



BALOO'S BUGLE



Volume 24, Number 6

"If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders."
Abigail Van Buren

January 2018 Cub Scout Roundtable

February 2018 Program Ideas

CHEERFUL / ABRACADABRA

Tiger Cub, Wolf, Webelos, & Arrow of Light Meetings and Adventures

PART II – TRAINING & ADMIN HELPS

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PHILMONT CUB SCOUT RT SUPPLEMENT

The January 2018 issue is posted!!

Emily is a little ahead of me!!

And the rest of the Supplements are on-line also!!!

*They are all located on the BSA Roundtable
Commissioners Facebook page!*



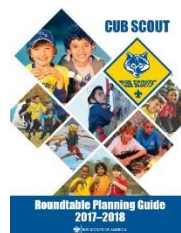
Go to

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ScoutRTCommish/>

And look for the month on which you are prepping!!

Thank you Emily and yourteam!!

Hyperlink on picture. If using paper copy – go to BSA Roundtable Commissioners on Facebook. (See On-Line Support below)



CS ROUNDTABLE PLANNING GUIDE

The CS RT PG is issued

The 2017-2018 CS RT PG may be
found at -

[http://www.scouting.org/filestore/cubscouts/pdf/510-714\(17\)_CS.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/cubscouts/pdf/510-714(17)_CS.pdf)

On page 37 Of the 2017-2018 CS RT PG it states:

Introduction to the New Cub Scout Interest Topic Format for 2017–2018

Based on survey input, the National Cub Scouting Committee has modified the presentation style for the Cub Scout (CS) interest topics for this year. To improve communications throughout the pack leadership, it is recommended that all CS leaders attend the interest topic discussion together as a single group. This will provide everyone with the same information and will facilitate important discussion about these topics between all CS leaders. As always, the CS Roundtable Planning Guide provides suggested options for each council or district. The use of any specific topic is flexible based on the needs of the council or district. Each council or district may also select other topics that would be beneficial to the needs of the CS leaders in their respective council or district. Additional resource materials from the BSA can be used if the district chooses to do individual leader breakout sessions. The Philmont CS Roundtable Supplements are a great resource to consider for the breakout session model.

Scott McKenzie, the Roundtable lead on the National Commissioner Service Team, posted the following on the Commissioner Service (Boy Scouts of America) Facebook page:

The 2017-2018 Cub Scout Roundtable Planning Guide has finally been completed and posted to the BSA Commissioner Roundtable Support webpage.

“You will notice that the material in the CS RT Planning Guide is significantly different this year. Based on survey input, the National Cub Scouting Committee has modified the presentation style for the Cub Scout interest topics for this year. In order to improve communications throughout the pack leadership, it is recommended that all Cub Scout leaders attend the interest topic discussion together as a single group. This new method will provide everyone with the same information and will facilitate important discussion about these topics between all Cub Scout leaders. We recommend everyone try the new method to see how it works in your district. This will further validate any input you may have for future changes.

As always, the Cub Scout Roundtable Planning Guide provides suggested options for each council or district. The use of any specific topic is flexible based on the needs of the council or district. Each council or district may also select other topics that would be beneficial to the needs of the Cub Scout leaders in their respective council or district.

Additional resource materials from the BSA can be used if the district chooses to utilize individual leader breakout sessions. The Philmont Cub Scout Roundtable Supplements are a great resource to consider for the breakout session model. These optional support materials will continue to be available on the Roundtable Commissioner Facebook Page and can be emailed to individuals upon request.

We understand that there will be a lot of opinions on this new format and the National Commissioner Service Team would like to collect your feedback to provide to the National Cub Scout Committee, who develops the program content for the CS RT Planning Guide. Please provide constructive comments only. If you like the new format, please say so and if there are additional things you would like to see in the program content please provide a description in your comments. We will also be conducting various surveys over the next several months to collect your input for future program content. Emails can be sent to BSARoundtableChair@gmail.com

Scott McKenzie

ON-LINE SUPPORT BSA ROUNDTABLE COMMISSIONERS FACEBOOK PAGE

The Philmont CS Roundtable Supplements

referenced in the CS RT PG are available here!!

Join the over 3000 members of the “BSA Roundtable Commissioners” Open Group on Facebook.



The site admins are my good friends from Philmont, Emily and George. And they do a terrific job.

Please do not add anyone but yourself to the group.

Tell other Roundtable Commissioners and Assistant Roundtable Commissioners about the group and have them add themselves. The Admins frequently get 50 requests to join in the admin inbox **and the majority of them have not answered the questions.** If they don't answer the questions in 2 days, they are not approved and they have to repeat the process. I (CD) know the Admins and they are very thorough. They vet every person that wants to join the BSA RT Commissioners group to make sure that this continues to be a Roundtable focused group. Please help them by spreading the word with your voice...not by your clicks. And they do thank you for all that you do!

COMMISSIONER SERVICE (BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA) FACEBOOK PAGE



The Commissioner Service (Boy Scouts Of America) Facebook Page provides a forum for all commissioners to ask questions and see answers. It is an Open Group, but please consider joining.

The link is -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bsa.commissioners/>

Join the almost 3000 members of the “Commissioner Service (Boy Scouts of America) Facebook Group.



RT SUPPORT PAGE

Check out the RT Support page on National's site - <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Commissioners/roundtable.aspx>



TRAINING HELPS PINEWOOD DERBIES

Bill Smith, the Roundtable Guy

Pinewood Derbies (PWD)

Over the years, I have seen dozens of pinewood derbies including a couple at Philmont Training Center in 1963 and especially during the years I served as a Unit Commissioner in Illinois. I also have links to about three hundred Cub Pack web sites where I regularly view descriptions and photos of their derbies. It's a fascinating hobby.

The Pinewood Derby was [originated in 1953](#) in Cub Scout Pack 280C in Manhattan Beach, CA, mostly by then Cubmaster Don Murphy, and has been one of the most popular activities in Scouting.

There are some good reasons for both the popularity and the longevity of the PWD:

1. It makes a wonderful home project where a boy and whoever loves and cares for him there can work together building dreams and turning them into reality. Just learning what tools to use.

My favorite tool for boys to use is one called a shoe rasp. It is a simple tool with four faces that can remove an amazing amount of wood, easily and safely by a Cub Scout. I would also suggest that he wear gloves and use a clamp to hold the body while he works on it.

