

CUB SCOUT ^{PACK} 110



Parent Handbook

2017-2018

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Purpose of the Parent Handbook:

As a Pack 110 parent, you may have many questions related to the people, programs and structure of the Pack and Scouting in general. This guide is the starting point for answering many of these questions. The information contained is not comprehensive, but we have also included many links to websites that contain more detailed information.

Welcome!

Thank you for choosing to invest in your son by becoming members of Pack 110. The Leaders of the Pack are members just like you and we are committed to providing a safe and fun program that teaches and reinforces the 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.'

and Scout Law:

'A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.'

Contact Information:

Each member's primary point of contact is their son's Den Leader, but if you have any questions that are specific to the Pack, if you would like to discuss taking on a Leadership role within the Pack or if your question is of a sensitive nature, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Pack Leaders directly:

Josh Comolli - Cubmaster

Phone: 610-431-1494

Email: josh@holycomolli.com

Lauren Buckalew – Committee Chair

Phone: 610-431-1380

Email: lauren.buckalew@gmail.com

Youth Protection

The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. To maintain such an environment, the BSA developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides parents and leaders with resources for the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing programs.

Youth Protection Mission Statement

True youth protection can be achieved only through the focused commitment of everyone in Scouting. It is the mission of Youth Protection volunteers and professionals to work within the Boy Scouts of America to maintain a culture of Youth Protection awareness and safety at the national, regional, area, council, district, and unit levels.

Youth Protection & New Members

Pack 110 requests that all new parent members take the 'Youth Protection Training' (offered online at no charge) so that there is full awareness of all BSA policies and procedures related to Youth Protection.

Detailed information and training link can be found at:

<http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>

Background Clearances

The Boy Scouts of America realizes that background checks are an important component of a comprehensive Youth Protection program. That's why, before a volunteer can be confirmed, references are checked, a National criminal background check is conducted and the person is screened against a list of names of people who do not meet the high standards of Scouting.

PA Act 153 of 2014, which was amended on July 1, 2015 by PA Act 15 of 2015, requires that all registered direct contact leaders (Cubmaster, Den Leaders, Assistant Leaders, etc.) and anyone fulfilling any of those responsibilities must complete and submit the following required clearances:

1. State Police Criminal History Record
2. PA Department of Public Welfare Child Abuse History Clearance
3. Federal Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) – FBI Report (for anyone that has lived in PA for less than 10 years)

About Cub Scouting:

Since its beginning, the Cub Scout program has been a fun and educational experience concerned with values. Besides providing a positive place where boys can enjoy safe, wholesome activities, Cub Scouting focuses on building character, improving physical fitness, teaching practical skills, and developing a spirit of community service.

Purposes of Cub Scouting:

The Cub Scouting program has 10 purposes related to the overall mission of the Boy Scouts of America – to build character, learn citizenship, and develop personal fitness:

1. Character Development
2. Spiritual Growth
3. Good Citizenship
4. Sportsmanship and Fitness
5. Family Understanding
6. Respectful Relationships
7. Personal Achievement
8. Friendly Service
9. Fun and Adventure
10. Preparation for Boy Scouts

Every Cub Scouting activity should help fulfill one of these purposes. Not everything in Cub Scouting has to be serious – far from it! Silly songs, energetic games, and yummy snacks all have their place in the program.

The Methods of Cub Scouting:

To accomplish its purposes and achieve the overall goals of building character, learning citizenship, and developing personal fitness, Cub Scouting uses seven methods:

1. Living the Ideals

Cub Scouting's values are embedded in the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Cub Scout motto, and Cub Scout sign, handshake, and salute. These practices help establish and reinforce the program's values in boys and the leaders who guide them.

2. Belonging to a Den

The den—a group of six to eight boys who are about the same age—is the place where Cub Scouting starts. In the den, Cub Scouts develop new skills and interests, they practice sportsmanship and good citizenship, and they learn to do their best, not just for themselves but for the den as well.

3. Using Advancement

Recognition is important to boys. The advancement plan provides fun for the boys, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members and their den leader work with boys on advancement projects.

