

Pack

19

Information Handbook



Welcome!



Cub Scout Pack 19 would like to welcome your family to Cub Scouting and the Old North State Council!

You and your son are in for an exciting adventure. This Pack guide to Cub Scouting is intended to be your introduction to the Scouting experience. It will provide you with basic information you need to get your son off to a great start in Scouting.

Pack 19 has been a part of the Archdale, NC community for about 40 years. It continues to thrive due to the dedication of its volunteer leaders and parents like you! We all believe that Scouting is an important part of the physical, mental, and spiritual development of our boys.

We hope you and your son will enjoy a long relationship in the Scouting family. Our best advice to you is to get involved with your son in as many aspects of Scouting as you can. He needs you very much at this point in his life and you will enjoy the experience of Cub Scouting along with him. Whether you volunteer to be a leader, help in another fashion, or simply work with your son at home, you ARE a key to his Scouting experience.

Basic Terms you'll need to know

Den - A group of 6-8 boys of the same grade. Dens meet weekly, except for the weeks of the pack meeting and ceremony night, referred to as "Pack Night", which is the last Monday of each month. During Den meetings they work on rank advancement (badges), character development, social and physical skills and activity projects.

Den Leader - The primary leader of your son's den. All dens have "two deep" leadership; this means that each den will have at least two registered leaders at every meeting. Program ideas are easily available from the Boy Scouts of America to make this the best "job" in Scouting. Other parent participation is necessary for Den meetings to occur. Enjoy your turn! All Leaders must pass a criminal background check and be approved by BSA.

Pack - The whole group, all the Dens and their families. Each month the Pack gets together in a Pack Meeting to share information, recognize achievements, perform skits, songs and demonstrations. We also have Ceremonies, where the boys are recognized for their rank advancements.

Cubmaster - The Cubmaster leads the pack and the pack meetings. He or she is a primary source of information for the group and will be able to answer most of your questions. Our Cubmaster for the 2010-11 year is Arch Hamilton. The Cubmaster can be contacted via archham@gmail.com (cell number is 336-707-5946)

Chartered Organization -- This is the community group that provides the Scouting program under their own leadership as a service to children, youth, and families. Pack 19's chartered organization is **Archdale United Methodist Church**.

Pack Committee- A group of interested parents, leaders and members of the Chartered Organization. It meets monthly to plan Pack activities and events such as fundraising, outings, camping trips, banquets, derbies and service projects. Please attend if you can. The meetings will be announced to the entire Pack and generally are on a Thursday night at 7 PM for about an hour.

The committee selects leadership, performs record keeping, manages pack finances, keeps advancement records, and helps train and support leaders.

Council – You and your son are joining the **Old North State Council** of the Boy Scouts of America. A council is a geographic area, divided into districts that provide services to local packs. The Council Service Center is in Greensboro.
<http://www.bsaonsc.org/>

District – A district is a sub-division of the council and helps deliver service to packs. You will find several district volunteers working with your pack’s leadership as well as a District Executive, who is a full-time professional Scouter. Pack 19 is in the **Akela District**.

The Programs

Your son’s grade level in school will determine what program he joins.

Bobcat



Every Scout, first grade through fifth grade, earns the Bobcat badge upon joining. They learn the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack, handshake, salute, sign, motto and the meaning of “Webelos.” After receiving the Bobcat Badge, the boy works on requirements based on his grade level.

Tiger Cubs (First Grade):



In the Tiger Cub program, an Adult Partner (a parent, grandparent, or other guardian) **always** accompanies each boy. They will be **partners** throughout the year.

The Tiger Den Meets at least twice per month in a den meeting, and has one outing a month, called a Go See It. The den also takes part in the monthly pack meetings.

Wolves (2nd Graders)



In the Wolf program, completion of achievements in the Wolf handbook leads to earning the Wolf badge and Arrow Points (for extra activities). Arrow Points can be worked on during the entire year, but cannot be awarded until the Wolf badge has been earned. All activities in the Wolf handbook have been designed to be age appropriate and to meet a variety of interests. The handbook includes many activities that are family oriented. Your son will need your assistance to earn this rank.

Completion of this badge earns the right for the Scout to wear the Wolf patch on his uniform. At the end of the Scouting year, in May, the Wolf scouts will graduate into a Bear den.