2. It's competitive. Boys (actually, most young life forms) need and seek out competition. Dr. Michael Gurian, wrote:

“Boys need to compete and perform well to feel worthy...Boys compete verbally and physically, and base some relationships on competition. Competition for boys is a form of nurturing behavior.”

Boys try harder when winning or losing is at stake. Competition encourages Cub Scouts to do their best!

Competition seems to come naturally, especially to boys. I have marveled at what, when and how they choose to compete. It's varied, hardly the same from one set of boys to the next.

3. The derby itself has a dramatic content. Parents and leaders often put on some spectacular shows that add excitement to the competition.

These shows can serve as great examples for Webelos preparing to be Boy Scouts where they will eventually get to run their own programs. One of the most spectacular derbies I saw was at a pack in Batavia, IL where a group of leaders and parents who worked at nearby Fermi Accelerator and Bell Labs ran a total

computer controlled derby. This was in 1984 when home computers were indeed rarities.

Like any Cub Scout activity, a PWD should, of course, be organized and run to adhere to the purposes and ideals of Cub Scouting.

It should then be a simple matter to organize a PWD to help attain one or more of the ten purposes of Cub Scouting. After all, what could possibly go wrong?

Level the Playing Field

Back when Don Murphy started this, almost all Cub Scout families included both parents and it was common then for dads to have both the tools and the skills to use them. Today we often pit a single mother whose tool-crib consists of little more than two screw drivers (one Philips, one slotted) and a non-descript hammer against a father who commands a variety of technical and model-building resources.

Many packs arrange workshops - typically on Saturday afternoons - to aid the tool-challenged families build their cars. Even large corporations like Lowes are getting into the act. This certainly helps a lot of parents, but it does move the process away from the Home and Neighborhood method that has been part of Cub Scouting since its inception. We get better made cars but which of the ten purposes is supported?

Also, I wonder if it is such a good idea to pit Pack families against each other. It probably doesn't help get more parents involved with den and pack activities.

Give Control to the Boys

When a boy makes something, he expects it to do something. The word Do is important not only in the lexicon of boys but also in their actions and their dreams. Former National CS Director Bud Bennett used to tell us:

When two boys are standing, they are talking about doing something. When they are walking, they are on their way to do something. When they are running, they have just done something.

So, when a boy builds a toy car, he has all sorts of hopes and dreams about what it will do. This goes on from the very start of the building process - often before the kit has been removed from the box. Even before the wheels are on I have watched boys, their eyes at table level, moving the half-shaped model along the table top.

Once the body has some sort of car-shape and especially when the wheels are on, I have noticed that many boys seem to lose interest in more work on the car. They are not so much interested in its final form. They want to see it perform - **to do something**.

What should it do?

1. Roll down a ramp and:
 - Crash into something,
 - Run up another ramp and fly over something,
 - Race against one or a few friends.
2. See if it's amphibious: will it float in a swimming pool, bathtub or mud puddle.

There are many more choices. Boys can be quite inventive. Somewhere way down on his list (maybe about 1256th) might be:

- Hand car over to some adults in the parking lot and not touch it again until the races are completely over.

It is his car, isn't it?

Boys know how to race.

I have watched kids organize all sorts of races. They have good grasps of process, fairness and use of rules. I'm not at all sure of what we gain by letting adults usurp so much of the PWD race. It's almost as if we can't trust our own kids to do it.

*Is it true that only adults can organize
and run races between kids?*

I recently attended a couple of my grandson's PWDs where the Cubmaster just let the kids race. He divided the pack into two groups, one group would race for about twenty minutes and then the other group took over. The boys ran their races, placed their cars on the tracks, operated the gates, and then ran to the finish line to view the results and collect their cars. By that time, the next Cubs would have their cars ready to race. Bears and Webelos helped Tigers learn to operate the gates and they soon got the hang of it.

The pack had acquired three dissimilar tracks so there were lots of opportunities for boys to race their cars. It was a relaxed enjoyable evening.

Cheating

Cheaters are huge problem in our derbies. I first became aware of it at my first PWD at Philmont in 1963. The PTC staff decreed that the kits would be shaped as trucks. That required that the bodies would be carved and run backwards. When I asked, "Why?" I was told there had been problems with people bringing in ringers so that they could brag that their cars won at Philmont. They wanted to ensure that all cars in their PWD were made there by those attending that session.

I was dumbstruck. Actual Cub Scout leaders, those recommended by their councils, cheating in a race of kids' toy cars! How could that possibly happen?

Apparently, it has grown worse since then. I have been informed that one can purchase "guaranteed winners" on eBay and elsewhere for upwards of \$100.

The typical response to this for many packs is to enforce stricter rules to detect rule breakers.

The problem here is that the cheaters and especially the vendors of these ringers have a distinct advantage over most pack leaders. They have more knowledge on how to do it and more financing than the rest of us.

In reference to all this, Carl Cravens posted this:

I lost my one PWD race when I was a kid. I don't remember how I felt about losing... I'm sure I was disappointed, but I don't think it was any big deal. And in retrospect, I'm glad I didn't win, because I didn't build that car myself. Imagine how a kid must feel when he wins a District championship with a car his daddy bought on eBay for \$150. What right does a father have to steal his son's chance at winning for himself? When my son races, whether he wins or loses, I want him to be proud of his car, because he built it himself.

My recommendation is to make cheating not worth the effort or the cost. Eliminate the grand champions, the trophies and the photos of the “winners” on pack web sites. In other words:

Keep it Simple, Make it Fun

The objective of your derby should not be finding the fastest toy car, but achieving one or more of the ten purposes. It probably doesn't matter which of the ten you choose. Pick a couple and see how it works.

Have several small championships rather than one big over-all winner. Winning doesn't have to go to the fastest car. I once watched some Cub Scouts competing to see which car would stop closest to the finish line without crossing it. Stuff like that is still competitive but more fun.

In his wonderful book, *The Well-Played Game*, [Bernie De Koven](#) recommends that it is important for all players in a game enjoy what they are doing and that you should change the rules of the game to do just that.

One of the strangest comments on PWD that I have read on Scouting forums is that it is imperative that we teach kids how to lose. Kids don't know how to lose? Which kids? I would guess that there are very few in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Watts or South Chicago who need that kind of teaching. Sean Scott, Scouter in San Diego commented that the kids who do need it are probably the ones whose fathers will put up the money to buy them the guaranteed winners.

What are YOU going to do now?

Go get 'em. We need all the help we can get.

The best gift for a Cub Scout.....

.....get his parents involved!

PACK ADMIN HELPS



SUCCESSFUL PACK MANAGEMENT

Cradle of Liberty Council

The following guidelines have been followed successfully by many packs. We suggest you use this as a checklist to determine where your pack operation can be improved.

- ☐ **Committee Chair is CEO**, Chief Executive Officer, and responsible for all the logistics, infrastructure, and performance of the Cubmaster. (Not to do the Cubmaster's job, but to encourage the Cubmaster to do a GREAT job and provide him/her the needed resources (people and physical). Acts similarly to team owner helping the Coach/Manager produce a winning team)
- ☐ **Cubmaster is CPO**, Chief Program Officer, and is responsible for program of the pack including quality of Pack and Den Meetings.
- ☐ Enthusiastic parent participation.
- ☐ Good family attendance at pack meetings and activities.
- ☐ Regular monthly den leader/pack trainer meetings.
- ☐ Pack administered by pack committee with work shared by many including all leaders.
- ☐ Pack secretary keeps records up to date.
- ☐ Pack holds impressive graduation ceremonies.
- ☐ A pack treasurer handles financial affairs and keeps accurate records.
- ☐ Pack conducts at least one service project each year for community or the Chartered organization.
- ☐ Accurate advancement records are kept.
- ☐ Impressive ceremonies are used for induction of new families and for advancement.
- ☐ Pack operates on the budget plan.
- ☐ Pack has an effective, year-round membership recruiting plan.
- ☐ Adult leaders are all trained.

- ❑ Adult leaders are properly uniformed.
- ❑ Pack has close working relationship with one or more Boy Scout troops.
- ❑ Adult leaders regularly attend monthly roundtables.
- ❑ Two deep leadership at all times.
- ❑ Badges are always presented at the pack meeting with parents involved.

*Now that I have given you the list – you are probably saying that is great, but where can I go for ideas on how to do improve what we are doing? I have an answer - But first a short story – There was a Den Leader at work who told me he had to use his wife's Girl Scout books because BSA did not publish enough. The next day he had **TWO** large travel bags full of books on his desk when he got to work. It took me 3 years to get him or his wife to a roundtable. When she got there she asked where have these been for 3 years?? Their pack is one of those that never shows up for training or anything district related. They leave their leaders out on a limb. Since you are reading Baloo, I know you are not one of those but you might be surprised about how some other packs your friends at work or church belong to are operating and could gently nudge them with this information. Now, where can you go for ideas??*

ROUNDTABLE!! Commissioner Dave

Pack References

Cradle of Liberty Council

BSA Publications –

Cub Leader Book	Den and Pack Ceremonies
Insignia Guide	Guide to Safe Scouting
Group Meeting Sparklers	Scouting Magazine
Boy's Life Magazine	Cub Scout How To Book
Tiger, Wolf, Bear, & Webelos Scout Handbooks	
Tiger, Wolf, Bear, & Webelos Den Leader Guides	
Cub Scout Songbook	Den Chief Handbook
CS Roundtable Planning Guide	

And I am sure there are more –

Besides books there are what BSA calls BIN items –

These are pamphlets and flyers on many aspects of the Scouting program. Some that come to mind are -

- Leave No Trace Guidelines for Cub Scouts
- Cub Scout Outdoors program
- Selecting Pack Leadership

Then there are other sources -

Roundtable handouts

Internet – It is amazing what you can find using www.google.com I have found many songs and activities just by typing a line into Google. But be careful of Grey Areas and out of date info when using Internet sources, some are not carefully controlled.

And many, many other books –

- The Golden Book Nature series
- Campfire Planning Books (e.g. The Canyon Campfire Companion)
- Storytelling books
- Klutz Books – some that I have used very successfully – “The Rubber Chicken Book,” “Book of Magic,” “Book of Knots,” and their science books – “Bubble Gum Science,” “Magnetic Magic,” “Explorabook.”

There is just so much out there – enjoy but do not get overwhelmed!!

Cub Scout Information



Go to <http://strongarmor.blogspot.com/2015/06/cub-scouts-scout-oath-and-law-helps-and.html> to get full size, full color (or black and white) printable versions



BE UP TO DATE

www.scouting.org/programupdates

The Program Updates page has been regrouped. Since the CS Adventure is in full swing, the emphasis on getting ready for it has been reduced. The downloads are still all there.

[Philmont Training Center](http://www.philmonttrainingcenter.org)

Get great information about the **Cub Scout Courses** available at [Philmont Training Center](http://www.philmonttrainingcenter.org) during the summer of 2018. Lots of FUN CS things are planned for this summer. So go and have **FUN**.

Check it all out – stay current!!

ROUNDTABLE HINTS



The Successful Roundtable

Barbara J. Hicklin,

ACC - Roundtables, DelMarVa Council

My First roundtable planning guide was the Cub Scout Roundtable Planning Guide for 1990-1991. The first page included a section on The Successful Roundtable. Do these points still hold true?

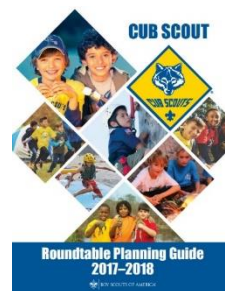
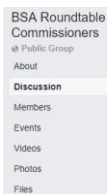
The Successful Roundtable

People will want to come

- When there is a genuine sense of fellowship. Leaders need to feel that they are wanted, that they are important, and that they belong.
- When there is a separate, helpful session for each kind of leader—Cub Scout den leader, Webelos den leader, and pack leader.
- When they get specific help they can use during the coming months.
- When learning is largely by doing or watching instead of just listening. The idea is to let the individual watch and then practice what is learned.
- When a dependable schedule is maintained. This means both a regular night and a regular hour for opening and closing. Roundtables held early in the month allow time for other steps in unit program planning before the end of the month.
- When every item in the program has been thoughtfully planned, carefully prepared, and snappily executed. The most important factor in next month's attendance is this month's program.
- When physical arrangements are good.

**Promotion gets them there the first time.
Good program gets them to return.**

For on-line support – Go to:



Remember -

EPIC ROUNDTABLES -

E - Exceptional & Experiential

Strive to present an **exceptional and experience** based program

P - Personally & Program Relevant

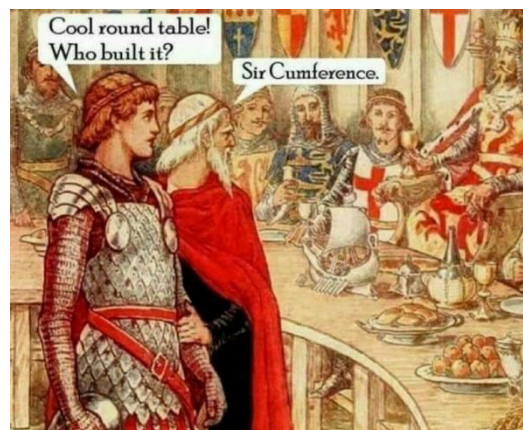
Make the presentation **personally and program level relevant** to the Leaders who attend.

I - Instructional & Inspiring

Structure your program so that it is an **instructional** experience, providing examples of the method of delivery, that motivates **and inspires** Leaders

C - Concrete

Bring all of these components together at one place at one time, to deliver **a concrete experience** that provides Cub Scout Leaders with what they need to deliver a successful program at the Den and Pack level.



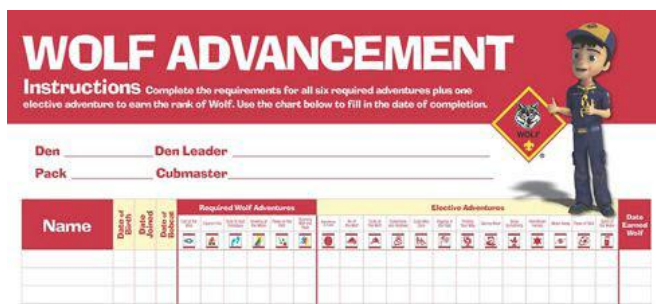
**If you don't get it -
Show it at your Roundtable,
someone will be able to explain it**

RANK ADVANCEMENT CHARTS

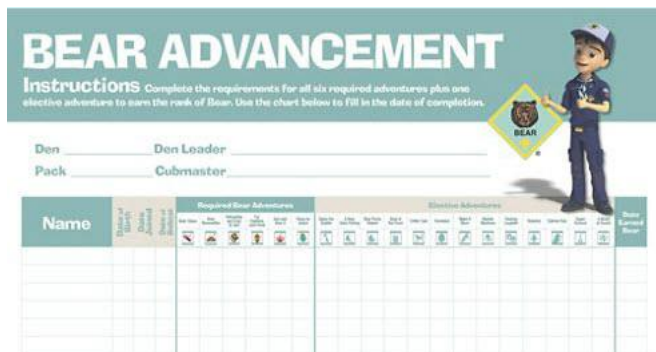
Track your Den's completed Adventures and progress to earning their next rank on a wall chart. This worked wonders for us when our son was a Cub Scout. Everyone wanted to have the most completions. And they could see where the goal was.



Tiger Advancement Chart, Item: 620578



Den Advancement Chart, Item: 620579
(Scoutstuff.org listing says Den Advancement Chart not Wolf)



Cub Scout Bear Advancement Chart, Item: 621006
(Not sure why this one says Cub Scout. None of the others do)



Webelos® Advancement Chart, Item: 620577

LIONS



WHAT'S NEW FOR LIONS FOR 2017-2018

There is a new PowerPoint available at <http://scoutingwire.org/lion/> with everything you need to know about changes to the **still a Pilot** Lion Program.

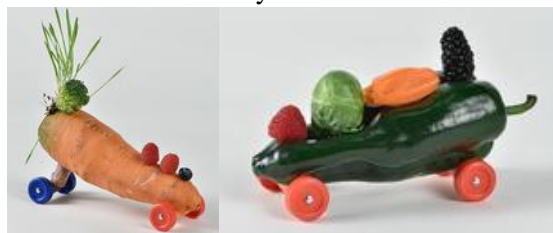
Highlights include:

- ☺ Lots of new recruitment help, for example:
A new PDF brochure PDF is on-line.
A Recruiter patch is available!
And other recruitments hints and materials.
- ☺ **A Lion may wear either the Lion Cap and Tee shirt or, if he and his parents desire, the Blue Cub Scout Field Uniform.**
- ☺ **Attendance at Pack Meetings is acceptable.**
Packs should find ways to actively involve the Lions in PM program, activities, skits, etc.
- ☺ **Pinewood Derby is a Pack decision** – Lions may participate in Pinewood Derby (Use of wedge car is mentioned to minimize cutting) or hold a “Veggie Derby.”



Pre-Cut Pinewood Derby Wedge Kit, SKU# 614417

The same top quality pine blocks that are used in the Official Pinewood Derby® Kit pre-shaped into a wedge with pre-cut axle grooves. Eliminates the need for woodworking tools or skills. All you need to do is add wheels, weights, sand and decorate for a car that is ready to race!



Veggie Derby Cars

- ☺ **Fundraising participation is the family's decision.** Fundraising and mandatory levels are not required. Some parents do want to have the individual option to fundraise. If popcorn is sold by Lions, then Show and Sell with older boys and parents would be the preference, door to door selling needs the parents at the Lions' side.

BRYAN'S BLOG ON 2017-2018 LION PROGRAM



[Lion pilot program for kindergarteners off to a roaring start, with exciting changes coming for 2017-2018](#)

[August 14, 2017](#)

Based on feedback from parents, as well as surveys and focus groups, the BSA has some changes to announce to the Lion pilot program for this fall. The link is: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/> Then search for LION (*singular not plural*)

Later in this item you will find links to all Bryan's Blog entries (that I know) on the Lion Program.

WHY SHARED LEADERSHIP?

- Engages the families and helps create ownership of program by families.
- Creates a stronger loyalty and connection to the den, families, and Scouting.
- Provides an opportunity to watch potential leaders in action—as a unit or pack considers future leaders.
- Millennial parents want to try things out before committing. They prefer to commit to small roles first.
- The boys love watching their “parents be the leader!”** (Ask them for their meeting in front of their son. Watch how he encourages them to do it! (Please, Please Mommy! (Daddy!) You can do it!) be sure to tell them, all you need to know is in the “Parent and Leader Guide.”



