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## **Chapter 2: Ideals and Principles of Scouting**

*Scouting's activities, advancements and awards are all built around the idea of teaching boys a set of key principles and ideals.*

## Purposes of Cub Scouting

The Boy Scouts of America has identified ten purposes of the Cub Scout program:

- Character Development
- Spiritual Growth
- Good Citizenship
- Sportsmanship and Fitness
- Family Understanding
- Respectful Relationships
- Personal Achievement
- Friendly Service
- Fun and Adventure
- Preparation for Boy Scouts

## The Scout Oath

One of the first things your son will do upon joining Scouts is to begin learning the Scout Oath and Law. Over time, he'll internalize these and never forget them.

*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, and to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.*

## The Scout Law

The Scout Law embodies twelve key concepts that we hope boys will choose to use as guiding principles for their lives.

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

## Scout Motto

The Cub Scout motto is simple and easy-to-learn, yet vitally important for young boys.

*Do your best.*

## Scout Sign

Cub Scouts raise their right hand and make the sign of a wolf's paws with their index and middle fingers spread apart. This is used as a signal to boys to quiet up and pay attention, and is also the sign they make when reciting the Scout Oath and Law.

## Scout Salute

When participating in flag ceremonies, which will happen at every Den and Pack meeting as well as many other events, a Cub Scout in uniform salutes the US Flag with two fingers held above the brow.

## Scout Handshake

Cub Scouts shake hands by extending their index and middle fingers.

## The Methods of Cub Scouting

Cub Scouts uses seven specific methods to achieve the goal of Scouting, which is to help young boys build character, learn the responsibilities of citizenship, and maintain physical fitness.

1. Live the ideals, embodied primarily in the Scout Oath and Law
2. Belong to and actively participate in a Den, which teaches them to work with others and to do their best
3. Advancement, which allows boys to earn recognition for their achievements
4. Family involvement, since as with in life Scouts cannot hope to succeed without their family to support them
5. Activities, because we are after all talking about elementary school boys
6. Serving home and neighborhood, which embodies the idea of becoming a good citizen
7. Wearing the uniform



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## Chapter 3: Cub Scout Organization

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*Cub Scouting is a program for boys in grades 1-5 that seeks to introduce youth to the values and ideals of the Boy Scouts of America, including character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.*

## A Brief History of Scouting

Worldwide Scouting was founded in 1908 by Lord Robert Baden-Powell, a British general and veteran of the Boer War. He described the organization he was establishing as “fun with purpose.” In 1910, William Boyce brought Scouting to America. The program expanded to younger boys with the establishment of Cub Scouts in 1930. It is the largest of the four divisions of the Boy Scouts of America (the other three are the Boy Scouts, for boys from the sixth grade through age 18, Varsity, for boys aged 14-16, and Venturing, a co-ed program for youth from ages 14-21.)

## The Den

The basic, and to many boys and their families most important, unit of organization in Cub Scouts is the Den. A Den is a group of boys who are all in the same grade (and thus all approximately the same age) who meet and work together towards advancements. Most of the advancement and other activities that your son will experience through Scouts will be in the context of his Den.

## Den Leadership

The Den is led by a Den Leader, a trained parent volunteer who is responsible for scheduling Den events, running Den meetings, tracking advancement and other awards, and reporting to the Pack on the progress of the Den. In most cases, the Den Leader will be a parent of one of the boys in the Den. Originally, Dens were run by Den Mothers, but today the position is open to volunteers of either gender.

The Den Leader is helped in their duties by an Assistant Den Leader. The Assistant takes all of the same training as the Den Leader, and together they work out a division of labor to ensure the healthy functioning of the Den.

The third, and in many ways most important component in the Den leadership is you, the parent. Without your active involvement and participation, many of the Den's activities cannot happen.

## Den Meetings

The Den will meet on a regular basis, usually two or three times per month. The location varies by Den – some meet at the home of the Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader, while others may meet at a local elementary school. Dens may also occasionally have field trips or other outdoor activities. The scheduling of all of these events will usually be worked out collaboratively by the Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, and parents.

