

**Cub Scout Pack 250
White Oak District
National Capital Area Council**



**Parent Handbook
September 2012**

www.pack250.org

Pack 250 Mission

The leaders of Cub Scout Pack 250 are committed to providing a quality, year – round program of Cub Scouting activities. Special emphasis is placed on character development, family, citizenship, and outdoor activities.

Cub Scouting and Your Family

Pack 250 invites parents and their sons to become part of one of America's leading value-driven organizations. As a parent, you want your son to grow up to be a person of worth; self reliant, dependable and caring individual. **Scouting** has these same goals in mind for him. Since 1910, we have been weaving lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, developing good citizenship, and enhancing physical fitness in youth.

These values help your son make good decisions throughout his lifetime and give him confidence as he becomes an adult leader of tomorrow. With all the negative influences in today's society, Scouting provides your son with a positive peer group and a program that is fun and adventurous and helps him to "be prepared" to shape his own future.

In Cub Scouting, boys learn ideals like honesty, bravery, and respect. These values help boys make constructive decisions throughout their lifetimes and give them the confidence they need to grow and develop. The unique aspect of Cub Scouting is that you, his family, join the program with your son. You will help him along the way.



Joining Pack 250

Any boy in first through fifth grade is welcome to join Pack 250. Kindergartners may sign up to be Tigers in August and begin right away. The boy's parent must fill out a Cub Scout application, which can be obtained from the Cubmaster (Henry Gruner) or Pack Committee Chair (Kala Surprenant) or at the National Capital Area offices.

Registration:

The registration fee for joining Pack 250 is \$100 year for Cub Scouts, \$110 for Webelos Scouts.

This fee pays for:

- Registration with the Boy Scouts of America
- Annual Subscription to *Boys' Life* magazine
- Awards

The registration fee should be turned in to the Cubmaster or Membership Chair along with the Cub Scout application, parent information form, and scout behavior contract (discussed later in the handbook.)



Cub Scout Promise

*I, (name), 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.*

Law of the Pack

*The Cub Scout follows Akela.
The Cub Scout helps the pack go.
The pack helps the Cub Scout grow.
The Cub Scout gives goodwill.*

Cub Scout Motto

Do your best!

Tiger Cub Motto

“Search, Discover, Share”

12 Cub Scouting Core Values

*Citizenship
Compassion
Cooperation
Courage
Faith
Health and fitness
Honesty
Perseverance
Positive attitude
Resourcefulness
Respect
Responsibility*

Uniforms

An essential component of Cub Scouting is the uniform. Cub Scouts are made to feel part of a group and have a place to display their awards when they wear their uniforms. Tigers, Wolves and Bears wear the blue Cub Scout Shirt. Webelos usually wear the blue shirt during their first year, and then switch to the tan Boy Scout shirt. One bit of advice: **BUY BIG**. Your son will be wearing his Scout shirt for at least two years (and will grow a lot!).

The **minimum uniform** in Pack 250 is the BSA blue uniform shirt (Webelos may wear tan shirts {Boy Scout} with blue shoulder tabs) with all patches, appropriate neckerchief (orange for Tigers, yellow for Wolves, blue for Bears, and plaid for Webelos), and a neckerchief slide, Cub Scout hats, blue jeans or blue pants/shorts (no athletic shorts).

