

Cub Scout Pack 54

Chartered to:

St. Bridget's Catholic Church

East Bloomfield, NY

Affiliated with:

Seneca District

Seneca Waterways Council

Boy Scouts Of America



Parent Handbook



Cub Scouts Pack 54

Hi, and welcome to Cub Scouts Pack 54! Here's hoping the information and guidelines presented to you in the next few pages will help you get off to a good start for the coming year. Please keep this packet as a handy reference for future information needs regarding Pack policy and uniform information. Thank you.

To begin with, your son is a member of Pack 54, which is in the Seneca District of the Seneca Waterways Council, which encompasses Monroe, Ontario, Wayne, Seneca and Yates. The Pack is made up of Dens, which is a group of boys usually in the same grade as that of your son. Each Den has a specific numeral attached to it. Collectively, we are Cub Scouts, and are members of the National organization, the Boy Scouts of America.

All Packs have a Chartered Organization which acts as a 'sponsor', and ours is St. Bridget's Catholic Church, located at 15 Church St., East Bloomfield, NY.

The Pack is run by the registered BSA Adult Volunteer Leaders of the Pack who make up the Pack Committee, which includes a Committee Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Event coordinators, Awards coordinators, Den leaders, Assistant Den Leaders, and others. All parents of a Cub Scout in Pack 54 are welcomed and encouraged to become a Committee Member. Our committee meetings are generally held the second Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the library and is always open to all parents of Scouts in Pack 54.

The date and location of Den meetings are set up by your son's Den Leader.

Unless previously announced, our Pack meetings are always the *third* Thursday of every month at St. Bridget's Church Hall at 7:00 PM.

You can always find information about Pack 54 on our website at www.cubpack54.com.

Den Meetings

Lots of Cub Scouting happens in the den. Please remember that your son's Den Leader is a *volunteer* putting forth his or her time and effort to help your boy 'do his best' to earn his badges, participate in the fun, and gain all the positive values that the Cub Scout program offers. Please assist them in the following ways.

- Please have your son to den meetings on time. Your den leaders have lots of activities planned and it is important to have the whole group together to begin the evening's fun and projects.
- Please pick up your son from den meetings on time. Your den leader has places to go and kids that they have to take care of and put to bed, too. Better yet, ask your den leader if they could use an extra pair of hands that night and stay. Not only will your help be appreciated, but also you can see what your son is working on.

- Tiger Cubs must have an Adult Partner with them at all meetings, trips, etc. Enjoy the time together!
- Please pay your den dues promptly. Your den leader or other parents will be purchasing various items for craft projects, supplies, snacks, etc., and it sure helps to have the money 'on hand'. Also, please make sure your son has his handbook, and anything else he needs for the meeting before leaving the house.
- Be an active parent. *Everybody* has some special abilities and 'know how' that can be of great help in matters relating to Cub Scouts. Please make sure you have completed the Parent Talent Survey Sheet and return it to your leader. In addition to the boys learning new skills from *you*, I promise that you will have a good time helping *them*.

Pack Meetings

Whereas at Den meetings the boys might do activities towards earning rank badges and awards, the monthly Pack meeting is *where* these awards are presented. It is an **important** part of the program, as it allows the boys to receive their recognition in front of the group as a whole, inspires the younger scouts to strive towards achieving future ranks, and brings everybody together for the big night!

At Pack meetings, the Cubmaster will 'do their best' to make sure that each Den has a chance to display that special craft they made, song they learned, skit they've rehearsed, or interesting place they visited. In addition, there might be a drawing, awards ceremony, or other themed event planned for the evening.

Please observe the followings guidelines in regards to Pack meetings.

- Please accompany your son to his Pack meeting. Pack meetings are a *family* event - brothers, sisters, grandparents, but most of all, **YOU!** We require you there not only to help keep order at the meeting (things *can* get a bit rowdy), but also because in Scouting many awards are presented to the parent who then presents it to the Scout. Cub Scouts is a family program.
- Please arrive to Pack meetings on time. Plan on arriving at least ten minutes early to receive a ticket for a drawing, confer with your son's Den leader about upcoming things, chat with friends, etc., as the meeting needs to begin on time. If your son is helping out as a member of a flag ceremony, or assisting with other Pack meeting activities, it is imperative to have him there on time. Thank you.
- If your son has a uniform, the Pack meeting is *definitely* the place to wear it.
Class A - Shirts tucked in - looking sharp!

Most of all, we hope to make Pack meetings entertaining, enriching, and FUN!!!

