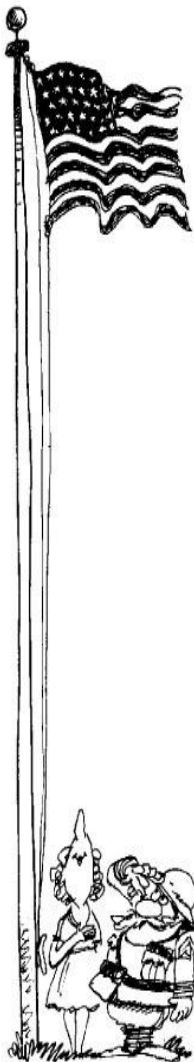

Cub Scout Pack 423

Zekiah District



Parent Guide
and
Reference

Welcome to Pack 423!



We are honored that you have chosen to enter the world of Scouting through our pack. We have an exciting program of learning and fun that will prove to be an enjoyable and memorable experience for you and your son.

This handbook is designed to provide parents an introduction to Cub Scouts and our pack. If you have any questions about our program, please call on one of the pack Leaders.

Cub Scouting

General Information

- The purpose of the Boys Scouts of America is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of citizenship and to develop personal fitness.
 - Cub Scouting is a year-round family-oriented program designed for boys who are in 1st-5th grades (or ages 7-10).
-

General Information

Ten Purposes of Cub Scouting

Parents, leaders and organizations work together to achieve these.

- Character Development
 - Spiritual Growth
 - Good Citizenship
 - Sportsmanship
 - Family Understanding
 - Respectful Relationships
 - Personal Achievement
 - Friendly Service
 - Fun and Adventure
 - Preparation for Boy Scouts
-

General Information

Methods of Cub Scouting

Cub Scouting uses seven specific methods to achieve Scouting's aims of helping boys and young adults build character, train in the responsibilities of citizenship and develop personal fitness.

- The Ideals
 - The Den
 - Advancement
 - Family Involvement
 - Activities
 - Home and Neighborhood Centered
 - The Uniform
-

General Pack Facts

- We are part of the Zekiah District of the National Capitol Area Council (NCAC).
 - In Cub Scouting the basic unit is called a den. Dens of 3-9 boys, usually at the same grade level, meet once a week.
 - The dens form a unit called a pack. The pack meets once a month.
 - Our pack meets monthly.
-

Pack Structure

- The Chartered Organization is the community organization that is granted a charter by the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) to use the scouting program. Our Chartered Organization is the LaPlata United Methodist Church.
 - The Chartered Organization provides a meeting place and operates the pack within the guidelines and policies of the BSA.
 - The Pack Committee consists of the Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Charter Representative, Treasurer, Committee Chairperson, Awards Chairperson, Den Leaders and Assistant Den Leaders.
-

Pack Structure

- The Pack Committee makes plans for Pack meetings and activities and takes care of the business items that are necessary for a pack to operate smoothly.
 - Our Pack meetings are a time for the boys to be recognized for their accomplishments, to perform skits or songs and to present any projects they have accomplished in their Den meetings.
 - Our Pack has additional activities such as family outings, a Pinewood Derby car race, Scouting for Food drive, the Blue and Gold banquet, a Bridging Ceremony and a Pack Conservation project.
-

Rank Advancement



- Your 7 year old (1st grade) will start as a **Bobcat*** and will work to earn the rank badge-**Tiger**.
- Your 8 year old (2nd grade) will move to the rank of **Wolf**.
- Your 9 year old (3rd grade) will now become a **Bear**.
- Your 10 year old (4th grade) will become a **Webelos** and stay in that rank for two years.
- Once your Webelos has earned his **Arrow of Light**, he will be eligible to move into a Boy Scout Troop.

*The Bobcat badge must be earned regardless of where your son enters into the Scouting program.

Rank Advancement

- Each level of Scouting has its own handbook. This handbook is essential for your Scout. It spells out the requirements for advancement also called the Scout's trail.
 - Cubs may prepare for requirements and work on achievements at home or during the weekly den meetings.
 - Advancement always emphasizes doing, not getting. The experience your son has as he works on the requirements is more important than the badge itself.
-

Cub Scouting-Bobcat

Akela says 'Follow my Bobcat Trail.'

- Before becoming a Tiger Cub Scout, your son must complete the Bobcat requirements.
- Your son will learn:
 - The Cub Scout promise,
 - The Law of the Pack,
 - The meaning of WEBELOS,
 - The Cub Scout sign,
 - The Cub Scout handshake,
 - The Cub Scout motto and
 - The Cub Scout salute.
- Once the Bobcat badge has been earned, your son will move into the level appropriate for his age.



Cub Scouting-Tiger Cubs

Search, Discover, Share!



- The Tiger Cub, working with his adult partner, completes 15 requirements. He will receive a Tiger track bead as he completes each one.
- He will participate in indoor and outdoor activities just right for his age.
- The Tiger will also earn yellow beads for each of the 10 electives that he completes.
- Tiger Dens have one outing a month called a **Go See It**.

Cub Scouting-Wolf

58 tracks of Achievement



- To earn the rank of Wolf, your son must complete 12 achievements that fall into the categories of:

- God
- Country
- Family
- Self



- As he works on the badge requirements, your son can also complete electives which consist of projects and activities. Completing them allows him to earn Arrow points that are added to his uniform. There is no limit to the number of Arrow Points your son may earn.
 - There is also a special award he can earn-The World Conservation Award. Earning this will heighten his awareness and appreciation of nature and the environment.
-

Cub Scouting-Bear

God, Country, Family and Self



- Your son will complete 12 of 24 achievements in the same four categories as the Wolf. These are somewhat more difficult and challenging than those for the Wolf rank.
 - There are a special collection of electives which also allow your son to earn Arrow Points and add them to his uniform.
 - A special award that can be earned at this time is the Whittling Chip. Your Bear has learned the fundamentals of knife safety and will be given a patch and wallet card.
-

Cub Scouting-WEBELOS

We'll Be Loyal Scouts



- This is your son's first step in the transition toward Boy Scouts. He will work on activity badges as he completes the achievements. Activity badge areas are hobby and career fields ranging from science to sports. He can earn 22 badges!!
 - The activity badges are metal pins. They are sorted into 5 discipline related groups. The badges are displayed on the WEBELOS colors.
 - Your son will also work on receiving the Compass emblem and compass points as an incentive to complete additional activity badges.
 - The WEBELOS program is designed to move the boys from a family-based program to a unit leader program where the Den Leader must approve the advancement. The ideals are more challenging and more complex encompassing the Scout Oath and Law.
-

Cub Scouting-Arrow of Light

The Apex of Cub Scouting

- This is the highest award your son can earn in Cub Scouting and also the ONLY non-religious award from Cub Scouting that can be worn on his Boy Scout uniform.
- Your son will have to earn his WEBELOS badge and at least 8 activity badges including Citizen, Readyman and Fitness. The total must include one from each of the 5 groups.



Uniforms

- Cub Scout uniforms help build pride, loyalty and self respect.
 - Reminds your son to live up to the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack and Motto.
 - It encourages neat, correct appearance as well as proper behavior.
 - It provides the only place for proper display of his badges and awards.
 - It reminds him of the steps along the Scouting trail and encourages him to continue in Scouting.
-

Uniforms--Class A

Class A uniforms are the official Cub Scout uniforms that includes;

- A long or short sleeved uniform shirt.
- Appropriate patches.
- Neckerchief with slide.
- Cap.
- Web belt with Scout buckle.
- Matching shorts or pants.
(Uniform pants are optional.
Unofficial pants or shorts must be in good condition and not draw attention away from the uniform)
- Matching socks.



Uniforms--Patch Vest

- This is an optional part of the uniform.
 - Scouts wear this red felt vest to display their various participation patches and pins that they have earned during.
-

Uniforms--Class B

Your son's class B uniform is appropriate for events such as campouts and summertime activities.

- A Pack t-shirt or a t-shirt that he receives from a Cub Scout event-camp, activity or the Scout shop is acceptable.
 - Cap
-

Awards and Recognition

Participation Patches

Participation patches are given when you son joins his fellow Den or Pack members in an “official” activity. They are used to encourage the boys to be actively involved in Den and Pack functions. Usually, patches are awarded at Pack Meetings. However, some maybe given out at the event itself.

Since most of the participation patches are considered temporary patches, they should be worn on the patch vest which can be worn with the uniform.

Awards and Recognition

Academic & Sports Program

- The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a supplemental enrichment program that complements the existing Cub Scout program.
 - The object is to help all Scouts learn new skills or improve those they already possess.
 - All ranks can work toward earning belt loops and pins in a wide variety of academic and sporting disciplines.
 - They are awarded at Pack meetings and the belt loops are worn on the blue Scout belt.
-

Awards and Recognition

Academic & Sports Program

- Belt loops are awarded when three requirements are met in the academic subject or sport.
 - Once a loop is earned, your son may choose to stop; however he may decide to continue with the activity. There are additional requirements to earn the pin.
 - The pins are not worn on the uniform but placed on the letter “C” and worn on the patch vest.
-

Awards and Recognition

Academic & Sports Program

- Cub Scout Academics

- Art
- Chess
- Citizenship
- Communicating
- Computers
- Geography
- Heritages
- Mathematics
- Music
- Science
- Weather
- Wildlife Conservation

- Cub Scout Sports

- Archery*
- Badminton
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bicycling
- Bowling
- BB-Gun*
- Fishing
- Flag Football
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Ice Skating
- Marbles
- Physical Fitness
- Roller Skating
- Snow Ski and Board
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Ultimate
- Volleyball

*Can only be earned at council-sponsored camps.

Outdoor Activities



Going outdoors is one of the most exciting parts of Scouting. Cub Scouts enjoy many outdoor experiences as they participate in the activities that can be held outside, such as field trips, hikes, nature and conservation experiences, service projects and camping.

The outdoors is an ideal environment for your son to be able to develop positive qualities such as resourcefulness, ingenuity, self-reliance, team spirit and an awareness of and appreciation for the natural world around us.

Outdoor Activities

National Outdoor Programs

- Cub Scout World Conservation



- Conservation Good Turn

- National Summertime Award



- National Quality Unit
-

Happy Scouting!



We strongly encourage you to get involved in your son's Cub Scout experience. Volunteering is a great way to get involved with the Den and Pack.

We are always in need of extra hands and new ideas.
