

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Boy Scouts of America



## Orientation Guide

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# Scouting in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



Prepared By  
Joanne Osmond



**This is not an official publication of the Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints or the Boy Scouts of America.**

The purpose of this guide is to:



Explain the unique aspects of the Scouting Program used in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Provide District and Council trainers with an overview of the differences so they are prepared to train LDS Scout Leaders.

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## Scouting in the Church



Since 1910, the BSA has woven lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, good citizenship, and physical fitness in youth. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been a sponsoring organization of the BSA since 1913.

Why has the Church chosen the Boy Scouts of America?

“Since in 1913, we became the first partner to sponsor Scouting in the United States. We have remained strong and firm in our support of this great movement for boys and of the Oath and the Law which are at its center. To commit a boy to do his best—to do his duty to God, to his country, to his fellowmen, to true principles, and to himself—is to open avenues of vision and direction for him which can be critically important in his life. A young man who understands and is fully committed to the great principles of the Scout Law has his feet firmly planted on a path that can lead to a happy and constructive life. He will qualify for his own self-respect, and he will very likely form wholesome relationships with others and will establish an honorable family. Being true to Scout principles will help him in forming a companionship with his Heavenly Father that will strengthen all the other relationships and aspects of life. It is our understanding and belief that Scouting is still strongly centered in these duties and principles, and that there is a determination in its present leadership to strengthen them further. This being true, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints affirms the continued support of Scouting and will seek to provide leadership which will help boys keep close to their families and close to the Church as they develop the qualities of citizenship and character and fitness which Scouting represents.” Spencer W. Kimball

President Kimball spoke these words when he received international Scouting’s highest honor, the Silver World Award, from Arch Monson president of the Boy Scouts of America. The methods of Scouting provide an effective means whereby boys can learn self-reliance, teamwork, duty to God and country, and respect for the beliefs and convictions of others—all by subscribing to the Scout Oath and Law and supporting it. In this way, they develop a code of ethics and a sense of values by which they pattern their lives.

President Gordon B. Hinckley in November 2001 said, “I make you a promise that God will not forsake you if you will walk in His paths with the guidance of His commandments.”









“The promise of the Scout Oath and the twelve points of Scout Law prepare young men for the 21st century.” President Gordon B. Hinckley

# Priesthood Purpose





With these priesthood purposes at the core of all activities, the Aaronic Priesthood Program is intended to help young men gain a testimony of Jesus Christ, recognize their particular gifts and the Lord's expectations for them, and prepare for worthy receipt of the Melchizedek Priesthood, for missions, for temple marriage, for fatherhood, and for a lifetime of service in the Church. Scouting is a valuable resource for accomplishing many of the objectives outlined for Aaronic Priesthood activities, but leaders should recognize that it may not be the best vehicle for accomplishing some priesthood purposes. Hence, a healthy balance of all seven of the activity areas is not only desirable but essential.

1. Learn the gospel and build testimonies of Jesus Christ.
2. Give welfare and temporal service.
3. Prepare for and give missionary service.
4. Give genealogical and temple service.
5. Strengthen families.
6. Build quorum brotherhood.
7. Activate young men of quorum age.
8. Build proper relationships with young women.
9. Prepare for eternal marriage and fatherhood.
10. Have leadership experiences.
11. Develop talents.

The Aaronic Priesthood purposes help you to:

-  Become converted to the gospel of Jesus Christ and live its teachings.
-  Serve faithfully in priesthood callings and fulfill the responsibilities of priesthood offices.
-  Give meaningful service.
-  Prepare and live worthily to receive the Melchizedek Priesthood and temple ordinances.
-  Prepare to serve an honorable full-time mission.
-  Obtain as much education as possible.
-  Prepare to become a worthy husband and father.
-  Give proper respect to women, girls, and children.

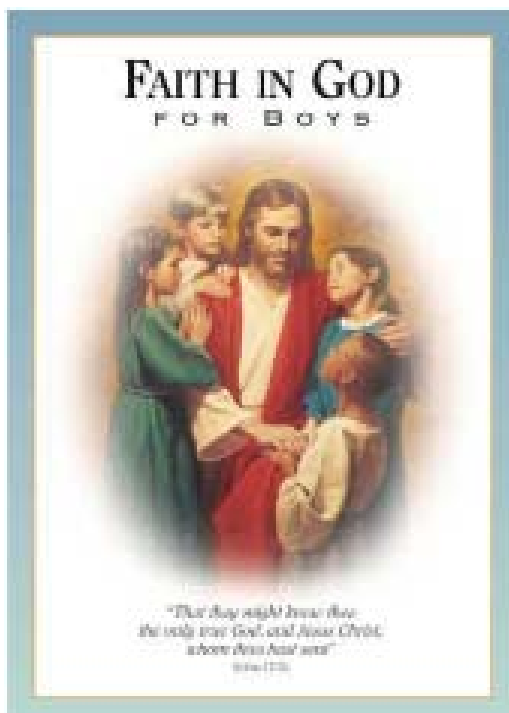
The Duty to God Award Program will help you achieve these purposes of the Aaronic Priesthood. To qualify for the Duty to God Award, you need to achieve and complete Aaronic Priesthood purposes and also participate in family activities, specific quorum activities, a Duty to God service project, keeping a personal journal, and completing personal goals in each of four categories:

-  Spiritual Strength
-  Priesthood Duties
-  For the Strength of Youth
-  Preparing to receive the Melchizedek Priesthood

**Note: Duty to God Award is an Award from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and not a Scouting religious award.**

# Scouting in the LDS Ward

When a boy turns eight, he becomes a Cub Scout and joins the Ward Pack. (A Ward is a local Church Unit with specific geographic boundaries that is under the direction of a bishop, usually consisting of approximately 500 Church members.) When he turns eleven, he becomes a Boy Scout in an EYOS (Eleven Year Old Scout) Patrol that is part of the Ward Boy Scout Troop. Boys eight through eleven are in the Church Primary Program which provides religious education and activities for children ages 18 months through 11. When a boy or a girl turns twelve, he or she “graduates” from Primary and joins either the Young Men or Young Women Program. At age twelve, young men can receive the Aaronic Priesthood.



Cub Scouts and Eleven Year Old Scouts (EYOS) are the Activity Day Programs for boys in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In the United States, where Scouting is part of the Church Program, boys work on Faith in God along with Cub Scouting. Many of the Cub Scout activities can fulfill requirements for the Faith in God Award. Completion of all activities in the Faith in God guidebook marked with a knot, qualifies a boy for the Scouting Religious Square Knot patch.









Activity days are designed to provide children age eight through eleven with opportunities to work on activities in the Faith in God Program.

Primary prepares children for baptism and subsequently to be worthy to receive the Aaronic Priesthood.

## Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for Cub Scouting Religious Award

Complete each of the following requirements:

-  Give a family home evening lesson on Joseph Smith's First Vision (see Joseph Smith—History 1:1–20). Discuss how Heavenly Father answers our sincere prayers.
-  Give an opening and a closing prayer in family home evening or at Primary. Share your feelings about how prayer protects us and helps us to stay close to Heavenly Father and the Savior.
-  Tell a story from the Book of Mormon that teaches about faith in Jesus Christ. Share your testimony of the Savior.
-  Prepare a pedigree chart with your name and your parents' and grandparents' names. Prepare a family group record for your family and share a family story. Discuss how performing temple work blesses families.
-  Write a letter to a teacher, your parents, or your grandparents telling them what you appreciate and respect about them.
-  Write a poem, story, or short play that teaches a principle of the gospel or is about Heavenly Father's creations.

The goal of Cub Scouts is to earn the Arrow of Light and for the Primary it is the Faith in God Award. The goal of Boy Scouts is for every young man to become an Eagle Scout and for the Aaronic Priesthood it is to earn his Duty to God Award. Both Duty to God and Scouting activities teach boys to “be prepared” in “every needful thing.” Achieving the Duty to God and Eagle Scout Awards are complementary, not competitive.

The Scouting Program is not just for boys. It is a family program to help the family grow closer together and return to our Heavenly Father. Fathers participate in the Boy Scout activities to assist their sons in achieving the objectives of the Church and Scouting. Sons are more successful in becoming an Eagle Scout and receiving the Duty to God when their parents actively participating in the program with them.

“Scouting is an excellent program which develops character in young men. I am grateful for the influence of Scouting in my life and the lives of my sons and grandsons.”

President James E. Faust

## The Cub Scout Den

A boy is a member of a Den of four-to-eight boys which:

1. Meets once a week regularly scheduled at the leader’s convenience held preferable in the daytime at the meetinghouse, in a home, or in an outdoor setting.
2. Includes games, crafts, skits, songs, ceremonies, and periodic field trips.
3. Is led by a Den Leader called by the Bishopric (usually a parent).
4. Is assisted by an Assistant Den Leader, a Den Chief (an older Boy Scout), and a Denner (a Cub Scout Leader).
5. Wear uniforms.

## The Cub Scout Pack

Boys are members of the Ward’s Pack which:

1. Is made up of one-or-more Dens.
2. Meets once a month at the Pack Meeting – all Cub Scout families are expected to participate.
3. Includes games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentation of badges that the boys earned that month.
4. Is led by the Cubmaster called by the Bishopric.
5. Is the climax of the month’s Den Meetings and activities.
6. Provides recognition for Cub Scouts.
7. Involves all family members.



# Key Scout Leader



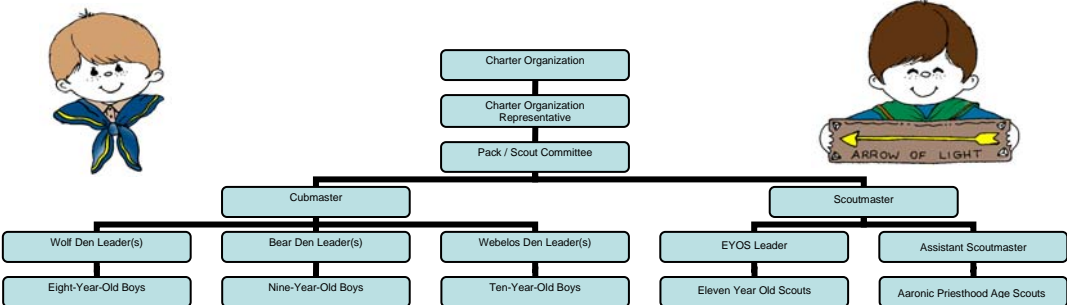
A Pack is run by the Pack Committee and the Aaronic Priesthood Troop, Team and Crew by a Scout Committee.

1. The Pack is made up of Den Leaders, Pack Leaders, the Pack Trainer, the Primary Presidency, and all parents.
2. The Scout Committee includes leadership from the EYOS, Troop, Team, and Crew.
3. A Key Scout Leader Meeting including Pack, EYOS, Troop, Team, and Crew leadership may meet prior to Pack and Scout Committees.
4. Adult Leaders meet once a month, or more often, if needed.
5. The Key Scout Leader Meeting is lead by the member of the Bishopric responsible for Scouting (Charter Organization Representative). The Pack and Scout Committees are led by a Committee Chairman called by the Bishopric.
6. The Committees select the meeting place and time, perform record keeping, manage finances, order badges and other recognitions, maintain equipment, train leaders, and recognize leaders.

# Charter Organization

The Pack, Troop, Team, and Crew are sponsored by the Ward, i.e., “LDS Lake Villa 1 Ward, Buffalo Grove Illinois Stake”

- ✿ The Charter Organization is the Ward.
- ✿ The Bishopric approves and calls leadership and keeps the Unit within LDS and Boy Scout guidelines and policies.
- ✿ The Bishopric selects qualified adults, whether members of the Church or not, to hold Scouting positions. All must maintain the Church standards. Members are set apart by a member of the Bishopric and nonmembers can receive a blessing from the Bishopric.
- ✿ Men or women can serve in Scout positions for Primary age boys (Cub Scouting and Eleven Year Old Scouts) but only men are called to Aaronic Priesthood positions (Troop, Team, and Crew).
- ✿ The Charter Organization Representative is the member of the Bishopric responsible for Scouting. The Charter Organization must assign the same Charter Organization Representative to all of the Ward Scout Units.



# The Cub Scout Motto



## Do Your Best

In society where boys are often taught that winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches them to “do their best” and to be helpful to others.

Cub Scouting is a home and neighborhood-centered program designed to support family life for boys from eight-through-ten years old. Each Cub Scout learns to respect his home, country, God, and other people.



The Program helps boys:

- ✿ Learn and live the gospel.
- ✿ Serve others.
- ✿ Use the talents Heavenly Father has given them to learn and do good .
- ✿ Learn new physical skills through sports, crafts, and games.
- ✿ Learn how to get along with others through group activities.
- ✿ Reinforce mental skills such as writing and calculating.
- ✿ Develop personal independence.
- ✿ Work on activities in the Faith in God Program.

A Cub Scout Den provides boys with a group of boys his own age in which he can earn awards and recognition. In the Den, he will also gain a sense of personal achievement for the new skills he learns.

An EYOS (Eleven-year-old Scout) Patrol also provides boys with a group of boys his own age in which he can earn awards and recognition. In the EYOS Patrol, he will also gain a sense of personal achievement for the new skills he learns. The EYOS organization and purpose are similar to the Cub Scout Program but the Patrol is a Unit in the Ward Boy Scout Troop. The EYOS Leader is an Assistant Scoutmaster and participates in the Troop Committee Meeting. A woman can be the EYOS Leader but she cannot participate in overnight activities. Boys enter and advance in Scouting by age but boys receive awards based on their achievements. While in Cub Scouts, boys work on rank based on their age.