4. Involving Family and Home

Whether a Cub Scout lives with two parents or one, a foster family, or other relatives, his family is an important part of Cub Scouting. Parents and adult family members provide leadership and support for Cub Scouting and help ensure that boys have a good experience in the program.

5. Participating in Activities

Cub Scouts participate in a huge array of activities, including games, projects, skits, stunts, songs, outdoor activities, trips and service projects. Besides being fun, these activities offer opportunities for growth, achievement, and family involvement.

6. Serving Home and Neighborhood

Cub Scouting focuses on the home and neighborhood. It helps boys strengthen connections to their local communities, which in turn support the boys' growth and development.

7. Wearing the Uniform

Cub Scout uniforms serve a dual purpose, demonstrating membership in the group (everyone is dressed alike) and individual achievement (boys wear the badges they've earned). Wearing the uniform to meetings and activities also encourages a neat appearance, a sense of belonging, and good behavior.

BSA Structure:

Boy Scouts of America (BSA):

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness. The Cub Scout program is part of the overall Scouting program offered by the BSA.

More info at: <http://www.scouting.org/> and <https://beascout.scouting.org/>

Council & District:

Pack 110 is part of the Lenni Lenape District of the Chester County Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Council and District have both paid and volunteer representatives whose job it is to help Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops provide a quality program for the youth of Chester County.

More info at: <http://www.cccbsa.org/>

Chartered Organization:

Each Pack has a legal entity that supports the Pack and helped created it through agreement with the BSA. Pack 110's Chartered Organization is the Hillsdale PTO. The PTO has a member who is our designated Chartered Organization Representative and this person assists the Pack in our annual recharter process and approves new Pack leadership.

More info at: http://www.scouting.org/About/FactSheets/operating_orgs.aspx

Pack Structure:

The Pack:

The majority of the Scouts that are members of Pack 110 attend Hillsdale Elementary. The Pack is run by a committee made up of a Chair, Cubmaster, Treasurer, Awards Coordinator, Training Coordinator and the Den Leaders. There are also important supporting Pack rolls that include the Popcorn Sale Coordinator (Popcorn Kernel), Blue & Gold Banquet Organizers, Camping Coordinator, and individual Event Coordinators. Scouting is a family activity and there is no end to the opportunities large and small to help make the Pack go and provide a fun quality program for our sons.

Dens:

Scouts in the Pack are organized into Dens by grade level. Each grade level will have at least one Den and they will range in size from 6-12+ Scouts. Each Den will have a Den Leader (and possible one or two assistant, or co-leaders) who are registered and trained annually for their position according to BSA guidelines. Den leaders stay with their Den from 1st grade up through 5th when the boys age out and cross over to Boy Scouts.

During the Tiger year (first grade) BSA rules require a parent or guardian is present for all Den and Pack Gatherings and events. For Wolf through Webelos II (second to fifth grade) parents are encouraged to be present but it is not mandatory.

Scouts:

Scouts are by far the most important part of the Pack. Pack 110 will provide Scouts with the following items: Handbook, Activity Uniform (commonly called a Class B t-shirt), Pinewood Derby car kit, model rocket kit, neckerchief, patches and other awards earned by the Scout during the year.

About Pack 110:

Pack Meetings:

Pack 110 has one Pack Meeting each month of the school year. Most of these meetings are held on Friday evenings in the Hillsdale Gymnasium. Pack Meetings are where our all of our Scouts and parents come together to have fun, learn new skills and enjoy each other's fellowship.

Den Meetings:

The Pack is divided into smaller units called Dens. Dens generally consist of six to eight scouts in the same grade. Dens meet separately from the Pack 1-2 times a month to work on Cub Scout Adventure Achievements that allow the boys progress to their next rank.

Pack Events:

Pack events include our Camp Outs/Overnights, Blue & Gold Banquet, Pinewood Derby, Spring Rocket Launch, and Summer Picnic. As a friendly reminder, it is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that the use of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances is not permitted at any activity involving participation of youth members. All Scouting functions, meetings, and activities should be conducted on a smoke-free basis, with smoking areas located away from all participants.

Community Service:

The Pack participates in various Community Service projects throughout the year including the Scouting for Food Drive, retirement home visits, and community clean-ups. We are always looking for new opportunities to provide community service so if you have any ideas, please feel free to notify the pack leadership.