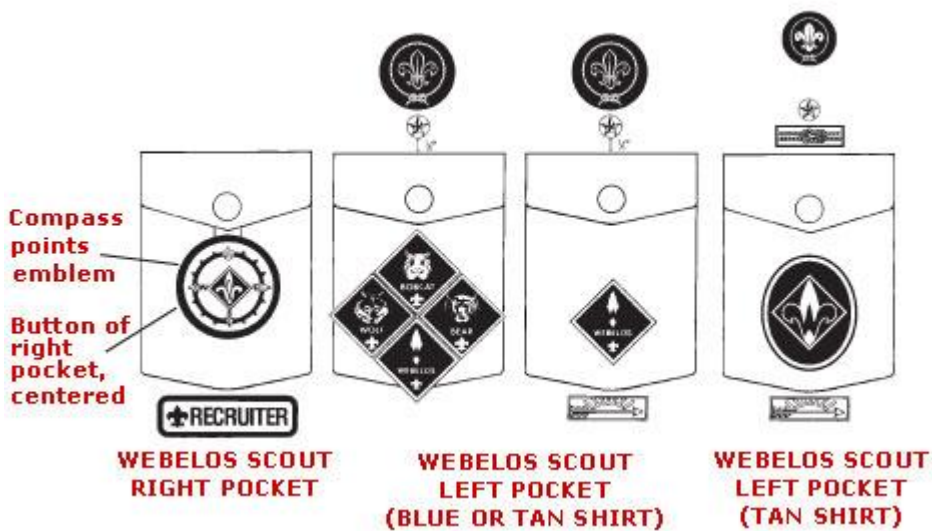
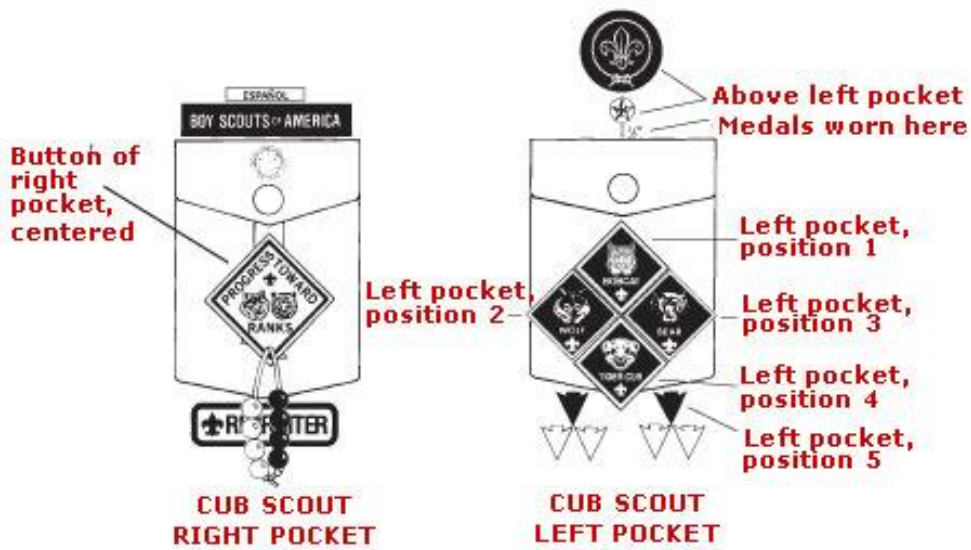
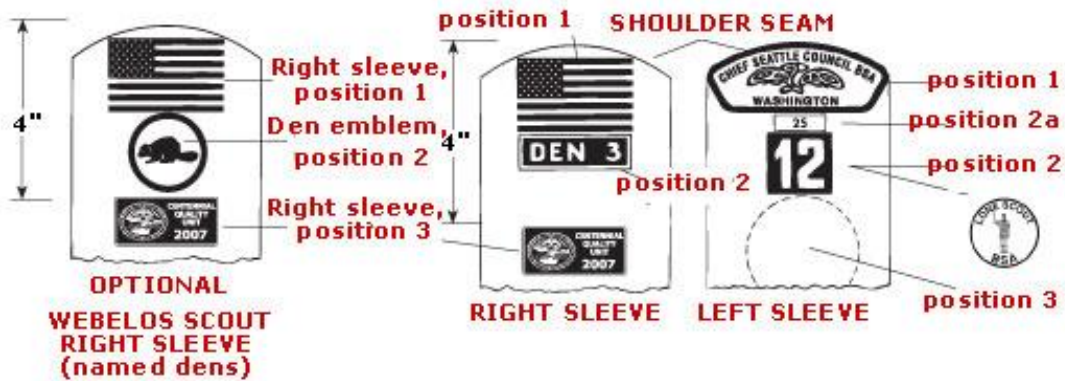


