

PACK 64

Lockport/Homer Glen, IL



2017 – 2018 Parent
Guide

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Credits: Portions of this document were originally authored by Phillip Bump, Cubmaster of Pack 3942 (<http://www.cubpack3942.org>), NorthStar District, Greater St. Louis Area Council. It has been edited and adapted for Pack 64 by the Pack Committee.

Welcome to Cub Scouting!

Welcome to the 2017-2018 Scouting year. Whether you and your son are new or returning members of Pack 64, we want this year of your son's Scouting experience to be a quality one. We have created this handbook in order to help your family get the most of your Scouting experience. Cub Scouting is a year-round family-oriented part of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) program designed for boys who are in the first through fifth grade (or are between 6 and 11 years of age).

Our goals for the 2017-2018 program year are:

- ✓ To have every parent volunteer for at least one Pack or Den level event
- ✓ To have a full staff of trained Leaders
- ✓ To plan and execute a great program for our families
- ✓ To provide service to our community and chartered organization
- ✓ To advance every boy into the next rank
- ✓ To graduate all of our 5th grade Webelos into Boy Scouting

And most importantly: **TO HAVE TONS OF FUN!**

About Pack 64

Cub Scout Pack 64 is made up of first grade through fifth grade boys, mostly from the Homer 33C Elementary School District. The organization of the Pack is standard. Boys meet in small groups (Dens) of 6 to 8 boys. Each Den has an adult Leader (called a Den Leader), and consists of boys in the same grade. First graders are Tiger Cubs, second graders are Wolf Cubs, third graders are Bear Cubs, and fourth and fifth graders are Webelos I and II, respectively.

Each Cub Scout Pack is sponsored by a chartering organization. Ours is the **Cross of Glory Lutheran Church** at 14719 West 163rd Street in Homer Glen (www.crossofglory.com) and we very much appreciate their support. Chartering organizations sponsor the Pack to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and in return receive a “charter” from the BSA to operate the Pack. They also appoint a Chartered Organization Representative to the Pack Committee and assist in the selection of Pack Leaders.



The Pack is run by the Pack Committee, which is headed by the Committee Chair. In Pack 64, all adult Leaders are committee members. The Committee meets every month to plan Pack meetings and other Pack activities. Parents are always welcome at these meetings.

The Cubmaster is in charge of the Pack meetings and reports to the Committee. The Cubmaster, Cub Scout Den Leaders and Webelos Den Leaders are the ones who interact the most with the scouts and who accordingly have the most fun! The Committee does a lot of the behind-the-scenes work for the Pack. All adult Leaders must take Youth Protection and Cub Scout Leader Basic Training, which are available as online courses in the training tab of www.scouting.org. You will need to set up an account on the site in order to access the training courses. Den Leaders plan and organize Den meetings, attend Leaders meetings (Committee meetings), and help parents to keep track of the boys' advancements. Den Leaders should try to engage the parents in the Den meetings to the greatest extent possible, both to make the Den Leader's job easier and to increase the boys' enjoyment. Cub Scouting is a family activity, and Den meetings are a great place for family involvement. The Den Leader can go to the Cubmaster or other Den Leaders for advice and assistance.

Parents play an important role in the Pack. The Leaders will do their best to provide a quality program, but all the Leaders in Pack 64 are volunteers and have many other obligations. We depend on parents to help provide the good program we have. We ask every parent to help the Pack in some capacity. You should take your share in organizing Den meetings, working with the Den Leader of your son's Den. In addition, you should help with at least one Pack activity a year (e.g. Pinewood Derby or a campout). A parent should attend the Pack meetings together with the Cub Scout. Every handbook for boys has a parent guide at the beginning. There are no secrets in Cub Scouts; parents are welcome in any organizational meetings of the Pack, district or council.

Questions or concerns about Pack operations or procedures should be presented to the Pack committee. Please contact the Committee Chair or a Committee Member if you have questions.

Your Den Leader can help you with questions about advancement and awards, uniforms, and your role in your son's scouting experience. If he or she doesn't know the answer, they know the proper resources to consult in order to help you.