Den meetings will usually last for one hour, although special events may sometimes be longer.

## **Pack 29**

A group of Dens are organized into a Pack, which represents boys from all of the ages of Cub Scouts. The Pack meets once a month, usually on the fourth Wednesday of the month (although sometimes this needs to change due to holidays or other schedule conflicts) at the Rocklin Community Center. Pack meetings usually last for one hour.

## **Pack Leadership**

The Pack is run by a committee of parent volunteers. Studies have shown that boys get more out of Scouting and remain in the program longer if their parents take an active role in the program.

The Pack committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Out of Bounds Brewery in Rocklin. All adults involved with the Pack are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## **Chartered Organization Representative**

The Pack is “owned” by our chartered organization—the Rocklin Lions Club. The Lions designate one of their members to be our Chartered Organization Representative. This Lions member is a registered adult in the Boy Scouts of America, approves and signs all adult applications, and assists the Pack Committee Chair as needed.

## **Pack Committee Chair**

The Pack Committee Chair is a trained volunteer who serves as a primary point of contact for the Pack. The Chair organizes and runs the monthly Parent/Leader Committee Meeting, and together with the Cubmaster manages the Pack as a whole.

## **Cubmaster**

The Cubmaster is a trained volunteer who, in collaboration with other leaders, runs the Pack meetings and organizes events. The Cubmaster also serves as a primary point of contact for the Pack, and will likely have been the person with whom you first talked about joining Scouts.

## **Assistant Cubmasters**

The Assistant Cubmaster is a trained volunteer who assists the Cubmaster in a variety of duties and capacities. In Pack 29, we strive to have an Assistant Cubmaster from each Den, to ensure sufficient leadership and a line of succession, but also to spread the duties around so that no one is overworked.

## **Pack Trainer**

Pack 29 prides itself on maintaining 100% trained leadership, and the Pack Trainer is responsible for ensuring that all of the leaders are up-to-date on their training.

## **Treasurer**

The Pack Treasurer is a parent volunteer who maintains the Pack's accounts. See "Chapter 10: Finances" on page 43 section for more details.

## **Secretary**

The Pack Secretary takes and maintains the minutes of the Committee meetings.

## **Quartermaster**

The Quartermaster inventories and maintains the Pack's physical equipment.

## **Advancement Coordinator**

The Advancement Coordinator purchases all ranks and other awards earned by the boys and prepares them for presentation at Pack meetings. See the "Chapter 6: Advancements and Awards" on page 31 for more details.

## **Committee Members**

All parents are encouraged to attend committee meetings and take a role in helping shape the direction of the Pack. There's a lot to do in keeping the Pack running, and the more help we get the easier it is for everyone.

Some committee jobs include Webmaster, Pancake Breakfast Coordinator, Round Table Representative, Communications Coordinator, and Membership/Recruitment Coordinator.

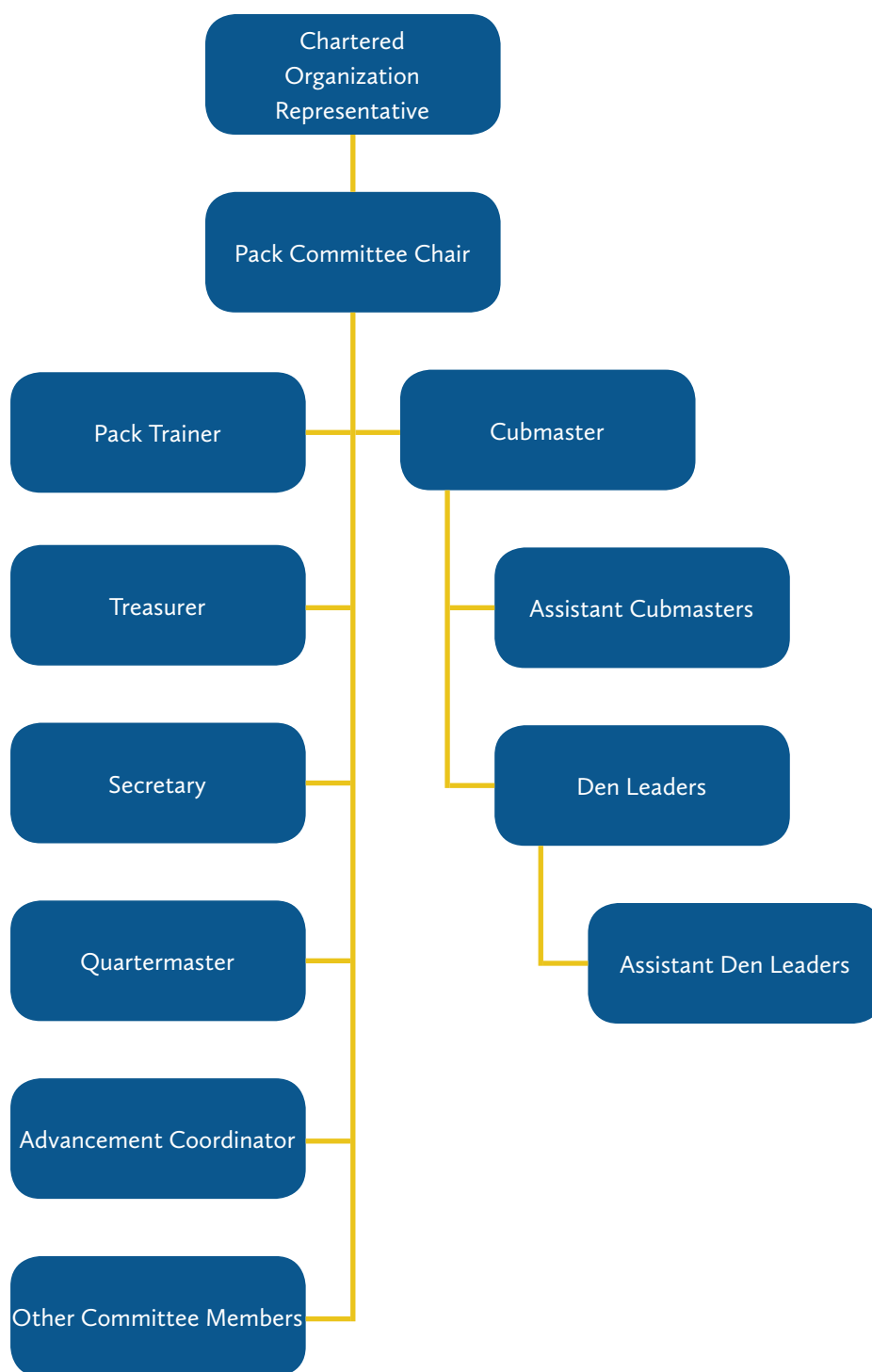
## **Discovery District**

All Scouting units in Rocklin, Roseville, Granite Bay and Loomis make up the Discovery District. The District offers training for leaders and bigger, district-wide events such as Twilight Camp. See "Chapter 5: Annual Calendar" on page 27 for more details on these offerings.

## **Golden Empire Council**

The Golden Empire Council administers the Scouting program in much of Northern California. The Council puts on large events that often attract hundreds or even thousands of Scouts and owns and runs a series of camps in the Sierras. They also manage Council-wide fundraising





efforts and have a set of committees that help local units run their programs. The Scout Shop, where you can purchase your son's uniform and where the Pack buys advancements and awards for the boys, is located in the Council office. See "Chapter 4: The Cub Scout Uniform" on page 23 and "Chapter 6: Advancements and Awards" on page 31 for more details.

## Boy Scouts of America

The national Boy Scouts office, located in Fort Worth, Texas, sets national policy for the BSA, provides nation-wide fundraising activities, runs high adventure camps for older boys, sets advancement requirements, and oversees the manufacture and sale of Scouting-related stuff, including the Scout uniform. They also publish *Boy's Life* magazine.