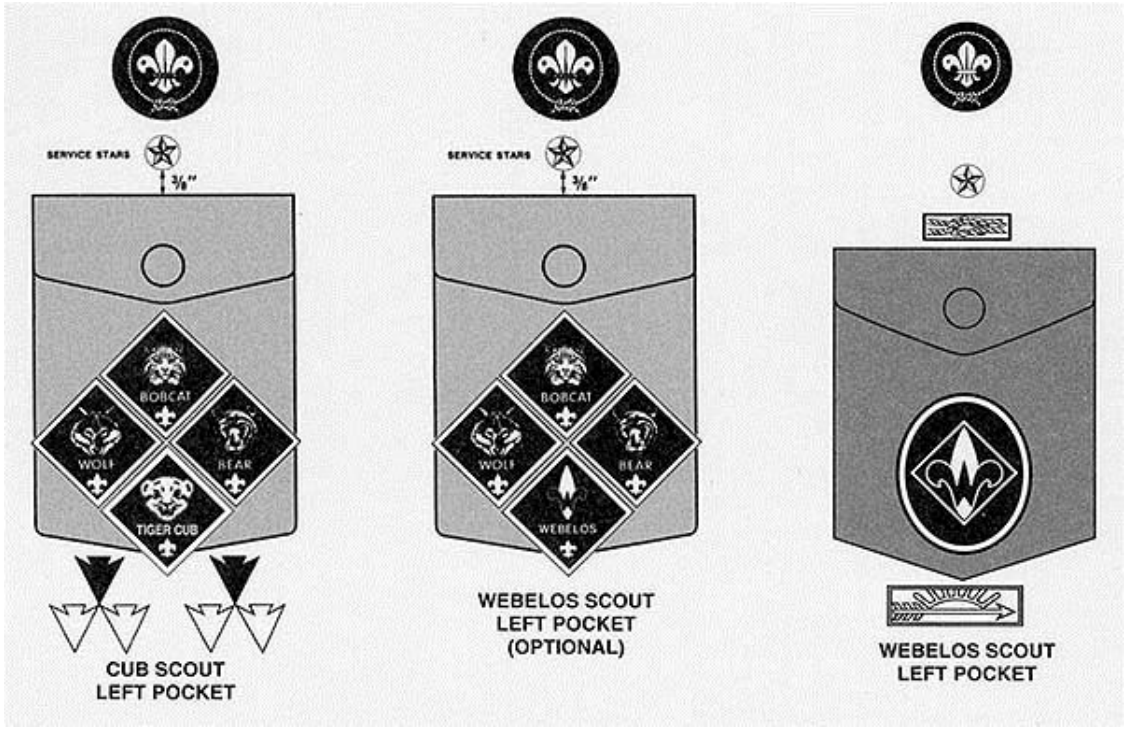
Cub Scout Patches

The basic patches that you will need will be a council shoulder patch, the world crest and the pack number, individual “2”, “5”, “0”. Note that all uniforms come with the American flag on the right shoulder. The placement of these patches (along with other insignia your boy will wear) is shown later in this handbook. If you have any questions about patches, please feel free to ask you’re the Cubmaster, your Den Leader, or another parent whose son has been in Scouts for a while.

Uniforms and other Scout supplies and equipment may be found at the Scout Store on...Or at the online Boy Scout Ship: <http://www.scoutstuff.org/bsasupply>







CUB SCOUT AND WEBELOS SCOUT INSIGNIA



Parent Responsibilities

When joining Pack 250, each parent or adult family member agrees to support their son in the following ways:

- See that he has the proper uniform and handbook.
- Ensures the scout comes to all meetings in proper uniform as described in this handbook.
- Assist him in attending Den meetings/outings and monthly Pack meetings. Pack 250 Goal: Scouts attend 80% of all meetings and activities.
- Work with him to complete the achievements for his rank award.
- Record completed achievements and submit information to Den leaders at required deadlines.
- Return information forms and permission slips as required.
- Support his Den Leader as a resource person or substitute as asked or share in hosting monthly den meetings.
- Agree to serve in some volunteer capacity as called upon.
- Provide input to the Den Leader or Pack leadership with regard to Den or Pack programming.
- Submit dues to the Dens to help cover costs of supplies (not all Dens may have dues)

Parent volunteers are always needed. The Pack has an active leadership training program where you will learn everything you need to know to be a successful leader. You will also be assigned a leadership mentor to help orient you to the role of Cub Scout Den Leader.

If you'd like to help in any capacity, please contact the Cubmaster (Henry Gruner), Assistant Cubmaster (Robert Forsyth), Pack Committee Chairman (Kala Surprenant), or your son's Den Leader (Listed later in this handbook).

All types of help are needed—driving on trips, helping organize events, assisting in a Den Leader's absence, etc. Remember, Cub Scout Packs do not exist without volunteer leadership. Please do your part when asked. There will be sign up opportunities at the first Pack Meeting and during the year with Sign Up Genius.

Youth Protection Training

All Leaders and Parents working with the Cub Scout must take the online Youth Protection Training Course. This only takes 20 minutes of your time and must be renewed every 2 years. The online training can be found at <http://myscouting.scouting.org>

What is Cub Scouting?

