



HOUSATONIC COUNCIL

The Boy Scouts of America Mission Statement

It is the mission
of the Boy Scouts of America to
serve others by helping to instill values
in young people and,
in other ways, to prepare them
to make ethical choices
over their lifetime in achieving
their full potential.

The values we strive to instill
are based on those found in the
Scout Oath and Law.

Housatonic Council is made up of 5 towns and serves, through a variety of programs, over 1,800 youth ranging from ages 7-20! All Cub Scouts are eligible to continue their Scouting experience in Boy Scouts Troops, Venturing Crews, and Exploring Posts. Each Cub Scout Pack receives support from the council in several ways:

- Program Resources.
- Risk Free Sales Opportunities.
- Membership Resources.
- Monthly Roundtables and Training Courses.
- Full-time professionals assigned to council.
- Liability Insurance.
- Usage of Edmund D. Strang Scout Reservation.
- A full-service Scout Center that maintains all advancement, registration, and camping records.
- A Scout Shop to meet every recognition, camping, or gift needs, with a full inventory of uniforms and supplies

Once a year the council asks individual Scout families to support these services through the Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign. We hope you'll consider a gift when a representative visits your Pack!

HOUSATONIC COUNCIL AND SCOUT SHOP
326 Derby Avenue, Derby, CT 06418

Your Son, Scouting & You... An Aid to Parents



The goal of Scouting is to help a Scout to grow in both physical and mental ability, to introduce new skills and activities and to have fun. The program is structured around family participation. Cub Scouting is a program outlined by the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Parents and Leaders work together to:

- Influence each Scout's character development and spiritual growth
- Develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship
- Encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong in mind and body
- Improve understanding and communication within the family
- Strengthen skills in getting along with and respecting others
- Foster a sense of personal achievement by developing new interests and skills
- Provide FUN and exciting things to do
- Encourage each Scout to "Do Your Best"
- Prepare each Cub Scout to become a Boy Scout

SCOUTING IS FUN WITH A PURPOSE!

Tiger Cub Program



First Grade:

I. EACH FAMILY IS A MEMBER OF A TIGER DEN

- A. Has 5 - 9 boys & adult partners.
- B. Meets 4 times a month; twice a month for one hour you meet in a host family's home or place of choice, once you go on an outing and once you go to the Pack meeting.
- C. Meetings are based on the handbook.

II. EACH PACK HAS A TIGER CUB DEN LEADER

This person is someone from your Pack who can coordinate the shared leadership among the Tiger Cub Adult Partners. This insures that den meetings and outings are planned, prepared for, and conducted by all adult partners on a rotating basis and that den activities provide advancement opportunities for the boys in the den. This person serves as the den host for families at Pack Meetings.



Tiger Cub Motto

SEARCH, DISCOVER, SHARE

Tiger Cubs BSA is a school year program for first-grade boys. Each boy participates with a parent (or another adult family member) in family-oriented activities. These include things from family camping to preparing for emergencies.

The time you and your son spend in Tiger Cubs is meant to be fun, a chance to get to know one another better and do things with your family, as well as other members of the Tiger Cub Den, whom you see at monthly den meeting and Pack activities.

Cub Scout Motto

DO YOUR BEST

Cub Scouting is a home and neighborhood centered program designed to support family life for boys in second through fifth grades. Each Cub Scout learns to respect his home, country, God, and other people. The program also helps boys this age to:

- Learn new physical skills through sports, crafts, and games.
- Learn how to get along with others through group activities.
- Develop new mental skills such as writing and calculating.
- Develop personal independence.

In society, where your son is often taught that winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches him "to do his best" and be helpful to others, as expressed in the Cub Scout Promise.

A Cub Scout den provides your son with a group of boys his own age in which he can earn status and recognition. In the den, he will also gain a sense of personal achievement for the new skills he learns.

Cub Scout Program



Second Through Fifth Grades:

I. YOUR BOY IS A MEMBER OF A DEN

- A. A den has 4 to 8 boys.
- B. The den meets 2 to 4 times a month including meetings and events.
- C. The den is led by a Den Leader (usually a parent).
- D. The Den Leader is usually assisted by an Assistant Den Leader, a Den Chief (an older Boy Scout), and a Denner (A Cub Scout elected by den members). Two adults must be present according to BSA two-deep leadership policy
- E. Den meetings have games, crafts, stunts, songs, ceremonies, and lots of fun.

