

ORGANIZATION OF CUB SCOUTING

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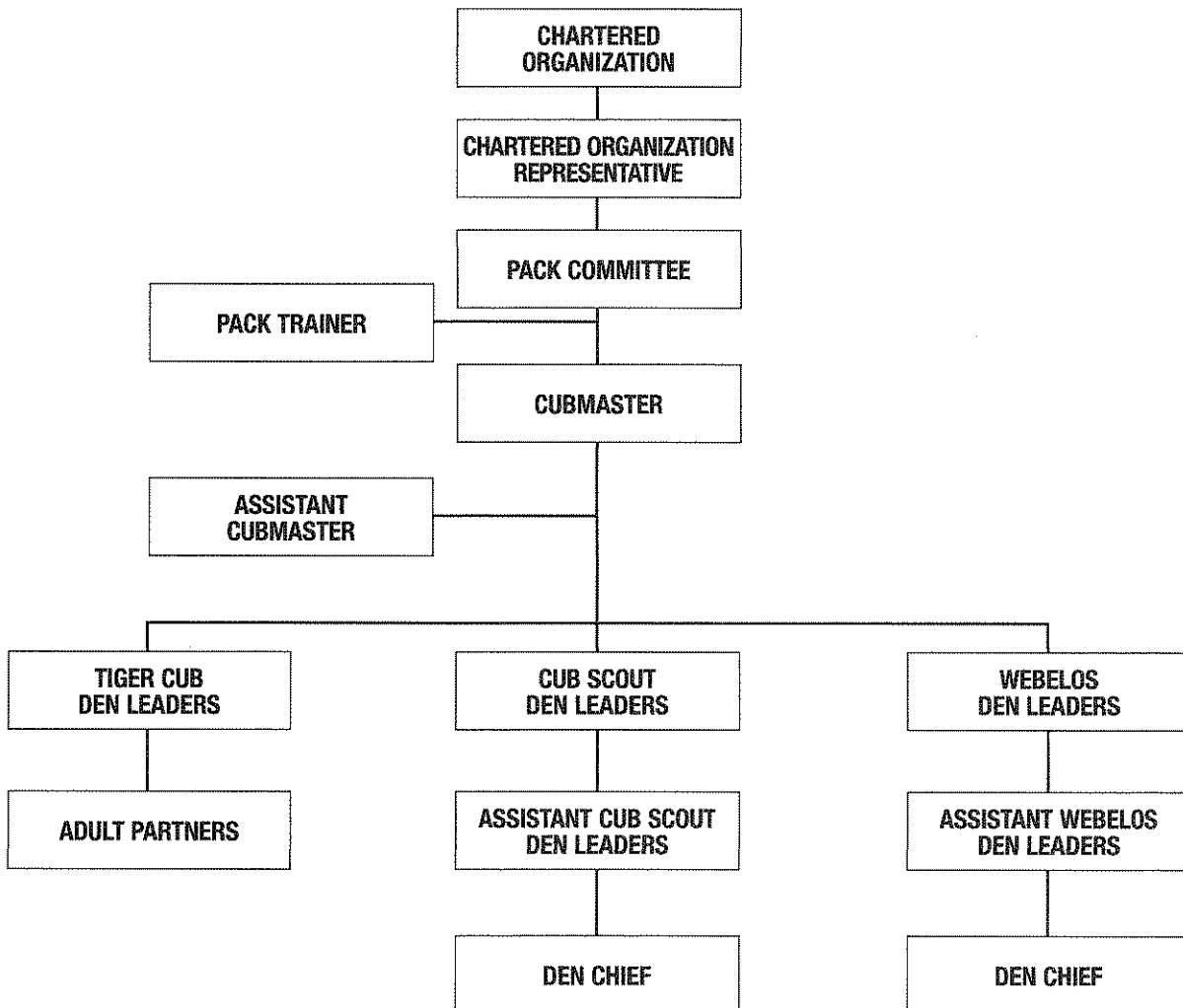
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PACK ORGANIZATION CHART



INTRODUCTION

All Cub Scout packs are registered with the Boy Scouts of America and are part of the worldwide brotherhood of Scouting. Each pack belongs to a chartered organization, and families are an important part of that chartered organization.

This chapter gives a general overview of the organization of Cub Scouting. Detailed information on leadership, relationships, and planning are located in the “Leaders” section, Chapters 23–28 of this book.

THE CHARTERED ORGANIZATION

Every Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop, Varsity Scout team, and Venturing crew belongs to an organization with interests similar to those of the BSA. This organization, which might be a religious organization, school, community organization, or group of interested citizens, is chartered by the BSA to use the Scouting program. This chartered organization provides a suitable meeting place, adult leadership, supervision, and opportunities for a healthy Scouting life for the boys under its care.

A member of the organization, the *chartered organization representative*, acts as liaison between the pack and the organization.

THE CUB SCOUT PACK

The Scouting unit that conducts Cub Scouting for the chartered organization is called a *pack*. The pack is a group made up of several *dens*—Tiger Cub, Cub Scout, and Webelos Scout dens (see below). Most packs have dens for each grade level. The pack includes not only the boys in the dens but also their families and leaders.

Most packs meet once a month, usually in a room provided by the chartered organization. Summer pack meetings or activities are often held outdoors. Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, leaders, parents, and other family members attend the pack meetings. The *pack meeting* is the pinnacle of the month’s den meetings and activities. It provides a place for dens to showcase their skills and projects. It also provides opportunities for parents and families to be involved with their boys, and it is a chance to recognize boys, parents, and leaders.

The pack meeting program includes opening and closing ceremonies, recognition of boys who have earned awards, presentation of skits and stunts by dens, and exhibits of things the boys have made at home and at den meetings during the month. The pack meeting is planned around a monthly theme and is led by the Cubmaster, with the help of other adult pack leaders.

In addition to regular pack meetings, occasionally the pack may take field trips and conduct service projects or money-earning activities. During the summer, the pack might conduct outdoor activities such as a swimming party, a family picnic, or various outdoor sports.

Important to the successful operation of the pack is the *pack committee*, a group of adults who manage such things as record keeping, finances, leadership, training, and registration.

THE CUB SCOUT DEN

A den is a group of six to eight boys within the pack, usually at the same grade level, that meets several times a month between pack meetings. The den organization allows boys to build relationships with leaders and other boys. The den provides opportunities for activities that would be difficult with a large group. The den also provides leadership opportunities for the boys.

Tiger Cubs, with their adult partners, who may be parents or other adults, work together to do family activities. A Tiger Cub den leader gives leadership to the Tiger Cub dens, with the assistance of the adult partners. Den meeting activities, which should include participation of the adult partner, are planned around the monthly theme. Activities might include playing games, making handicrafts, taking field trips, and practicing simple skits or songs in preparation for the next pack meeting. At the end of the school year, in May or June, the Tiger Cubs graduate and become part of a Wolf Cub Scout den.

Wolf and Bear Cub Scout den meetings are planned and run by an adult den leader, with the help of an assistant den leader and den chief. Den meeting activities are planned around the monthly theme and include playing games, making handicrafts, taking hikes and pursuing other outdoor fun, practicing skits and stunts in preparation for the next pack meeting, and taking part in simple ceremonies and songs. Sometimes, work on advancement requirements is included. When Bear Cub Scouts have completed third grade (or reached age 10), they may become Webelos Scouts.

Webelos Scout dens have a different program from that of Wolf and Bear Cub Scout dens. Webelos Scouts work on activity badges in one of 20 different interest areas at each of the den meetings. Den meetings also include games, songs, stunts, preparation for the Webelos den’s part in the pack meeting, and work on other advancement requirements. In addition, Webelos Scouts have opportunities for overnight campouts and joint activities with a Boy Scout troop. One of the purposes of the Webelos den is to prepare boys for Boy Scouts and to graduate them into a troop.

SCOUTING SUPPORTS YOUR PACK

Through Your Council

Your council is a voluntary association of citizens, including chartered organization representatives, who implement the Scouting program within a specific geographic area. Self-financed, the council is governed by the *Charter and Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America*.

Your council provides service, leadership, management, and overall direction to districts and the organizations using the Scouting program in support of their Scouting units (Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, Varsity Scout teams, Venturing crews). It is important to remember that the council is the administrative body for all Scouting units.

The council employs professional Scouters who serve as advisers and provide guidance to volunteer leaders. Scouting is a volunteer movement with professional guidance.

Packs may have occasion to participate in district and councilwide activities such as Scouting shows, Cub Scout day camp and resident camp, recognition dinners for adults, and the pow wow or University of Scouting, a training event for adult leaders.

Through Your District

The council is divided geographically into districts. The supervision of Scouting in each district is carried out by the council through a volunteer district committee and commissioner staff. The purpose of your district is to work with chartered organizations to organize and support successful units.

This support includes

- Training adult leaders
- Planning district activities
- Obtaining financial support
- Providing commissioner service

With effective district support, more and more youth members receive a better Scouting program as both units and leaders succeed in achieving Scouting's aims.

Through the National Office

The BSA operates under a federal charter granted by the U.S. Congress in 1916.

This charter calls for the Boy Scouts of America "to promote, through organization, and cooperation with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred virtues."

Since 1910, nearly 90 million boys and adults have joined the BSA.

The national organization makes available to members, for purchase, uniforms and insignia, equipment, literature, and program and training materials. Furthermore, *Scouting* and *Boys' Life* magazines are provided as program aids and a method of keeping leaders informed about and updated on the Scouting program.

Through World Brotherhood

We become part of the international brotherhood of Scouting when we become a member of the BSA. This brotherhood unites us with more than 25 million individuals from nearly 150 member associations around the world. All associations share the same aims and principles and strive for the same goal of preparing boys for adulthood in today's world. Although there may be some differences in program administration, the entire Scouting movement shares the same basic aims of character development, citizenship training, and fitness.

Opportunities to learn more about members of Scouting throughout the world are provided in Cub Scout monthly themes, World Conservation Award projects, exchange programs, friendship tours, and the requirements for earning the Webelos Citizen activity badge.

Thousands of Scouts from many nations camp together about every four years at a world jamboree in the cause of world friendship. Such friendships overcome barriers of language and differences in customs, race, and religion, making Scouting relevant to world brotherhood.

The BSA supports Scouting around the world through the World Friendship Fund. Through this fund, assistance is given to the world Scouting movement through

- Scholarships for leaders
- Training equipment
- Uniforms
- Insignia
- Program materials
- Camping gear
- Translation of BSA literature into other languages



Your pack or den can help, thus fulfilling one part of the Cub Scout Promise—to do your best to help other people—and you'll be providing the opportunity for a world brotherhood Good Turn. For more information on the World Friendship Fund, contact your local council service center.

COUNCIL AND DISTRICT ORGANIZATION CHART