In 1930, the Boy Scouts of America launched a home and neighborhood-based program for boys aged nine to eleven. The program focused on nature, hobbies, games, preparation for Boy Scouts, and above all, character. While the Cub Scouting program has changed over the last 75 years, now admitting boys as young as six as Tiger Cubs, and grown from 5,102 boys and 243 packs in 1930 to over 1.9 million boys in more than 53,000 packs today, the focus of the program is still on preparing boys to become better adults.

Boys, families, leaders, and chartered organizations all work together to achieve the **ten purposes of Cub Scouting**:

1. To influence the development of character.
2. To encourage spiritual growth.
3. To help boys develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship.
4. To encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong in mind and body.
5. To improve understanding within the family.
6. To strengthen the ability of boys to get along with other boys and respect other people.
7. To foster a sense of personal achievement in boys by helping them develop new interests and skills.
8. To show boys how to be helpful and to do one's best.
9. To provide fun and exciting new things for boys to do.
10. To prepare boys to become Boy Scouts.

We achieve these purposes by teaching the ideals of Cub Scouting, which are represented by the Cub Scout Promise, the Law of the Pack, and the Cub Scout Motto.



Who Can Be a Cub Scout?

The Cub Scouting program is for boys in the first through fifth grades. Boys who have finished kindergarten may join on August 1st. The program is broken into ranks, and the boys work to earn a specific rank each year in the pack.

Tiger Cubs are boys in the first grade or 6 years old. They join with an adult partner. All of the adult partners share in the leadership of the Tiger Cub den with the guidance and support of the Tiger Cub den leader. The Tiger Cub program is a simple and fun introduction to the excitement of Cub Scouting as the boys and their adult partners fulfill the Tiger Cub motto of “Search, Discover, Share.”

Wolf Cubs are boys who have completed first grade or are 7 years old. To earn their Wolf badge, boys must complete twelve achievements involving simple physical and mental skills. The boys meet as a den under the leadership of a Den Leader. While they no longer have adult partners with them all the time, parents are still welcome and encouraged to attend den meetings with their boy.

Bear Cubs: When a boy has completed the second grade or is 8 years old, he begins working towards his Bear rank. There are 24 Bear achievements in four categories (God, Country, Family, and Self). The Cub Scout must complete twelve of these to earn the Bear badge. These requirements are somewhat more difficult and challenging than those for the Wolf rank.

Webelos Scouts are boys in the fourth grade (9 years old) and fifth grade (10 years old). The Webelos program focuses on more challenging and independent activities and begins the transition to Boy Scouts. Webelos work on 20 activity pins in five groups (Physical Skills, Mental Skills, Community, Technology, and Outdoors). Much of the work on these activity pins take place in the den, rather than at home.

Arrow of Light: By the time the boy begins the fifth grade, he should be ready to work on his Arrow of Light. This is the highest award in Cub Scouting and the only one that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. This award can also be worn on the Adult Scout Uniform. By the middle of fifth grade (sometime between December and February), the Webelos Scout will be ready to cross over into Boy Scouts and join a Boy Scout Troop



The Structure of Cub Scouting

Like every effective organization, Cub Scouting has a structure. Understanding this structure and how it works will increase your son's enjoyment of the program and leave you, the parent, far less confused.

- First Grade boys are **Tiger** Cubs
- Second grade boys work toward their **Wolf** Rank
- Third grade boys work toward their **Bear** Rank
- Fourth grade boys are Webelos and work on their **Webelos** rank
- Fifth grade boys are second year **Webelos** and work on Cub Scouting's highest award, the *Arrow of Light*

BSA Youth Protections Guidelines state that **no den meeting may take place without two-deep adult leadership**. This means one registered Scout volunteer and at least one other adult must be present at any den activity. **There are absolutely no exceptions to this rule.**

Dens

A den is a group of (usually) eight to ten boys all of the same rank. Each den is lead by a Den Leader and Assistant Den Leader. A Boy Scout, known as a Den Chief, may also work with your son's den. Dens in Pack 250 usually have one meeting per month plus a den outing. The frequency, time, duration, and location of meetings will be decided by the parents and Den Leaders at the first orientation meeting.

Pack

The Pack consists of all of the dens and their families. Pack 250 meets monthly throughout the entire year, generally on the first Friday of every month (unless that day is a school holiday or conflicts with a school event) at Stonegate Elementary School. The meetings usually run from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The pack events that occur throughout the year include activities such as the Pinewood Derby, Raingutter Regatta, the Blue & Gold Banquet, Cubannapolis, Rocket Derby, Camping Trips, Field Trips, or other pack activities. The pack serves as the parent organization for the dens and provides direction, program support, leader training, and maintenance of the budget. The pack is led by the Cubmaster and the Pack Committee Chair. The Cubmaster acts as the Master of Ceremonies at the monthly pack meetings and other special activities. The Assistant Cubmaster may also help with these events.