When Do We Meet

Our Cub Scout Pack, like most others, will meet as Dens, as well as meeting all together as a Pack. Our Pack will generally meet on the fourth Monday of each month (with some exceptions), at 7:00 pm in the Cafeteria at Schilling School (16025 Cedar Road).

Dens usually meet one – two times per month as well, at a specified location/time set by the Den Leader.

In addition to Den and Pack meetings, we have outings and activities every month that you will have an opportunity to attend with your scout. Our activities committee and other Pack Leaders will keep you up-to-date as events are scheduled and details finalized. Check the online calendar at www.cubpack64.com and our Facebook page for up to the minute details! All of our Pack and Den meetings are also listed on our calendar on Scoutbook.

Pack and Den Communication

Cub Scouting involves planning, scheduling, execution and management of dozens of Den and Pack meetings, field trips, special events like Pinewood Derby and the like. To enable all these activities to happen requires a great deal of communication between Pack and Den Leaders and the parents of the Pack. For the most part, email is the most efficient and our preferred means of communication. (If you do not have access to email, please let your Den Leader know so that alternate means of communication can be provided). All our events are also announced on the Pack Facebook Page and available to view on Scoutbook.

Pack Website and Facebook Group – www.cubpack64.com

Our website provides general information about our Pack, and the Facebook Group is the source for up to the minute information on Pack 64. The Pack Leadership makes an effort to communicate with parents in a variety of ways. Whenever there is new information to go out, an email is sent to the Pack distribution list. Emails may list upcoming events, recaps of Den activities, and alerts about schedule changes. This information is also available at the Pack's website at www.cubpack64.com as well as on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/CubScoutPack64/.

Your Role as a Parent

Cub Scouting encourages closeness to family. The program will give you opportunities to take part in activities with your son that you normally might not do. It provides a positive way for parent and son to grow closer together, and encourages you to spend quality time together. In this way, Cub Scouting is a program for the entire family, and your involvement is vital to the program's success. Some specific things you can do to help your son in Cub Scouting are:

- Work with your son on projects
- Help your Cub Scout along the advancement trail
- Participate in monthly Pack meetings
- Go on family outings with your son
- Be an active participant in the Pack
- Provide support for your son's Den and Pack

Work with your son on projects

Boys often begin projects at Den meetings and finish them at home with the help of a parent. Such projects become the catalyst for parents and boys – frequently joined by siblings and friends – to interact with each other in a relaxed way. Because the purpose of a project is to teach a boy new skills, a project will challenge a boy to do tasks that he hasn't already mastered. It's not uncommon, therefore, for a boy to need help from his family to complete some of his projects. In Cub Scouting, boys are not expected to do things entirely on their own. So long as a boy does his best to do as much as he's capable of, it's perfectly acceptable for a parent or sibling to help him.

Help your Cub Scout along the advancement trail

The advancement plan is designed for parents to use to create a learning environment in their home. With the Cub Scout handbooks (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos) as a resource, parents and boys work together to complete the adventures required for each badge. The advancement plan provides fun for the boys, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members work with boys on advancement projects.

While Cub Scouts learn skills and begin projects in their Den meetings, the parent remains at the center of the advancement program. As each task is done or each skill is demonstrated, the parent signs the Cub Scout's handbook to record its completion and enters the information on www.Scoutbook.com, to be reviewed by the Den Leader. And when the boy has completed all of the requirements to earn an award, the completion is acknowledged before the entire Pack of scouts at the next Pack meeting.

Participate in monthly Pack meetings

The Pack meeting is for the entire family of every Cub Scout. At Pack meetings, parents see their sons in action with their friends and meet other parents. The Pack meeting is also an opportunity to be recognized for their achievements and connect with Scouts from other Dens.

Be an active participant in the Pack

Boy Scouts is a scout-led program; Cub Scouts is a **parent-led program**. As the parent of a Cub Scout, you have a responsibility to be an active member of the Cub Scout Pack. Volunteering with Pack and Den meetings and events are excellent ways to help guide the entire Pack and positively improve your son's scouting experience.