- ✿ **8 years old – Wolf**
- ✿ **9 years old – Bear**
- ✿ **10 years old – Webelos**

In Boy Scouts, the boys work on any rank requirement at any time between ages eleven and eighteen. Advancement is based on time in the previous rank and completion of all of the requirements for the next rank:

✿ **Scout → Tenderfoot → 2<sup>nd</sup> Class → 1<sup>st</sup> Class → Star → Life → Eagle**



# The Advancement Plan

The responsibility of a boy's advancement in Scouting lies with the family. The Pack and Scout Leaders assist the families in helping the boys advance. Some advancement requirements are done at Den Meetings but most are done at home with the family. In Boy Scouts, many of the activities are done with the Patrol but it is very important that parents maintain good records and follow their son's progress.

Parents should be reminded to keep all Boy Scout Advancement records in a safe place.

## Bobcat

All boys ages eight-through-ten earn the Bobcat Badge first, by learning the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack, Handshake, Salute, Sign, Motto, and the meaning of "Webelos." After receiving the Bobcat Badge, the boys work on requirements based on his age group.



### Cub Scout Promise

*I, (name), promise to do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country,  
To help other people,  
And to obey the Law of the Pack.*

### Law of the Pack

*The Cub Scout follows Akela.  
The Cub Scout helps the pack go.  
The pack helps the Cub Scout grow.  
The Cub Scout gives goodwill.*

### Cub Scout Motto

*Do Your Best*



**Note:** LDS Packs do not support the Tiger Program or include a Tiger Den. Boys start when they are eight years old and join a Wolf Den.

## Wolf



A Cub Scout who is eight years old is a member of the Wolf Den and works on twelve achievements to earn the Wolf Badge.

After he earns his Wolf Badge, a boy may work on electives in different interest areas until he is nine when he begins work on the next rank. He can earn gold and silver arrow points as he completes electives.

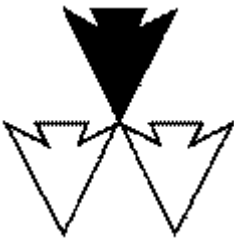
## Bear

A Cub Scout who is nine years old is a member of the Bear Den and works to complete twelve of twenty-four achievements to earn the Bear Badge.

After he earns his Bear Badge, a boy may work on electives in different interest areas until he is ten and old enough to begin work on the next rank.



## Arrow Points



For every ten electives a boy completes, he earns an Arrow Point. A boy may earn Arrow Points after he receives his Wolf and Bear Badges until his next birthday when he starts working on his next rank.

## Webelos



When a Cub Scout is ten years old, he transfers to a Webelos Den, led by an adult Webelos Leader. The boy works on requirements for the Webelos Badge, twenty Activity Badges, and the Arrow of Light Award (the highest award in Cub Scouts).





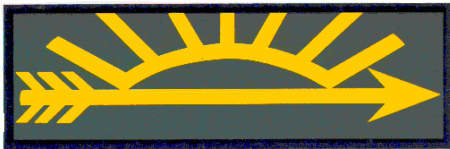
## Webelos (Cont.)

To earn the Webelos Badge, the Cub Scout completes various requirements including three Activity Badges (Fitness, Citizen, and one other). The boy learns about the Boy Scout Salute, Sign, Handshake, Oath, Law, Slogan, and Motto.

When the boy earns four additional Activity Badges, he earns the Compass Point emblem. For each additional four Activity Badges, the Cub Scout earns an Arrow Point.



After a boy has been active in the Webelos Den for six months

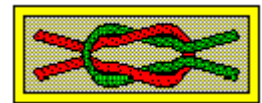


and has his Webelos Badge, he can earn the Arrow of Light Award. He must earn a total of eight Activity Badges including the Fitness, Citizen, Readyman, and Outdoorsman and he must know more about becoming a Boy Scout.

To earn the Arrow of Light and Outdoorsman Activity Badge, the Cub Scout can participate in two Father and Son campouts or go on day hikes.

**Note:** No Scout-sponsored overnight camping should be planned for boys under eleven years old.

**Note:** Boys in LDS Packs only have one year to obtain both the Webelos Rank and the Arrow of Light. The Arrow of Light can be worn on his Boy Scout uniform and his adult uniform.



## Boy Scouts

When a boy turns eleven, he completes the Boy Scout Application and Health Form to join the Boy Scout Troop. If the new Boy Scout earned the Arrow of Light Award, he demonstrates that he knows how to tie a square knot to earn his Scout Badge. If the boy has not received his Arrow of Light, he completes all of the requirements to earn the Scout Badge.