Pack Committee

The Pack Committee is made up of volunteer adults from the Pack who manages the Pack and its programs. The Pack Committee Chair runs the committee meetings and is the primary leader of the pack. Along with the Cubmaster, the Pack Committee Chair leads the group in planning and organizing the pack program. The Pack Committee also plans the pack budget and maintains the pack funds. The Pack Committee meets as needed to determine appropriate programming and direction for the Pack.

Parents are encouraged to serve on the pack committee and are welcome to attend committee meetings.

Charter Organization

Every Cub Scout Pack is required to have a sponsor, known as the Charter Organization. Pack 250 has been chartered by the Stonegate Parent's Association.

District and Council

Pack 250 is part of the National Capital Area Council, which covers White Oak district. The District provides support for all of the scouting programs (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Crew, and Venturing), training for leaders, and runs various events such as Summer Camps and Day Camp.

<http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/>

Leader Training

If you decide to take on a leadership role, the first step is to review the Fast Start training. Cub Scout Leader Fast Start training is located online <http://www.scouting.org/Training/Adult.aspx/>. The interactive slideshow will give you an easy and quick look at your job and overview of Scouting. The next step is to take the Cub Scout Leader Basic Training, which covers how to conduct den and pack meetings, program planning and administration.



Committee Chairs

Cubmaster: Master of Ceremonies for all Pack meetings. Ensures all pack meetings and activity run on time. Also serves on the Pack Committee.

Assistant Cubmaster: Assists the Cubmaster at all Pack meeting and activities. Also serves on the Pack Committee.

Committee Chair: Responsible for organizing the Pack Committee, filling Committee positions, and the annual re-chartering of the Pack. While all committee members have a voice in the process, the Committee Chair has the ultimate decision making authority for the committee.

Treasurer: Responsible for monitoring Pack finances, depositing money from registrations, fundraising, and paying for Pack expenses. Also serves on the Pack Committee. The Treasurer is authorized to make payments without specific committee approval for items that are “reasonable and customary” and within budget. Extraneous items and large expenditures must be reviewed with the Committee.

Chartered Organization Representative: Serves as a liaison between our Chartered Organization, and the Pack Committee.

Institution Head: Leader of the Charter Organization.

Secretary: Takes minutes of the Pack Committee meetings. Collects Leader and Scout applications, compiles the Pack calendar, maintains membership roster. Also serves on the Pack Committee.

Advancement Chair: Track the advancement of each Cub in the Pack. Be a coach to the Den Leaders to answer their questions about advancement. Determine what advancement-related awards are needed for each Pack Meeting, and acquire the awards through the Scout Shop, and prepare awards for presentation at the Pack Meeting. Also serves on the Pack Committee.

Hospitality Chair: Plans (with the Pack Committee) and coordinates all food and drinks for all Pack meetings and activities. Purchases & maintains paper products for Pack Meetings and Activities; Oversees volunteer sign up for food and drinks.

The Pack 250 Cub Scout Program

Pack 250 runs a year-round program filled with activities. While we don't expect every boy to attend every function, we do encourage him (and his family) to be as active as possible. The Pack 250 goal is for boys to attend 80% of the den and pack meetings. Boys are expected to attend all den meetings, and both boys and their parents are expected to attend all pack meetings. Parents are also encouraged to attend den meetings and all other events as well.

- ***Note that the Tiger Cub's Adult Partner must attend all functions with their Tiger Cub, unless other arrangements have been made.***

To keep parents informed about events, Pack 250 operates both a website and email list serve. The pack website is located at www.pack250.org. At the pack website, you can find the pack calendar of events for the current program year, as well as additional information on scouting, such as references, links to other informative sites.

- **No Cub Scout is to be left at any Pack meeting or Pack event without parental supervision.**
- **There must be at least two adults present at ALL meetings or outings.**
- **Siblings are invited to attend Pack meetings and most Pack functions with parental supervision.**

Pack Meetings

The core of the Pack 250 program is the monthly Pack Meeting. The Pack Meeting provides an opportunity to recognize the advancement and achievements of the boys, their parents, and their leaders. The pack meeting also gives the boys a chance to demonstrate the skills they have learned and show off projects that they have completed in their dens.