Pack 54 Dues \$25.00 This fee goes towards the cost of your son's Pinewood Derby car, book, neckerchief and slide, and other miscellaneous pack expenses. Over half of this cost is for BSA dues and insurance. The deadline for Pack 54 dues is the October Pack meeting. If you just signed up on Join Scout Night, you've already paid this. For your first cub scout, we ask \$25. To help you out with the extra cost burden for having multiple cub scouts, we ask \$20 for each additional boy you have who is interested in joining.

Den dues will be \$20, payable to your den leader. Consult with him or her for this payment.

The Pack maintains a separate bank account at Canandaigua National with records being kept by our Pack Treasurer.

Fund Raisers

Throughout the year we plan to have various fund-raisers. Some of these help pay for all the awards your son will receive. Others may benefit the Pack for trips, outings, and other needed supplies. Other fund raisers will benefit your boy's den. As Cub Scouts, we will always try and make sure to emphasize the fun in fundraising. Thank you.

Cub Scouting and You

When your son earns his Bobcat badge he learns the Law of the Pack. One of these laws states "The Cub Scout Helps the Pack Go". Throughout the year there are banquets, fund-raisers, Scout shows, parades, derbies, camping trips, and many other activities and functions. Ambitious as they are, a Cub Scout still needs *your* help in implementing the program and thereby giving *us* the chance to keep our promise in the part of the Law that states "The Pack Helps the Cub Scout Grow".

Remember, the Pack is all of us working together... leaders, parents, and Scouts.

Unlike other programs your son might enroll in, Cub Scouting involves the whole family, no matter what size or parental make-up exists in the home. In Tigers, you are your son's Adult Partner. In Wolves and Bears, you are Akela, the wise leader of the tribe of Webelos, and the final judge of your son's efforts. At the Webelos rank, you are the Activity Badge counselors that could help influence a boy's career direction

Throughout the year you will be asked to assist on different committees, and at different events. Please volunteer freely, and give of yourself when called upon to help. You will find it a rewarding experience, and one in which you and your son will remember that you did together. Thank you.

Uniforms, Patches, and Accessories

Scouts in uniform are more conscious of their role in Cub Scouting, and feel a sense of pride and belonging when wearing one. A uniform provides a proper place for the display of badges earned and a way for him to 'show the world' that he has been rewarded for his achievements.

In addition, Scouts in uniform create a strong, positive, visible image in the community that helps to strengthen the important ties between the public and the Scouting organization.

Where to Buy

Uniforms, patches and accessories are available at the following locations:

Howard L. Sprague Center (Geneva Scout Shop)
3685 Pre-emption Road
Geneva NY 14456

Genundewah Uniforms
137 South Main St.
Canandaigua, NY 14424
585-905-0406

Todd-Hale Service Center (Strong Scout Shop)
474 East Ave
Rochester NY
585-241-8551

Boy Scouts of America Supply Division
National Distribution Center
PO Box 7143
Charlotte NC 28241
www.scoutstuff.org
800-323-0732

For a *real* treat, take a drive over to Rochester and visit the wonderful Strong Scout Shop. In addition to uniforms, they carry everything you see in the Scout Catalog and then some. Enjoy the time spent there! Your son will love it!

Shirts and [Shorts / Pants]

The main article of the uniform is the shirt, as it displays the rank of the Scout, and identifies him as belonging to a certain Den, Pack and Council. When purchasing a new uniform, remember that your son is growing and if, for example, he is now a newly signed up Wolf Cub, get an extra size or two larger, so he can wear it for his Bear year as well.

Pack 54 also has 'Class B' Pack T-shirts for sale for many of our outdoor activities.

Patches

In addition to the purchasing of a uniform, there will be many patches that need to be sewn on your son's shirt. Please pay close attention as to *where* on the uniform these need to be placed. (Please refer to uniform insignia placement on the next page).

It is important that when your son receives a badge that is to be a part of his uniform, you affix it to his shirt as soon as possible. He earned it, and he deserves to have it displayed. Thank you.

A uniform is something that a Scout can help pay for himself by assigning him various chores around the house, or helping out with other home projects. Also, keep in mind that uniforms, Scout accessories, camping supplies, and other 'Scout stuff' make *excellent* birthday and holiday presents for your son or the Scouter in your family.

What to Buy

Tiger Cub Adult Partners

- Orange Tiger Cub T-shirt (optional)
- Class B Uniform T-shirt (optional)

Tigers, Wolves and Bears

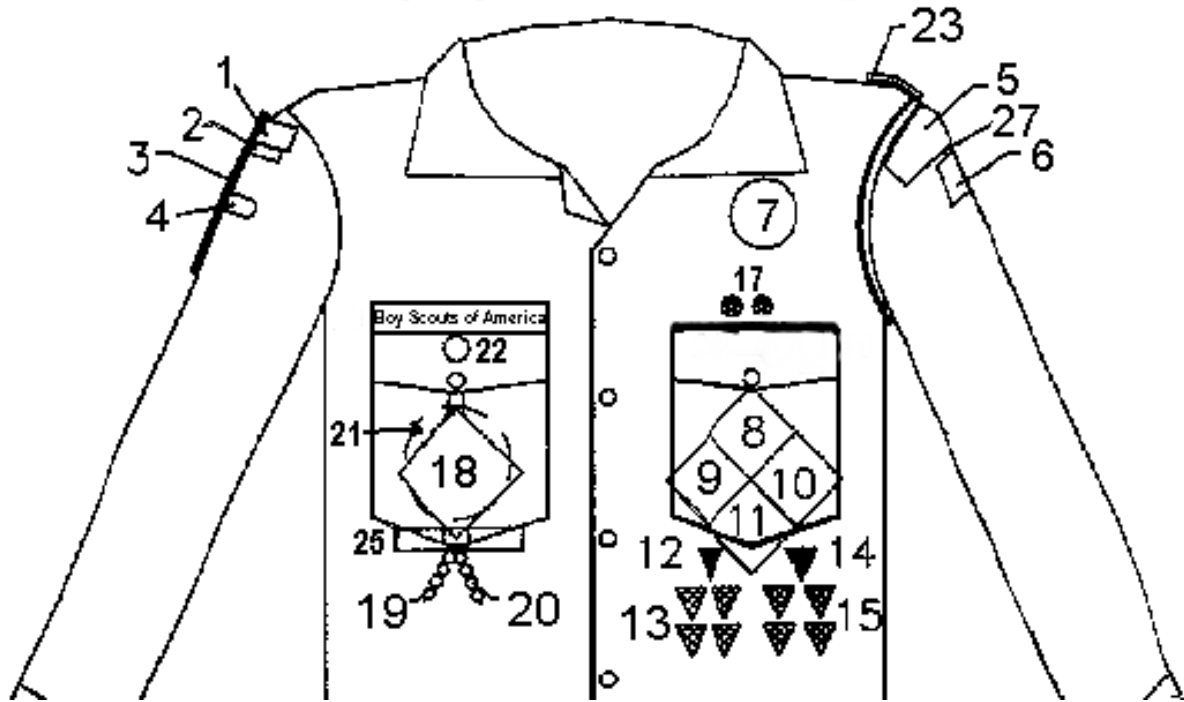
- Tiger, Wolf or Bear Handbook (the pack will provide a book for you)
- Blue Cub Scout Shirt with U.S. flag – [(short sleeve / long sleeve)]
- Seneca Waterways Patch
- Pack 54 (red and white numerals)
- Your son's Den Number Strip
- World Crest Emblem (purple patch with the fleur-de-lis symbol)
- Tiger (orange) Wolf (yellow) or Bear (blue) Cub Scout Neckerchief and Cub Scout Slide (provided)
- Official Tiger, Wolf or Bear Hat (optional)
- Cub Scout Web Belt And Buckle (Optional but highly recommended. These will fit the Belt Loop awards your Scout will earn)

Webelos

- Webelos Handbook (the pack will provide a book for you)
- *Tan Boy Scout Shirt with U.S. Flag - [(short sleeve / long sleeve)]
- Seneca Waterways Patch
- Pack 54 (red and white numerals)
- Your Den Number Strip
- World Crest Emblem (purple patch with the fleur-de-lis symbol)
- Checkered Webelos Neckerchief and Webelos Slide (provided)
- Blue Shoulder Loops (only for tan shirt)
- Official Webelos Hat (optional)
- Cub Scout Web Belt and Webelos Buckle (Optional but highly recommended. These will fit the Belt Loop awards your Scout will earn. The Webelos / Boy Scout green belt is wider and Belt Loops must be expanded to fit)
- Webelos Colors (provided). Activity Badge pins may be worn on the Webelos Hat or the Webelos Colors

*Note: A Webelos Scout may wear either the Blue or Tan shirt. If you are just signing on as a Webelos, it is recommended to purchase the Tan uniform since it can be reused when he becomes a Boy Scout.

Uniform Insignia Placement



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. American Flag (comes with uniform) 2. Den Number 3. Webelos Colors (optional) 4. Quality Unit Award (most recent only) 5. Council Emblem 6. Pack Numerals 7. World Crest 8. Bobcat Badge 9. Wolf Badge 10. Bear Badge 11. Tiger Badge (or Webelos badge on blueuniform) 12. Wolf Gold Arrow Point 13. Wolf Silver Arrow Points 14. Bear Gold Arrow Point 15. Bear Silver Arrow Points | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Tiger Cub Service Star 17. Cub Scout Service Star 18. Immediate Recognition Kit (available for Tigers also) 19. Wolf Beads (Yellow) 20. Bear Beads (Red) 21. Temporary Patch (or Webelos Compass Badge) 22. Summertime Pack Award 23. Denner Cords 24. (Not Shown) Arrow of Light – below left pocket 25. Recruiter Strip 26. (Not Shown). Oval Webelos Badge - Centered on left pocket under flap on tan uniform |
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A Brief Summary of Scouting and the Cub Scout Program

Mission of the Boy Scouts of America

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America 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 Law.

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 Law

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

Vision

The Boy Scouts of America is the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training.

In the future, as now, Scouting will continue to

- Offer young people responsible fun and adventure;
- Instill in young people lifetime values and develop in them ethical character as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law;
- Train young people in citizenship, service, and leadership;
- Serve America's communities and families with its quality, values-based program.

Scouting has been around a long time. Boy Scouting itself was the vision of Robert Baden-Powell, a British soldier and hero to his country. As a youth, Robert Baden-Powell greatly enjoyed the outdoors, learning about nature and how to live in the wilderness. After returning as a military hero from service in Africa, Baden-Powell discovered that English boys were reading the manual on stalking and survival in the wilderness he had written for British soldiers. Gathering ideas from Ernest Thompson Seton, Daniel Carter Beard, and others, he rewrote the manual as a nonmilitary nature skill book and called it Scouting for Boys. To test his ideas, Baden-Powell brought together 22 boys to camp at Brownsea Island, off the coast of England. This historic campout was a success and resulted in the advent of Scouting.

In 1909, Chicago publisher William D. Boyce lost his way in a dense London fog. A boy came to his aid and, after guiding the man, refused a tip, explaining that as a Scout he would not take a tip for doing a Good Turn. This gesture by an unknown Scout inspired a meeting with Robert Baden-Powell, the British founder of the Boy Scouts.

As a result of this chance meeting with an unknown scout, Boyce founded the Boy Scouts of America in 1910, which became federally chartered with the United States in 1916. Cub Scouts came into being in 1930. Millions of boys have worn the uniform, cooked over an open fire at a campsite, earned their Bobcat, raced their Pinewood Derby cars, worked on service projects, and made new friends under the umbrella of Scouting.

Flowing underneath all this fun and excitement is a character-building program that encourages making good ethical choices, family strengthening, physical fitness, and citizenship skills in the lives of our boys.

Scouting utilizes an advancement system that requires a boy to 'do his best' to fulfill and complete the requirements outlined in his handbook so that he may earn his rank badge. After receiving his badge, these Scouts can go on to earn other awards by completing a series of electives. Please keep in mind that although there are lots of awards and recognitions in Scouting, Pack 54 will strive towards the end that these are earned through significant, meaningful methods that your son will remember for a long time.

At the Tiger, Wolf, and Bear ranks, Cub Scouting centers around character traits that are presented in fun, appealing ways. During den meetings, the boys will be playing games, building craft projects, learning songs, etc. relating to this character connection. In doing so, these boys will be improving on different skills as they learn to get along with others, become more resourceful, and participate in new activities and venues.

At the Webelos and Arrow of Light levels, the boys are introduced to several diverse Activity Badges and, within the framework of their den, the boys work on completing these badges.

If you'll notice, there are Webelos (4th graders) and Arrow of Light (5th graders). At the first level, after earning their Webelos badge, the boys continue to earn additional activity badges and gain new knowledge and skills in these areas. During the Arrow of Light year, though maybe still earning Activity Badges, boys also begin focusing on completing other requirements for their Arrow of Light award and will be conducting activities with various Boy Scout Troops.

Pack 54 follows a 'Scout year' of September to June and upon nearing the end of the school term, all the boys 'cross over' into the next rank. During the summer, Den meeting work on achievements may be suspended as the Pack will meet monthly at fun outings such as a bowling derby, fishing derby, kite derby, baseball game, Pack swim, etc. that goes toward the boys earning their Summertime Award pin.

There are many, many events offered in Scouting. In addition to the events at Den meetings, Pack 54 will have family camping trips, Pinewood Derby races, a Blue and Gold dinner, and much more that's just for us in Pack 54.

In addition, there are District events, which unites us with hundreds of Scouts, and Council events that can have thousands of Scouts in attendance. Your participation at these functions will definitely add to your son's Scouting experience.

Thank you for taking the time to go over this handbook with your new Cub Scout! With your help, this will be an exciting, rewarding experience for you, your son, your family, and your Pack.

We're glad you've joined us! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Yours in Scouting,

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Helpful Scouting Links

Academic and Sports program requirements:

<http://usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/a-sindex.asp>

Seneca Waterways Council Home Page:

<http://www.senecawaterways.org/>

Pack 54 Home Page:

www.cubpack54.com

Helpful General Information:

www.scouting.com