Tiger Cub Program (1st Grade)

The Cub Scout adventure begins with Tiger Cubs - a program of exciting indoor and outdoor activities just right for a boy who is in **First Grade and/or is 6 years old**.

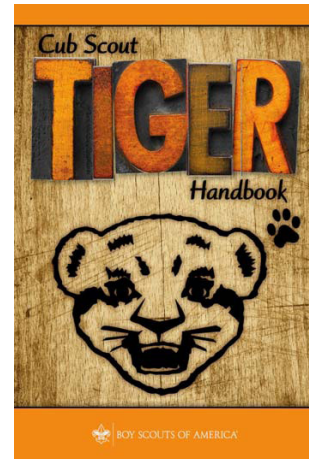
You are there with him as his support and guide, but you don't do things for him. He will learn by doing things himself. And as he learns and grows your relationship with him will grow, too.

Each boy/adult team is a member of a Tiger Cub Den that:

- Has six to ten boy/adult teams.
- Meets once or twice a month in a Den meeting.
- Has one outing a month called a "Go See It".
- Attends the monthly Pack meetings.

Each Tiger Cub Den has a Den Leader:

- This person plans and executes a year-round program of activities for the Tiger Cub Den.
- Each month, the Tiger Cub Den Leader works with a different boy/adult partner team to plan the monthly Den meeting(s), the Go See It, and the Den's part in the Pack meeting. This is called "shared Leadership".



Cub Scout Program (2nd and 3rd Grades)

This is a big adventure for a boy, one the Boy Scouts of America hopes all boys will complete.

Your boy is a member of a either a Wolf or Bear Den that:

- Has five to ten boys.
- Meets once or twice a month, regularly scheduled at the Leader's convenience.
- Is led by a trained scout Leader (usually a parent)
- Has at least one assistant Den Leader and sometimes a Den chief (a Boy Scout appointed to the position by his troop).
- Has games, crafts, stunts, songs and ceremonies at meetings and periodic field trips.

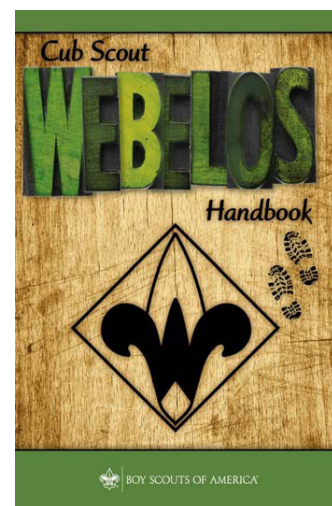


Webelos Program (4th and 5th Grades)

The Webelos badge is the fifth rank in Cub Scouting (coming after Tiger Cub, Bobcat, Wolf, and Bear). You can start on it as soon as you join a Webelos Den, and have earned the Bobcat badge.

Your boy is a member of a Webelos (**WE'll BE LOyal Scouts**) Den that:

- Has five to ten boys.
- Meets once or twice a month, regularly scheduled at the Leader's convenience.
- Is led by a trained scout Leader (usually a parent)
- Has at least one assistant Den Leader and often a Den chief (a Boy Scout appointed to the position by his troop).
- Works to earn the Fitness, Citizen, and at least one other activity badge.



Special Pack Events

Recruiting Activities

The focus of these events is to encourage boys to join the world of Scouting. Our Scouts are the most important recruiting resource we have. If your son loves Scouting, encourage him to invite his friends along to a recruiting activity or to any Den or Pack event. New boys are always welcome, and your scout can earn a recruiting patch if one of his friends joins!

Pack Hikes (Monthly)

Our Pack has a monthly hiking program. Every month we will be meeting at a different location and going for a hike, rain or shine or snow. During our hikes, we will be looking at nature and enjoying the outdoors. Join us for our monthly hiking adventures and keep the "outing" in Scouting!



Local Clean-Up Activities

The Pack usually holds community trash clean-ups or other beautification projects at Cross of Glory, Dellwood Park, downtown Lockport with Main Street Clean Sweep, and various schools and other locations.