LION ORIENTATION VIDEO



Video URL - <https://youtu.be/YaIBTUO70JA>

ORGANIZING FOR LIONS

From – New Birth of Freedom Council

For those packs that are thinking ahead about participating in the Lion Scouts program, having the right volunteers involved in delivering the Lion Scouts program will be important. Research shows that the most important person for a successful Scouting experience is a good leader. There are two new adult leader positions within the pack that are directly engaged in the delivery of the Lion Scouts program – a Lion Coordinator and a Lion Guide. Where do these positions fit into the current pack structure? **What is the Lion Coordinator's job description?**

- Is an experienced and successful den leader
- Understands den and pack operations within the overall structure of Cub Scouting
- Demonstrates excellent communication and organization skills (and will remain in at least monthly contact with the Lion dens)
- Participates as needed in the unit's School Night with all new Lions and their parents
- Assists the Lion guide in hosting the first orientation meeting for all the individual Lion dens in their pack
- Serves as a coach and mentor for Lion Guide

HIGHLIGHTS

- 61% of Lion parents indicate they have no other child in Scouting.** We are reaching Families new to Scouting as well as siblings of Scout families.
- 91% of parents say their Lion will be moving to Tigers** and 82% of Lion Guides say most will stay.
- Satisfaction is very high 90%.** For the T-shirt, shared leadership, age appropriate activities, youth Adventure book, immediate recognition stickers, meeting duration, frequency and content. The Leader Guidebook is not intimidating and is simple and easy for new parents to follow for effective meetings. **Adventures are engaging for the boys.**

LION HUB



Big Smiles - Build Bigger Futures

BSA has launched a new Lion Hub at:

<http://scoutingwire.org/lion/>

Available Lion Resources include:

[LION VEGGIE CAR DERBY FLYER](#)

[PARTICIPATING COUNCILS](#)

[PROGRAM OVERVIEW](#)

[FAQS](#)

The FAQ PDF is 13 pages long!! Lots of information!!

[LION GUIDE AND PARENT ORIENTATION](#)

[VIDEO](#)

[LION GUIDE AND PARENT ORIENTATION](#)

[POWERPOINT](#)

[LION PRODUCTS NOW AVAILABLE!](#)

[NEW LION PROGRAM MATERIALS](#)

[LION RECRUITMENT BROCHURE](#)

[LION RECRUITMENT BROCHURE, PRINT-](#)

[READY WITH CROP MARKS](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

For Councils

[COUNCIL OVERVIEW POWERPOINT](#)

[LION PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS \(HELP](#)

[SPREAD THE WORD!\)](#)

[LION PROMOTIONAL VIDEO](#)

[LION RECRUITMENT BROCHURE](#)

[LION RECRUITMENT BROCHURE, PRINT-](#)

[READY WITH CROP MARKS](#)

[REGISTRATION PROCESSING](#)



Lion Parents say **developing character**
is the **#1 reason** to join Scouting.



THE CHIEF SCOUT EXECUTIVE ON LIONS

What We Know According to a 2014 U.S. Census Bureau report, 57 percent of kids ages 6–17 participate in at least one after-school extracurricular activity. This means that by the time they are eligible for Tigers, more than half of them already are engaged in some type of athletic, artistic or other program.

Often, children become attached to lifelong activities at an early age — that is certainly a goal we would have, as we know the long-term benefits of Scouting involvement include strong asset development in the areas of character and leadership. However, we also know that when youth participate in numerous activities at an early age, and miss joining Scouting, they are unlikely to do so at adolescence.

What will be important to learn in the next few years, if the initial entry point works at the kindergarten-age level, is will this cause losses at a different age, or will the program keep the same retention all the way through to Boy Scouting?

What we learn from the pilot Lion format could also help us assess and create a smoother transition from Webelos into Boy Scouting. Too many parents now see a barrier or obstacle, rather than a smoother transition. You will often hear parents say, “We did Cub Scouting, now we’re not sure if we are going to do Boy Scouts.” We do not have a seamless transition into Boy Scouts for a number of reasons. This pilot test will help us think through some of these issues.

We want to be sure that our Lion program delivers the right mix of character and leadership values and that we set the bar high. The program must be sustainable, we must have the right infrastructure to support it, and it needs to meaningfully address the needs of parents who want their kids to join Scouting at an earlier age.

You can rest assured that we will carefully evaluate our progress and keep you apprised of the results. Stay tuned

Reprinted from "The Chief's Corner" on Scoutingwire.org

MORE LION INFORMATION

Bryan's Blog has written about Lions –

Go to <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org> and you can look them up. Here are a few -

August 14, 2017



[Lion pilot program for kindergartners off to a roaring start, with exciting changes coming for 2017-2018](#) Based on feedback from parents, as well as surveys and focus groups, the BSA has some changes to announce to the Lion pilot program for this fall.

September 27, 2016



[Lion pilot program brings Scouting to kindergartners in nearly 200 councils](#) Answering the call of families who want a Scouting program for kindergarten-age boys, the BSA has expanded its Lion pilot program to nearly 200 councils.

April 28, 2016



[In full gear: Here's your first look at Lion Scouts T-shirts and hats](#) This week we get our first look at new T-shirts and caps to be worn by Lions — members of the pilot program for kindergarten boys set to roll out this fall.

April 15, 2016



[Will Lions be part of the pack? \(And answers to your other Lion questions\)](#) Will Lions be part of the Cub Scout pack? By adding another year to the program, is the BSA concerned about "burnout"? And why was the Lions name chosen?

March 10, 2016



[New details released about Lions, the pilot program for kindergarten boys](#) In Lions, the new pilot program for kindergartners, boys wear T-shirts instead of uniforms and earn adventure stickers instead of adventure loops.



There are slideshows on the web put up by local councils. Some examples are:

Be sure to vet these against the 2017-2018 changes!!

WD Boyce Council has "Lion Cub Pilot Program" at: <http://www.wdboyce.org/document/lion-cub-pilot-program/161325>

Northern Star Council has a training slide show for District Coordinators and others at: <https://www.signup4.net/UPLOAD/NORT26A/LION12E/District%20Lion%20Cub%20Coordinator%20Training.pdf>

Councils have put up webpages about what their packs need to know to begin a Lions Program. Examples are:

WD Boyce: <http://www.wdboyce.org/cub-scouts/lion-cub-pilot-program/63360>

Garden State (My Council): <http://www.gardenstatescouting.org/lion-program-0>

Garden State, also, has an FAQ PDF - <http://www.gardenstatescouting.org/sites/default/files/Lion%20Program%20FAQ.pdf>

And we have created a Facebook page for our units with Lions - <https://www.facebook.com/GSCLion/>

Selected FAQ's

National has posted a PDF file of FAQs about the LION program at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/Lion_FAQs.pdf



Cub Hub Blog Lion Posts

The items listed below are from the [Cub Scout Learning Library](https://cubscouts.org/). Check it out frequently for new lion and other new Cub Scout items. You can go to [www.cubscouts.org](https://cubscouts.org/) and click on the Cub Hub Blog.

New Post -



[Why Cub Scouting's Program for Kindergarten-age Boys is Right for Your Family: About the Lion Pilot Program](#) The Boy Scouts of America's program for 5 and 6-year-olds has families around the country thrilled to...



[A Look at the Lion Uniform and Gear](#) Lion uniform, shirts and hats! In case you've missed the Lion uniform images floating around the Digital Pack...



[Will Lions Join Tigers and Bears? Oh My!](#) — A Lions FAQ Lions: Answers to your top questions. We have seen a lot of great feedback, comments and questions from...



[5 Questions \(and Answers\) for the New Lion Program](#) More Information on the New Lion Program As we mentioned earlier on the Cub Hub, Select councils will...



[Lion Program will bring Scouting to Kindergarten Boys](#) Something Roaring in the Jungle There is an exciting new Scouting program called "Lion" for Kindergarten-aged boys...

CUB SCOUT LEARNING LIBRARY

The NEW <https://cubscouts.org/> !!!



Per my contacts at National Council (*some of which have since moved back to Council assignments or other departments*), further development of the Cub Scout Learning Library (aka https://cubscouts.org) is currently on hold as BSA assesses its digital strategy.

**BUT, obviously,
the Cub Scout Blog is still active!!**

Once that assessment is done and plan for moving forward is developed, additional on-line support for CS leaders will be available, either at cubscouts.org or a new site depending on the results.

The November 30, 2016, Adventure Plan changes will not be on this site until the assessment is done.

This is the Cub Scout Learning Library – Everything you could want to know for Cub Scouts is or will be here. And all within a click or 3 of the home page. National heard the message that although things were at www.scouting.org they were often buried too deep to be found.

This site has admin stuff and practical stuff. The new Den Leader Resource Books are here. You can download some of the pages for **FREE**

This website is a great resource. There are still parts under construction but what is there is

GREAT!!



**Yes,
https://cubscouts.org
runs on a phone, too!!!**

There are 3 tabs on top of the home page –



- ☺ Learning Library
- ☺ Cub Hub Blog
- ☺ Join Scouting

Plus – a magnifying Glass to start a search and Icons for various Social Media –



1. **Learning Library** takes you where you can learn about your position and pick up hints. Besides specifics for dens of each rank, other clickable links include – **KEY:**

- ☺ All or most of material was placed on site this past month
- ℞ All or most of material was in place and listed as such in last month's Baloo's Bugle.
- ✕ Site / pages under construction

Den Leader

℞ Den Meeting Basics

- ℞ [Your First Den Meeting](#)
- ℞ [Planning Den Outings](#)
- ℞ [The Parts of a Den Meeting](#)

℞ Getting Started

Three Core Adventures for the selected rank are listed here. You see & can download the Leader's Guide info for these 3 Adventures.

℞ Additional Required Adventures

The remaining Core Adventures for the selected rank are listed here. When you click them you get an intro to the Adventure but do not get the Meeting Plans and Resources. You see this note:

MEETING PLANS

To get you started in delivering fun and engaging meetings, complete Den Meeting Plans are available here on the Learning Library for the Backyard Jungle and Games Tigers Play adventures. To obtain Den Meeting Plans for all other adventures, Den Leader Guides are available at your local Scout Shop, online at scoutstuff.org, or as an eBook through Amazon.

℞ Elective Adventures

All the Elective Adventures for the selected rank are listed here. When you click them you get an intro to the Adventure but do not get the Meeting Plans and Resources. You see the same note (above).

℞ Building Strong Dens

The Basics of Cub Scouts

- ℞ [Advancement](#)
- ℞ [BSA Mission and Vision Statements](#)
- ℞ [Cub Scout Ages and Ranks](#)
- ℞ [Cub Scout Uniforming](#)
- ℞ [Den Flags](#)
- ℞ [Den Yells](#)
- ℞ [Leader Survival Kit](#)
- ℞ [Methods of Cub Scouting](#)
- ℞ [Purpose of Cub Scouting](#)
- ℞ [Roles and Responsibilities](#)
- ℞ [Scout Oath and Law](#)
- ℞ [What Is Cub Scouting?](#)

☺ Training

- ✕ [The Role of Training](#)
- ℞ [Youth Protection](#)

☺ Den Planning And Administration

- ℞ [Advancement Basics](#)
- ℞ [Advancement Requirements](#)
- ℞ [Annual Planning For Your Den](#)
- ℞ [Coordinating Your Den Plan with Pack](#)
- ℞ [Tracking and Recognizing Advancement](#)
- ℞ [Youth Protection Training](#)

☺ Positive Youth Development and Working with Boys

- ℞ [Developmental Differences Boys 7-11](#)
- ℞ [Behavior and Discipline](#)
- ℞ [Positive Youth Development](#)

☺ Working with Special Needs Cub

Scouts (Advice is specific to each Special Need. Lots of research was done to prep these pages.)

- ℞ [Parents' Prejoining Conference](#)
- ℞ [Leadership Techniques](#)
- ℞ [Working With Specific Disabilities and Needs](#)



✕ The other positions are still under development:

- ✕ Cubmaster
- ✕ Committee Chair/Member
- ✕ Chartered Org Rep
- ✕ Parent / Adult Partner

2. Cub Hub Blog takes you to a Cub Scout specific Blog similar to Bryan's Blog. The most recent topics discussed are listed here. There are more at www.cubscouts.org:

November 15, 2017 is the date of the last post on the Cub Hub Blog.

November 15, 2017



[Start a New Tradition This Thanksgiving by Hosting a “Campsgiving”](#) What’s Campsgiving? It’s a chance to go outdoors with your loved ones and celebrate the day with...

November 10, 2017



[A Very Dutch Oven Campsgiving dutch-oven](#) If you’re looking for a way to change up the ol’ kitchen mess this year for Thanksgiving...

October 24, 2017



[How to Use Every Part of Your Carved Pumpkin](#) If you’re like us, it pains you to toss aside the insides and seeds from your carved...

October 17, 2017



[Best Halloween Candy According to Boys’ Life Online Readers](#) If you’re stocking up on candy to hand out on Halloween, we have sweet answers to the...

October 11, 2017



[Cub Scouts Welcomes Girls to Expanded Programs](#) Cub Scouts is thrilled to bring the benefits of Scouting to more kids than ever! Beginning in...

October 5, 2017



[6 Activities You’ll Remember if You Grew Up in Scouting](#) From outdoor fun to Scout style, if you grew up in Scouting, your mind probably brims with...

September 29, 2017



[Cook an Egg with No Cookware: Fry an Egg in a Potato Over Your Campfire](#) Did you know you can cook an egg in a potato? Try this resourceful and unique recipe...

September 29, 2017



[Cub Scouts Race Pinewood Derby Cars in SunTrust Park and Get a Visit From Their MLB Heroes](#) Nothing tops the feeling of sending your Pinewood Derby car flying down a track ... unless, you’re...

September 26, 2017



[#ShareScouting to Win a \\$100 Gift Card for the Scout Shop!](#) Is your camera roll packed with photos of the pack? Do you love sharing updates about your...

September 22, 2017



[5 More Camping Recipes to Cook in Oranges](#) When we shared our recipe for how to make a brownie in an orange, you responded with...

September 20, 2017



[Her Son is on the Autism Spectrum so She Signed Him Up for This Activity...](#) If your son has a unique way of learning or different abilities than his peers, you may...

September 12, 2017



[3 Research-Backed Benefits of Being a Cub Scout](#) The benefits of being a Cub Scout make a big difference in the course of a Scout's...

September 8, 2017



[The Campfire Recipe Your Kids Will Love: Brownie in an Orange](#) If you've never tasted the citrusy, sweet concoction that is a brownie in an orange, here's how...

September 7, 2017



[Why Cub Scouting's Program for Kindergarten-age Boys is Right for Your Family: About the Lion Pilot Program](#) The Boy Scouts of America's program for 5 and 6-year-olds has families around the country thrilled to...

September 1, 2017



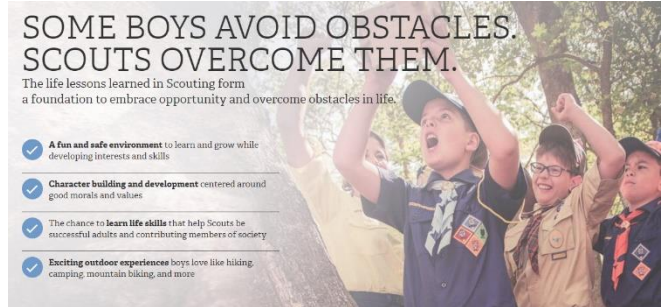
[5 Cool Things You Can Do if You're a Cub Scout](#) Being a kid can be a lot of fun. But if you're a Cub Scout, those years...

**ROUNDTABLE
FOR FUN AND
KNOW-HOW**

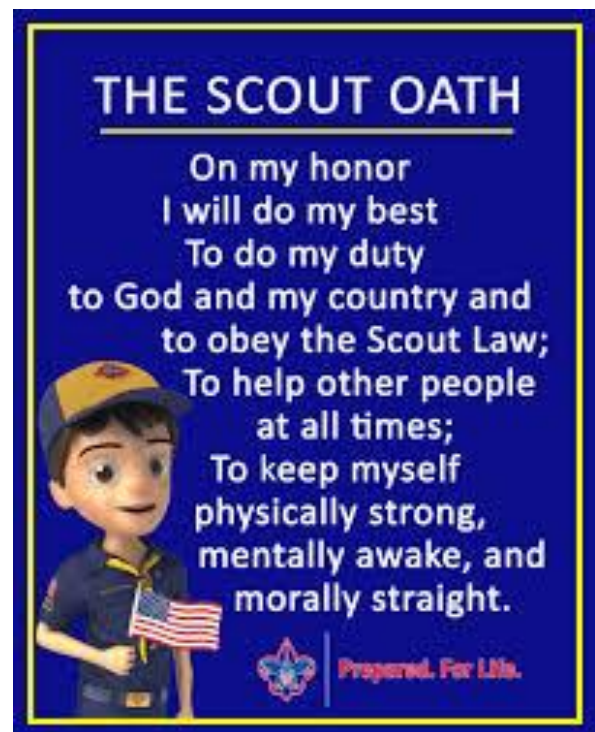
3. Join Scouting

 takes you to

www.beascout.org

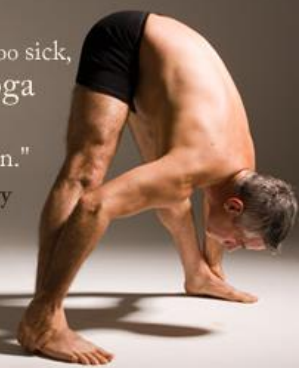


This picture on <https://beascout.scouting.org/> home page. Check it out!!



"Never too old, never too sick, never too late to do yoga and start from scratch once again."

– Bikram Choudhury



Same is true for Boy Scout Leaders!!

Also, on the home page –



Click for a YouTube Video on Cub Scouting.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=dqKFgk8SJIE

And 6 picture links -



These Six Links take you to:

www.scoutstuff.org –The Supply Division site where you can locate your nearest National Scout Shop or other local seller of Scout Stuff or buy your Scouting supplies on-line.

<http://scoutingwire.org/> - Where you can get the latest Scouting News from around the country. You can sign up to get notifications when things are posted here...

<https://cubscouts.org/pinewood-derby-2016-photo-contest> Apparently they are not going to run this event for 2018 as you get taken to a page that says promotion has ended. Pictures of entries that were received have been removed.

<https://www.scoutbook.com/> Where you can get the Scoutbook APP to track your son's Scouting Experience from Tiger to Eagle Scout.



www.boyslife.org – Go directly to the on-line edition of Boys 'Life

<http://scoutingwire.org/marketing-membership/> Get resources and materials to strengthen your unit at BSA's marketing and membership site. Learn the best practices and tips employed by the most successful units.

ADVENTURE PLAN TRACKERS

WEBELOS CORE ADVENTURES:										
CORE Adventures			Achv. Rules:		Fill in an "X" to show compl					
No.	Name	Req'd	Avail							
1	Cast Iron Chef	5	5	1	2	3	4	5		
2	Duty to God & You	1 or 3	5	1	2a	2b	2c	2d		
				1	2a	2b	2c	2d	2e	

- ✓ Tracking Spreadsheets are posted on the USScouts Advancement webpage (<http://usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/intro.asp>). The spreadsheets were tested by a software developer who said they are so good he sees no reason to develop his own!!
- ✓ Utah National Parks Council, also, has Excel spreadsheets posted for all the new Adventure Plan requirements on their Akela's Council BlogSpot. <http://akelascouncil.blogspot.com/search/label/Tracking%20Sheet> (The page starts with Arrow of Light scroll down for other ranks)

WOLF ELECTIVE ADVENTURES - DEN MEETINGS	REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED
Air of the Wolf (Elective) - mtg. 1	1a, 1b, 1c
Air of the Wolf (Elective) - mtg. 2	2a, 2b, 2c
Air of the Wolf (Elective) - mtg. 3	3a, 3b, 4
Code of the Wolf (Elective) - mtg. 1	1a or 1b, 1e
Code of the Wolf (Elective) - mtg. 2	3, 4

- ✓ A spreadsheet that correlates Meetings to Adventure requirements is available on the Utah National Parks' Akela's Council Blogspot at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/yb8fweg7etnhqrt/WOLF%20BEAR%20WEBELOS%20REQUIREMENTS%20-%20MTGS.xlsx?dl=0> . It has all the Wolf, Bear, Webelos and AOL Adventure requirements.

