in the Den and Pack that meets the aims of Cub Scouting and the needs of the boys;
- Provide trained, qualified, and enthusiastic leaders for all Den and Pack meetings and activities;
- Provide training for parents and keeping them informed;
- Provide activities that help strengthen the family and give them opportunities to work and play together;
- Help families participate in Cub Scouting according to each family's ability to do so.

## ***The Advancement Program***

Recognition is important to young boys. The Cub Scout advancement plan provides fun for the boys, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members work with boys on advancement projects. Cub Scout advancement is not a competition among boys. The Cub Scout advancement program is also designed to encourage the natural interests of a boy in a natural way. The ranks in Cub Scouting each with its own requirements, are progressively more challenging, matching the increased skills and abilities of a boy as he grows older.

Generally speaking, a boy should advance one rank per year. The Den Leader will help guide the boys and their families to reach their goals. The Cub Scout's advancement progress depends on his own motivation for learning new skills; on the encouragement and help he gets from his family, and on his need for recognition. However,

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parents should be encouraged not to rush their boys through the required achievements for each rank. Normally, it should take a boy about six months to complete the requirements for the Wolf and Bear ranks. Rank advancements are typically recognized at the February Blue & Gold Banquet. He may not begin working on the requirements for the next rank until he reaches the age or grade requirements.

**Bobcat.** The Bobcat rank is for all boys who join Cub Scouting. In achieving Bobcat boys learn the basic tenants of Cub Scouting such as the Cub Scout Motto, Promise, Law of the Pack, Salute, etc.

**Tiger Cub.** The Tiger Cub program is for first grade (or age 7) boys and their adult partners. There are five Tiger Cub achievement areas. The Tiger Cub, working with his adult partner, completes 15 requirements within these areas to earn the Tiger Cub Badge. These requirements consist of an exciting series of indoor and outdoor activities just right for a boy in the first grade. Tiger parents are expected to attend all meetings with their son.

**Wolf.** The Wolf program is for boys who have completed first grade (or are age 8). To earn the Wolf badge, a boy must pass 12 achievements involving simple physical and mental skills.

**Bear.** The Bear rank is for boys who have completed second grade (or are age 9). There are 24 Bear achievements in four categories. The Cub Scout must complete 12 of these to earn the Bear badge. These requirements are somewhat more difficult and challenging than those for Wolf rank.

**Webelos.** This program is for boys who have completed third grade (or are age 10). A boy may begin working on the Webelos badge as soon as he joins a Webelos den. This is the first step in his transition from Cub Scouts to a Boy Scout troop. As he completes the requirements found in the Webelos Scout Book, he will work on activity badges, attend meetings led by adults, and become familiar with the Boy Scout requirements—all leading to the Arrow of Light Award. The Webelos program continues into March of 5<sup>th</sup> grade (an 18-month program).

### Volunteering

The Cub Scouts is primarily a volunteer organization and the Pack is run entirely by volunteers. *Each boy's parents or guardian are asked to contribute to the Pack in some way.* Here are some ways you can help run our pack:

- By becoming an Assistant Cubmaster
- By becoming a Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader
- By serving on the Pack Committee
  - Treasurer
  - Awards
  - Membership
  - Quartermaster
  - Photography, Video
  - Web Site
  - Training
  - Outings
  - Communications
- By helping to plan and organize the many exciting pack events throughout the year:
  - Fall, April, June Family Campouts
  - Popcorn Sales
  - Scouting for Food
  - Bake-Off
  - Pinewood Derby
  - Annual Ski Trip
  - Blue & Gold Banquet
  - Trail Clean-Ups
  - Raingutter Regatta
  - Annual Potomac Nationals and Washington Nationals Outings
  - Summer Camps (Day Camp, Cub World, Webelos World, Goshen)

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In addition to the above Pack-level positions, Den Leaders will solicit support from parents of boys in their dens for teaching individual activities, refreshments, transportation, and other areas. Parents can view these opportunities as their contributions to the Scouting movement.

### **Scouting Uniforms**

The Boy Scouts of America (and Cub Scouts) have always been a uniformed body. There are many reasons for this. One reason stands out above all the rest. We wear the uniform because it is a means of identifying ourselves openly with the principles to which we are committed—character development, citizenship training, and physical and mental fitness.

The Scouting movement is built on positive values. As we wear the uniform, we are openly identifying ourselves with those values where everyone can see us. We stand together, not alone, in encouraging others to live by those same principles. Boys and adults alike should take pride in belonging to such a movement and wear the uniform as it is intended.

The Cub Scout and adult leader uniforms are suitable for and should be worn at all Scouting meetings and activities. Uniforms may be purchased at the Northern Virginia NCAC Scout Shop:

Ravenswood Shopping Center off Braddock Rd.  
5234 Port Royal Rd.  
Springfield, VA  
703-321-4836

Online Catalog – see <http://www.scoutstuff.org>

On occasion, when an activity involves boys getting especially dirty, boys may wear a “Class B” uniform, a Pack 1530 t-Shirt, available from the Pack. T-Shirts will be given to all new boys joining the Pack. Adults are also encouraged to wear the Pack t-Shirt, which may be purchased for \$10 each.

What Makes Up the Uniform?

#### **Tiger Cubs**

- Cub Scout shirt, short or long sleeve
- Cub Scout short or long pants (blue shorts or jeans are acceptable)
- Cub Scout socks or blue socks
- Cub Scout belt w/ Cub buckle
- Tiger hat (orange)
- Tiger (orange) neckerchief (pack provided)
- Cub Scout belt w/Tiger buckle
- Cub Scout neckerchief slide
- National Capital Area Council patch (pack provided)
- Pack 1530 numeral patch (pack provided)
- 35 year veteran unit bar (pack provided)
- Den number patch (pack provided)
- World Scout Crest Emblem (pack provided)

#### **Wolf Cubs**

Same as Tiger except:

- Wolf Cub hat
- Wolf Cub neckerchief (pack provided)
- Cub Scout belt w/Cub Scout buckle
- Cub Scout neckerchief slide

#### **Bear Cubs**

Same as Tiger except:

- Bear Cub hat
- Bear Cub neckerchief (pack provided)

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### **Webelos**

Same as Tiger except  
Cub Scout belt w/Webelos buckle  
Webelos hat  
Webelos plaid neckerchief (pack provided)  
Webelos neckerchief slide  
*Special Note: Webelos may wear the tan Boy Scout shirt if they like*

### **Schedule**

Published separately. See Pack Website: <http://pack1530.com>

### **For More Information**

For information about Cub Scouting in general, the uniform guide and advancement requirements see <http://scouting.org/CubScouts.aspx> or the Pack Web site <http://pack1530.com>. For information about our local National Capital Area Council, Powhatan District, see [https://boyscouts-ncac.doubleknot.com/openrosters/view\\_homepage.asp?orgkey=2025](https://boyscouts-ncac.doubleknot.com/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=2025).

### **Pack 1530 Contacts**

#### **Cubmaster**

Mr. Tom Heitman  
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#### **Pack Committee Chairman**

Mr. Mark Sargent  
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#### **Membership Chair**

Ms. Nancy Jacobs  
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[njacobs@fhmtg.com](mailto:njacobs@fhmtg.com)