Popcorn! (August—December)

Pack fees cover only a small portion of the cost of running the Pack. Selling popcorn is our main fundraiser for the year and all Scouts are **strongly encouraged** to do their share to help fund the Pack by selling popcorn. Scouts also earn great prizes depending on the amount sold.



Scouting for Food (November)

This is a significant service project that benefits local food banks and allows our Scouts to help others in a very direct way. We drop off bags at local doorsteps one Saturday morning and pick up any bags full of food left on doorsteps the following Saturday. Most people are very pleased to help and the scouts get an amazing sense of accomplishment when they see the end result of all of the food they've collected as a team.



Space Derby (usually November)

Another popular family-son project is the space derby. It's like the pinewood derby except the models are miniature rockets. The rockets are also provided by the Pack. At the derby, the rockets "fly" along a heavy line that hangs in the air. They're driven by propellers powered by rubber bands. This is always a fun event for the whole family.



Blue and Gold Banquet (February)

During February, Scouting has its anniversary month. Most of the Packs across the country hold a Blue and Gold Banquet as a highlight of the year's program. It brings families together for a meal and a time of fun and inspiration. The banquet is usually held on a Saturday in February, and it's an event the boys look forward to with excitement. The Blue and Gold Banquet has become our Pack's customary time to "Cross Over" our second year Webelos scouts into a Boy Scout troop of their choice. Members of the specified Boy Scout troop(s) are present to receive the Scout as he crosses over a wooden bridge, symbolizing the departure from the Pack and recognizing the boys' increasing maturity and accomplishments. Many people find this to be a very moving ceremony.



Pinewood Derby (usually March)

One of the yearly highlights for many Scouts! Boys work with their families to build a car out of a plain block of pine wood. Kits are provided by the Pack. Some of our experienced parents may try to host a workshop to ensure all families have access to the specialized tools or knowledge they might not otherwise have. On race day, boys compete for speed and design awards. Win or lose, there are many valuable learning opportunities to share with your son on race day. After the Scouts finish their races, we welcome siblings and parents to try their own cars as well!



Raingutter Regatta (Summer)

Every year to mark the end of summer and the beginning of the new Cub Scouting year, we hold our annual picnic and Raingutter Regatta. In the raingutter regatta, boats race down a narrow channel. The Scouts create their sailboat designs, and the boats are blown down the channel. The boat kits are provided by the Pack, as is the main dish at the picnic. Everyone brings side dishes and desserts and comes prepared to have a wonderful day!



Cub Scout Day Camp or Resident Camp (Summer)

Scouts can have TONS of fun and have new experiences through a week of local day camp with 200+ other Scouts in our local area, or through resident camp at Rainbow Scout Reservation. Camp is usually the only opportunity Cubs have to earn the BB and Archery belt loops and possibly pins, which must be earned at Council events to ensure Scout safety.

Where Can I Buy Scouting Materials? (Scout Shops)

Scouting material is available locally through the Council-operated “Scout Shops” and online through the BSA Catalog at www.scoutstuff.org. The stores closest to Pack 64 families are listed below:

Des Plaines Valley Scout Shop

811 West Hillgrove Ave.
La Grange, IL 60525
708-352-3144
Mon-Wed, Fri 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thu 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

The Chalkboard Learning Center

2110 Plainfield Rd.
Crest Hill, IL 60403
815-741-2023
Mon-Fri 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sat 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Rainbow Council

2600 N. Winterbottom Rd.
Morris, IL 60450
815-942-4450
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wed 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sat, Sun Closed

What Should I Buy?

- Scout Shirt
- Scout Cap (rank specific)
- Belt and Belt Buckle
- Patches: Rainbow Council, Pack Numerals (6, 4), Den Number (as assigned), World Crest
- Neckerchief (Tiger Cubs only) **
- Neckerchief slide (appropriate to rank: Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos)
- Scout Handbook (rank specific)

After the first year of scouting, Pack 64 provides rank appropriate neckerchiefs each year.

