



**Core Value:
Responsibility**

Core Value of the Month

Responsibility: Fulfilling our duty to God, country, other people, and ourselves.

Responsibility is fulfilling our duty to help others and take care of ourselves. It is behaving safely and appropriately without having to be told.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for October and develop plans for the November pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Evaluate last month's pack meeting and ensure that all youth and adult applications have been submitted to the council service center.
- ▶ Check with all den leaders to make certain that advancement reports are completed and turned in.
- ▶ October is Fire Safety Month. Fire departments have developed short programs for Cub Scout-age children. Invite a local fireman to your pack meeting. Be sure to coordinate arrangements to meet the speaker's needs. Remember to recognize and thank your guest.
- ▶ This is an ideal time for a pack uniform inspection. Secure a local firefighter to observe and preside over the inspection. Use the Uniform Inspection Sheet found in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*. Before the pack meeting, be sure all dens have time to prepare.
- ▶ Make certain that all parts of the pack meeting have dens or leaders responsible for them. Remind the setup crew to arrive at the pack meeting early to set up chairs and identify areas for dens to place their displays. Ensure that all the presentation needs of the guest speaker are met.

Cubmaster Corner

Pack Newsletters. Communication is the key to involving Cub Scouts and their families in the pack activities. A monthly newsletter and an annual pack calendar are two of the most important tools in publicizing the pack's excitement and year-round fun. At pack meetings, you can display a poster-size version of the newsletter to keep everyone informed.

- ▶ Sharing information via a newsletter keeps parents informed about what is available for their son, makes it easy for them to set aside dates on the family calendar, and encourages families to plan in advance for meetings and activities.
- ▶ Parents who know what help may be needed throughout the year are more willing to volunteer.
- ▶ Pack newsletters should be updated and distributed at least monthly, and should contain the latest information on pack activities and plans.
- ▶ Having a newsletter and calendar available to new families at recruiting events in the fall and spring provides a jump-start for families.
- ▶ Displaying posters with updated information at each pack meeting provides another level of communication within the pack.
- ▶ For more information and sample templates, go to www.scouting.org/scoutsource/cubscouts/resources/newslettertemplate.aspx.

Looking Ahead

- ▶ Transition into Boy Scouting: This is approaching for fifth-grade Webelos Scouts. The assistant Cubmaster can help Webelos den leaders contact local Boy Scout troops. Consider assigning someone the task of building a cross-over bridge or checking the condition of the pack's existing ceremonial props.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Make sure all leaders are trained for their current positions.
 - All leaders should begin with Fast Start training for their role, found online at www.scouting.org.
 - Next, each youth-serving leader should take Youth Protection and This Is Scouting (also online).
 - After completing these online trainings, leaders should attend Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training.
 - Contact your district training team for dates, times, and locations of training opportunities.



- ▶ Encourage leaders to attend your district roundtable and council pow wow or University of Scouting. Be sure that all completed training courses are accurately recorded at your council service center.
- ▶ Lead Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 13, Policies of the BSA, from the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, to help leaders become aware of Boy Scouts of America policies. Or select a topic that best meets the needs of your pack. Choose a topic for next month.

Pack Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Computers:** Focusing on the personal safety of our Cub Scouts is always important. Pay special attention to Requirement 8, Internet safety rules. Additionally, see the Power Pack Pals publication, *Be Safe on the Internet*.
- ▶ **Golf:** Cub Scouts will enjoy exploring the game of golf, learning the rules and safety concerns. Play a round of golf for the belt loop. With more knowledge and practice, boys can earn the Golf pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Fall is a great time to go outdoors. Walk around the block at your meeting place and notice all the landmarks for future reference, or take a hike to collect leaves.
- ▶ **Webelos Scouts.** Plan and conduct your Webelos den overnighter.

Resource Highlight: Fun for the Family

Strengthening families is one of the purposes of Cub Scouting. With this purpose in mind, Cub Scouting endorses family programs and activities that can strengthen families and build character. *Fun for the Family* is Cub Scouting's family activity program. It contains a series of activities and requirements designed to help strengthen families and to develop good character skills among family members. These activities occur through adventure learning experiences.



