

# **A PARENT'S GUIDE TO CUB SCOUTS**



**WELCOME TO THE  
ADVENTURE OF CUB  
SCOUTING!**

**THIS PACKET CONTAINS ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW TO HELP MAKE YOUR  
CUB SCOUT ADVENTURE A FUN AND VALUABLE EXPERIENCE!**

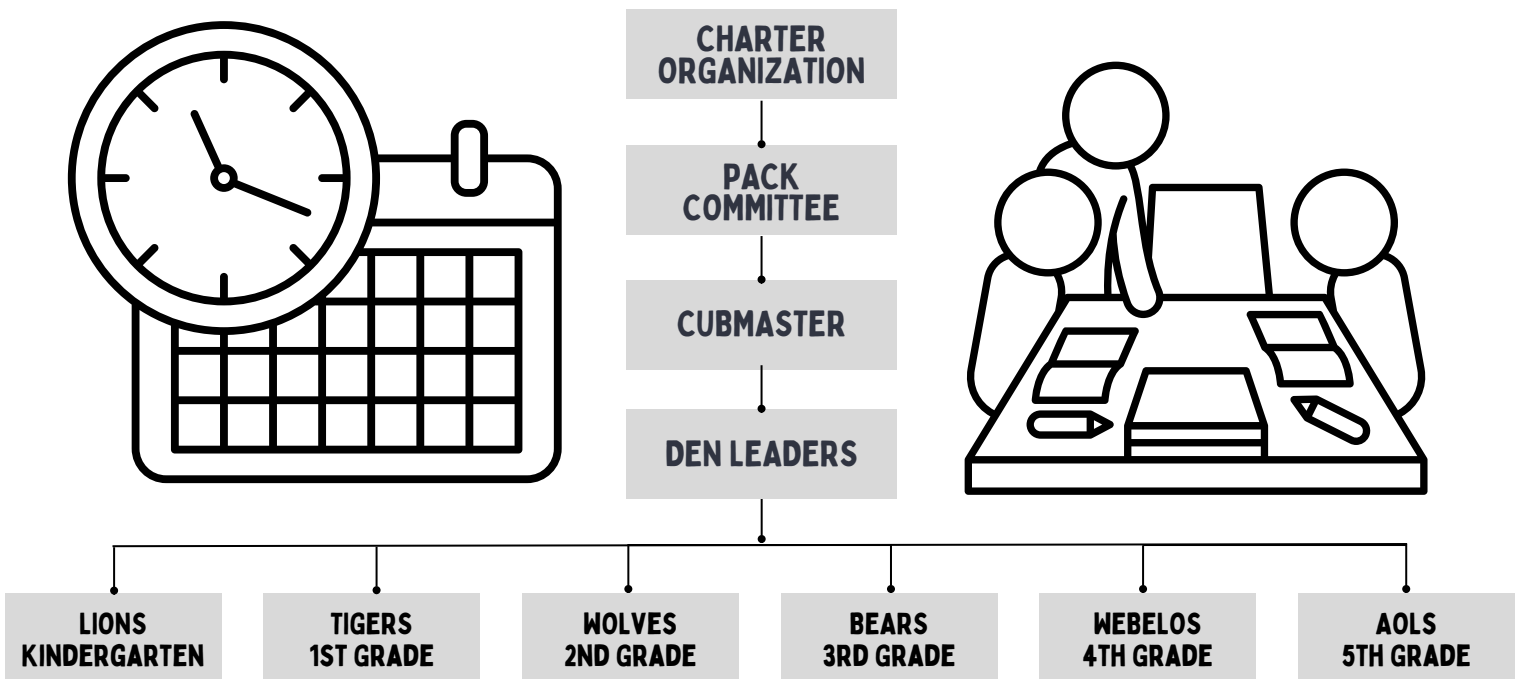
# WHAT IS CUB SCOUTING?

- Cub Scouting helps kids grow in self-esteem and character as they learn new skills and conquer new challenges. For many, Cub Scouting is their first opportunity to experience the fun of the outdoors!
- The Cub Scout Motto is “Do Your Best” - In a society where your child is often taught that winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches them to “do your best” and be helpful to others as expressed in the Cub Scout Motto.
- A Cub Scout den connects your child with a group of kids their own age where they can make friends and earn recognition. In the den, they will also gain a sense of personal achievement for the new skills they learn.