Community Events:

The Pack also participates in community events such as the West Chester Halloween and Veterans Day Parades.

Attendance:

We encourage sons and their families to view Cub Scouts as a commitment. While occasional absences can be worked around, the Cub Scout program does not lend itself to frequent nonattendance. Pack 110 will hold one Pack Meeting per month for most of the school year at Hillsdale Elementary School. All boys are expected to attend. The dens will typically hold meetings during the month at a location to be determined by the Den Leader. Den meetings are important for learning and advancement, as well as fun and social interaction.

Uniforms:

Wearing a uniform gives youth and adult members a sense of identification and commitment to the goals of character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. The awards displayed on the uniform mark significant milestones in every Scout and leader's progress in achieving these goals and successfully practicing Scouting's ideals.

The Cub Scout uniform should be worn to all Cub Scout activities including, but not limited to, Den Meetings and Pack Meetings. In our pack, we require an official BSA Cub Scout shirt with patches placed correctly along with an official Cub Scout neckerchief and a neckerchief slide. Parents must provide the shirt, patches, and neckerchief slide. You will need the following patches: Chester County Council, numerals 110, World Scouting Emblem, and den number. The pack will provide the neckerchief and rank badges (i.e., Tiger, Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelos). Scouts have the option to wear their scouting hats, belts, pants, etc., but these are not required. Scouts are required to wear their shirts buttoned up and tucked in to pants or shorts that are free of rips, tears, frayed edges, etc. If hats are worn, they will be worn front and center.

Information about patch placement can be found on the Uniform Inspection Sheet in the Cub Scout Handbook or on our website (<http://cubpack110.com/resources/cub-scout-uniform/>). Uniforms can be purchased at the Scout Shop located at the Chester County Council (504 S. Concord Rd.) and Kelly Sports (Matlack St. and Rt. 202). The pack may sometimes have used uniforms available. Please send all used uniform requests to the Cubmaster.

Communication:

Information about Pack events will be communicated via email, the Pack Newsletter, and the Pack website (<http://www.cubpack110.com>). We will also utilize social media including Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/CubScoutPack110/>) & Twitter (<http://twitter.com/WCPack110>).

The Role of Parents:

Parents are extremely important in Cub Scouts. A parent or guardian becomes a partner to the scout during their time in Cub Scouts. This partner is called an "Akela". Parents help the scout to learn and advance. Parents must sign pages in the handbook as Scouts complete lessons and activities. In Webelos, the Den leader signs off on the achievements. For Tiger Scouts, parents must attend meetings and activities with the scout. For all other scouts, we strongly encourage parents to attend but we do allow parents to designate another adult to have responsibility for their scout at den and pack meetings.

Parents are not only important to the scout, but to the pack. Parent volunteers provide all of the pack leadership, plan and conduct activities, and help the leaders with meetings and activities. Accordingly, in order for your son to participate in the pack, all parents are respectfully asked to donate their time to a pack leadership position or to the planning and execution of a specific event.

Fundraising:

Our Pack's primary fundraiser for the year is selling popcorn. This fundraiser allows us to keep our annual dues relatively low and still operate the pack, provide materials and supplies and meaningful activities for the boys without excessive additional charges, and in many cases, subsidize at least a portion of the cost of outings and activities.

We expect each Cub Scout to sell popcorn to at least 10 different people, but more sales will bring incentives & prizes. In addition to the prizes offered by the popcorn provider, here are some other incentives to sell popcorn:

- Fifty-percent of the pack's profits raised by the scout will go into that Scout's "Scout Account."
- All scouts who sell \$250 or more will get to throw a pie in the face of one of the Leaders!

Annual Dues - \$100:

Dues are utilized to purchase Den and Pack meeting materials, scout books, neckerchiefs, badges, belt loops, awards, pinewood derby cars, and rocket kits on behalf of the cubs. An additional portion is allocated to annual Pack registration fees, leader trainings, and insurance payable to Chester County Council BSA.

For the 2017-2018 Cub Scout Year, the dues are \$100 per scout. If you have more than one child in the Pack, a \$15 discount will be applied to each Scout when dues are paid in full by September 30th (\$85 per Scout for two or more).