Awards and Recognition

Parents should assist the den leader in tracking their son's advancement towards earning each rank. The Den Leader has the responsibility of reporting all awards to the pack advancement chair. ***IT IS THE PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT ADVANCEMENT CREDIT TO THE DEN LEADER.*** Please make sure that your Scout receives all the awards that he has worked so hard to earn.

Cub Scouts may earn awards and recognition in several special areas. Awards such as the world Conservation Award, the Leave No Trace Award and others are usually done as den projects.

The BSA Religious Award program may be completed as a den activity or individually. The award requires a special workbook (available at the Scout Shop) and a church mentor to monitor the Scout's progress. The requirements are different for each religion, so please consult the workbook for your faith for more details. Upon completion the religious award can be presented either during a Pack meeting, or during a church service of the Scout's faith.

Academics and Sports Program

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program enriches the basic Cub Scout program. The program allows Cub Scouts to learn new techniques, increase scholarship, and develop sportsmanship while having fun. The emphasis of the program is to introduce a boy to a sport or academic subject, to allow him to participate in it, and to encourage him to do his best. Boys who complete an activity in the program earn a Belt Loop that is worn on the Cub Scout Belt. At this time Pack 250 does not have an organized program, but parents and scouts are encouraged to work on this program on their own. Any loops and pins earned for this program are must be purchased at the by the parent. You may do this at the local scout store or online. There are some belt loops and pins that your Webelos scout must earn for the rank of Webelos and the Pack covers the cost of these loops and pins.

Camping

Pack 250 participates in two camping activities each year with the hope of creating more opportunities, Webelos Weekend and Family Camping. You are encouraged to camp with your son whenever you can so he can practice what he has learned in Cub Scouts. Dens are also encouraged to have family camping events. A family camp is where your den's families get together for an overnight camp out, at a state park or in someone's backyard. These are not official Scout events, just families getting together. For a Pack camping we would need an adult who is BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation trained to fulfill the requirements of Guide to Safe Scouting).

Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood Derby is one of the most popular and memorable events in Cub Scouting. Pack 250 holds its Pinewood Derby in early spring (Usually February or March) at the Stonegate Elementary School Cafeteria. The boys receive their kits at the December pack meeting and work with their parent and Den to create a car to race. The Scouts are supposed to do the majority of the work on their car. But we know that dads can't help not assisting. All we ask is that it be your boy's design and that he does as much of the work as he can. Please remember that it is against Boy Scout policy for Cub Scouts to use power tools. So, it is okay for an adult to rough cut the design using a power tool and them for the Scout to do the finish sanding and painting by hand. Tiger Cubs may only be able to help sand and paint their car, while Webelos should be able to do almost all of the work themselves. Boys compete by rank in a race, and as a pack in a race, and show categories. This event is incredibly fun and gets exponentially better every year. Information on car building specifics will be handed out with the cars.

Raingutter Regatta:

The Raingutter Regatta is an event similar to the Pinewood Derby. It encourages families to work with their Cub Scouts to build a sail boat that they then race against other members of the Pack.

Cubannapolis

This event is similar to a Soap Box Derby, where dens work together to build a cardboard cars that they will then race against other members of the pack.

Blue & Gold Banquet

The Blue & Gold Banquet is Cub Scouting's birthday party. Held each year in February, the Blue & Gold Banquet (potluck) is a chance for Pack 250 to come together for an evening of food, family, and fun.

Rocket Derby

The Rocket Derby is usually held at the Stonegate athletic fields. Usually the scouts will work on putting together their rockets with their Dens. Then all the dens will come together to show off their rockets and shoot them off.

Cub Scout Behavior Expectations

In order for Pack 250 to provide an active, quality, and safe program of scouting, it is important for all Scouts and parents to understand and acknowledge the expected Pack 250 standards for scout behavior. The best organizations function at a high level because everyone understands their roles, responsibilities and expectations. The Boy Scouts of America have developed 12 Core Value's Cub Scouting and Character Connections which should govern all Scouts' conduct. Pack 250 has further developed a behavioral contract to insure that every member of the Pack understands the expectations and requirements of being a member, and all scouts and their parents are aware of, and agree to abide by them.

BSA Pack 250 strives to teach Scouts to live by the principles outlined in the Cub Scout Promise and Core Values. The Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. These goals are set high, and as he reaches for them, he has increasing control over what and who he becomes.