## HOW IS CUB SCOUTING ORGANIZED?

DEN	PACK	PACK COMMITTEE	CHARTER ORGANIZATION
Your Scout and friends from their class make a “Den.” They will progress through Scouting together as a group and hold a couple of small group meetings a month.	All the Dens together make up the “Pack.” Once a month there will be a pack meeting. This meeting usually includes skits, songs, ceremonies, and awards will be presented.	The committee consists of the parents of the Scouts. This committee plans events, organizes awards, and provides training. All families are encouraged to participate!	The Charter Organization is the sponsor of the pack, often also providing a meeting place for the Scouts. The Charter Organization Representative approves all adult leadership.



# MEETINGS & OUTINGS

We want you and your Scout to be as involved as you can, but don't worry about missing a meeting or two. Scouting is a year-round program and there will always be opportunity to catch up later or catch up at home. Here is a standard meeting schedule:

**DEN**  
YOUR SCOUT'S SMALL GROUP  
OR "DEN" WILL MEET 2 OR 3  
TIMES A MONTH.

**PACK**  
ALL THE DENS WILL MEET AS  
A "PACK" ONCE A MONTH.

**OUTINGS**  
YOUR DEN & PACK WILL  
WORK TO PLAN, ON  
AVERAGE 1 OUTDOOR  
ACTIVITY A MONTH.

## CONTACTS, TIMES, & LOCATIONS

MY DEN:	MY PACK #:	DISTRICT
_____	_____	_____
DEN LEADER:	CUBMASTER:	DISTRICT EXECUTIVE:
_____	_____	_____
PHONE:	PHONE:	PHONE:
_____	_____	_____
EMAIL:	EMAIL:	EMAIL:
_____	_____	_____
MEETING TIME:	MEETING TIME:	LOCATION:
_____	_____	_____
MEETING DAY:	MEETING DAY:	
_____	_____	
LOCATION:	LOCATION:	
_____	_____	

If you require any further assistance or have questions, please contact our Council at 813-872-2691 or visit our website: [GTBAC.org](http://GTBAC.org)

# ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

## GOOD TURN

A Cub Scout service project benefits the community. A common example is "Scouting for Food," a canned food drive held in January & February to support local pantries.

## PACK CAMPOUT

Your Cub Scout Pack will plan family campouts at one of our 4 Scout properties or a local campground. These events invite the whole family to enjoy a safe and fun camping experience!

## PINEWOOD DERBY

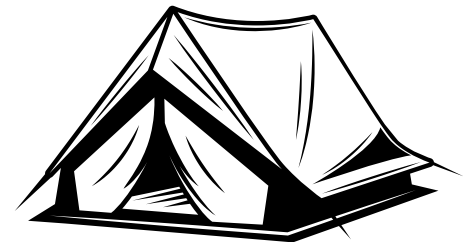
Parents and Scouts work together to build gravity-powered miniature race cars from wood kits. Most packs hold derby races annually.

## BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET

This is the annual celebration for your Cub Scout pack, usually held in the spring. It often includes a seated dinner or covered-dish supper with special programs or entertainment.

## SPLASH AND SPOOK -O-REE

Our Splash-O-Ree and Spook-O-Ree family weekends are exciting events featuring archery, BB guns, crafts, games, sports, songs, inflatables, and so much scouting fun! Led by certified leaders, these are our flagship events held annually at multiple camps in our council.



# AWARDS & ADVANCEMENTS

Cub Scouts provides a place for kids to learn how to work hard and see their goals reached. Throughout the year each Scout will be working on their "Rank Badge." Requirements for this rank can be found in their grade specific handbook. In addition to these ranks, there are also "Belt Loops" and "Pins." These are fun awards that Scouts will earn for participating in activities and games throughout the year!

2024-2025

## Cub Scout Badges of Rank Requirements

The Bobcat Adventure is designed to be the first required Adventure.

Each badge of rank is earned by completing six required and two elective Adventures.

The six required Adventures are focused on the aims and focus areas of the BSA.

 <b>LION</b> Kindergarten	 <b>TIGER</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	 <b>WOLF</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> Grade	 <b>BEAR</b> 3 <sup>RD</sup> Grade	 <b>WEBELOS</b> 4 <sup>TH</sup> Grade	 <b>ARROW OF LIGHT</b> 5 <sup>TH</sup> Grade
 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors  FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness  KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship  LION ROAR Personal Safety  LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  TIGERS IN THE WILD Outdoors  TIGER BITES Personal Fitness  TEAM TIGER Citizenship  TIGER ROAR Personal Safety  TIGER CIRCLES Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  PAWS ON THE PATH Outdoors  RUNNING WITH THE PACK Personal Fitness  COUNCIL FIRE Citizenship  SAFETY IN NUMBERS Personal Safety  FOOTSTEPS Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  BEAR HABITAT Outdoors  BEAR STRONG Personal Fitness  PAWS FOR ACTION Citizenship  STANDING TALL Personal Safety  FELLOWSHIP Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  WEBELOS WALKABOUT Outdoors  STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER Personal Fitness  MY COMMUNITY Citizenship  MY SAFETY Safety/First Aid  MY FAMILY Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  OUTDOOR ADVENTURER Outdoors  PERSONAL FITNESS Personal Fitness  CITIZENSHIP Citizenship  FIRST AID Safety/First Aid  DUTY TO GOD Family/Reverence
 2 Elective Adventures 	 2 Elective Adventures 	 2 Elective Adventures 	 2 Elective Adventures 	 2 Elective Adventures 	 2 Elective Adventures 



# GET A HEAD START!

Start working on the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and learn the Cub Scout motto, salute, and handshake. Every Scout should know these basics!

## LEARN AND SAY THE SCOUT OATH, WITH HELP IF NEEDED:

"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."

## LEARN AND SAY THE SCOUT LAW, WITH HELP IF NEEDED:

A Scout is:

Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful,  
Friendly, Courteous, Kind,  
Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,  
Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

## LEARN THE CUB SCOUT HANDSHAKE & WHAT IT MEANS:

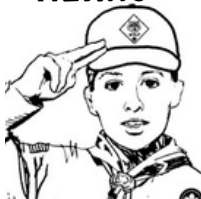


"The Cub handshake means that you "HELP" and that you "OBEY" the Law of the Pack. "

## LEARN & SAY THE CUB SCOUT MOTTO:

***"DO YOUR BEST!"***

## SHOW THE CUB SCOUT SALUTE & EXPLAIN WHAT IT MEANS:



Two fingers together held above the brow. "The Cub Scouts salute means you respect our country's flag. Salute with your Right hand. If you are wearing your Cub Scout cap, place your two fingers on the brim. If you do not have a cap, place your two fingers over the eyebrow."

## LEARN THE CUB SCOUT SIGN:

In Cub Scouting, we use the two-finger sign and salute.

When: Give the Cub Scout sign each time you say the Scout Oath and Scout Law. It's also handy when you want to quiet a room quickly.

How: Hold your right arm straight up, with your index and middle finger separated, like a peace sign.

Why: The two raised fingers stand for the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. The fingers look like the sharp ears of the wolf, ready to listen to Akela.



# WHAT DOES A YEAR OF CUB SCOUTING COST?

## YEARLY FEE

The annual \$118 Scouting fee covers a year of exciting adventures, valuable programs, and essential resources. This investment supports youth development, leadership, and community involvement.

## OTHER COSTS

There are minimal fees for participation in activities at the pack, district, or council levels. You only pay these fees if you choose to participate. Packs have yearly "dues" to assist with these costs.

## HANDBOOK

Every Scout needs a handbook. Handbooks cost \$25.

## UNIFORM

Every pack has a standard for uniforms. Please consult with your unit leader for more information. A general uniform shirt with patches will cost approximately \$50.

## SCOUT LIFE MAGAZINE

This optional magazine for Scouts and adults has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, science, and U.S. history. There are also jokes, comics, and short stories. The price is \$15 per year.

## ADULT LEADER FEE

This fee covers liability insurance as a leader. Some cub packs or chartered organizations have the resources to pay these fees for the leaders. The yearly fee to register as an adult volunteer is \$86.

## PAY SCOUTING COSTS WITH POPCORN!

Most of your Scout's Scouting costs can be financed by participating in the annual popcorn sale. [Learn more about selling popcorn by speaking with your unit leader!](#)



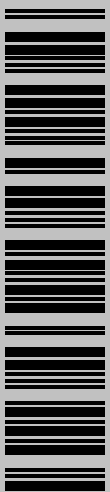
# \$10 OFF \$50

## ON CAMP ITEMS AT THE STORE

Bring this with you to the Tampa Scout Shop to save \$10 on Camp Items\*.

\*EXCLUDES WALL TENTS AND GIFT CARDS. THIS OFFER CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. COUPON EXPIRES 1/31/25.\*

Valid until 01/31/25



Code No : 304

\*SCOUT SHOP LOCATIONS & HOURS OF OPERATION CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 8



# SCOUTING IS SAFER THAN EVER BEFORE!

EFFECTIVE  
BARRIERS  
TO ABUSE

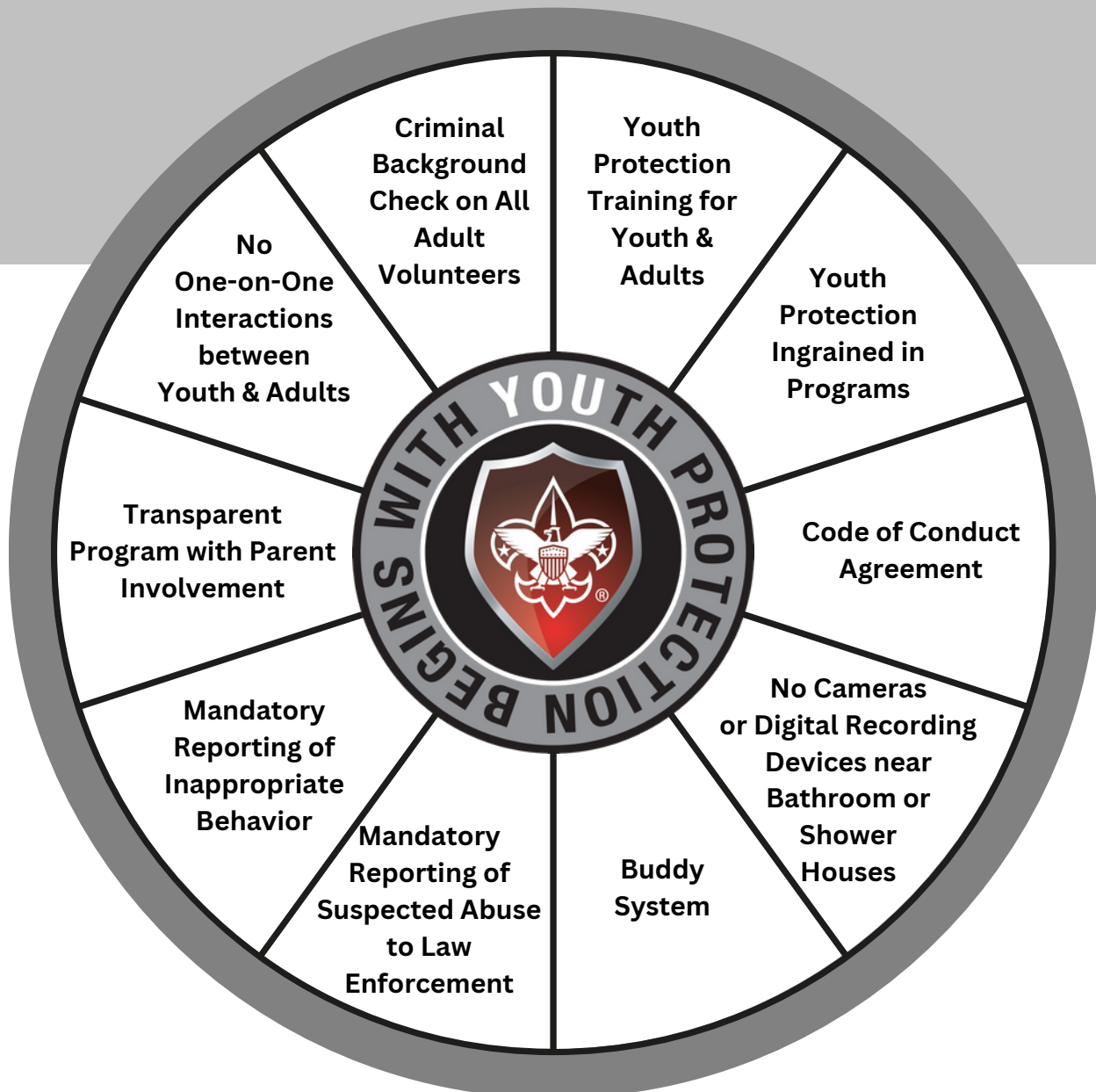
MILLIONS OF PARENTS TRUST  
SCOUTING TO PROVIDE  
MEANINGFUL PROGRAMMING  
IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

RECOGNIZE  
RESPOND  
REPORT  
1-844-SCOUTS1

## OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

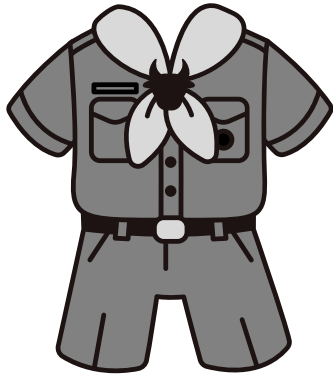
IN SCOUTING, WE WILL NOT COMPROMISE THE SAFETY OF OUR YOUTH, VOLUNTEERS, AND EMPLOYEES. SAFETY IS A VALUE THAT MUST BE TAUGHT AND REINFORCED AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY. WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE AND MUST HOLD EACH OTHER ACCOUNTABLE TO PROVIDE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO ABUSE PREVENTION BY UTILIZING:

- MANDATORY YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING.
- CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.
- BANNING ONE-ON-ONE ADULT AND YOUTH INTERACTIONS.
- MANDATORY REPORTING OF SUSPECTED ABUSE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.
- A VOLUNTEER SCREENING DATABASE.