These Advancement Spreadsheet workbooks are **FREE** for Scouters. But be **COURTEOUS** and observe the following -

PLEASE do not download the files from either site to email or send them digitally to others.

They are for your personal / pack use only. If you would like to share these files with others, please copy / send the link to them and send them to the site so they can print off their own. They would love everyone that wants a copy to get their own copy absolutely free. Both USScouts and Utah National Parks receive Ad money based on the number of people visiting the site. That ad money helps keep their websites open. Please help them (us) by encouraging others to visit to obtain files.

TRACKING BOYS' PROGRESS IN THE MODIFIED CUB SCOUT ADVENTURE PLAN

Judy and I have found several places on the web where there are aids to use to track boys' progress in the modified Adventure Plan. Judy is placing a more detail in Baloo's Bugle, Part IV – Den Meeting Helps.

☞ The Bobwhite Blather blog site

(<https://bobwhiteblather.com/mid-year-cub-scout-program-updates/>) has a discussion of changes.

- ☺ **Cubmaster Tom**, responded providing links to documents he formatted to paste into the boys' books for each modified Adventure. See example below:

Tiger Required Adventure: My Tiger Jungle

Complete Requirement 1 plus at least two others.

REQUIREMENT 1. With your parent/guardian or other caring adult (referred to in the handbook as "your adult partner"), go for a walk outside, and pick out two or more sights or sounds of "nature" around you. Discuss with your partner or den.

REQUIREMENT 2. Take a 1-foot hike. Make a list of the living things you find on your 1-foot hike. Discuss these plants or animals with your parent/guardian, other caring adult, or your den.

REQUIREMENT 3. Point out two different kinds of birds that live in your area. With your parent/guardian, other caring adult, or den, find out more about one of these birds.

REQUIREMENT 4. Be helpful to nature by planting a plant, shrub, or tree. Learn more about the needs and growth of the item you've planted.

REQUIREMENT 5. Build and hang a birdhouse.

The complete Tiger document is at:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ka_AkwxDkKgNjLrAOUHzbQQqCkruDCC8RyxtMFvrFO8/edit?usp=sharing. The links for the other ranks are in the comment on Bobwhite Blather.

- ☺ **Bert Bender, Atlanta Area Council**, replied, Having finished several deep dives through the requirements changes, I've updated the page at <http://www.southfultonscouting.com/node/3557> to not only show exactly what got changed and what didn't change, but now also add comments intended to be a practical guide to whether you need to look at the new 11/30/16 language, and whether when those might be a useful alternative.

Comments after some Adventures encourage (sometimes plead) that dens avoid the "easy button" approach. Doing the June 1, 2015 handbook elements will often result in better outcomes and experience in Cub Scouting.

- ☞ **Utah National Parks Council's Akelas Council Blogspot** has revised paper tracking sheets (<http://akelascouncil.blogspot.com/>) Thanks to Celeste Hunt for creating these.

Celeste says, "Tracking, planning, and recognition are so important in Cub Scouts. This new tracking sheet helps you to be able to keep track of where each boy is at towards the Bear, Adventures, and Cyber Chip requirements. I print 2 copies of the tracker on cardstock for each boy. One for his book and one for my leader binder. I place it next to the trackers for the religious and other awards we are doing. I have tab for every boy with all his trackers. Complete information on each boy in one place. Not every boy is there every week. By doing this, I always know what each boy has done. If the parents ever have questions, I have a place to check, and I can always copy each tracking sheet to show them where their boy is.



CUB SCOUT LEADER TRAINING IN-PERSON TRAINING

Position-Specific In-Person Training Guides Available Now! The training guides for

- ★ [Den Leader](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/515-215.pdf)
(<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/515-215.pdf>),
- ★ [Cubmaster/Assistant Cubmaster](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-503_WB.pdf)
(http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-503_WB.pdf), and
- ★ [Pack Committee](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-504_WB.pdf)
(http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-504_WB.pdf)

Are available on Scouting University. You can access them at <http://www.scouting.org/training/adult.aspx>.



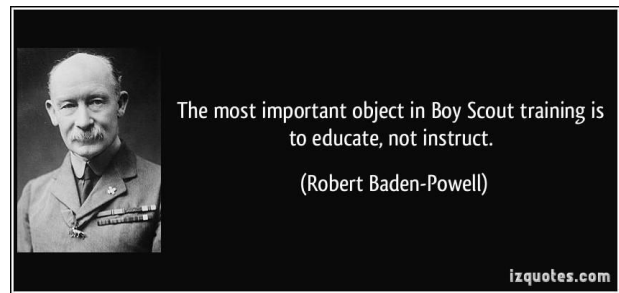
ON-LINE TRAINING

On-Line Training for all Cub Scout positions has been available since October 25, 2015

The online training for Den Leaders, Cubmasters, Committee Chairs and members, and Chartered Organization Representatives is totally updated with help from volunteers from around the country. The new training is divided into shorter, more targeted modules so leaders can get the training they need, in the order they want, any time they need it. It is organized around the learning needed prior to the first meeting, in the first 30 days, and to be position-specific trained. This training was developed to be implemented in conjunction with the BSA's new learning management system. Keep an eye on my. Scouting Tools (log in at <https://My.Scouting.org>) for more information.

Go to the BSA Volunteer Training Team Facebook page (Link above) and Like. Then you **automatically** receive the latest news!!

If you are having difficulties with the training or system call BSA Member Care at 972-580-2489



A Typical Learning Plan has several parts –

There is no need to complete more than one section at a time. Do what you have time to do.

Here you can see the three parts of the CM Course -



Each of these three parts is broken down into "bite sized" chunks:



Go check it out and get your people trained!!!