
Chapter 4: The Cub Scout Uniform

All Scouts wear an official uniform. The uniform gives youth and adults a sense a belonging, identification and commitment.

Class A Uniform

The Class A uniform for Pack 29 consists of a blue Cub Scout uniform shirt with appropriate patches attached, a neckerchief, slide, hat and belt.

The uniform can be purchased from the River City Scout Shop in Sacramento, or online from scout-stuff.org. You will also need the Golden Empire Council patch, a red 2 and red 9 for the Pack number, the World Crest emblem, and the appropriate Den number patch. The 1910 World Crest Ring emblem is optional.

Webelos Scouts have the option to wear the tan Boy Scout uniform instead of the blue Cub Scout shirt. The required patches are the same, although they will also need blue epaulets, which designates them as Cub Scouts.

The Pack will provide your son with a rank-specific neckerchief as a way of welcoming him into the Pack, so you do not need to buy one.



The neckerchief slide holds the neckerchief in place. There are official slides for each rank, but your son may also make one during some activities. It's very easy for the slide to fall off and get lost during activities, so we recommend that you buy a spare.

All youth in Pack 29 should have a blue Cub Scout belt, also available from the Scout Shop. Even Webelos who have transitioned to the tan shirt should still wear the blue belt.

For the hat, you have the option of either purchasing an official Scout hat, which is rank-specific, or you can purchase a Pack 29 hat, which can be customized with your son's first or last name. Either is considered acceptable and in-uniform, so the choice is entirely up to each family. You can buy the official hat at the Scout Shop, or order the Pack hat via our website at www.pack29.info.

Pack 29 does not require Cubs to wear official Cub Scout pants or socks.

See "Appendix A: Uniform Guide" on page 47 for a check-list that you can take with you to the Scout Shop to assist in shopping for the uniform.

Estimated Cost

The current cost of the uniform as required by Pack 29 is between \$85-\$95 dollars, depending on a few of the options you choose such as the style of Cub Scout handbook and whether or not you choose an official BSA hat or the Pack hat.

Class B Uniform

Certain outdoor activities may be inappropriate for the formal Class A uniform. In these cases, your son should wear a Cub Scout-related t-shirt. The Pack does have a class B t-shirt that can be ordered via our website at www.pack29.info. He may also acquire other t-shirts by attending certain events such as Twilight Camp. In addition, the Scout Shop has a variety of Scouting-related t-shirts for sale.

Your Den leader will let you know when Class B uniforms are OK. Otherwise, you should assume that your son should be in his Class A uniform whenever he attends a Cub Scout event, including all Den and Pack meetings.

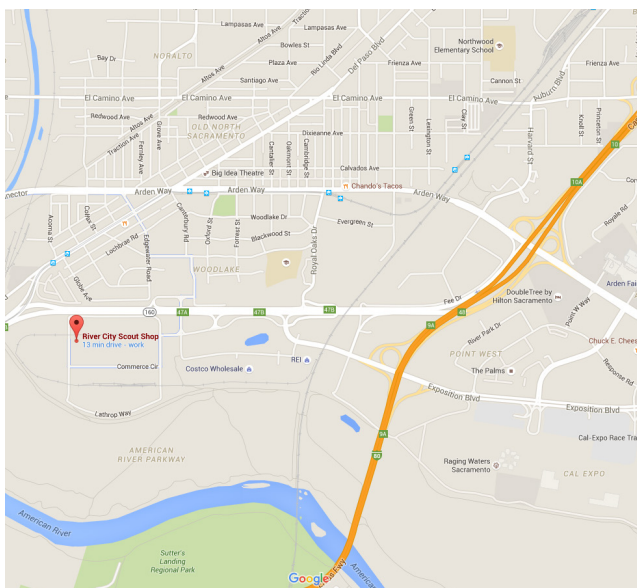
Adult Uniform

Certain leadership positions require that the adult wear a uniform, which consists of the tan shirt with appropriate insignia attached, a neckerchief and slide, belt, pants and socks, and hat. Should you decide to volunteer for one of these positions, other leaders in the Pack can assist you in determining what you need to purchase.