Things You Can Do To Help Your Cub Scout

1. Be sure your boy attends every Den Meeting possible. Remind him to be on his best behavior while he is there. He is a guest at the Den Meeting site.
2. Remember to enter all the required and elective adventures he completes under your guidance, and remind him to bring his handbook to every Den Meeting. Use Scoutbook to keep Pack Leadership advised as to your son's achievements.
3. Have his uniform clean and have all appropriate patches sewn on in their correct places so he looks great at all scout functions. Help your Scout look his best by reminding him to adhere to the uniform guidelines with his shirt tucked neatly into a pair of navy blue or denim pants or shorts.
4. Be willing to help out with transportation for Den meetings, field trips, etc. Help him to provide Den snacks when it is his turn.
5. HELP HIM TO ACHIEVE! Read his handbook, familiarize yourself with his rank requirements; many of them are done with the family or at home. Read the parents' supplement at the front of his book. Ask questions of your Pack Leaders if you are unclear about anything.
6. Make sure that your Cub Scout is doing his very best. Don't sign off on achievements unless he has really earned each part of it. Don't count things he did as a Wolf cub towards his Bear rank. He needs to do each item during that rank year.
7. Attend Pack and Den Meetings with your son. The entire family is invited to attend every Pack Meeting. Be alert to his behavior during the meetings; the Den and Pack Leaders are not solely responsible for him or his actions during the Pack meeting. This also holds true with all Cub Scout outings. Have fun, and correct and praise as needed.
8. Be willing to assist with costumes, skits, crafts, songs, outings, refreshments, etc.
9. Always remember that Cub Scouting is Family Oriented. It is designed to help parents with their boys. The Den and Pack cannot help your boy grow without your help.

DEFINITIONS

Cub Scout – A registered youth member of the Boy Scouts of America between the ages of six and eleven who is in the First, Second, Third, Fourth or Fifth grades.

Boy Scout – A registered youth member of the Boy Scouts of America between the ages of eleven (or ten and having completed the Arrow of Light) and eighteen; generally refers to boys who are registered with a Boy Scout troop.

Scouter – A registered adult member of the Boy Scouts of America; one who pays to be in Boy Scouts.

Pack – The designation of a chartered unit in Cub Scouting.

Troop – The designation of a chartered unit in Boy Scouting.

Den – A grouping of Cub Scouts at the same level or rank (usually by grade in school).

Adult Leader – A Scouter who holds a position of authority and responsibility within a Pack; e.g. Committee Chairman; Chartered Organization Representative; Den Leader; Committee

Member; Cub Master; Tiger Cub Leader; Webelos Leader; or Assistants to Cub Master, Den Leader, Tiger Cub Leader, or Webelos Leader.

Akela – Cub Scout themes and terms are largely derived from characters in Rudyard Kipling’s “The Jungle Book”. Akela is the lead wolf in the Pack that adopts Mowgli. So there is a Den Akela (the Den Leader) and a Home Akela (you, the parent or guardian!).

Required Adventure – A required adventure for a scout’s rank.

Elective Adventure – An optional adventure for a scout’s rank.

Council – A geographic boundary of a local scouting area negotiated and approved by the National Boy Scout Council. Our council is the Rainbow Council.

District – A subset of a local council with specific geographic boundaries. Our district is the Waapi Lenewa District.

BOBCAT RANK

The Bobcat Badge is the first rank that **every** Cub Scout must earn, regardless at what age/rank a boy joins scouts. It sets a common base for all Cub Scouts to share. The Cub Scout must learn the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Cub Scout Motto, the Cub Scout Sign, Handshake, and Salute. They must also complete the exercises in the "Child Abuse Prevention" booklet at the front of their handbook with their parents. The Bobcat badge is worn at the top of the left pocket.

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly,
courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty,
brave, clean, and reverent.

Cub Scout Motto

Do Your Best!

Cub Scout Sign

Make the sign with your right hand and with your arm held straight up.



Cub Scout Sign

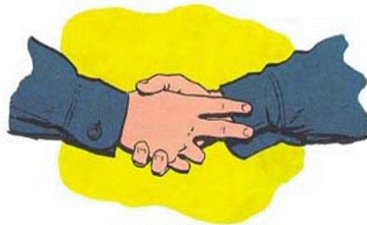
The two fingers stand for two parts of the Promise—“to help other people” and “to obey.” They look like a wolf’s ears ready to listen to Akela.

Give the Cub Scout sign when you say the Cub Scout Promise or the Law of the Pack.



Cub Scout Handshake

When you shake hands with another Webelos Scout or Cub Scout, hold out your right hand as you do for an ordinary handshake. But place your first two fingers along the inside of the other Scout’s wrist. This means both of you will help others and obey the Law of the Pack.



Cub Scout Salute

Point your first two fingers of your right hand out straight and close together. Touch the tips of the fingers to your cap or if not wearing a cap then to your eyebrow.

A salute is a way to show respect.

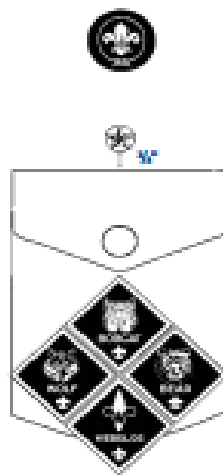
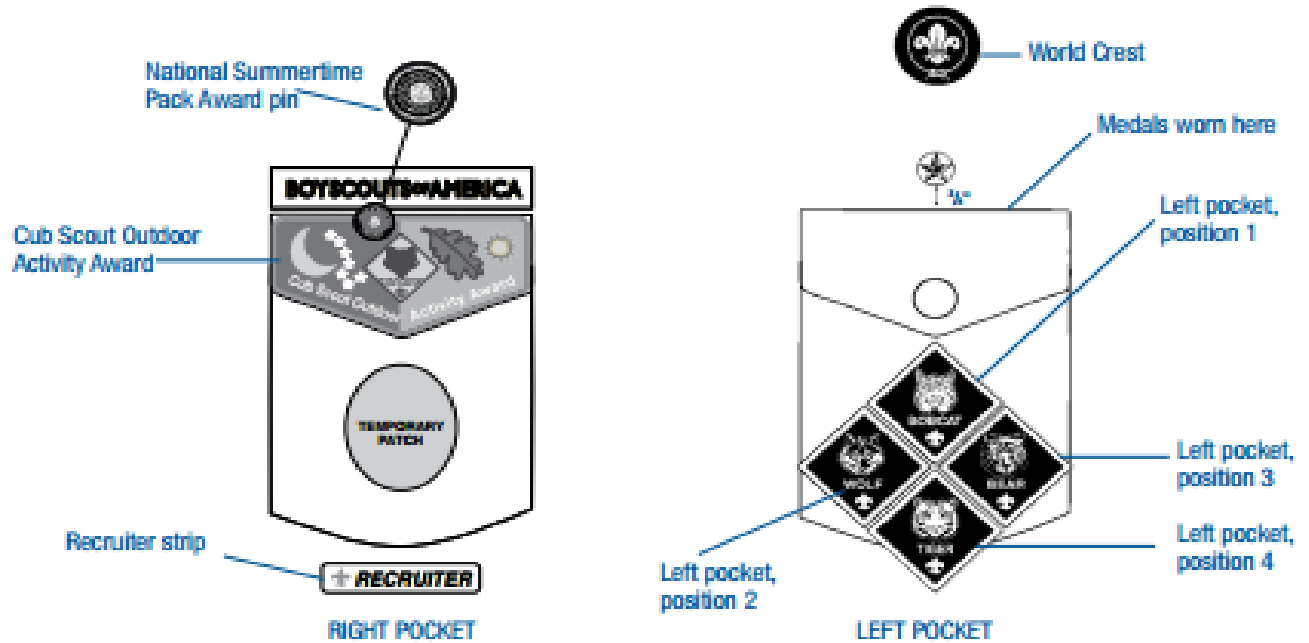
When you salute a leader (either adult or other scout), you show him or her that you respect their position. When you salute the flag, you show that you are proud of your country.