Bears (3rd Graders)



In the Bear program, completion of achievements in the Bear handbook leads to earning the Bear badge (and Arrow Points for extra activities). Arrow Points can be worked on during the entire year, but cannot be awarded until the Bear badge has been earned. Bear handbook provides many activities that are family oriented as well as a number that coincides with the local school curriculum. Your son will need your assistance to earn this rank.

Completion of this badge earns the right for the Scout to wear the Bear patch on his uniform at the end of the Scout year (in May), Bears graduate into a Webelos den.

Webelos (4th and 5th Graders)



Webelos stands for **We'll Be Loyal Scouts**. It is a transition program between Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. In the First-Year Webelos program, the boys work on their Webelos badge. Additional achievements beyond the Webelos badge earn the Compass Emblem and "Compass Points". The Second-Year Webelos work on the Arrow of Light award.

The Arrow of Light is the highest award that a Cub Scout can earn and is the only Cub Scout rank that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform.

Arrow of Light



When a boy earns the Arrow of Light or reaches 11 years of age, or is near completion of the fifth grade, he may graduate from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting in an impressive graduation ceremony. It is our desire to see every boy who joins graduate into a Boy Scout Troop.

Den and Pack Meetings



All dens in Pack 19 meet from 7 to 8 pm Monday evening's at Archdale United Methodist Church. Each den is assigned a specific room for the year. Occasionally a den may decide to hold a meeting offsite for a specific event.

Den Meetings are held weekly and provide your son with opportunities to enjoy various planned activities (leading to rank advancement), learn new skills, and have great fun. While parental attendance is not required at Den Meetings (except for Tiger Cubs), it is certainly encouraged! Some Dens will require parent participation at specific meetings. Please keep in touch with your son's Den Leader so that you will know what activities are taking place and can track the progress your son is making.

Please arrive on time for all meetings and remember to pick your son up promptly at the end of the scheduled meeting time. For the safety of our Scouts, we cannot let them wait for you outside. We ask you to please come to your child's den room to get your son. Leaders are required to stay with your Scout until you pick him up. This is a good opportunity for you to take a few minutes and talk to your son's Den Leader. Your promptness will help keep these volunteers from being inconvenienced!

The last Monday each month all Dens meet together in the main Sanctuary of the Church for a **Pack Night**, which all Cub Scouts and their families are encouraged to attend. It begins at 7:00 pm and is usually completed by 8:00pm. The Pack Meeting is a fun time for everyone. Dens show off the projects they have been working on, lead songs, perform skits and recognize the achievements of the Scouts. It is also a time for the family to get information on upcoming activities and share in the Scouting spirit. There will be a Pack newsletter available at the Pack meeting. Be sure to attend and join in the excitement while watching your son advance!

The Advancement Plan

The responsibility for a boy's advancement in Cub Scouting lies with the family, and not with the pack. Some advancement requirements are done at den meetings, but many are completed at home with the family.

Teachers and other educational authorities have long known the benefits of visual demonstrations. Learning occurs faster and easier when the student sees the lesson being performed in addition to reading about it in a book. Cub Scouting is therefore full of fun *hands-on* learning. As a parent, much of what your son will do is "old hat" to you. You will be his expert. Remember, for him it is often the first time. Share your knowledge and enjoy the excitement.

The single biggest factor in determining whether your son continues in Scouting and eventually earns the Eagle rank is your level of interest and involvement as a parent. Encouragement and positive reinforcement works wonders!!

Advancement is a good indicator of how much a Scout is participating in the program and how successful he has been in learning the new things that the program offers. As a parent, you will see ups and downs over your son's Scouting career with an occasional lack of interest. This is **normal**; especially with all of the activities youngsters are involved with these days, such as sports programs and video games. Please encourage your son and help motivate him to hang in there and earn his advancement.

Don't let a sports season end a Scouting career. We realize how important sports and other seasonal or short-term activities are to the boys and their families. Please try to participate as often as you can, even if you have to show up late and in your soccer uniform! And plan to get back into the swing of things as soon as you can. Our leaders will be happy to help your son get caught up with the rest of the Den.

Your Den Leader will try to let you know what the Den will be doing each week in advance. If you are unable to attend a Den meeting, consider doing the same activity with your son on some other night so that he will not feel as though he is dropping behind the other Scouts in his Den.

If you are concerned about the quality of any aspect of the program or about your son's loss of interest in the program, please talk with his Den Leader or Cubmaster right away. Scouting is the best youth program anywhere, but like anything worthwhile, it takes commitment from everyone involved. You only get out of the program what you are willing to put in. Your son cannot benefit at all from Scouting if he drops out!

If your son has not finished his current badge of rank by the last meeting in May, he may continue to work through the summer towards completing it even though he has graduated to the next Den level. However, he may not continue to work on this badge if he has not completed it by the first Pack Meeting of the next Scout year.

Available Special Programs (Ask the Cubmaster for details)

Religious Award

This program is designed to recognize Cub Scouts who demonstrate faith, observe the creeds or principles of faith and give service as listed in the booklet for their faith. Cubs Scouts can work with their own religious leaders and receive the award from their own religious group. Generally these begin at the Wolf level.

Popcorn Sales

Many packs raise their funds through the Old North State Council Popcorn sale. This fall-fundraiser is Pack 19's main source of operating revenue and the Pack relies heavily on the funds generated by this fundraiser. The money is used to pay for the Pack's expenses such as advancement awards, camp participation, etc. Each boy can earn prizes while selling a terrific product.

Pinewood Derby

A parent/son project in which the team builds a race car made from a block of wood. Cars race at the pack and, in some cases, district level. We also allow siblings and parents to build their own cars and race in separate classes. This is a big event for us and exciting for the boys and their families.

Blue and Gold Banquet

It's a celebration for the birthday of Cub Scouting. This event is held at the February Pack Night and we typically have a covered dish supper and a guest speaker.

Scouting for Food

Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts in the Old North State Council participate in a canned food drive to benefit local food pantries. This is typically held in February each year.

Day Camp

This exciting summer activity includes crafts, games, nature, sports, songs and skits. It is inspected locally to meet 68 national standards for safety set by the Boy Scouts of America. This camp is typically in June of each year at City Lake Park- details will be provided

Webelos Camp

Held each summer for rising Webelos I (4th graders) and Webelos II (5th graders), the camp runs from Sunday to Wednesday night at Woodfield Scout Preservation. At this camp, the boys learn many skills and get a head start on their advancement to the Arrow Of Light award.

Boy's Life Magazine

Is an official publication of the Boy Scouts of America and is written in three demographic versions. Your son will receive a copy written at the Cub Scout level. Interesting features include Scouting topics, sports, hobbies, magic, science and U.S. history. There are also jokes, comic and short stories.

Camping

Camping is permitted by Cub Scouts only in an age-appropriate context and is considered "family camping". The entire family is welcome to all Cub camping experiences, such as the annual Family Campout in the fall of each Scout year. Scouts must have an adult family member with them at all times when camping. If your Scout wishes to attend only the daytime activities of a Family Campout you must make prior arrangements with another adult to take responsibility for your son if you cannot stay with him. You will need to fill out a permission slip for your son with all of the necessary emergency information included.

Please do not ask the Den Leader to take responsibility for your son. It is not possible for the Den Leader to conduct the den program, watch their own children, and be responsible for your child.

We will schedule other camping trips & excursions throughout the year. All camping areas must be BSA approved and will have running water, available restrooms, etc.

Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco Use

Illegal drugs and alcohol are not allowed at any Scouting activity and persons under the influence of drugs or alcohol are not allowed to participate or be present at any Scouting functions. Any violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from the event and possible intervention by law enforcement agents.

Scouting provides a tobacco-free environment for the boys and smoking is not allowed in the presence of the Scouts. If you must smoke or use tobacco products, please do so outside and out-of-sight of the boys and always remember to keep the area free of cigarette butts and trash.

Knives & Firearms

No fixed-blade sheath knives are allowed on any Scout activity. A Cub Scout can only carry a pocket knife once he has learned the safety rules for using a knife and earns his Whittlin' Chip card in the Bear Den or Webelos Den. Knives can then only be used under direct adult supervision. If a Scout is found handling his knife improperly, it will be taken away from him and given to the parents.



Archery equipment, air rifles and B-B guns are not allowed in the Cub Scout program except under stringent supervision by a trained adult on a safe firing range. Pistols are not allowed. Firearms are not allowed except under certain demonstration conditions and can only be handled by qualified adults. Use of firearms by Cubs is not allowed. See national BSA Health and Safety standards for details.

Aquatic Activities

All aquatic activities must be supervised by trained, qualified adults while strictly following the BSA's Safe Swim Defense Plan for swimming activities and Safety Afloat Plan for boating. There are no exceptions. See national BSA Health and Safety standards for details.

Buddy System

Pack 19 requires the use of the “Buddy System” whenever a scout is outside of the Den meeting room. This includes trips to the bathrooms, during outside building activities, field trips, camping, etc. A Scout should never go anywhere alone.

Guide to Safe Scouting

Our Pack adheres to the principles found in the BSA publication “Guide to Safe Scouting” that is updated yearly.

If, at anytime you have concerns about safety please contact the Den Leader or Cubmaster immediately.

Discipline

It is important that discipline is maintained at both the Den and Pack level. The Den Leaders have direct responsibility for maintaining the discipline of the boys in their Den.

Please take the time to discuss the importance of not disrupting Den and Pack meetings with your son.

If a boy becomes a discipline problem that the Den Leader cannot handle, the Cubmaster will be informed and a parent / leader meeting will be held to discuss the problem and possible action. Please help your Scout "Do His Best".

Scout Sign



Cub Scouts learn the "Scout Sign" very early. (With your right hand facing away from you, extend your index and middle fingers to form a "V" and curl the remaining fingers into the palm of the hand.) The Scout Sign has a very important use during Den and Pack meetings. Whenever a Leader puts the Scout Sign up, the Scouts, parents, and other Leaders are expected to become quiet and also put the 'sign up'. This allows the Leaders to bring a room to order very quickly, without having to say a word. Please make sure that your son understands how to behave when the 'sign's up'.

Respect

Please Show Respect for our meeting place, Archdale United Methodist Church

We are blessed to have the support of the church leadership and we are proud to be associated with this church in our community. We have a tradition of respecting others' property and do not wish to reflect negatively on Scouting or on Archdale United Methodist Church.

We understand that "boys will be boys" and outbursts of enthusiasm will occur from time to time. However, there will most likely be other groups meeting in the building at the same time we are meeting, so please try to be reasonably quiet and polite to them. We are guests in this building! Please avoid running and yelling in the halls and do your best to keep everything neat and clean.

We always provide all of our own materials for our programs, so there should never be any need to use any of the church's materials found in the classrooms. Please leave the classrooms and other facilities set up the way you found them, or even neater!

How can you help?

You can volunteer! Don't be afraid of that word. Scouting is a **completely volunteer** run organization with lots of places to help out. We're all busy and parental help is needed. Whether you take on the role of Den Leader or simply bring glue sticks to a den meeting, there is a need for your participation. Find an area that you like and think you can fit in ... and say "yes."

Types of parent involvement opportunities available in most packs

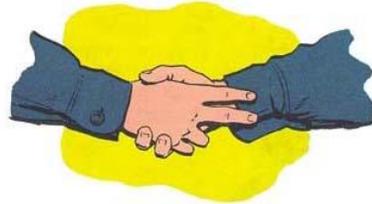
- Den Leader or Co-Den Leader
- Parent Helper in the den
- Parent Volunteer with Pack events
- Pack Committee member
- Awards/Advancement Committee

- Derby Planner
- Scouting for Food Planner
- Blue and Gold Banquet Coordinator
- Friends of Scouting Coordinator
- Popcorn Sale Coordinator
- Cub Camping Coordinator
- Newsletter Committee
- Treasurer
- Pack Trainer

What do you receive in return?

Being a volunteer in Scouting is fun and challenging, but also very rewarding. Volunteers find that their experiences help them become better parents and allow them to have a greater impact on their children's lives and the lives of others in the community. The following are some of the many rewards that will enrich your life as you dedicate the time, talent and enthusiasm that you are able to dedicate to your son's Scouting program:

- Fun and fellowship with other parents as you share your time and your pride in the boys' accomplishments.
- The privilege of helping enrich and strengthen other families.
- A chance to help your son and others to learn good citizenship and shape them into men who have strength and character and are sensitive to the needs of others.
- The opportunity to influence the children your son spends time with.
- A code to live by which will set a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.
- The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and pride in being publicly identified as a member of the Boy Scouts of America – an organization that is nearly 5 million members strong.