# EYOS

## Boy Scout Oath

*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;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
Mentally awake,  
And morally straight.*

## Scout Motto

*Be Prepared.*

## Scout Slogan

*Do a Good Turn Daily.*

## Scout Law

*A Scout Is:  
Trustworthy  
Loyal  
Helpful  
Friendly  
Courteous  
Kind  
Obedient  
Cheerful  
Thrifty  
Brave  
Clean  
Reverent*



Scouting provides many opportunities for boys to learn skills and take part in terrific adventures. The Boy Scouts of America recognizes the boy's achievement by awarding badges: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and the highest rank of Eagle.

When the Scout is eleven years old, he is a member of the Boy Scout Troop but in a special New-Scout Patrol that focuses on the requirements for these ranks. He may complete any of the requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class at any time and in any order. An active Scout can earn First Class when he is an EYOS.



Scout



Tenderfoot



Second Class



First Class



Star



Life



Eagle

**Note:** Parents should keep all of their son's advancements records! Plastic baseball card holders in a notebook will keep the records safe. The Scout will need all dates and leadership positions to complete his Eagle application!! The Council office will verify all dates before an Eagle Rank is awarded!

# The Trail to First Class

The goal of the EYOS Patrol is to attain the rank of First Class by the time the boy turns twelve years old. With good attendance at Troop Meetings and activities, this is a very realistic goal. While the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class are awarded in order, Scouts may work on the requirements for the three ranks simultaneously.



Scouts may also work on merit badges, but they are not recommended for the younger scouts, especially those in their first year of scouting. To complete the requirements for Star, Life, and Eagle the Scout must pass off both required and elected Merit Badges that explore areas such as canoeing, swimming, camping, astronomy, citizenship, etc. Counselors are available to assist the boys in completing the requirements and teach them the skills outlined for the merit badge.

Key points in attaining the rank of First Class:

- 🦋 Scouts participate in ten Troop activities (five for Second Class) since joining the Troop, excluding Troop Meetings. It is important to participate in as many activities as possible; many outdoor requirements can't be done at the Troop Meetings. Also, the ten activities requirement is almost always the hardest and the last completed for First Class.
- 🦋 Three of these activities need to include camping overnight in a tent (one for each rank); it is important to take advantage of all the camping trips. Fathers should plan to go with their sons on camping trips until the boys turn twelve years old.
- 🦋 Swimming and Orienteering requirements are hard to pass off without the Troop and it is hard for the Troop to repeat; boys are encouraged to attend whenever the Troop schedules these.
- 🦋 Cooking requirements include menu planning and food procurement, as well as functioning as the head-cook. Scouts and parents are encouraged to sign-up for a trip of their choice with the Troop Leaders.
- 🦋 Community service is required for Second Class rank advancement. Participation in the Eagle projects of the older scouts and the Troop service events is very important.
- 🦋 Plant and animal identification is difficult in the winter. Scouts are encouraged to pass these requirements on the fall or spring nature hike.
- 🦋 Good attendance and attention at Troop Meetings and activities will ensure that each Scout masters the skills needed to earn the rank of First Class by his birthday.

The advancement program is designed to provide the Boy Scout with a chance to achieve the aims of Scouting. As a Scout advances, he is measured and grows in confidence and self-reliance. He must demonstrate that he is living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Law in his daily life. He must learn leadership by serving his Troop in a position of responsibility and he must also serve his community through service projects and doing good turns daily.

After a Scoutmaster's conference and a board of review, the boy is awarded the rank at a quarterly Court of Honor.

# Special Programs



## Summertime Camping

**Cub Scout Day Camp:** An activity for all Cub Scouts that includes: crafts, games, nature, sports, BB-guns, archery, songs, and skits. Each camp session runs for five days at the Council's local camp property.

**Fun with Son / Father and Son:** Overnight camping experiences for Cub Scouts, EYOS, and their fathers. Activities may include: sports, archery, swimming, crafts, and campfires.

**EYOS Camp:** A three-day summer program for 1<sup>st</sup> year Boy Scouts to learn and demonstrate proficiency in outdoor skills and safety. The program includes water safety, cooking, fires, knots, lashing, knife care, service, and other related outdoor requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks. EYOS Scouts can attend three separate overnight campouts during the year with the ward's Boy Scout troop but they are not invited to attend long-term camp.

**Long-term Camp:** When the Scout is twelve, he attends long-term camping and participates without his father; however, it is recommended that fathers continue to participate in activities and attend with their sons. Scouting activities are designed to support the family.

**Note:** No hiking or camping on Sunday.

## Pinewood Derby

Parents and sons build race cars made from a block of wood, then race their cars at the Pinewood Derby.



## Blue and Gold / Scouting Banquet

The Boy Scout birthday is celebrated annually in an activity usually held in February. All Scouting Units in the Ward can hold a Scouting Banquet or the Pack plans a Blue and Gold Banquet that recognizes Cub Scouts and their leaders. The Ward should not observe Scout Sunday during Sacrament Meeting.

## Court of Honor

The Boy Scout Troop, including EYOS, holds a minimum of four formal courts of honor a year (one every three months) to recognize the Scouts in the Troop. Presentation of merit badges and rank badges should not wait for a Court of Honor; awards and badges should be presented at the next meeting after they are earned, then Scouts are recognized again at a formal Court of Honor. Families attend the Courts of Honor just as they did the Cub Scout Pack Meeting.

## Boys' Life Magazine

A magazine for boys and adults, *Boys' Life* has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, science, and U.S. history. There are also jokes, comics, and short stories. The annual cost of the magazine (about \$10.80) is the responsibility of the parent or Ward; it is an excellent magazine and worth the cost.

# Adult Volunteers

Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Volunteer leaders are an example of Scouting's principles of service to others. Naturally, parents are a logical source of leaders in the Scouting Program. Scouting needs every parent's help to be a successful program. Parents volunteer not only to serve Scouting, but also to help their son and his friends, and to be a positive influence on the youth in the Ward and community.

Being a leader is fun, challenging, and rewarding. Leaders find that their experiences help them to become better parents. The following are some of the many dividends that will enrich their life as they dedicate time, talents, and enthusiasm to Scouting:

- 🔥 Fun and fellowship with other families, sharing the pride in the boys' accomplishments.
- 🔥 The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families.
- 🔥 A chance to help boys learn good citizenship and to help shape them into men who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.
- 🔥 The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of boys, as they grow strong in mind and body.
- 🔥 A code to live by which will set a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.
- 🔥 The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and pride in being publicly identified as a part of this organization.
- 🔥 Wearing the Scouting uniform is a visible way of showing a belief in the ideals and objectives of the Boy Scouts.



## Adult Religious Award – On My Honor

1. Be registered and participate in a Church-sponsored Scouting Unit.
2. Be at least twenty-one years of age.
3. Served a minimum of three years in the Aaronic Priesthood or Primary.
4. Be thoroughly familiar with the Aaronic Priesthood or Primary Program as shown in an interview with the Bishop.
5. Be worthy as shown in an interview with the Bishop.
6. Complete the basic training for Scouting Leaders.



It is important that the Ward leadership recognize the volunteers and members of the Ward who support the Scouting Program. Adult Leaders should complete the appropriate Award Form for their positions to receive recognition from the Boy Scouts of America. Different Square Knot Awards are associated with each position.

# Volunteer Leadership



Parents are key to a high-functioning committee. They fulfill all of the tasks that support the Scouting Program and the leaders. With the parent's assistance, their boys will advance and achieve the purposes of Scouting and the Church.

## **Pack / Troop Committee**

Pack and Troop Committees perform the administrative functions of the Pack and Troop.

### **Committee Chairman**

Called by Bishopric. Presides at Leader's committee Meetings. Helps recruit and recommend adult leaders. Also attends the Pack Meeting / Court of Honor.

### **Advancement Chairman**

Maintains advancement records for the Pack / Troop. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Attends Pack Meetings / Courts of Honor and Leaders' Committee Meetings.

### **Pack Trainer**

Coordinates "Fast Start" Training for adults, organizes the Dens, and promotes Leader Training and Roundtable Meeting attendance. Can be a member of the Primary Presidency.

### **Secretary / Treasurer**

Keeps all records for the Unit, coordinates financial records with Ward clerk. Attends Pack / Troop Meetings and Leaders' Committee Meetings.

### **Safety Coordinator**

Responsible to ensure safety standards are followed. Ensures Youth Protection is a Unit priority.

### **Parent Support**

Activity chairman to perform "one shot" program jobs such as coordinating participation in sales events, Scouting for Food, Pinewood Derby, Scouting banquet, day camp, transportation, etc. These jobs are of short duration.

### **Den Leader**

Called by Bishopric. Leads the Den at weekly Den and monthly Pack Meetings. Attends monthly Committee Meeting.

### **Cubmaster / Scoutmaster**

Called by Bishopric. Helps plan and carry out the program with the help of the committee. Emcees monthly Pack Meeting / Court of Honors and attends the Leaders' Committee Meeting.

**To provide a quality program, Scout Units need everyone.**



# Resources

## Ward Primary and Young Men Presidency

The Primary Presidency is responsible for the Cub Scout and EYOS Programs in the Ward. The Young Men Presidency is responsible for the Boy Scout Programs and coordinates the boys' transition from Primary to Aaronic Priesthood. They are responsible to ensure that a quality program is maintained and the Units are registered on time with the Boy Scouts of America.