The October Pack Meeting

Responsibility

BEFORE THE MEETING

Arrive early to set up the meeting area and help Cub Scouts set up their displays. Remember that pack meetings should always start on time.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome families as they arrive and provide each person with a name tag. Direct them to the display area.

Preopening Activity

Give everyone a sheet of paper with the letters FIRE SAFETY written down the left side, and ask them to collect the signatures of persons whose first or last names start with those letters.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Pre-assigned den presents the colors. Use the ceremony below, or choose a different opening ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Spirit of Cub Scouting

Room lights are dimmed. The Cubmaster lights a single candle at the front of the room and says, "Cub Scouts, this candle represents the spirit of Cub Scouting, lighting our way through life. But the flame can also represent danger. Make sure it is never allowed to run wild and cause destruction. Let's remember to be careful and wise with fire, not only as boys, but later on as men.

"This light of Cub Scouting gives us warmth and good cheer. We will let the light of Cub Scouting burn throughout our meeting to remind us of our ideals."

Turn on the lights; the color guard presents the colors and leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"We are thankful for our safety in our home, at school, and as we play. Help us do our best, be responsible every day, and be good Cub Scouts."

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes Cub Scouts and families and introduces any special guests. If there are new parents and boys, introduce the current pack leaders with a brief explanation of their roles. Recognize the setup crew, greeters, cleanup crew, and those who brought refreshments for their efforts.

PROGRAM

Guest Presentation

Introduce the guest speaker or speakers you may have at your meeting. If the guest has any connection to Scouting, make sure to highlight it.

Den Demonstrations

Dens help make the pack meeting fun by presenting information from their den meetings. Webelos Scouts will share information about the activity badge they worked on and any outings they took.

Uniform Inspection

Conduct a pack uniform inspection. Remember that the basic rule is neatness.

RECOGNITION

If your speaker is a firefighter in uniform, have him or her help present the recognitions.

Fire Safety Advancement Ceremony

As Cub Scouts we must be aware of being fire safe. Our awareness of safety protects ourselves and those who live, play, and work with us. As we advance in Cub Scouting, our responsibility to be fire safe and to guide others increases.

First we have new Bobcats, _____. Will these boys and their parents come forward? These boys are receiving the Bobcat badge. This award is the beginning of their training in Cub Scouting.



A part of this training is fire safety. The parents will present this Bobcat badge to their sons. Congratulations and welcome to the pack.

Next are Tiger Cubs. Will _____ and their parents come forward? With their families, the Tiger Cubs plan a fire drill and practice it in their homes. Their awards are presented to the boys by their adult partners. Congratulations.

The Wolf Cub Scouts who are receiving awards are _____. Wolf Cub Scouts learn to check their home for danger from fire so everyone in the home will be safe. Their awards are presented to the boys by the parents. Congratulations.

We have several Bear Cub Scouts who earned awards. Will the following Cub Scouts and their parents come forward? _____. Bear Cub Scouts learn what to do when a person's clothing is on fire. The parents will present the Bear badge to their sons. Congratulations.

The Webelos Scouts receiving awards tonight are _____. Will these Webelos Scouts and their parents come forward? The camping experiences include fire safety in the outdoors and learning the Outdoor Code. A part of this code is as follows: "As an American, I will do my best to be careful with fire. I will build my fire in a safe place and be sure it is out before I leave." Following this code can be both land-saving and life-saving, and lead to a worthy Scout and citizen. The Webelos den leader will present the awards to the parents so they can present them to the Webelos Scouts. Congratulations on your success in Scouting.

CLOSING

Announcements

Your pack newsletter should be the primary information source for families.

Pack meeting announcements about upcoming events should be brief and then expanded upon in your pack publication. Remember to mention any upcoming district or council events. If you are also using e-mail to deliver news, remind families to keep you updated on their correct e-mail addresses. Encourage adults who have not completed the Family Talent Survey Sheet to complete it and turn it in at this meeting.

Cubmaster's Minute

Spirit of Cub Scouting

Cub Scouts, all during our meeting the candle representing the spirit of Cub Scouting has continued to burn. Now we'll blow it out, reminding ourselves that a flame must never be left burning when no one is around. But let us keep the light of Cub Scouting burning in our hearts always (*extinguish candle*).

Closing Ceremony

Preselected den retires the colors, or choose a ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup