



Pack 718 - Parent Handbook

Citizenship, Compassion, Cooperation, Courage, Faith, Health and Fitness, Honesty, Perseverance, Positive Attitude, Resourcefulness, Respect, Responsibility

Welcome to Cub Scouting...

As a parent, you want your son to grow up to be a person of worth; a self-reliant, dependable, and caring individual. **Scouting** has these same goals in mind for him. Since 1910, we have been weaving lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, developing good citizenship, and enhancing physical fitness in youth. These values help your son make good decisions throughout his lifetime and give him confidence as he becomes an adult leader of tomorrow. With all the negative influences in today's society, Scouting provides your son with a positive peer group and a program that is fun and adventurous and helps him to "be prepared" to shape his own future.

SCOUT BASICS

When your son registers as a Scout, he joins a national organization: the *Boy Scouts of America* (BSA). The BSA is divided into regions, councils, and districts. Our Pack is a part of the *Sunset Trail District*, which in turn is a part of the *Cascade Pacific Council*. The Cascade Pacific Council serves the needs of Scouting in Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington. Council web site URL is <http://www.cpcbsa.org/>

CUB SCOUTING

Cub Scouting is a family activity. In today's hectic world there never seems to be enough time to spend with our families. Cub Scouting is a way through which we can make that time, help our sons learn something about the world they live in, develop into young men of character and have fun at the same time. You are the most important person in a young man's life, and you are the most important part of Cub Scouting. Help us make the experience that your son has in Cub Scouts a positive one.

PACK STRUCTURE

Your Boy Is a Member of a Den

A den has between 5 and 10 boys (8 is usually the maximum) of the same age who work together on age-appropriate activities. The Den Leader will work with the den parents to set a meeting time for the den during the early fall. Dens usually have 1-2 meetings per month. This information will be passed on to all den parents. Den Leaders are responsible for coordinating den activities; however, parents will be called upon to assist as needed. This may mean helping with a den meeting or one of the other den activities, gathering materials for a craft project, or providing snacks. Your den leader will hold a parent meeting to discuss parent participation and support. BSA Youth Protection Guidelines state that ***no den meeting may take place without two-deep adult leadership***. This means one registered Scout volunteer and at least one other adult must be present at any den activity. ***There are absolutely no exceptions to this rule.***

Your Boy Is a Member of a Pack

The Pack is made up of several dens. All of the dens will gather for a monthly meeting, the exact dates will be posted. The Pack Meeting is the climax of the month's den meetings and activities. There will be games, skits, stunts, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of badges that the boys earned that month. The award ceremonies are an important part of Pack 718 meetings. Pack leaders strive to make rank ceremonies as meaningful as possible. Please make every effort to ensure your son's attendance at these meetings. Family attendance is encouraged at Pack Meetings. We do request that each Scout have at least one parent, or other relative, in attendance.



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The Pack Is Run by the Pack Committee

The Pack Committee is made up of a group of qualified adults appointed by the Chartered Organization to administer the program of the pack. Usually the committee members, as well as other pack leaders, are parents of boys in the pack. The committee meets once a month and is led by a Committee Chairman and the Cubmaster. The Pack Committee's responsibilities are to: plan Den and Pack Meetings around the monthly theme, select leaders, perform record keeping, and manage the Pack's finances.

The Pack Is Owned by the Chartered Organization

The BSA does not directly own or run any of its member units. Instead, the units are run by *Chartered Organizations*, such as schools parent-school associations, religious organizations, service clubs, and other groups interested in youth. Pack 718's Chartered Organization is Findley Elementary PTO. The Chartered Organization, provides a meeting place, and operates the pack within the guidelines and policies of the chartered organization and the BSA.

PACK MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

Pack meetings are normally the 2nd Tuesday of every month @ 7 pm. The pack meetings are at Findley Elementary in the cafeteria and run approximately 1 hour. Boys (and adult leaders) should attend in scout uniform. Pack 718 also has a different activity planned each month that range from community service to fun events for the boys.

- Pinewood Derby Races,
- Canned Food Drive
- Clothing Drive
- Veterans Day Parade
- Pumpkin Carving
- Rocket Launch

PARENT VOLUNTEER EXPECTATIONS

Pack 718 is a parent run organization and requires the active support of all the parents to provide a high quality program for the boys. In addition to the leadership positions working with the boys, there are many other positions required to support pack activities. Most of these positions require only a couple hours of your time each month (at most) and are critical to the operation of a successful pack. Please be aware that you will be asked to provide some level of support. It is your support that makes the scouting experience successful for the boys. **Many hands make light work**, especially in Cub Scouting.

SCOUTING SEGMENTS

Scouts have the opportunity to earn "segments" every time they participate in a den or pack activity. These segments are attached to the scout uniform on the right side pocket around the council patch. Each rank (Tiger-1st grade, Wolf-2nd grade, Bear-3rd grade, or Webelo-4th & 5th grade) has a rank book and everything you and your boy need to know about segments and scouting are contained in the book. It is the parent's responsibility to record segment achievements via an online tool – ScoutTrack <http://www.scouttrack.com> Segment information is available in the Tiger rank book.



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RANKS IN CUB SCOUTS

Any boy who is 6 years old or in 1st grade may join cub scouts, the ranks are as follows.



BOBCAT

This is the first rank achieved by all new Cub Scouts. All boys must first complete the Bobcat badge requirements before they can be awarded any other rank (they can work on other rank requirements at the same time as they complete their Bobcat).



TIGER CUBS - 1st grade

First grade boys get their first taste of Scouting in this adult-child partnership, and must complete the achievements outlined in the Tiger Book to earn the Tiger rank.



WOLF - 2nd grade

Second grade boys must complete the achievements outlined in the Wolf Book.



BEAR - 3rd grade

This rank is for 3rd graders and is earned by completing Bear Book requirements.



WEBELOS - 4th & 5th grade

"WE'll BE LOyal Scouts"- Fourth and fifth grade Scouts work toward the Webelos badge. The rank is usually earned during the 4th grade year. Scouts are called "Webleos" until their duation from the pack in their fifth grade year.



ARROW OF LIGHT

This is the highest rank in Cub Scouting. It is earned by completing achievements over and above those required for the Webelo rank. This badge is awarded at a special Arrow of Light ceremony in January.

Scouts may work towards their rank starting in June, or as soon as they join the Pack, until June of the following year when they start on the next rank. Webelos may work toward the Webelo rank and the Arrow of Light any time during their year and a half as a Webelo. As Scouts work toward each of their ranks they will wear different insignia to show their progress. Tiger Cubs wear a tiger paw totem with a white bead for each required family activity, an orange bead for each required den activity, and a black bead for each required *Go See It* he completes. Wolves and Bears wear a *Progress Toward Rank* totem with a bead signifying three achievements completed toward the rank. Webelos earn Activity Pins for their Webelo badge and for the Arrow of Light. These are worn on a special totem called the Webelos colors on the right



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sleeve of their uniform. After a Tiger, Wolf or Bear Cub has earned his rank, he can work on special activities called electives. Tigers earn yellow beads for their totem by earning electives, while Wolves and Bears earn Arrow Points. When a Wolf or a Bear has completed 10 electives, he gets a Gold Arrow Point. For each 10 electives after that he receives a Silver Arrow Point, he can earn as many Silver Arrow Points as he is able. If Webelos earn 7 Activity Pins they receive the Compass Point Emblem and for each additional four Activity Pins earned after that they receive a Compass Point to attach to their Compass Point Emblem. The BSA Religious Award program may be completed as a den activity or individually. The award requires a special workbook (available at the Scout Shop) and a church mentor (usually a minister or priest) to monitor the Scout's progress. The requirements are different for each religion, so please consult the workbook for your faith for more details. Upon completion the religious award can be presented either during a Pack meeting, or during a church service of the Scout's faith.

CUB SCOUT ACADEMICS AND SPORTS PROGRAM

This is a supplemental enrichment program that complements the existing Cub Scout program. The Academics subjects and Sports activities allow boys to learn new techniques, increase scholarship skills, develop sportsmanship and have fun. The program is designed for Scouts of all ages. Please see the following web site for more information. URL: <http://usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/a-sindex.asp>

CUB SCOUT UNIFORMS

Scout uniforms can be obtained at the Nor'West Scout Shop located in the Portland Council office. The scout uniform for Tiger, Wolf & Bear scouts is the Blue Cub Scout shirt and corresponding neckerchief. Remember to BUY BIG as the boys will be in the uniform shirt for several years & you don't want to have to move all the badges the boys will earn to a new uniform shirt. While there you should also pick up a book (Tiger-1st grade, Wolf-2nd grade, Bear-3rd grade, or Webelo-4th & 5th grade). The Scout Shop can help with what patches are needed, the Pack will provide you with a Pack 718 patch.

The Portland Council Office & Nor'West Scout Shop is located at

2145 SW Naito Parkway, Portland, OR 97201

Telephone: (503) 243-5022

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9am - 5:30pm Wed: 9am - 8pm Sat: 10am - 4pm Sun: Closed

PACK WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER

Pack 718 has a website with useful information for parents and leaders - <http://pack718.net/>

Pack 718 also communicates important and timely information via group emails. The newsletters & emails are sent to all the Pack members on the Pack 718 news group. Please make sure that you are part of this news group; information on pack and district activities is distributed to everyone in this manner. You can subscribe at <http://pack718.net/subscribe/>

SUMMER CAMPS

Every summer scouts have the opportunity to participate in age appropriate summer camps with the Pack. In July and Aug. the boys have the opportunity to attend the following camps:



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Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp Ireland (Tiger & Wolf Scouts – 1st and 2nd grade)

For five days (M-F ~9am - 3 pm), participating Cub Scouts will travel to another time as they explore, learn and play as young men. During camp, these Scouts will have the opportunity to learn proper skills on our BSA accredited BB and archery ranges. They will participate in games, crafts and a plethora of other Scouting fun. Parent volunteers (usually 1-2 per Den) are required all five days to help the boys through the camp activities. Camp Ireland is located just west of Hillsboro and boys will need daily transportation to and from Camp.

Cub World at Scouter's Mountain (Tiger and Wolf Scouts – 1st and 2nd grade)

Cub World at Scouters' Mountain is a resident camp, which means that the boys, their parents, and leaders will stay at camp for 2 nights and three days (Friday-Sunday). Scouts get to experience camping in the fort, boxcars or teepee village. Cub World is located just east of Clackamas.

Butte Creek (Bear Scouts – 3rd grade)

Butte Creek is a 3 days/2 nights (Sunday-Tuesday) resident camp, which means the boys, their parents, and leaders stay at camp. Gilbert Ranch is located at Butte Creek Scout Ranch near Scotts Mills, Oregon. Program highlights include horseback riding, BB gun shooting, panning for gold, archery, and of course Cowboy Campfires!

Adventure Cove (Webelo Scouts – 4th grade)

Adventure Cove is a 6 day/5 night resident camp, which means that the boys and their leaders stay at camp for the whole week. Scouts and leaders stay in campsites, sleeping in large, framed two-man tents (provided). Adventure Cove is located at Camp Clark on the Oregon coast at the base of Cape Lookout, twenty miles south of Tillamook.

BLUE AND GOLD CELEBRATION

Each spring Pack 718 host a Blue & Gold event celebrating Boy Scouting's founding and the boy's achievements. The 5th graders are honored in a special "crossover" ceremony to recognize their transition from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts.

TRAINING

Every den leader & adult leader should complete the training programs for New Leaders Essentials and Cub Scout Leader Specifics. Training dates and times are available on the Council Web Site, pack calendar and Pack emails/newsletters. Some training is available online at the National Online Learning Center: <https://myscouting.scouting.org/>

PACK 718 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee and Den Leaders meet monthly to plan the upcoming Pack meetings and events. All parents are invited to attend Pack Committee meetings.

FUNDRAISING

Pack 718 has one main fundraising activity to provide operating funds for the year. The Pack sells wreaths in Oct./Nov. prior to the Christmas season. Some local companies contribute matching grants for your



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volunteer hours (Intel, Nike, etc.). If you work for a company that does contribute matching grants please remember to log your volunteer hours.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Boy Scouts of America National Council: <http://www.scouting.org/>

Local Cascade Pacific Council: <http://www.cpcbsa.org/>

Sunset Trail District: <http://www.sunsettrail.cpcbsa.org/index.php>

Pack 718: <http://pack718.net>

If you have any questions, please call one of the Pack 718 leaders listed below.

Cubmaster: Jonathan Moons 503-690-6782

Committee Chairman: Vijay Patki 503-453-7978

Pack Advancement Coordinator: Bharati Sawart 503-896-7367

Remember - Scouting is FUN