

# NEW PARENTS GUIDE TO CUB SCOUTS!



**Golden Gate Area Council**  
**Boy Scouts of America**



**GET OUT THERE. DO YOUR BEST. HAVE FUN.**

Visit us @ [www.ggacbsa.org](http://www.ggacbsa.org)



# WELCOME TO CUB SCOUTS



## CUB SCOUTS ARE AWESOME!

Cub Scouting is more than just an activity. It's **adventure**, learning and discovery around every corner. From STEM to **exploring** the outdoors, your son or daughter will be on the path to discovering their very best "future self" – and they will **have fun** doing it!

## HOW STUFF WORKS...

### YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A DEN WHICH:

- Has five to nine members
- Meets 2-3 times each month in den meetings
- Is led by a Den Leader (typically a parent)
- Meetings include games, sports, crafts, hands on learning and field trips!

### YOUR CHILD IS A MEMBER OF A PACK WHICH:

- Is made up of all grade levels dens
- Meets once a month at the Pack meeting
- Is led by a Cubmaster
- Follows a theme with games, skits, songs, ceremonies and presentations of badges that have been earned

### YOUR PACK IS RUN BY THE PACK COMMITTEE WHICH:

- Is made up of volunteer leaders and parents
- Meets once a month or as needed
- Is led by the Committee Chairman
- The committee selects leadership, finds meeting places, performs record keeping, manages pack finances, orders badges, maintains pack equipment, helps train leaders, recognizes leaders, and plans activities



# YOUR CUB SCOUT DEN



## LION - Kindergarten

Lions experience the Scouting concepts of character development, leadership, citizenship, and personal fitness through engaging and exciting adventures with their den and family.

## TIGER - First Grade

Tigers earn their badge by completing six required adventures with their den or family, one additional elective adventure of your den or family's choosing, and projects in the Youth Protection Parent Guide.

## WOLF - Second Grade

Wolves earn their badge by completing six required adventures with their den or family, one additional elective adventure of your den or family's choosing, and projects in the Youth Protection Parent Guide.

## BEAR- Third Grade

Bears earn their badge by completing six required adventures with their den or family, one additional elective adventure, and completes the exercises in the Youth Protection Parent Guide.

## WEBELOS & ARROW OF LIGHT- Fourth & Fifth Grade

When a Cub Scout graduates to Webelos, they have the opportunity to earn the highest award in Cub Scouting, The Arrow of Light. In addition to five required adventures, they will complete two additional elective adventures and projects in the Youth Protection Parent Guide. Webelos can participate in additional camping and outdoor programs until graduating to a Scouts BSA Troop in the spring of their fifth grade year.

## Serving Today's Families through "Family Scouting"

The BSA's mission is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. We are excited to announce that our Cub Scouting program is now open to boys and girls! By welcoming both girls and boys into the program, even more youth will have access to the character development and values-based leadership that Scouting promises!



# CAMPING, PARTIES, PROGRAMS & MORE!



## CAMPING EVENT FOR NEW SCOUTS!

Join us this fall at Cub Camping Connection designed specifically for new Cub Scouts! Bring the entire family to this overnight event and experience all the highlights of Cub Scouts including shooting sports and campfire!

## MORE CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES!

**Cub Scout Summer Day Camp:** An activity for all Cub Scouts that includes bb gun shooting, archery, crafts, games, nature, sports, songs, and skits. Camps run four to five days in a local park.

**Cub Resident Adventure Camp:** Choose between 3 day and 6-day sessions at Camp Royaneh to join the treasure hunt for fun and excitement!

**Cub Scout Overnight Camps:** Overnight camping experiences for Cub Scouts and families at all of our camps. Activities include sports, swimming, crafts, bb gun shooting, archery and campfires.

**Mom & Cub Weekends:** Located in the beautiful coastal redwoods of Camp Royaneh, our staff will guide you through a weekend of fun and adventure especially designed to reinforce the mother-child bond. Two sessions are available each year in May around Mother's Day!

**Family Vacation Weekends:** A great chance for the whole family to enjoy time together in the outdoors shooting at the ranges, swimming, horseback riding and more. Cook your own food or we can do the cooking for you in our large Camp Royaneh dining hall!

**Den Specific Campouts:** Year-round adventures designed to be age specific and fun for the whole family!

## PINEWOOD DERBY!

Parent/child project to build a race car made from a block of wood. Youth will race their cars at the Pinewood Derby. Be there for the big race!

## SCOUT DAYS!

The Athletics, Warriors 49ers, and many other local teams, parks and attractions offer Scout Days where Scouts can often enjoy an exclusive experience for a discounted price.

## BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET!

Our birthday party for Cub Scouting usually held at the February pack meeting.

# HOW CAN I HELP?



Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Naturally, parents are the source of leaders in the Scouting program. Being a leader is fun, challenging, and rewarding. In fact, leaders often find that their experiences help them to become better parents. And no parent has ever regretted the extra time they spend with their child and his or her friends in Scouting!

## TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Training is an important part of learning to become an effective leader. The main purpose of training is to provide you with the tools you need to put on a quality program for our Scouts. Scouting offers in-person as well as online training for all volunteer positions, because every Scout deserves a trained leader!

## YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. This training covers the BSA's Youth Protection policies, kinds of abuse, how to respond to disclosure of abuse, and proper reporting procedures. All registered leaders are required to take this training at least every two years, and we encourage all parents and adult partners to take Youth Protection Training as well!