River City Scout Shop

The River City Scout Shop is located at 251 Commerce Circle in Sacramento, near Cal Expo. It is open Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9am to 6pm, Wednesday from 9am to 5pm, Thursday from 9am to 6:30pm, and Saturday from 10am to 4pm. It is closed on Sundays.

The staff at the Scout Shop is extremely helpful and will be happy to answer any questions you may have when purchasing your son's uniform.



Chapter 5: Annual Calendar

Pack 29 runs a year-round Scouting program. In addition to the monthly Pack meeting, we hold a variety of other events to keep the boys engaged and having fun in Scouts while also working on advancement requirements.

Annual Events

These events vary depending on time commitments from the leadership and availability of the event, but below is a list of many of the activities we hold on an annual basis. See “Appendix E: 2015-2016 Calendar” on page 67 for events we have planned so far.

Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood Derby is arguably the most well-known event in Cub Scouts. It’s so well known, in fact, that there’s even an entire movie dedicated to it.

The Pack 29 Pinewood Derby is usually held in late January. Every boy in the Pack will be given an official BSA Pinewood Derby kit at the December pack meeting. The race is held on a Saturday, with each boy racing against other boys in his rank. The winners from each rank then return later in the day to race against each other to determine a Grand Champion. Trophies are awarded to the winners of the rank races and to the overall Pack winners. The Grand Champion will also have his name engraved on a perpetual trophy, which he will be allowed to keep for the year.

We also give out awards for craftsmanship, most colorful car, best Scout theme, and others.

Details and rules for the race will be distributed to all families at the December pack meeting.

Please keep in mind that the Pinewood Derby is designed as an opportunity for Scouts to learn important skills such as basic woodworking, as well as sportsmanship. While younger Scouts will obviously need assistance in building their car, the Pinewood should at all levels reflect the boy’s work, and not that of his parents. However, adults (and older siblings) can choose to purchase a car kit, construct their own car, and race it the night before the event in the Akela Race.



Blue & Gold Celebration

The Pack celebrates the birthday of Cub Scouts every February with the Blue & Gold Banquet, which is a Pack meeting devoted to a cake contest and birthday-like games and activities.

Rank Advancement Banquet

In May, your son will advance to the next rank in Scouting as he finishes the school year and moves to the next grade. That month, the Pack holds a banquet for all families to come and

celebrate your son's accomplishments. The banquet is catered and something that boys will look forward to throughout the year.

Twilight Camp

The Discovery District hosts Twilight Camp every summer, usually either the first week after school gets out or the following week. Twilight Camp is a week of evening activities running from 4:30pm to 8pm in Penryn. A few of the activities that boys experience at Twilight Camp include learning how to hoist, lower and fold the US flag, basic first aid, outdoor cooking, and using a compass. They also get to build and launch rockets, and test their skills at archery and BB guns. For many boys, Twilight Camp is the ultimate event on the annual calendar, and the thing they enjoy the most about Cub Scouts.



Summer Camp

Each summer, the Pack takes a group of boys to Camp Lassen, about an hour outside of Chico. The boys spend four days and three nights camping in the mountains experiencing campfires, hiking, horseback riding, canoeing, archery and BB guns. This is the other main highlight of the year for many boys.

Historic Ship Overnight

Each fall, the Pack spends a night on an historic ship. Past trips have included the aircraft carrier *USS Hornet*, the WWII Liberty Ship *SS Jeremiah O'Brien*, and the WWII submarine *USS Pampanito*. In 2015, we also completed an overnight on the battleship *USS Iowa*.

Spring Overnight

In addition to the historic ship, we organize another overnight trip in the spring. Past trips have included sleeping in the shark tubes at the San Francisco Aquarium and at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

Family Camp

Each August, around the time school starts, we host a family camp where we encourage siblings and other family members to join us for a weekend of fun in the mountains.

Spring Camp

Camping is a required activity at all levels of Cub Scouts except Tiger, so the Pack hosts a second campout in the spring for boys who may have missed summer camp or family camp.

Scout Expo

Organized and run by the Golden Empire Council, Scout Expo occurs once every two years. Held at Beale Air Force Base, the Expo attracts around 2,000 Scouts from all over the area for a weekend of fun and learning.

Chapter 6: Advancements and Awards

Ideally, Scouting is about the opportunity to experience things that today's youth don't generally get, as well as instilling positive values to help make these boys into productive citizens and positive role models. That said, we all enjoy recognition for our achievements, and Scouts are no different.

Ranks

Cub Scouts progress through six ranks as they mature and move from first through fifth grade.

Bobcat

Regardless of the age at which they begin Scouting, all boys start by earning their Bobcat badge, which introduces them to Scouting's core principles.

The requirements for the Bobcat are:

1. Learn and say the Scout Oath, with help if needed.
2. Learn and say the Scout Law, with help if needed.
3. Show the Cub Scout sign. Tell what it means.
4. Show the Cub Scout handshake. Tell what it means.
5. Say the Cub Scout motto. Tell what it means.
6. Show the Cub Scout salute. Tell what it means.
7. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*

Your Den Leader will assist you in completing these requirements. As much as possible, we try to have boys earn their Bobcat by their first Pack meeting after joining, so that they can come up and be recognized right away.

Tiger

Tiger Scouts are the youngest boys in the Pack. Their first year in Scouts allows them to begin exploring their world and the core principles of Scouting.

Wolf

As boys move into second grade, they begin to work on their Wolf badge. Wolf expands on the ideas first explored as Tigers.

Bear

Third grade boys work towards their Bear badge, where they begin to take on more responsibility and expand their skill sets in camping, science, and other domains.



Webelos

Webelos, which is short for “We’ll Be Loyal Scouts”, is a two-year program for fourth and fifth grade boys. The primary goal of the Webelos program is to begin to prepare boys for the transition to Boy Scouts.

Arrow of Light

The final award earned in Cub Scouts is the Arrow of Light, where boys demonstrate that they are prepared to make the leap from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. Generally, boys are awarded their Arrow of Light at their final Pack meeting, where they also bridge over and are accepted into the Boy Scout Troop. The Arrow

of Light is the only rank in Scouting that boys can continue to wear on their Boy Scout uniform, and also eventually on their adult uniform when they grow up and bring their own sons into Scouting. It is in fact one of only three things that can be earned as youth that can later be worn on the adult uniform. The other two are the religious award (see below) and Eagle Scout.

Joining Late

It’s important to note that boys will work on the rank appropriate to their grade level and do not go back and complete ranks they may have missed. As an example, a boy who joins in third grade would earn his Bobcat and then proceed directly onto to working on his Bear badge, simply bypassing Tiger and Wolf. This way, boys can join Cub Scouts at any age and work alongside their Den with the other boys without feeling like they’re behind.

Adventure Loops

The Tiger, Wolf and Bear badges are divided into a set of “adventures”, which allows boys to work towards their rank in manageable pieces and receive recognition along the way. As they complete each adventure, they will be awarded an Adventure Loop—a medal device that slides onto his belt. (This is why the requirement exists that he have an official Cub Scout belt as part of his uniform, as the loops are sized to only fit the official belt.) Each of those ranks requires the completion of seven adventures, but more are available and can be earned independently. Each rank has its own set of loops with age-appropriate activities. Your Den leader will work out a schedule for the year to ensure that all boys can earn the minimum required loops by the end of the school year so that he can earn his rank on time.

Webelos Adventure Pins

Instead of adventure loops, boys in the Webelos program earn adventure pins. The concept is the same as with the younger ranks, but the pins are designed to either be worn on a special ribbon called the Webelos Colors or on a boy's hat. The Webelos badge requires the completion of seven pins, and Arrow of Light requires another seven, but as with the other ranks there are a host of elective pins that boys can earn on their own.

Rank Handbooks

The Boy Scouts of America publishes a handbook for each rank that outlines the specific requirements for the adventures, as well as providing guidance to adults who are helping the boys through the ranks. While it is not required, it is highly recommended that you purchase these books when your son begins working on a rank. They are available from the Scout Shop and also online through Amazon.com in eBook format.

Scoutbook

The Pack uses the BSA's online tool called Scoutbook to track your son's advancements and awards. Shortly after joining the Pack, the Cubmaster or Pack Webmaster will set up an account for your son in Scoutbook and email you with instructions to log in and access his information. From there, you can track your son's progress through his rank and even update that progress yourself when you complete something with him as a family.

Other Awards

Scouting has dozens of additional awards that can be earned by boys, either independently or as a Den or pack. Below is a sample of some of the more common awards.

Religious Awards

Almost every major, established religion has an award that can be earned by boys of that faith. Unlike every other award in Scouting, the religious award is worked on by a boy, his family, and his religious leader. Information on the award can often be acquired from your church, or by visiting <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/ReligiousAwards.aspx>.

Religious awards can also be earned by registered adult leaders, providing a unique opportunity for a boy and his mother or father to work on an award together.

If earned as a Cub Scout, the religious award can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform, and adult leaders who earned it as youth can also wear an emblem denoting that on their uniforms.

NOVA

The Boy Scouts recognizes that youth today are digital natives and not only have a keen interest in science and technology, but also require those skills for almost any future employment. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) can be found throughout the rank adventures, but those boys who wish to expand their knowledge and further explore their interest in these areas can choose to work on the NOVA award through research, field trips and science experiments. This is generally done individually, but recently a group of Pack 29 Scouts worked on it together.

Supernova

An expansion of the NOVA program, the Supernova award takes what the boys learned while working on the NOVA award and builds on it. The Dr. Luis W. Alvarez Award can be earned by Wolf and Bear Scouts, while Webelos Scouts can earn the Dr. Charles H. Townes Award. The awards require more in-depth research and more complex experiments.

World Conservation Award

Learning to care for the environment and the world around us is a key component of Scouting at all levels. The World Conservation Award recognizes boys for completing service projects to help conserve natural resources.

National Summertime Pack Award

Cub Scouts is designed as a year-round program. In order to encourage Packs to not take summers off, the Boy Scouts established the National Summertime Pack Award. While as its name implies it can be earned by the Pack as a whole, individual Scouts can earn it as well. It is perhaps one of the easiest awards to earn: boys simply need to attend one Cub Scout-related activity in each of the three summer months.

Messengers of Peace

In order to promote the ideals of peaceful co-existence on our planet, the Messengers of Peace award can be earned by any Scout who completes a community service project. Boys in Pack 29 have multiple opportunities to earn this award throughout the year. See “Chapter 7: Community Service” on page 37 for more details on how we work to help our fellow citizens.

Outdoor Ethics Award

Outdoor ethics, embodied by the Leave No Trace principle, is one of the most important ideals we try to teach Scouts. The Outdoor Ethics Award embodies this idea by having Scouts complete a series of outdoor adventures while thinking about the impact they have on our natural world.

Whittling Chip

The Whittling Chip can be earned by boys at the Bear and Webelos level. The award shows that the boy has learned and continues to embody knife safety principles.

Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award

Boys love being outdoors, and in Scouts we try to do as much as possible outside. The Outdoor Activity Award shows that boys have participated in a series of these outside adventures.

Recruiter

Scouts who help the Pack grow by recruiting siblings and friends will earn a Recruiter strip. As an additional thank you for introducing more boys to Scouting, the Pack also awards either a head lamp or pocket knife (at the parent's discretion) to the boy who gets another boy to sign up for Scouting. (While we of course encourage boys to bring in as many friends as they can, the award and special thank you gift are only awarded once.)