Scouting should be fun and challenging. Scouts deserve a safe and supportive environment in which to have fun and grow without unnecessary roughness, physical and verbal intimidation, foul and offensive language, or disrespectful behavior. It is the responsibility of all Scouts to help build Pack unity and an effective, enjoyable Scouting program. Scout and adult leaders should strive to observe and recognize positive and constructive behaviors.

Expectations of the Scout

- Attend 80% of Pack meetings and events, in uniform.
- Live by the Cub Scout Promise and Core Values.
- Remember that safety of yourself and your pack comes first.
- Follow the directions from your Cubmaster, Den Leader and other adult leaders.

Expectations by the Pack

- The Pack will help you advance in rank on your trail to the Arrow of Light and becoming a Boy Scout.
- The Pack will help you develop in character, responsibility, leadership and maturity.
- The Pack will provide a fun, safe environment with suitable role models.

While no list can ever be complete, here are a few general rules that we all agree to abide by:

Scouts will

- Conduct themselves by the Cub Scout Promise and will follow the Core values.
- Show up for Scouting events promptly and in the appropriate uniform for the event.
- Exhibit leadership by following rules and asking others to do the same.
- Follow reasonable directives from an adult or junior leader.
- Become quiet when the “sign” goes up. This applies to all Scouting events.
- Respect other person’s property.
- Respect other people’s feelings.

Follow these fire rules

- Place fires only in designated locations.
- No fires or flames of any kind are permitted inside tents.
- Scouts will not play in, near, or with the fire.
- Scouts will not wave burning sticks, or any heated object, in the air.

Scouts will not

- Swear, or use offensive language or gestures.
- Display unruly, loud, disrespectful, or disobedient behavior.
- Borrow or use another individuals or Pack equipment or property without prior consent.
- Use alcohol or any other controlled substances that are not prescribed by a physician.
- Use tobacco products of any kind.
- Use Tape/CD/MP3 players, portable TV’s, radios, portable games, or other electronic items at Pack/Den meetings or activities
- Bring or use firearms, fire crackers, fireworks, ammunitions, black powder, sling shots, bows and arrows, paint ball guns or any other weapons.
- Allow inappropriate physical roughness amongst fellow Scouts. No fighting, shoving, punching, kicking, or stick fighting will be tolerated.
- Threaten or intimidate another Scout by word or action including “put downs”, ridiculing, or name-calling.
- Leave an activity and/or designated area without an adult leaders expressed permission.
- Intentionally destroy or damage natural or man-made areas or property.

Progressive discipline includes

- Warning
- Call parents or removal from the meeting/activity
- Suspension from one activity
- Require parent(s) to be present at all meetings/activities
- Hearing with Cubmaster and committee chair for possible removal from the pack.

The primary standard is to develop the desire for the Scout to live by these expectations, modeled on the Cub Scout Promise and Core Values. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action by the pack leadership. If the Scout endangers the Pack 250 program or displays no desire to change his behavior, he will be asked to leave the unit.

Unfortunately, there may be instances when it is necessary to discipline a Scout for violating these general rules. The primary purpose of this policy is to provide a framework that ensures a Scout understands why he was disciplined, as well as to ensure the Scout is treated fairly, appropriately, and consistently for the violation that occurs.

Appropriately applied discipline is a key ingredient to helping our Scouts grow and mature into responsible young men and solid citizens. When there are problems, cooperation among fellow Scouts, the Cubmaster, adult leaders, and parents often turn problems into opportunities for growth and character development.



Safety Guidelines

Use of Knives by Cub Scouts

To earn the right to carry a pocketknife at Cub Scout functions (approved by the Cubmaster), Scouts must be in the third grade and have earned the *Whittling Chip* by completing the Shavings and Chips (Achievement 19) in the *Bear Cub Scout Book*. **Please do not let your Scout bring a knife until they meet these requirements.** Pack 250 encourages this award, as we feel it teaches respect for safety and personal property.

In return for the privilege of carrying a pocketknife at Cub Scout functions, the Scout must understand the rules for safe use of a pocketknife and handle his pocketknife with care. Failure to follow the guidelines will result in suspension of his carrying privilege. BSA guidelines provide that the knife must be a folding knife with a blade shorter than the palm of the boy's hand.

