

# CHAPTER 12

## Den Chief and Adult Ceremonies



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## Why Do We Recognize Den Chiefs and Adults?

Cub Scout packs would not be in operation if we didn't have adults and den chiefs involved in the program. When we have induction ceremonies, we are outlining the responsibilities of their positions and are letting them know that we appreciate their services. Often, these people will go beyond the regular service asked for and earn awards for their position. Let's not keep it a secret. Share the good news with the entire pack.

Also, saying "thank you" is something we learn. When adults plan ceremonies to recognize other adults and den chiefs, we are really teaching boys how to do this, too. You'll find fun ideas to use for den and adult appreciation in Chapter 3. Look for opportunities to let your volunteers know how much you appreciate their service.

### Den Chief Induction No. 1—Twisted Cord (For den chiefs who are members of a Boy Scout troop)

**Materials:** Two 4-foot lengths of rope made from yarn (one blue and one yellow), *Den Chief Handbook*, den chief shoulder cord

**NARRATOR:** Will Den [number or name], Den Chief [Name], and Den Leader [Name] please come forward. *(Pause.)*

Cub Scouts and friends of Pack [number], we wish to recognize a new leader who will serve as den chief of Den [number or name]. This blue rope (*hold up blue rope*) represents the Cub Scout pack with all its Scouts, leaders, and parents. It also represents the Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack. (*Hand the blue rope to a Cub Scout.*) This gold rope (*hold up gold rope*) represents the Scout troop and its leaders, the Scout Oath, and the Scout Law. (*Hand the gold rope to the den chief.*)

You will notice that each of these ropes is made from many strands, representing all the boys in the Cub Scout pack and Boy Scout troop. Let us bind together these two ropes into a bond of friendship. (*The Cub Scout and the den chief each grasp the end of the other's rope and twist in opposite directions.*)

You will now see that these ropes have become the symbol of the den chief's office—the den chief cord. (*The narrator takes the rope in his hands and holds it up.*) Den Leader [Name] will now present his symbol of office.

**DEN LEADER:** (*Places the cord on the den chief's left shoulder.*) We want to recognize the importance of the service you are giving by presenting you with this *Den Chief Handbook*. (*Presents the book and gives the den chief the Cub Scout handshake.*)

**NARRATOR:** Welcome to our pack, and thank you! (*The Cubmaster and the Cub Scouts in the den each give the den chief a Cub Scout handshake.*)

### Den Chief Induction No. 2 (For den chiefs who have been Cub Scouts)

**Materials:** Den chief cord

**NARRATOR:** Cub Scouting is different from Boy Scouting. Like Boy Scouting, there are games, crafts, advancements, and service projects. The biggest difference between the two programs is in the type of activities that we do. The person who knows these activities best is one who has been a Cub Scout.

It's the job of den chiefs to help lead den activities that will help boys achieve the purposes of Cub Scouting. Den chiefs set a good example by being both good leaders and friends. Not only do den chiefs participate in troop, patrol, and crew activities, they attend den chief training and den and pack meetings.

Tonight, we want to recognize those who will serve our pack as den chiefs. (*Call the names.*) Will you please make the Scout sign and repeat the den chief pledge after me:

I promise to help the Scouts in my den  
To the best of my ability;  
To encourage, guide, and protect them in  
den and pack activities,  
And to show them by my example  
What a good leader is.  
I will strive to be prompt and dependable  
And to cooperate with the leaders  
In carrying out the Cub Scout program.

Thank you for all you are doing for our pack! (*Present the den chief cord.*)

### Den Chief Induction No. 3

**Materials:** Den chief cord

**NARRATOR:** We have some new leaders here today whom we want to welcome into our pack. These leaders will be the activity assistants in the den. They will lead games, teach songs, help with ceremonies and skits, and bring special Scouting skills to the den. These new leaders are our den chiefs. (*Call the den chiefs forward.*)

These Boy Scouts [and/or Venturers] will not only serve as assistants in our dens and pack, they are also charged with the larger responsibility of serving as models for Cub Scouts. They are living examples of the Scout Oath and Law. They will be both teachers and friends to our Cub Scouts.

Den chiefs, please repeat after me:

I, [Name], promise to do my best  
To help the Cub Scouts of this pack  
To do their best.

Congratulations! We want to present you with your den chief cord. *(Have the den leader hand a cord to each den chief and give a Cub Scout handshake.)*

## Den Chief Service Award

**Preparation:** Have a Den Chief Service Award cord for the den chief. Arrange to have the Scoutmaster [or Venturing Advisor] attend the ceremony. If this award already has been presented at a Boy Scout troop meeting, the den chief can still be recognized at a pack meeting.

**NARRATOR:** Will the following people please come forward. *(Call the den chief, Scoutmaster [Venturing Advisor], and den leaders.)*

The Den Chief Award recognizes den chiefs, who lead and serve their dens for at least one year. This award emphasizes their key role within Scouting and compliments them for their important service. It is the den chief who brings the fun of Boy Scouting [and/or Venturing] to Cub Scouts and who helps bring eager Webelos Scouts into the Boy Scout troop.

Den Chief [Name], have you helped the Cub Scouts in your den to the best of your ability? *(Den chief responds "yes.")* Have you encouraged, guided, and protected them in den and pack activities? *(Den chief responds "yes.")* Have you shown them by example what a Boy Scout [Venturer] can be? *(Den chief responds "yes.")*

Pack [number] thanks and congratulates you for your part in the success of our pack. *(At this point, allow the Scoutmaster [Venturing Advisor] to make any comments.)*

Den leaders, do you have anything you would like to say? *(Allow them a minute to respond.)* At this time, we would like your den leader to place on your left shoulder your new service award cord. *(The den leader places the cord on the den chief's left shoulder.)*

Let's all show our appreciation for our den chief. *(Lead an appropriate applause.)*

## Den Leader Induction

**Materials:** Holder with five candles or lights

**NARRATOR:** Will the following people please come forward. *(Call the names of the new den leaders and Webelos leaders.)* Tonight, we have the honor of inducting our new den leaders.

*(Light the first candle or light.)* This light is the light of Scouting. Will one of you please light a second candle? *(Candle is lit.)* This light represents the first step in a boy's Cub Scout life, the Bobcat badge. For you, it's a symbol of your acceptance of your position and your promise to do your best to help these boys learn and grow in both mind and body. If you accept this responsibility, please give the Cub Scout sign and say, "I do." *(Pause for the leaders to respond.)*

Please light the third candle. *(Candle is lit.)* This is the symbol of the Wolf rank, the second step in a boy's progress. For you, it's the symbol of your promise to attend monthly Cub Scout roundtable meetings, where you will find help for projects and fun and games for your den. If you now pledge to attend roundtable each month, please give the Cub Scout sign and say, "I do." *(Pause for the leaders to respond.)*

Please light the next candle. *(The candle is lit.)* This is a symbol of the Bear badge and your promise to seek knowledge for your position at Cub Scout leader training. If you now promise to seek training, give the Cub Scout sign and say, "I do." *(Pause for the leaders to respond.)*

Please light the final candle. *(The candle is lit.)* This is the symbol of the Webelos Scout and your symbol for enthusiasm. Do you now promise to share your enthusiasm for Scouting with the boys in your den? *(Pause for the leaders to respond.)*

Congratulations! May you serve well the Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts in your dens.

## Cubmaster Induction

**Preparation:** Assemble a symbol for each quality listed below: a telephone, diploma, paper-cup megaphone, and walking stick. Present each to the Cubmaster during the ceremony. Each one can be symbolized with a cardstock cutout. The committee chair is assisted by committee members, den leaders, and parents.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR:** As you accept the responsibilities and challenges of the position of Cubmaster, we have some items that will help you succeed in your efforts.

**PERSON 1:** I want to present you "good communication," because communication will be at the root of your success. *(Present the telephone.)*

**PERSON 2:** I want to present you with "knowledge," beginning with your attendance at Cub Scout leader training. Your understanding of the Cub Scout program will ensure that we remember the purposes of Cub Scouting in everything we do. *(Present the diploma.)*

**PERSON 3:** I present you with "enthusiasm," because this will motivate you and the adults and boys in our pack. *(Present the paper-cup megaphone.)*

**PERSON 4:** I present you with "support," which represents the assistance you will receive from each family in our pack. *(Present the walking stick.)*

**COMMITTEE CHAIR:** As our unit leader, you are the guiding hand behind other pack leaders and serve as program adviser to the pack committee. You are a recruiter, a supervisor, a director, a planner, and a motivator of other leaders. But beyond all this, your most important task is to make sure that what we are doing is in the best interest of the boys in our pack. Thank you for taking on this rewarding challenge.

## Pack Leaders and Pack Committee Induction

CHARTERED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE: It takes many people with lots of different talents working together to make our pack go. Will the following people please come forward. (*Call the title and names of the pack committee chair; the pack committee members, the Cubmaster; the assistant Cubmasters, the den leaders, the assistant den leaders, the pack trainer, and the den chiefs.*)

These people have accepted the challenge and responsibility of working with the boys and parents in our pack this year to achieve the aims of Scouting. These aims are building character, citizenship, and personal fitness in our boys.

Do you accept the challenges and responsibilities in assuming your position? (*Pause for the response.*) Will you attend Cub Scout Leader Basic Training, pow wow, and Cub Scout roundtables so that the knowledge you find there can help make our pack meet the aims and purposes of Cub Scouting? (*Pause for the response.*)

Let's all pledge to work with them in achieving this goal. Please stand, make the Cub Scout sign, and say the Cub Scout Promise together.

## Den Leaders Recognition

**Preparation:** Make a special award or certificate for each leader. (See Chapter 3 for ideas.)

NARRATOR: Den leaders are regular people, just like you and me. They give a special gift to our children: their time. They attend training, attend Cub Scout roundtable meetings, plan den meetings, meet with other pack leaders, watch for new ideas, call parents, and play with our boys. The time that they spend helps mold our Cub Scouts into the type of men we wish them to become—responsible people who are strong in mind and character.

We want the best for our children. Tonight, we wish to thank those who have given their best. Will the following special people please come forward. (*Call the names of the den leaders and present each one with a special certificate or award.*)

## Cubmaster Recognition

**Preparation:** Make a special award or certificate. (See Chapter 3 for ideas.)

NARRATOR: Cub Scouts learn that Akela means leader. They honor Akela by listening to that person and following that person. One person who represents Akela to us is our Cubmaster. We listen to our leader's words and fol-

low the Cubmaster's example of service. Our Cubmaster is enthusiastic and idealistic and tries to set the example by living these ideals. The question the Cubmaster uses as a guideline is, "What is best for the boys?"

We want to honor Akela tonight and thank our Cubmaster for guidance and inspiration. (*Present a special certificate or award.*)

## Appreciation for Service

**Materials:** A certificate and a "Nice Job" pin

NARRATOR: Today, we would like to honor someone in our pack who has shown unselfish service by (*list the unselfish service*). Will [Name] please come forward. (*Pause.*)

On behalf of our pack committee and chartered organization, I would like to present to you this certificate of appreciation for your service as (*list the role this person assumed*). (*Present the certificate.*) We also want to present you with a pin that can be worn only by those who have served Scouting in an extra special way. We feel you should have this pin in recognition of your service to our pack. (*Present the pin.*)

Please join me in showing an expression of our appreciation. (*Lead an appropriate applause.*)

## Leader Training—The Pack Helps the Cub Scout Grow

**Materials:** A yardstick with a drawing of a Cub Scout mounted on the top and yellow and blue marking pens

NARRATOR: Today, we will be recognizing some of our leaders for helping our pack grow. Would the following leaders please come forward? (*Call the names.*)

The Law of the Pack guides us all. One of the lines in the Law of the Pack says, "The pack helps the Cub Scout grow." These pack leaders are helping our Cub Scouts grow by taking extra time to learn about the Cub Scout program and things we can do in our dens and pack. (*Make comments about the training event that they have attended, such as Cub Scout Leader Basic Training, pow wow, den chief training conference, or Wood Badge.*)

Tonight, we are marking this growth with an inch for each training. (*Have leaders mark yardstick with alternating stripes of blue and gold.*) Please stand and join these leaders in saying the Law of the Pack. (*All give Cub Scout sign and say the Law of the Pack together.*)

Let's show our appreciation of these leaders. (*Lead an appropriate applause.*)

## Leader Training Awards

**Materials:** A small toy car or drawing of one for each leader (or present a flower)

COMMITTEE CHAIR OR CUBMASTER: Every month at our pack meeting, we recognize the Cub Scouts who receive awards. Today, we would like to recognize a leader who has received a special award. Will [Name] please come forward.

To receive this award, a leader must be trained, participate in special extra training, work as a leader in that position for a given period of time, and do several other requirements. It sounds like a lot of work, and it is, but

this leader has had as much fun earning this recognition as you Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts do while earning yours.

[Name] has earned the *(read the name of the recognition award earned)*. He/she has received a certificate and a special square knot to wear on the uniform. As Akela, you have really helped our pack go and our Cub Scouts grow *(add "and our district glow," if appropriate)*.

We would like to present this special symbol of our thanks. *(Present the recognition item from the pack.)* Congratulations, and thank you again for all your hard work.