## Boy Scouts of America

The staff at the Boy Scout Service Centers can help or know who to contact to assist the Ward Units.

- ✿ Roundtable, a monthly Leaders' Meeting for all adult volunteers in the district, is available. Typically the Roundtable provides help with crafts, games, skits, and songs for use at Den and Pack Meetings. It's a great place to ask questions and share ideas.
- ✿ Packs should maintain a Pack library that contains the leader books to enhance the program activities.
- ✿ Your district has a team of volunteers called the District Committee, which develops quality district-wide programs in which boys can participate. The council newsletter and Web site contains updated information about the activities planned for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts.
- ✿ A Unit Commissioner is assigned to check on the health of the Pack, Troop, Team, and Crew. He or she is a communication link between the Unit and the Scouting organization. A member of the Stake (a Stake is a number of Wards, usually six-to-twelve, organized under the direction of a Stake President) may be assigned by the District to be the Unit Commissioner. A Unit Commissioner is not a Church calling.
- ✿ Cub Scout Training including Youth Protection, Fast Start, This is Scouting, and Position Specific Training are located at [www.MyScouting.org](http://www.MyScouting.org). All leaders and parents need training.
- ✿ Youth Protection Training is provided online or in person. It teaches leaders about child abuse protection and avoiding potentially dangerous situations.
- ✿ Every Scout deserves a Trained leader.

# Scouting Funding

Cost may vary from year-to-year. Costs below were based on 2005 registration fees.

Registration & Insurance Fee:	\$10.00 / Year	Fee paid by Stake.
<i>Boys' Life</i> Magazine:	\$10.80 / Year	Paid by Family or Ward
Scout Handbooks	About \$10.00	
Wolf		
Bear		
Webelos		
Boy Scout		Boy Scout can use the book for all ranks.

**Note:** Uniforms and *Boys' Life* are not required to join Scouts, but they are recommended. Check with your Pack or Troop Leaders to see what they suggest and where uniforms can be purchased. Often uniforms can be purchased from a thrift shop or the Unit may have a uniform exchange.

**Note:** The prices listed below are subject to change. Visit [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org) for additional items and information.

## Sample Uniform Costs

Wolf Neckerchief	\$4.40
Cub Scout/Webelos Blue Short-Sleeve Shirt - Small	\$25.00
Cub Scout Neckerchief Slide	\$2.20
Cub Scout Wolf Cap - Size SM/M	\$11.50
Boy Scout Long Sleeve Shirt	\$28.70
Boy Scout Trousers	\$36.30
Boy Scout Merit Badge Sash	\$5.15
Three Unit Numeral	\$2.40
Council Strip Patch – Obtain from local council	\$2.50

Uniforms can be purchased at the Scout Shops located at Local Councils, at area merchants who sell BSA uniforms, or clothing resale shops. Many Units (Ward and Stake) have a uniform exchange program. Ward Budget cannot be used to buy uniforms.

Webelos do not need to wear the blue Cub Scout Uniform shirt but can purchase a Khaki Boy Scout shirt to wear with blue pants. Cub Scout patches are sewn on in the same place as they were on the blue shirt.



## Other Scouting Costs

The primary source of funding for the Scouting Program and activities is the Ward budget. Fund raising projects are approved for purchasing capital equipment and to pay for Boy Scout long-term camp or Cub Scout day camp. Wards can determine the cost of the program, using the estimates below. The Stake pays the annual registration and rechartering fees, the Ward pays for activities and awards, and parents pay for Boy's Life and their uniforms. Typical Cub Scout costs are listed below.

### Boy Costs

<i>Boys' Life</i>	\$10.80
Advancement Awards	\$20.00
Weekly Den Meetings	\$72.00
Monthly Pack Meetings	\$32.00
Cub Scouts Day Camp	\$95.00
Pinewood Derby	\$8.00
Blue and Gold Banquet	\$10.00
Summer Project	\$8.55
Uniform	\$88.30

### Leader Costs

Leader's Training	\$25.00
Leader's Books	\$30.00
Gas – Field Trips	\$20.00
Leader's Uniform	\$97.30
District Dinner	\$25.00

Boys should not feel excluded from participating in the program because they cannot afford to pay for activities. On the other hand, Den Leaders should not have to pay for Den Meeting supplies.

A Stake or Ward uniform exchange will keep the costs at a reasonable level as will a Ward resource library where leadership books, Merit Badge books and equipment can be borrowed.



## Friends of Scouting

With the changes in funding for the Boy Scouts of America, it is very important for LDS Units to support the local council through donations to Friends of Scouting. To maintain quality Scouting Programs, the council needs financial support from all Units. Supporting activities like Cub Scout Day Camp and Boy Scout Camp, by writing a check to Friends of Scouting, makes a difference. During a the Scout Banquet, a District representative can be invited to provide a short (very short) presentation on the Friends of Scouting.

# Summary

Scouting in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints follows guidelines from Church Headquarters in Salt Lake City. The 2011 Scouting Handbook for Church Units in the United States describes the Church's relationship to Cub Scouting and how to use the program as the youth program for boys eight – ten years old. It also explains the Boy Scouting program for boys eleven – eighteen. Although the aims of BSA and Church program are essentially the same, there are a couple differences in the implementation. Packs chartered by wards in the Church do not participate in Tiger Cubs nor do they participate in over-night camping even for Webelos. An all-day hike will meet the requirement for Arrow of Light. Boy Scout troops are cautioned not to travel or camp on Sunday. Funding is designed to ensure that all boys can participate in Scouting without placing a hardship of the families.

## LDS Objective

Scouting activities provide boys with the opportunity to put into practice the gospel principles they learn at home and at Church.

## LDS Methods

- ☺ Cub Scout meetings should be held preferably in the daytime at the meetinghouse, in a home, or in an outdoor setting.
- ☺ All Scout meetings and activities should open and close with prayer.
- ☺ Boys enter and advance in Scout programs by age.
- ☺ The Cub Scout program in the Church begins at age eight and does not support BSA programs for boys younger than eight; i.e. Tiger Cubs in the United States or Beavers in Canada.
- ☺ The Webelos program is one year with a focus on achieving the Webelos rank and Arrow of Light. A day hike rather than an overnight campout meets the Arrow of Light requirement.
- ☺ The stake registers all boys and young men ages eight through fifteen and young men sixteen and seventeen who are pursuing rank advancement or if the ward sponsors a Venturing Crew. Scout leaders are also registered through the stake funds.
- ☺ Boys who are not members are welcome to register with the ward's pack and are registered in the same way as members.
- ☺ The Church does not sponsor Scouting for girls or young women.
- ☺ Qualified adults, whether members of the Church or not, may hold Scouting positions. All must maintain the Church standards.
- ☺ Leaders are asked to serve in the role; however, families and parents are always welcomed to volunteer in many supportive roles.
- ☺ Members are set apart by a member of the bishopric; other leaders may receive a blessing from the bishopric.



- ☺ Where leadership is limited, one committee may be called to service the Aaronic Priesthood and another Cub Scouts.
- ☺ Men or women can serve in Scout positions for Primary age boys (Cub Scouting and eleven-year-old Scouts) but only men are called to work directly with the Aaronic Priesthood young men. A woman can serve as the committee chairman.
- ☺ No Scout-sponsored overnight camping should be planned for boys less than eleven years.
- ☺ The ward should not observe Scout Sunday during a sacrament meeting.
- ☺ No hiking or camping on Sunday. Cub Scouts should not travel to or from camp on Sunday. Exceptions to camping on Sunday require special approval.
- ☺ **Faith in God** is the Cub Scout religious award. Boy complete requirements marked with a square knot in their **Faith in God** booklet.
- ☺ Leaders should follow the budget allowance guidelines to finance the Scouting program. It is important to turn in all receipts.
- ☺ Dues are not collected. All programs are paid out of the ward budget. Note: the ward budget is not used to buy uniforms, but it can be used to pay for leader training.
- ☺ Registration and unit chartering fees are paid from the stake general checking account.
- ☺ Boys' Life is paid for by the parents or from the ward budget.
- ☺ Cub Scout and Boy Scout awards and activity fees come from the ward budget.
- ☺ The Church encourages the participation in one annual day camp (district, stake, or council). It should be funded by the ward budget. If the ward does not have funds, then the participant's parents may be asked to pay for part or all of the camp. The inability to pay should not exclude a Cub Scout from attending day camp.
- ☺ Lack of personal funds should not prohibit participation.
- ☺ One fund raiser per year is permitted to purchase capital equipment and one fund raiser to pay for long-term camping.
- ☺ Tour plans should be filed with the bishop and the BSA council office following the council's guidelines.
- ☺ No activities should be planned for Monday evenings. The Church sets aside Monday evening for Family Home Evening. This is an activity that the family does together and is intended to strengthen the family unit.
- ☺ *“Training courses that require overnight activities should not be attended by mixed groups of adult men and women unless both genders have appropriate sleeping and personal care arrangements that are not in immediate proximity to each other. Where possible, leaders should attend training offered on days other than Sunday.”* (Scouting Handbook, page 1.)



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*Notes*