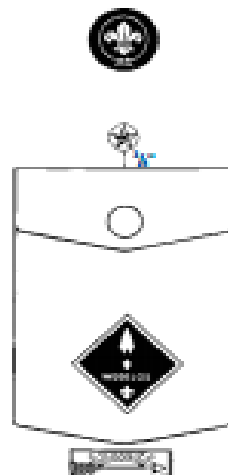
UNIFORM AND PATCH PLACEMENT

Cub Scout Uniform Patch Placement Shirt Front

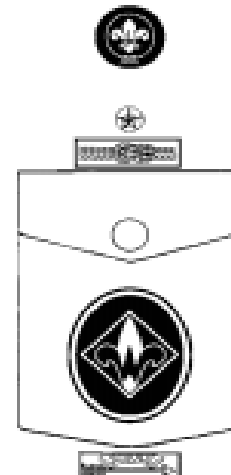
Not more than five medals may be worn at a time, pinned in a single row immediately above the seam of the left pocket.



WEBELOS SCOUT
LEFT POCKET
(blue or tan shirt)

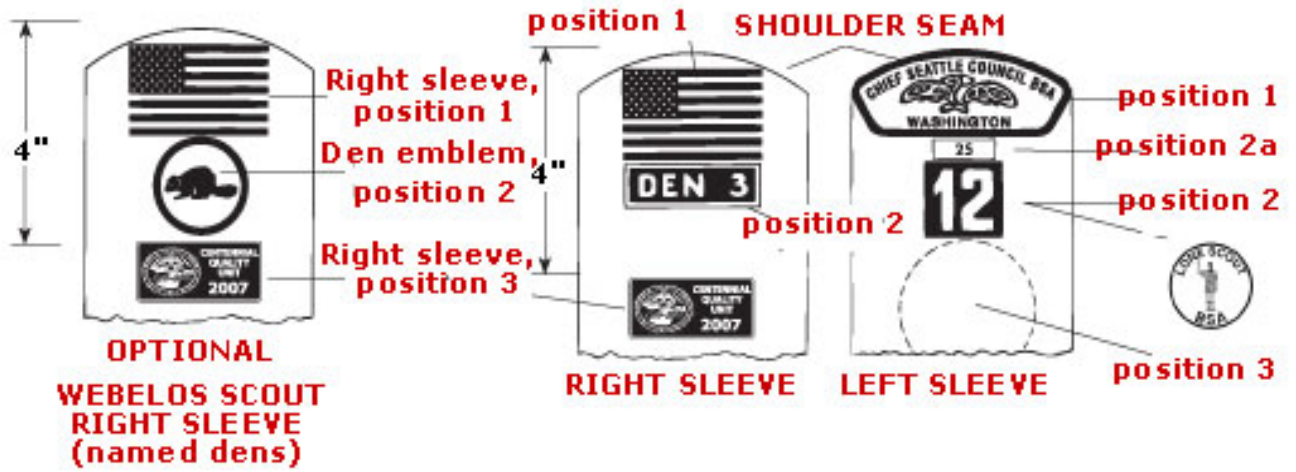


WEBELOS SCOUT
LEFT POCKET
(blue or tan shirt)

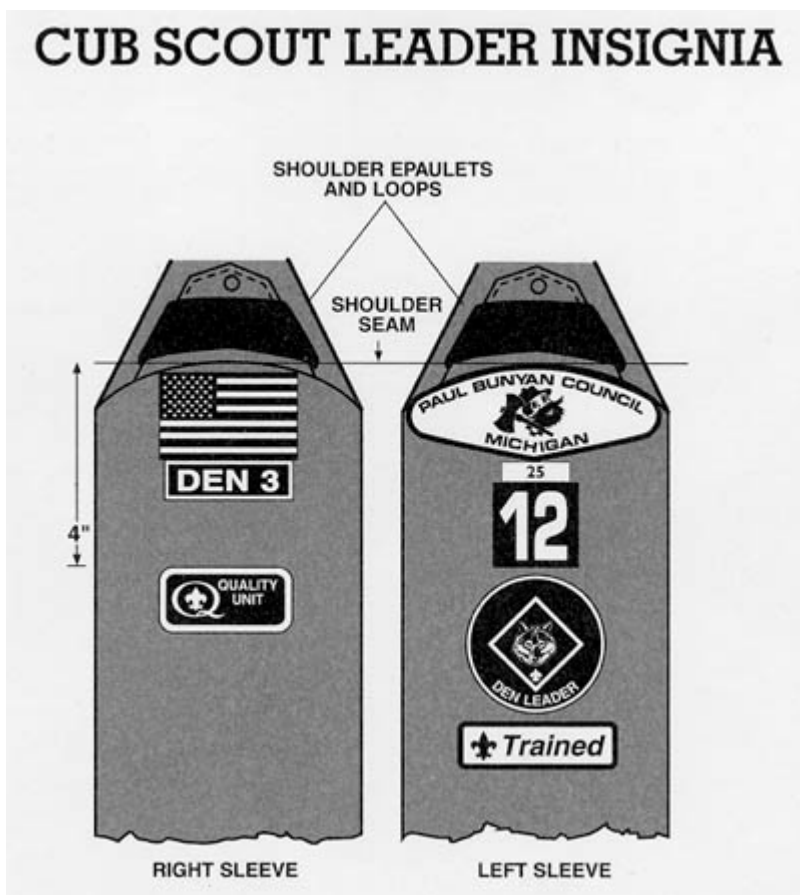
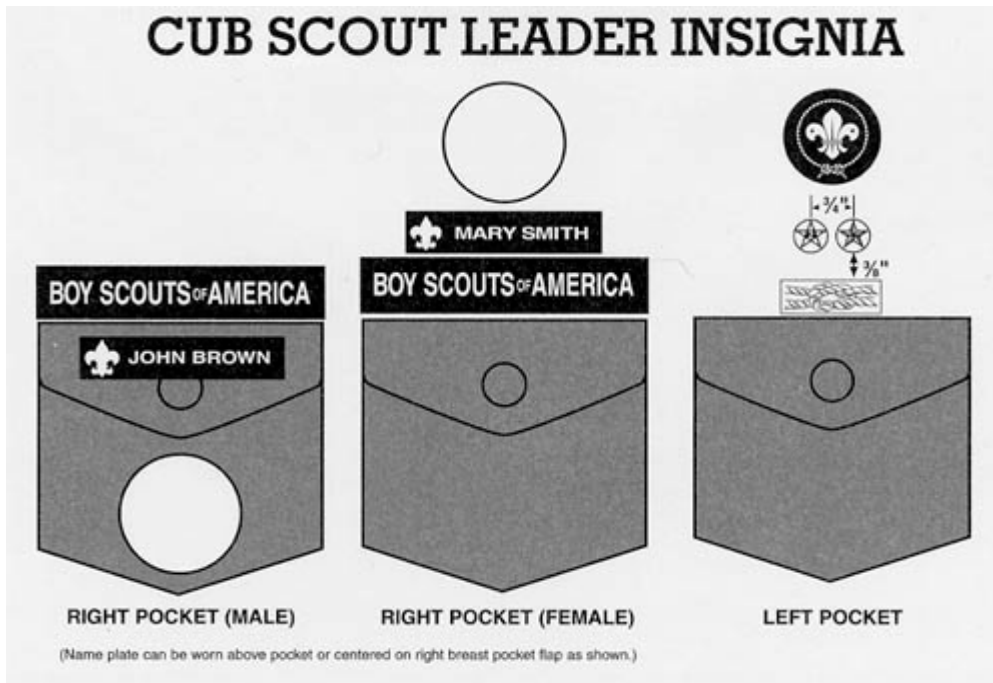


WEBELOS SCOUT
LEFT POCKET
(tan shirt)

Cub Scout Uniform Patch Placement Shirt Sleeves



Adult Leader Uniform Patch Placement



PARENT NOTES