# WHERE CAN I GET MY CUB SCOUT'S UNIFORM & HANDBOOK?

The Tampa Scout Shop offers uniforms, advancements, literature, gifts, t-shirts, pinewood derby equipment, and more! If we do not have it in stock, we can order it for you & have it at the store in about a week. We also take over-the-phone orders and are happy to coordinate shipping/pick-up!

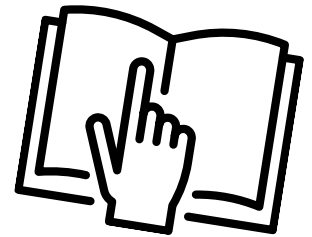


## Tampa Scout Shop

13228 N. Central Avenue Tampa, FL 33612  
 Monday – Friday: 9 AM – 6 PM; Saturday 10 AM – 4 PM  
 (813) 935-3030  
[TampaScoutShop@scouting.org](mailto:TampaScoutShop@scouting.org)

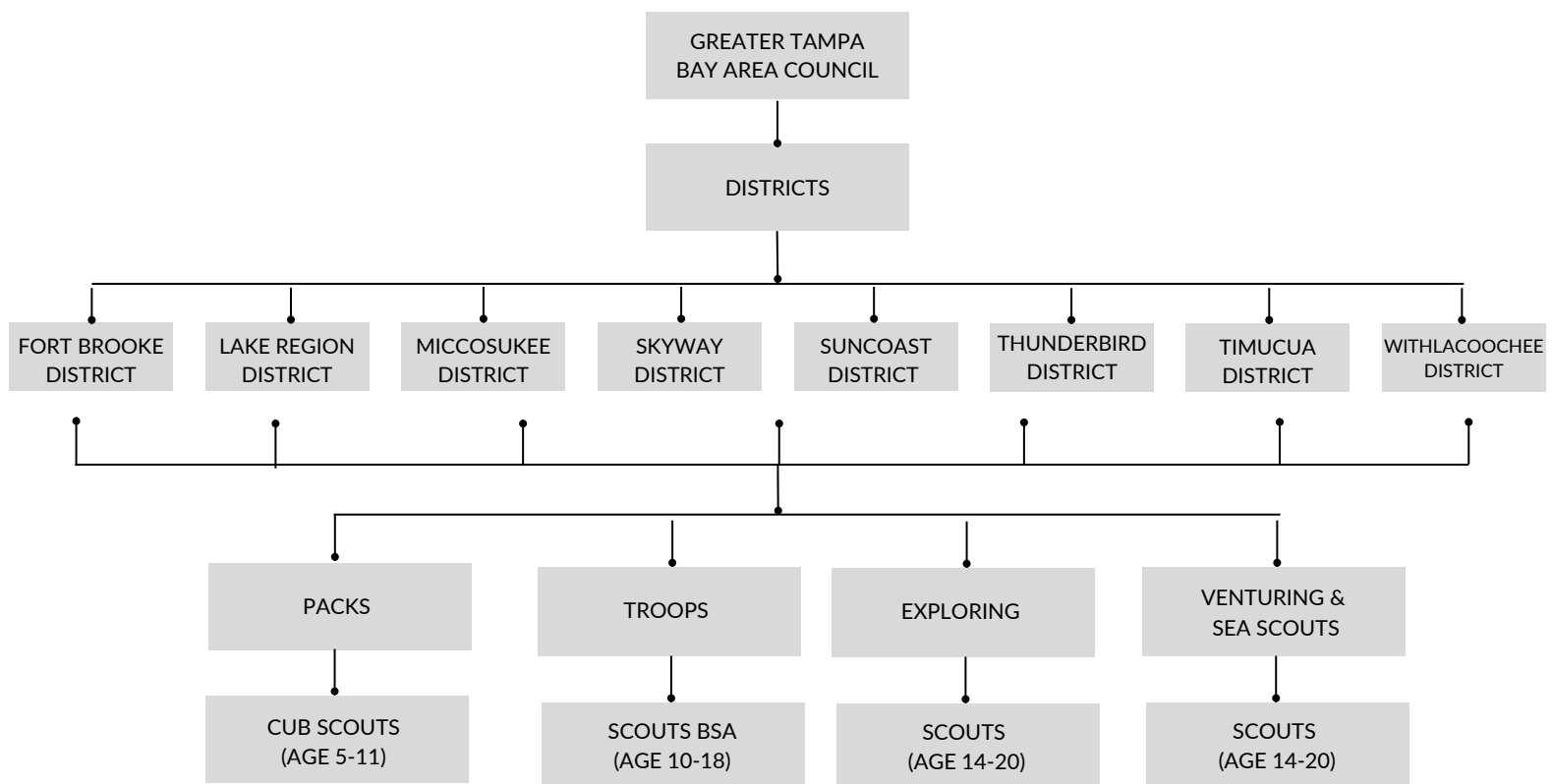
Visit Us Online at:

[TampaBayScouting.org/shops/tampa-scout-shop](http://TampaBayScouting.org/shops/tampa-scout-shop)



## WHAT IS THE "COUNCIL"?

The Greater Tampa Bay Area Council encompasses nine counties in West Florida and serves over 10,000 youth in 133 Cub Scout packs, 148 Scouts BSA, 15 Venturing Crews, 4 Sea Scout Ships, and 9 Exploring Clubs or Posts. The Council is located at 13228 N. Central Avenue Tampa, FL 33612. If you have any questions about Scouting or the Scouting Programs, please visit us or give us a call at (813) 872-2691



### DISTRICT KEY

**FORT BROOKE** - WEST HILLSBOROUGH | **LAKE REGION** - EAST POLK, HARDEE HIGHLANDS |

**MICCOSUKEE** - NORTH PINELLAS | **SKYWAY** - SOUTH PINELLAS | **SUNCOAST** - PASCO |

**THUNDERBIRD** - WEST POLK | **TIMUCUA** - EAST HILLSBOROUGH | **WITHLACOOCHEE** - HERNANDO, CITRUS, SUMTER



# SPOOK-O

REE

WEEKEND 1  
OCT 11-13



HUNTED TRAILS -  
GAMES - CAMPFIRES  
& MORE!

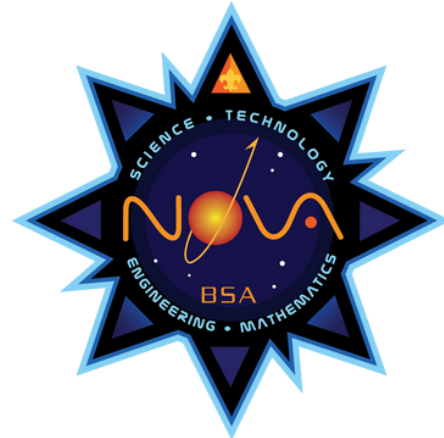
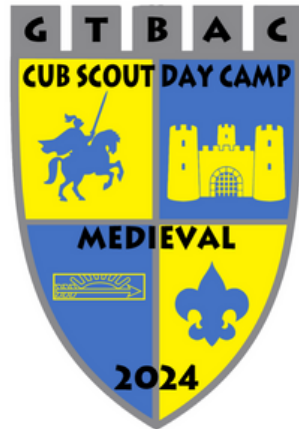
WEEKEND 2  
OCT 18-20



LEARN MORE WITH THE QR CODE ABOVE, OR CLICK HERE

# WELCOME TO SCOUTING EVENTS!

Each event is a chance to learn, grow, and make unforgettable memories! Visit the [gtbac.org/welcome-to-scouting](http://gtbac.org/welcome-to-scouting) or **Scan the QR Code** for registration and more information!



## CUB SCOUTS EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS

- Cub Activity Days
- Cub NOVA
- Cub Day Camp
- District Cub Activities
- Cub/Webelos Resident Camp



**PRESS HERE FOR MORE**  
**INFORMATION**

## DISCOUNTED TICKETS TO SCOUT DAYS WITH:

- Tampa Tarpons
- Clearwater Threshers
- Lakeland Tigers
- Tampa Bay Rays
- Tampa Bay Rowdies

# THE ROLE OF A CUB SCOUT PARENT

Every parent plays a very important role with their Scout. You will be working with your Scout on achievements, attending camp outings together, and having fun with your family! Scouting would not be possible without the parent or guardian's involvement.

You will also be asked to serve as a volunteer with the Cub Scout Pack where your Scout is a member. Whatever time you are able to invest in Scouting – the result is phenomenal! Kids will not only have fun because of your help but will also grow physically, mentally, and in their relationships with other people.

Please take a moment to look over these roles. Please mark what you would be able to help with.

**\*PLEASE FILL THIS PAGE OUT AND TURN EMAIL IN TO MEMBERSHIP@TAMPABAYSCOUTING.ORG \***

\_\_\_\_\_ **DEN LEADER OR ASSISTANT** (Must have at least two per den) - Works directly with their Scout's grade level den, their meetings, and activities.

\_\_\_\_\_ **OUTDOOR COMMITTEE** - Family Camping Events, Summer Day Camp Promotion, and Shooting Sports Events.

\_\_\_\_\_ **SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE** - Blue and Gold Banquet, Pinewood Derby Race, and Scouting for Food Service Project.

\_\_\_\_\_ **FINANCE COMMITTEE** - Popcorn Sale and Pack Operating Budget.

\_\_\_\_\_ **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** - Annual Pack Charter Renewal and Year-Round Recruitment Planning.

\_\_\_\_\_ **SUPPORT COMMITTEE** - Coordinate Pack Meeting Speakers and Events and assist other committees as needed.

\_\_\_\_\_ **ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE** - Record Keeping and Awards Coordination

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SCOUT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SCOUT'S GRADE \_\_\_\_\_



**IF A SITUATION ARISES AND YOU CAN NO LONGER HELP, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR DEN LEADER OR CUBMASTER**

**CHECK OUT OUR UNIT LEADER RESOURCES AT [TAMPABAYSCOUTING.ORG/RESOURCES/RECRUITMENT-MATERIALS](http://TAMPABAYSCOUTING.ORG/RESOURCES/RECRUITMENT-MATERIALS)**

**YOUTH INFORMATION**

First name (Full legal name)  Middle name  Last name  Suffix  Preferred nickname

Country  Home address  City  State  Zip code

Phone  -  -  Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)  /  /  Grade

Ethnic background: Black/African American Native American Pacific Islander Alaska Native Asian  
 Caucasian/White Other  
 Hispanic/Latino

Gender:  Male  Female  
 **Scout Life subscription**

School  Youth email address

**PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

Mark here if address is same as above.  Mark here if you are the Lion or Tiger adult partner.

Mark here if the Lion or Tiger adult partner is not the parent or legal guardian. Have the adult partner complete and attach an adult application and indicate their relationship below.

Select relationship:  Parent  Legal Guardian

First name (Full legal name)  Middle name  Last name  Suffix  Preferred nickname

Country  Home address  City  State  Zip code

Primary phone  -  -  Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)  /  /  Occupation  Employer  Gender:  Male  Female

Alternate phone  -  -  x  Ext.  Previous Scouting experience

I have read the attached information for parents and approve the application. I affirm that I have or will review *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*.

Signature of parent/legal guardian  Date  /  /  Parent/legal guardian email address

**To be completed by unit**

Signature of unit leader (or designee)  Date  /  /

**Unit type:**  Pack  Troop  Crew  Ship  Lone Cub Scout  Has earned Arrow of Light  
 Lone Scout

**Unit No.:**  For pack registration select one:  Lion  Tiger  Wolf  Bear  Webelos

If applicant has unexpired membership certificate, registration may be accomplished at no charge by transferring the registration or multiple registering.

Transfer application  Multiple application Enter membership number from unexpired certificate:

New member fee \$  Council fee \$  Registration fee \$  Scout Life fee \$

Council No.:  Unit type:  Pack  Troop  Crew  Ship Unit No. or district name:

PAID:  Cash  Check No. \_\_\_\_\_  Credit card

## Welcome to the BSA!

The BSA makes Scouting available to our nation's youth by chartering community organizations to operate Cub Scout packs, Scouts BSA troops, Venturing crews, and Sea Scout ships.

The chartered organization provides an adequate and safe meeting place as well as capable adult leadership, and requires adherence to the principles and policies of the BSA. The BSA local and national council provide training, program, outdoor facilities, literature, professional guidance, and liability insurance protection.

## Parent/Legal Guardian Role in Scouting

Scouting uses a fun program to promote character development, citizenship training, leadership, and mental and physical fitness. You can help by encouraging attendance, assisting with your child's advancement, attending meetings for parents, and assisting the unit when called upon to help. The unit cannot provide a quality program without your help.

**Parent Agreement.** I have read the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and I want my child to join Scouting. I will assist them in abiding by the policies of the BSA and the chartered organization. I will:

- *Serve as an adult partner while my child is a Lion or Tiger.*
- *Help my Scout grow through completion of advancements.*
- *Help the unit with activities and assist as needed.*

**Health Information.** You should inform your unit leader of any condition that might limit your child's participation. Please fill out the Annual Health and Medical Record, No. 680-001, found on [www.scouting.org/forms](http://www.scouting.org/forms) and give it to the unit leader.

**Youth Protection Begins With You™.** Child abuse is a serious problem in our society, and unfortunately, it can occur anywhere, even in Scouting. Youth safety is of paramount importance to Scouting. For that reason, the BSA continues to create and consistently improve its barriers to abuse.

The BSA is committed to providing a safe environment for young people. To maintain a safe environment, the BSA provides parents and adult leaders with numerous online and printed resources and adult leaders must complete Youth Protection Training (YPT) and renew their training as required. Parents who participate in Scouting activities are highly recommended to complete YPT. To learn more about the BSA's Youth Protection resources, go to [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/).

## Mandatory Reporting

All persons involved in Scouting must immediately report to local authorities any good-faith suspicion or belief that any child is or has been physically or sexually abused; physically or emotionally neglected; exposed to any form of violence or threat; or exposed to any form of sexual exploitation including the possession, manufacture, or distribution of child pornography, online solicitation, enticement, or showing of obscene material. No person may abdicate this reporting responsibility to any other person.

Additionally, any known or suspected abuse or behavior that might put a youth at risk must also be reported to the local Scout executive or the Scouts First Helpline (1-844-SCOUTS1 or 1-844-726-8871) if your Scout executive or local council cannot be reached.

**All parents must review the *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide* booklet in the Cub Scout or Scouts BSA handbooks or at [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/).**

## Youth Protection Policies

- Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader over 21 in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader over 21 must be present for any activity involving female youth.
- One-on-one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited both inside and outside of Scouting.

These and other key Youth Protection policies are addressed in the training and at [www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/](http://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/).

To learn about the BSA's other health and safety policies, please review the online version of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, the Scouter Code of Conduct, and the SAFE Checklist, which are available at [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety](http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety).



## Scout Life Magazine

For a subscription to a magazine that will help your child grow in the Scouting program, just fill in the *Scout Life* circle on the application and pay the special Scout subscription price.

## Who Can Join?

It is the philosophy of Scouting to welcome all eligible youth, regardless of gender, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, or gender identification, who are willing to accept Scouting's values and meet any other requirements of membership.

## Joining Requirements

### Cub Scout Pack

Pack membership is open to youth in kindergarten through fifth grade.

\***Lion**—Kindergarten (year before first grade)

**Bear**—Third grade

\***Tiger**—First grade

**Webelos Scout**—Fourth grade

**Wolf**—Second grade

**Arrow of Light Scout**—Fifth grade

**\*Lions and Tigers must have an adult partner. If the parent is not serving as the adult partner, the parental signature on the application indicates their approval of the adult partner. In addition, if the adult partner does not live at the same address as the Lion or Tiger, an adult application is required.**

## Scouts BSA Troop

Youth can be Scouts if they are at least 10 years old, currently in the fifth grade and register on or after March 1; OR have earned the Arrow of Light Award and are at least 10 years old, OR are age 11 but have not reached age 18.

## Venturing Crew/Sea Scout Ship

Venturing and Sea Scouting are for young men and women at least 13 years old who have completed the eighth grade, or are age 14 and not yet 21. **Applicants age 18 and older must complete a BSA adult application.**

## Excerpt From the Declaration of Religious Principle

The BSA maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God and, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and the organization or group with which the member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life. Only persons willing to subscribe to this Declaration of Religious Principle and to the Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America shall be entitled to certificates of membership.

**The annual national registration fee is nonrefundable.**

**For general questions, contact your BSA local council or visit [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org) for current policies.**

# WELCOME TO SCOUTING

It's with immense joy and pride that I welcome you to Scouting. As your Scout Executive, I am deeply committed to ensuring your Scouting experience is filled with adventure, learning, and fun. Your journey starts now!



13228 N Central ave.  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 872-2691

[www.tampabayscouting.org](http://www.tampabayscouting.org)

From Scout Executive:

**MIKE BUTLER**



 **GTBACBOYSCOUTS**

 **GREATERTAMPABAYAREACOUNCIL**

 **GTBACSCOUTS**

 **GREATERTAMPABAYAREACOUNCIL**