NEW SCOUT PARENT ORIENTATION GUIDE
Sagamore Council, Boy Scouts of America
www.sagamorebsa.org
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Den Leader
NAME ___________________________
PHONE NUMBER ___________________
EMAIL ___________________________

Den Meeting
DATE ______________________________
TIME ______________________________
LOCATION _________________________

Cubmaster
NAME ___________________________
PHONE NUMBER ___________________
EMAIL ___________________________

Pack Meeting
DATE ______________________________
TIME ______________________________
LOCATION _________________________

Notes:

SAGAMORE COUNCIL

Boy Scouts of America, Sagamore Council serves 16 counties in north central Indiana. More than 4,000 youth participate in the council’s Scouting programs through more than 130 packs, troops, crews and posts. Our mission is to provide character development, citizenship training, growth in physical, mental and spiritual fitness and to help create the next generation of leaders. More than 2,000 adult volunteers dedicate their time and talents to make the Scouting program a success.

The council is divided into three service areas, called districts, where the Scouting program is delivered to local communities.

Districts

North Star
- Cass
- Fulton
- Japer
- Newton
- Pulaski
- White

Peshewa
- Blackford
- Grant
- Howard
- Miami
- Wabash

Wabash Valley
- Benton
- Carroll
- Tippecanoe
- Warren
- Northern Fountain

Local Facilities

Hingst Scout Service Center
518 N Main Street
Kokomo, IN 46903
765-452-8253

Franklin L. Cary Camp
6286 State Road 26 East
Lafayette, IN 47905
765-447-1990

Camp Buffalo
9400 North Boy Scout Road
Monticello, IN 47960
574-278-7114

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WHY SCOUTING?

Scouting is a well-rounded program positively affecting every area of a child’s life.

Scouting encourages boys and girls to achieve a deeper appreciation of others, including peers, parents and other adults. Early in their Scouting experience, children learn the value of serving others.

Scouting provides boys and girls with a sense that they are important individuals. They learn that their Scouting family cares about what happens to them.

Scouting activities and award programs teach personal responsibility and self-confidence. As a result, when hard decisions have to be made, a Scout can look at themselves in the mirror and be proud.

Scouting involves a safe environment with positive role models.

Parents, your son or daughter will learn confidence, experience belonging, quality family time, leadership and social skills, moral and ethical choices, teamwork, citizenship and have fun.

SCOUTING’S PROGRAMS

Cub Scouts
A year-round, family-friendly program designed for boys and girls who are Kindergarten-5th grade (ages 6-10). Activities are used to achieve the aims of Scouting—citizenship training, character development and personal fitness.

Scouts, BSA
Designed for young men or women ages 11-18. Scouts learn responsible citizenship, character development and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities and educational programs.

Venturing
A program for young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20. Its purpose is to provide positive experiences to help youth mature and prepare them to become responsible adults.

Exploring
A career-learning program for young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20. Exploring units, called “posts”, usually have a focus on a single career field such as law enforcement, fire and rescue, health, law, aviation or engineering.

HOW DOES CUB SCOUTING WORK?

The Cub Scout program is designed to involve your child in a group of children their own age where they can earn status and recognition. There he or she will also gain a sense of personal achievement from the new skills they learn.

Your Scout is a Member of a Den...
- A den is made up of no more than eight boys or girls who are the same age, gender and grade.
- The den meets 2-3 times a month. One of the den meetings each month is often a “Go See It” or field trip.
- The den has a den leader, but the den leader shares the planning of the den meetings with the parents.

Your Scout is a Member of a Pack...
- A pack consists of several dens and meets once a month.
- The Cubmaster leads the monthly pack meeting, but each den will have a part in the pack meeting.
- Some months, the pack meeting will have special themes such as Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Banquet or guest speakers. Other months may be devoted to recognizing Scouts for the projects they have completed by the presentation of belt loops, activity pins or rank advancements.
- There are three different types of packs: all-boy packs, all-girl packs, and packs with boy dens and girl dens. All coed packs have single-gendered dens.