Guide to Safe Scouting:

The following key items are extracted from *A Unit Leader's Guide for Current Policies and Procedures to Safe Activities* (ISBN 0-8395-4416-2, © 1998 Boy Scouts of America). Leaders should have access to this document for additional safety topics not covered in this extract (swimming, boating, climbing, etc.). These are national policies enforced by the adult leaders of Pack 250, and violation of these policies by a boy or his parent may result in the removal of the Scout from the Pack. Repeated violations by members of a Pack can result in the revocation of the Pack Charter by the Boy Scouts of America. For additional information, refer to the online BSA document *Guide to Safe Scouting* at <http://www.scouting.org/pubs/gss/toc.html>.

Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Use and Abuse

The Boy Scouts of America prohibits the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances at encampments or activities on property owned and/or operated by the Boy Scouts of America, or at any activity involving participation of youth members. Adult leaders should support the attitude that young adults are better off without tobacco and may not allow the use of tobacco products at any BSA activity involving youth participants. All Scouting functions, meetings, and activities should be conducted on a smoke-free basis, with smoking areas located away from all youth participants.

Guidelines for Safely Using Chemical Stoves and Lanterns

Use compressed or liquid-gas stoves or lanterns with knowledgeable adult supervision only and in Scout facilities only where and when permitted. Never fuel a stove, heater, or lantern inside; always do this outdoors. Never fuel, ignite, or operate a stove, heater, or lantern in a tent. Do not leave a lighted stove or lantern unattended.

Flammability Warning

No tent material is completely fireproof. The most important safeguard is to keep flames away from tent materials. For this reason, the following safety precautions are emphasized:

- Only flashlights and electric lanterns are permitted in tents. No flames in tents.
- Never use liquid-fuel stoves, heaters, lanterns, matches, and other flame sources in or near tents.
- Do not pitch tents near an open fire.
- Only use battery-operated devices in tents.

Fireworks

The Boy Scouts of America prohibits the securing, use, and display of fireworks in conjunction with programs and activities except where the fireworks display is conducted under the auspices of a certified or licensed fireworks control expert.

Guns, Firearms, and Archery

The Boy Scouts of America adheres to its long-standing policy of teaching its youth and adult members the safe, responsible, intelligent handling, care, and use of firearms, air guns, and BB guns in planned, carefully managed, and supervised programs. Gun-shooting sports are *not* an approved part of the Cub Scout program except at council-approved Cub Scout camps. At camp, Cub Scouts may have an opportunity to take part in a BB gun (rifle) safety and marksmanship program under the direction of a trained and certified BB-gun range officer. Cub Scouts are not permitted to use any other type of handgun or firearm. Except for law enforcement officers required to carry firearms within their jurisdiction, firearms shall not be brought on camping, hiking, backpacking, or other Scouting activities. Archery and BB gun shooting are restricted to day camps, Cub Scout/Webelos Scout resident camps, council managed family camping programs, or to council activities where there are properly trained supervisors and all standards for BSA shooting sports are enforced. Archery and BB gun shooting are not to be done at the pack level. These programs are designed to emphasize safety and marksmanship development under the direction of trained range officers using nationally approved instructional methods.

Electronic Entertainment

Pack 250 does not allow the use of electronic entertainment (Walkmans, TVs, boom boxes, Gameboys, etc.) at meetings, scout-sponsored functions, or scout outings. Scouts using such items will be asked to stop, and if they do not comply, the adult leader may confiscate the item until the end of the event, at which point it will be returned to the Scout.

Camping Guidelines

Pack 250 strives to ensure that outings each year include family camping. The scout and his entire family are encouraged to attend. The Boy Scouts of America have established guidelines for its members' participation in camping activities. A Cub Scout may participate in overnight camping when supervised by his mother or father. If a parent cannot attend, the boy's family must make arrangements for another adult relative to be a substitute for a parent at the campout. It is essential that each Scout be under the supervision of an adult. Cub Scouts are limited to boy-parent excursions or program-managed family camping designed for the entire family. When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian. Webelos Scouts at certain approved outings may stay in a tent with other boys without a parent, but still may not stay in the tent of an adult that is not his parent or guardian.

Transportation

Seat belts are required for all occupants. All drivers must have a valid driver's license that has not been suspended or revoked for any reason. Passenger cars or station wagons may be used for transporting passengers, but passengers should not ride on the rear deck of station wagons. Trucks may not be used for transporting passengers except in the cab. All vehicles must be covered by automobile liability insurance with limits that meet or exceed requirements of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. Do not exceed the speed limit. If a vehicle to be used is designed to carry more than 15 persons, including the driver, the driver must have a commercial driver's license. An adult leader must be in charge and accompany the group. The driver must be currently licensed and at least 18 years of age