## LEADERSHIP ROLES

The Boy Scouts of America takes great pride in the quality of our adult leadership. Being a BSA leader is a privilege, not a right. The BSA's rigorous volunteer application and screening process includes local selection and screening as well as national criminal background checks.

### CUBMASTER

Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Emcees the monthly pack meeting and attends the pack leader's meeting.

### PACK COMMITTEE

Pack Committee members perform administrative functions.

### DEN LEADER(S)

Leads the den at weekly den and monthly pack meetings. Attends the monthly pack leader's meeting.

### ASSISTANT LEADERS

From assistant den leaders to program planners, Scouting works best when everyone finds a way to help!

# LET'S GET STARTED



## FIRST THINGS FIRST...

Contrary to what your Scout may tell you, the first thing they will need to get started is not a uniform, but a book. The books in Cub Scouting are all age appropriate. A Kindergartener uses the Lion Packet. A first grader uses the Tiger Cub Book, a second grader uses a Wolf Book, a third grader uses a Bear Book, and fourth and fifth graders use the Webelos Book.

These books contain the basics they will need for the coming year, including the requirements for advancement awards. **New handbooks cost between \$9.99 and \$16.99** depending on den type.

## THE CUB SCOUT UNIFORM!

Don't get the idea that uniforms aren't important, they are! The uniform is an important part of the program, and it represents an investment on your part. Our uniforms are very high quality and, in most cases, will last for several years. So, be sure to buy one large enough for them to grow into. Many Scouters, second hand stores and online retailers offer "experienced" uniforms at a very low cost. **New uniforms cost between \$24.99 and \$44.99** depending on style and material.

Our three council scout shops are official local distributors of BSA uniforms and equipment. Visit us at:

**Mt. Diablo Silverado Scout Shop**  
800 Ellinwood Way  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
925-674-8500

**Alameda Trading Post**  
1714 Everett St  
Alameda, CA 94501  
510-522-2772

**San Leandro Scout Shop**  
1001 Davis St  
San Leandro, CA 94577  
510-577-9000



Your Scout won't need much more than this to get started, but while your Pack may have some camping gear that new families can use initially, it's likely you will eventually want to purchase your own. Pack leadership can help you identify what items you need and how to be as thrifty as possible!

# THE COST OF SCOUTING



## WHAT DOES SCOUTING COST?

### REGISTRATION

Cub Scout Registration is prorated depending on when you join and Packs typically collect registration for the coming year in November or December.

### CAMPOUTS AND ACTIVITIES

From Pack campouts and activities to larger regional events, you can find a Scouting activity nearby almost every weekend, and your family can pick and choose what events you would like to attend. Activity and camping costs vary depending on what is being offered (meals, etc.), and some may be covered by your Pack dues while others may require registration fees.

### PACK DUES

Many Packs collect monthly or annual dues to cover costs of Scouting. Some are very low and pay for basic things like advancement awards and meeting supplies, while others are higher and cover things families would otherwise be purchasing a la carte. Your Cubmaster will explain exactly what your Pack dues cover.

### OVERALL

The cost of Scouting will vary from family to family depending on participation but can range from free for families who are involved in fundraising efforts, to several hundred dollars per year for families that are heavily involved and do not participate in fundraising efforts.

## FUNDRAISING AND FUNDING ASSISTANCE

We try to stay out of parents' pockets as much as possible, and encourage Scouts to participate in annual fundraisers to offset the cost of Scouting. In addition to helping a Scout earn his or her own way, our fundraising efforts are designed to teach great budgeting, management, social and salesmanship skills!

We never want a Scout's experience to be limited because of money. If any cost of Scouting makes the program prohibitive for your family or your Scout, let your Cubmaster know. We have assistance programs available to ensure that no youth's Scouting experience has to be limited due to cost.

# HOW TO FIND OUT MORE!



## INFORMATION AND SUPPLIES

**Mt. Diablo Silverado Service Center and Scout Shop**  
800 Ellinwood Way  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
925-674-8500

**Alameda Service Center and Trading Post**  
1714 Everett St  
Alameda, CA 94501  
510-522-2772

**San Leandro Youth Leader Training Center and Scout Shop**  
1001 Davis St  
San Leandro, CA 94577  
510-577-9000

**Website: [ggacbsa.org](http://ggacbsa.org)**

## YOUR LOCAL SCOUT CAMPS

Scouts have access to 5 great Scout camps operated by the Golden Gate Area Council.



**Rancho Los Mochos:** Rancho Los Mochos has long been a popular weekend campsite for local Scouting groups as well as regional Scouting activities. Its location and amenities make Rancho Los Mochos ideal for new and experienced campers alike!



**Camp Herms:** Located in the picturesque El Cerrito hills, Camp Herms specializes in Cub Scout and first-time camper experiences. Facilities including showers, lodge, kitchen and sleeping shelters make Camp Herms ideal for your first campout!



**Camp Royaneh:** Rich in wildlife, Camp Royaneh sits in the shade of mature redwoods and offers campers the chance to test their skills at shooting sports, COPE and repelling; or take it easy at our 300,000-gallon pool!



**Camp Wolfeboro:** Camp Wolfeboro is located in the high Sierra Nevada Mountains on the shores of the Stanislaus River. Our enthusiastic and interactive staff will help provide you an unbeatable Scouting experience in an unforgettable setting!



**Wente Scout Reservation:** Wente Scout Reservation is one of the largest Scout camps on the west coast and provides all the high adventure opportunities Scouting has to offer. 2,100 acres of property and our 80-acre lake spell adventure for every Scout!