Cub Scout Motto: Do Your Best
Doing your best is one of the most important things Cub Scouts learn. When children compare themselves to other people, they can become complacent or discouraged. Focusing on doing their personal best helps them feel good about themselves and see their potential for doing even better. This helps youth see that no one can find fault with them if they always do their best.

Cub Scout Advancement Plan
In Scouting, advancement is the process by which a member meets certain requirements and earns recognition. The Cub Scout advancement program is a blend of activities youth do in their homes and they do in a den meeting. As requirements are completed, boys and girls are awarded recognition items to mark their progress.

Scouts 7-10 years old, regardless of grade, start by earning the Bobcat badge. After receiving the Bobcat badge, a Scout works on the requirements based on their grade level.
CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

Sagamore Council Camp Properties

Franklin L. Cary Camp
Located on State Road 26 East just outside of Lafayette, Indiana, Cary Camp has more than 125 beautiful acres bordering the Wildcat Creek. Camp boasts a variety of wildlife in addition to being an excellent canoeing and fishing area on the creek. The swimming pool, cabins and dining hall are available to a variety of youth groups year round with the exception of the months Cary Camp is devoted to Scout camping during summer.

Camp Buffalo
Camp Buffalo is a 262-acre property located nine miles north of Monticello, Indiana, on the banks of the Tippecanoe River. There are numerous activities throughout the year for Scout and non-Scout groups to enjoy. Our large campfire ring, quiet chapel area, and rustic nature lodge are surrounded by 16 campsites and miles of hiking trails. Camp Buffalo also has an excellent shooting sports facility, an outdoor swimming pool, a mountain bike trail, and our ever-expanding Liberty Lake for fishing and canoeing. Our two wetlands provide a great location for wildlife and conservation lessons.

ACTIVITIES & FUN

Welcome to Scouting
Catered to brand new Cub Scouts, though open to all, this jam packed day features BB guns, archery, races and human foosball are just a glimpse of the adventure at Cub Scout Welcome to Scouting!

Cub Scout Haunted Weekend
The Cub Scout Haunted Weekend is a fun, exciting and adventurous weekend where Scouts and their families can participate in tractor rides, bounce house, haunted house, haunted trail hike, campfire, games and much more.

Pinewood Derby
Ready, set, GO! The parent/child project allows Scouts to build a race car made from a block of wood while developing motor skills and learning about working with teams and creativity.

Scouting for Food
This annual food drive is held to benefit local food pantries. Scouting instills the value of service to others and this food drive provides a worthwhile opportunity for Scouts to participate in. As boys get older, their participation in service projects prepares them to plan and organize their own projects.

Boys’ Life Magazine
Boys’ Life has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, science and U.S. History. There are also jokes, comics and short stories. There are different versions of the magazine based on the age of the Scout. The monthly magazine is $12.00 per year.

Catch a glimpse at www.boyslife.org
CUB SCOUT UNIFORM

One of Scouting’s methods of youth development includes wearing a uniform. The Scout uniform makes Scouting visible as a force of good, signifies a Scout’s commitment to Scouting ideals and serves as an economic equalizer of all boys. Additionally, the uniform serves as a recognition mechanism for earned advancement.

Below are the basic parts of a Cub Scout uniform. As a boy earns advancement ranks, he will receive belt loops, emblems and badges to add to his uniform. A detailed guide to correct patch placement is available at any council Scout shop or online. To begin, a Cub Scout shirt with appropriate patches is necessary, the rest can be pieced together over time.

The Uniform

Den Numerals
$1.49

Neckerchief & Slide
$15.98
- Lion: Yellow
- Tiger: Orange
- Wolf: Red
- Bear: Blue
- Webelo: Plaid

Short Sleeve Shirt
$24.99

Shorts or Trousers

Cap
$14.99

Council Patch
$3.79

Pack Numerals
$5.96

World Crest
$2.29

Web Belt and Buckle
$9.99

SCOUT SHOP INFORMATION

Sagamore Council Scout Shops are your source for Scouting uniforms and supplies as well as camping, craft and gift items.