II. YOUR BOY IS A MEMBER OF A PACK

- A. A Pack is made up of several dens.
- B. The Pack meets once a month – all Cub Scout families attend.
- C. The monthly Pack meeting is led by the Cubmaster.
- D. The Pack meeting is the climax of the month's den meetings and activities.
- E. Pack meetings have games, skits, stunts, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of badges that the boys have earned that month.

III. THE PACK IS RUN BY THE PACK COMMITTEE

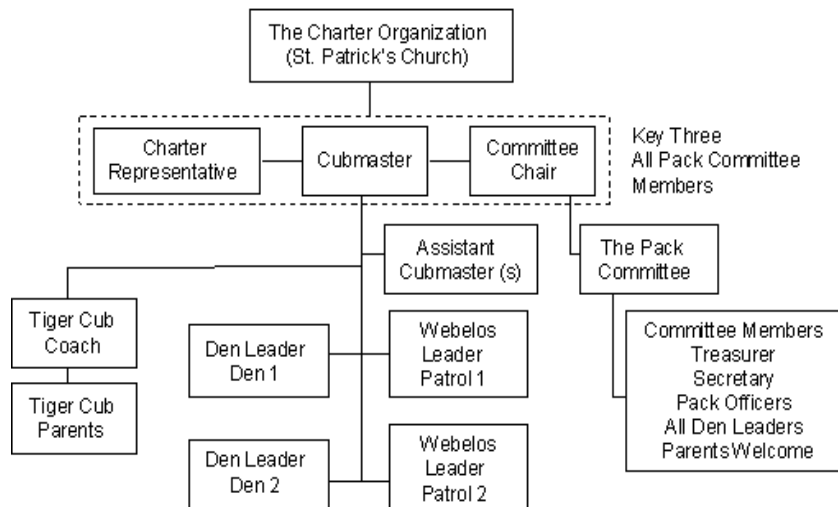
- A. The Pack committee is made up of a group of qualified adults, appointed by the chartered organization to administer the program of the Pack. Usually the committee members, as well as other Pack leaders, are parents of boys in the Pack.
- B. The committee meets once a month.
- C. The committee, led by the committee chairperson, selects leaders, performs record keeping, manages Pack finances, orders badges, maintains Pack equipment, helps train leaders, and recognizes leaders.
- D. The Cubmaster, Den Leader Coach, and Den Leaders plan den and Pack meeting around the monthly theme.



IV. THE PACK IS OWNED BY THE CHARTERED ORGANIZATION

- A. Chartered organizations include schools, parent-school associations, religious organizations, service clubs, and other groups interested in youth.
- B. The chartered organization approves leaders provides a meeting place, and operates Packs within the guidelines and policies of the chartered organization and the Boy Scouts of America.
- C. The chartered organization selects a chartered organization representative who serves as a liaison between the Pack and the organization.

CHARTERED ORGANIZATION CHART



Finances

I. Pack Level Finances

Cub Scout Packs are a non-profit organization. The Pack maintains itself through fundraising projects during the Scouting year. The Pack Committee will decide on the type of fundraiser and how many will be held during the year. Scouts are expected to participate in all fundraisers to the best of their ability. The ability for the Pack to provide a quality Scouting program is greatly increased with the active participation of the Scouts in the fundraisers. The monies raised by the Pack in the fundraisers are used to cover Pack expenses.

II. Den Level Finances

Den level finances are the sole responsibility of the individual Dens. Each Den sets their own amount for weekly dues and decides what is to be done with those dues. A standard of \$1 or \$2 per meeting per Scout is fairly common. The dues collected at the Den are to be used for the Den crafts, trips and activities.

It is encouraged to have the Scout 'pay their own way' by working at home for the dues required at the Den meetings.

The Advancement Plan

The responsibility for a boy's advancement in Cub Scouting lies with the family and not with the Pack. Some advancement requirements are done at den meetings but most are completed at home with the family.

Teachers and educational authorities alike have long known the benefits of visual demonstrations. Learning occurs faster and easier when the student sees the lesson being performed in addition to reading about it in a book.

Now you can give your Cub Scout this "visual advantage" with the all-new Cub Scout video library. Fully approved and endorsed by the Boy Scouts of America, this video series incorporates imaginative animation, computer graphics, and live action to entertain and teach your youngsters the important techniques and values of Cub Scouting. Three videos, Bobcat/Wolf, Bear, and Webelos, are available through your local council service center.





TIGER

First graders work toward their Tiger Cub Patch and earn beads by participating in activities. Beads are awarded for participation to enhance the Tiger Cub Program and ease the way into Cub Scouting.



BOBCAT

All boys, regardless of age, earn the Bobcat Badge first. They do this by learning the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack, handshake, salute, sign, motto, and the meaning of "Webelos". After receiving the Bobcat Badge, the boy works on requirements based on his grade or age.



WOLF

A Cub Scout who has completed first grade works on 12 achievements to earn the Wolf Badge. After a boy has earned his Wolf Badge he may work on electives until he is old enough to work on his next rank. For every 10 electives he completes, he earns an Arrow Point.



BEAR

A Cub Scout, who has completed second grade, completes 12 of 24 achievements to earn the Bear Badge. After he earns his Bear Badge, a boy may work on electives in different areas until he is old enough to begin work on the next rank. For every 10 electives a boy completes, he earns an Arrow Point. A boy may earn as many Arrow Points as he wishes.



WEBELOS SCOUTS

When a Cub Scout has completed the third grade (or becomes 9 years old), he transfers to a Webelos Den, led by an adult Webelos Leader. The boy works on requirements for the Webelos Badge, 20 activity pins and the Arrow of Light which prepares him for Boy Scouting.



ARROW OF LIGHT

The Arrow of Light is the highest award a Cub Scout can earn. When he earns the Arrow of Light, or becomes 10 ½ years old or completes the 5th grade, he may graduate from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting at an impressive graduation ceremony. We aim to graduate every Cub Scout into Boy Scouting.

Special Programs (Packs individual programs may vary)



PINEWOOD DERBY

Parent/son project that builds a race car made from a block of wood. Car must weigh 5 ounces or less and be able to clear track. Your Pack may hold a race off.



SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Food drive held to benefit local food banks in the Valley. Part of a nationwide program of the Boy Scouts of America to help the hungry. Some units may participate in a “GOOD TURN” activity by doing a Pack service project to benefit their community.

BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET

Birthday party for Cub Scouting usually held in February. Most often this is a dinner, but it can be just a dessert. A special program or entertainment is customary.



DAY CAMP

Exciting summertime activity that includes crafts, games, nature, sports, songs, and skits. Camp is conducted Mon. to Fri. for three weeks and are held at Three Saints Park in Bethany.



RESIDENT CAMP

A summertime week of camping experience offered at Camp Strang in Goshen. The program includes crafts, BB gun, archery, outdoor skill development sessions, activity work and team building programs all centered around a fun and an exciting theme.



BOYS' LIFE MAGAZINE

A MAGAZINE FOR BOYS AND ADULTS. *Boys' Life* has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, science, and U.S. history. There are also jokes, comics, and short stories. Magazine is \$12.00 per year.

RELIGIOUS AWARDS PROGRAM

This program is designed to recognize Cub Scouts who demonstrate faith, observe the creeds or principles of faith, and give service. Cub Scouts work with their own religious leaders and receive the award from that religious group.



CUB SCOUT SPORTS & ACADEMICS

These programs encourage boys to become more proficient and pursue a learning process in various academic subjects, as well as individual and team sports. Choose from over 20 sports and 10 academic subjects. All have great recognition items.

How Can You Help?

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

What Do You Receive 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, 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 good 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 will set a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.

The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and pride in being publicly identified as a part of this organization – wearing the Scout uniform is a visible means of showing you believe in and stand up for the ideals and objectives of the Boy Scouts of America.

Parent Help Positions (Positions will vary from Pack to Pack)

The following positions will need to be filled for a Pack to have a successful year. Some of these positions are short term and others are for the entire year. Each parent must be willing to assist if this program is to work.

- Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader
- Pack Parents' Committee
- Pack Song Leader
- Awards Committee
- Pinewood Derby Committee
- Scouting for Food Committee
- Blue and Gold Banquet Committee
- Cubmaster or Assistant Cubmaster
- Friends of Scouting Coordinator
- Popcorn Coordinator and Committee
- Cub Scout Day Camp Coordinator
- Cub Scout Resident Camp Coordinator
- Tiger Cub Den Leader
- Pack Sports Program Committee
- Special Events Committee
- Webelos Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader
- Marketing/Newsletter Committee
- Treasurer
- Membership Committee
- Youth Protection Trainer
- Learning for Life Coordinator

Key Position Descriptions

- **Committee Chair**
 - Runs committee meetings, makes sure re-registration, Pack business and Pack activities are completed in a timely manner
 - Confers with the Cubmaster on policy issues and maintains records
 - Recruits volunteers for leadership positions

- **Cubmaster**
 - Plans the program year
 - Plans and runs Pack Meetings, round ups, and other program events
 - Maintains relations with Dens and parents
 - Plans and conducts advancement ceremonies
 - Recruits parent assistance in the Pack
- **Charter Organization Representative**
 - Provides a formal link to the Charter Organization
- **Assistant Cubmaster**
 - Assists Cubmaster in planning and running Pack meetings, functions, etc
 - Fills in for Cubmaster as required
- **Den Leaders**
 - Conduct Den meetings and other Den level activities with the assistance of the Assistant Den Leaders and the parents
 - Communicates planned Den and Pack activities to parents
- **Assistant Den Leaders**
 - Assists in planning and conducting Den activities
- **Den Leader Coach**
 - Serves as a resource for Den Leaders for information and ideas for running their Den
- **Tiger Cub Den Leader**
 - Serves as a resource for the Tiger Cub families
 - Informs Tiger Cub families about upcoming Pack activities
 - Ensures Tiger Cubs meet regularly, are preparing for advancement, are participating in Pack activities, and are recognized for their part in Pack activities
- **Pack Committee Members**
 - Treasurer – Maintains checking account, deposits money, writes checks and reports balances monthly to Committee
 - Secretary – Records minutes of Committee meetings and ensures all Leaders are given a copy of those minutes; maintains current Pack roster
 - Awards Coordinator – Maintains Advancement Records with all advancement and awards noted
 - Fund Raising Chair – Monitors participation of Scouts on Pack fundraising activities
 - Activities Coordinator - Examines outside activities, presents to Committee for review and arranges as needed
 - Webmaster - Manages the Pack website within the guidelines established by BSA



You Are Not Alone!

- Our Staff at the Housatonic Council Service Center (203-734-3329) can help or get you in touch with someone who can.
- Our Council is served by two full-time Scouting professionals, one Registrar/Payroll/AP&AR staff person and three part-time Scout Shop employees.
- Roundtable, a monthly leaders' meeting for adult volunteers in your council, is available. You can get help with crafts, games, skits, and songs for use at den and Pack meetings. It's a great place to ask questions and share ideas.
- Program Helps contain meeting plans for den and Pack meetings and show you how to do crafts and games. Many Packs purchase annual Program Helps for their leaders.
- Most Packs have a Pack Library that contains the leader books that you need.
- The Council team of volunteers called the Council Committee, which sponsors Council wide quality event programs that boys can participate in.
- The Council has another volunteer team called the Commissioner Staff. They are also known as our "service team". They check on the health of your Pack and are a communications link between your Pack and the Scouting organization. A Commissioner is assigned to your unit.
- The Council has "Fast Start" and Basic Leader Training available. All leaders need to be trained.



Training For The New Cub Scout Leader

The first step in training is to review the "Fast Start" video and viewer guide. These materials will give you a quick look at your job and an overview of Cub Scouting. The next step is to take New Leader Essentials and Cub Scout Leader Specific training. New Leader Essentials is an overview of the Scouting program at all levels. Cub Scout Leader Specific training covers how to run den and Pack meetings, program planning, and administration.

Cub Leader Training takes place twice a year, in the fall and again in the spring, but the training staff is always available to work with new leaders to get them trained as soon as possible.