Our Annual Popcorn Fundraiser significantly supplements the Pack's budget as we spend much more per child than is covered by dues alone. Please plan on participating in our fundraiser if you would prefer \$0 dues increases in the future.

No boy should be denied the opportunity to participate in Cub Scouts due to financial hardship. In the event that you need financial assistance, please speak with our Pack Committee Chairman about our scholarship program.

Individual Scout Accounts:

To help offset individual activities, Pack 110 offers an Individual Scout Account program. Individual Scout Accounts, whereby the pack keeps track of how much a Cub Scout or his family has raised toward his "ideal year of Cub Scouting" goal, are critical to the success of this program. When individual Cub Scouts are credited for their efforts, they develop a sense of personal responsibility and participation.

- Fifty-percent of the pack's profits raised by the individual Scout's Popcorn Sales will go into that Scout's Scout Account. Balances in Scout Accounts can be used to offset individual expenses (trip expenses, t-shirts, etc.). They cannot be used for annual dues.
- Scout accounts are funded only through Popcorn Sales. Monetary donations go directly to the general fund.

Pack Leadership Roles

Cubmaster:

Everything that the Cubmaster does is aimed at helping the individual boy. The Cubmaster is charged with working directly with the Scouts at the Pack meetings and helping determine and run the Pack program with the assistance of the Committee and Den Leaders.

Pack Committee:

Every pack is under the supervision of a pack committee, which consists of at least three members (chair, treasurer, advancement chair). By handling administrative and support tasks, the Pack Committee allows the Cubmaster, Den leaders, and their assistants to focus on working directly with the Cub Scouts

Den Leaders:

Cub Scout Den leaders work directly with Cub Scouts and their parents/guardians to execute the Cub Scouting program in the den and help the Scouts earn their ranks.

Pack 110 Leaders:

Cubmaster	Josh Comolli	josh@holycmolli.com	215-919-9447
Assistant Cubmaster	Mark Pontzer	markpontzer@gmail.com	610-380-2168
Committee Chair	Lauren Buckalew	lauren.buckalew@gmail.com	610-431-1380
Assistant Committee Chair			
Chartered Organization Rep	Beth Rosica	barosica@hotmail.com	
Treasurer	Don Urbanic	durbanic@hotmail.com	610-947-4796
Assistant Treasurer			
Scout Account Coordinator	Don Urbanic	durbanic@hotmail.com	610-947-4796
Awards Chair	Jean Olmstead	j.olmsted@verizon.net	
Rechartering Chair/Hillsdale Liaison	Josh Comolli	josh@holycmolli.com	610-431-1494
Popcorn Kernel			
Assistant Popcorn Kernel			
Web Master	Josh Comolli	josh@holycmolli.com	215-919-9447
Den 1 Leader (Webelos II)	Jean Olmstead	j.olmsted@verizon.net	
Den 3 Leader (Webelos I)	Ed Loeffler	yedleff@yahoo.com	610-719-8452
Den 4 Leader (Bead)	Jamie Zurn	jlzurn@verizon.net	484- 459-5040
Den 5 Leader (Wolf)	Cliff Beam	cliftonbeam@gmail.com	610-328-2029
Den 6 Leader (Tiger)			
Lion Den Coordinator	Josh Comolli	josh@holycmolli.com	215-919-9447
Lion Den Coordinator	Mark Pontzer	markpontzer@gmail.com	610-380-2168
Membership Chair			
Community Service Chair			
Training Chair			
Blue & Gold Chair			
Blue & Gold Committee	Dens 1 & 3		
Outdoors Coordinator	Ed Loeffler	yedleff@yahoo.com	610-719-8452
Rocket Launch Coordinator			
Fall Bonfire/Cook Out			
Halloween Parade	Lauren Buckalew	lauren.buckalew@gmail.com	610-431-1380
Other Parades - Veterans' Day	Josh Comolli	josh@holycmolli.com	215-919-9447
Pinewood Derby Coordinator	Mark Pontzer	markpontzer@gmail.com	610-380-2168
Pinewood Derby Tech			