For more information on the Scout Shop and its items, please call 765-452-8253.

Kokomo
Hingst Scout Service Center
518 North Main Street
Kokomo, IN 46903-0865

Phone: 765-452-8253
Email: sagamore.council@scouting.org

Shop Hours:
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
First Saturday of the Month: 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.
Closed Sundays and holidays

Cary Camp
6286 State Road 26 East
Lafayette, IN 47905

Phone: 765-447-1990

Shop Hours By Appointment

Camp Buffalo
9400 Boy Scout Road
Monticello, IN 47960

Phone: 765-337-4439

Shop Hours by Appointment
Leader Training

Cub Scout Leader training is easy. All courses needed to be fully trained are available online through My.Scouting.org. Steps to set up a My.Scouting.org account are available in each new leader’s packet.

Before an individual can be registered as an adult volunteer, he or she must complete Youth Protection training. We ask that adult leaders complete Youth Protection Training before they turn in their application so they can turn in their completion certificate with their application.

Each district also conducts face-to-face courses for all of the new leaders.

Every Scout deserves a trained leader. Check with your pack leadership or visit the council website at www.sagamorebsa.org for additional training resources or to find the dates and location of the next course.

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP: THE PACK

Committee Chair
Conducts monthly pack leaders’ meeting to help plan program. Ensures that adequate support to run the program is given to the Cubmaster and den leaders by committee members. Helps recruit additional leaders as needed. Basic Leader training is offered for this position to help new leaders succeed.

Committee Members
Attend monthly pack leaders’ meeting to help plan the program and take care of records, finances, advancement, activities and membership. Basic Leader training is offered for this position to help new leaders succeed.

Pack Trainer
Conducts orientation for new families and pack leaders. Trains new leaders for their specific leadership positions or encourages participation in district training. Conducts other training as designated. Keeps track of pack training records. Pack trainers should be trained in district or council training courses as well.

Cubmaster
Conducts monthly pack meetings. Aids den leaders by coordinating monthly programs for all leaders. Attends monthly pack leaders’ meeting. Basic Leader training is offered for this position to help new leaders succeed.

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP: THE DEN

Lion Den Leader
Coordinates shared leadership among the Lion adult partners. This ensures den meetings and outings are planned, prepared for and conducted by adult partners on a rotating basis. Den activities provide advancement opportunities for the boys in the den. Serves as den host for family members at pack meetings. Attends monthly pack leaders’ meetings. Basic Leader Training is offered for this position to help new leaders succeed.

Tiger Den Leader
Coordinates shared leadership among the Tiger adult partners. This ensures den meetings and outings are planned, prepared for and conducted by adult partners on a rotating basis. Den activities provide advancement opportunities for the boys and girls in the den. Serves as den host for family members at pack meetings. Attends monthly pack leaders’ meetings. Basic Leader Training is offered for this position to help new leaders succeed.

Wolf or Bear Den Leader
Meets weekly for about one hour with a den of six to eight boys or girls. Den meeting is held in den leaders’ home, a church or other suitable place. The den leader determines time, day and location of den meeting. Attends monthly pack leaders’ meeting. Basic Leader Training is offered for this position to help new leaders succeed.

Webelos Den Leader
Same as a Wolf or Bear Den Leader, but work with older Webelos Scouts. Encourages periodic parent/son overnight camp-outs. Attends monthly pack leaders’ meeting. Basic Leader Training is offered for this position to help new leaders succeed.

The Pack Leadership Organization
Ask your Den Leader or Cubmaster about selling popcorn to help fund your child’s Scouting experience.

More than 73% of the funds raised go back to Scouting in north central Indiana!

Your Scout’s participation in selling popcorn can enhance their overall Scouting experience by:

- Learning the importance of earning their own way
- Developing the ability to set and achieve a goal
- Reducing out-of-pocket expenses for parents
- Learning public speaking, sales and communication skills
- Supporting local council programs and facilities to keep fees low for camp and activities

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Sale Begins September 1
Popcorn Blitz Weekend September 7-9
Prize Orders, Returns & Show and Sell Payments Due October 24