What Does My Son Need to Get Started?

- **Pack Dues**--He'll need you to pay the pack Fall registration dues which include the BSA Registration fee and a subscription to *Boy's Life Magazine*.
- **Handbook**--He'll need the handbook appropriate to his grade (these generally cost under \$8.00.) Owning a copy of the handbook for their rank is important. The book provides the requirements for each activity and a place to record progress. Each Scout is expected to own a copy of the handbook appropriate for their rank and to bring the handbook to each Den meeting.

Scouts should write their names in permanent ink on the title page (inside the book) in the space provided for this purpose.

- **Uniform**-- The Boy Scouts of America is a uniformed organization. We encourage you to acquire a uniform for your



son at least by the time of the October Pack meeting so that he may proudly wear his Bobcat badge and other awards on it.

BSA has many reasons for requiring uniforms. Among them are quick identification of the group, providing a place to display emblems representing hard work by the Scouts, and to foster a sense of brotherhood and pride.

We realize that uniforms can be expensive, so we suggest you start with the shirt and encourage grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. to purchase Scouting uniform parts, equipment etc. as gifts throughout the year.

Pack 19's uniform is the official uniform designated by the Boy Scouts of America. An official uniform (including the BSA shirt, hat, neckerchief, emblems, and so on) is known as a "**Class A**" uniform (i.e., a dress uniform).

All scouts must be neat in appearance while in Scout uniform. This means shirts must be buttoned appropriately and tucked in. Hats are to be removed while indoors.

Occasionally, it is appropriate that Scouts do not wear their "Class A" uniform, but still be quickly recognizable as Scouts. (For example, while playing outdoor games or while on a hike). In these cases, Scouts may wear an optional "**Class B**" uniform consisting of blue jeans or shorts, and the Pack's printed T-shirt and their Cub Scout hat.

The official Scout uniform for Pack 19 is:

- Blue shirt – for Cub Scouts & Tiger Cubs
- Tan shirt – for Webelos Scouts
- Ball cap – appropriate to his grade
- Neckerchief – appropriate to his grade
- Neckerchief slide – holds the neckerchief together. Use a rubber band around the side to hold it in place so the boys will not lose it.
- Scout pants – blue for Cubs, olive for Webelos (OPTIONAL)

Uniform items that are easily removable (such as hats, neckerchiefs, and neckerchief slides) should be marked permanently with the scout's name or initials so that lost items can be returned to their owner.

The uniforms also sport an assortment of emblems that identify the Scout's council, pack, rank, and certain accomplishments. Many of these emblems are described in detail within the book for each rank.

Important note-there is a uniform insignia guide located in all the Cub Scout Handbooks and one can also be found on the Pack's website. **Please ensure that your Scout is wearing his uniform properly.**

The Scout Shop can help you and your boy with choosing the right uniform in the correct size.

Old North State Service Center/Scout Shop

1405 Westover Terrace
Greensboro, NC 27408
(336) 378-9166 Fax: (336) 378-9169

District and Council Information

Pack 19 is in the Akela District of Old North State Council.

Old North State Council,
Boy Scouts of America
P.O. Box 29046
1405 Westover Terrace
Greensboro, NC 27408
336-378-9166
800-367-9166
Fax: 336-378-9169

Council website:

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

District website:

http://www.bsaonsc.org/akela_district.htm

Pack 19 Leader Information

Cubmaster	Arch Hamilton archham@gmail.com Cell: 336-707-5946
Tiger Den Leader	Charles Cardwell ccardwell20@yahoo.com Cell: 336-471-2951
Asst. Tiger Den Leader	Arch Hamilton archham@gmail.com Cell: 336-707-5946
Wolf Den Leader	Sherry Edinger sedinger@triad.rr.com Cell: 336-259-0235
Bear Den Leader	Darin Tucker dtucker004@triad.rr.com Cell: 336-442-8700
Bear Den Leader	David Dulin Cell: 336-404-2340
Webelos Den Leader	Paul Hoffman rangerpaulhoff@aol.com Cell: 336-302-3097

Last but not least...

Website

To find more information about Pack 19 you can visit our website at

<http://www.pack19.archdaleumc.com>

Pack 19 uses the website as one way of communicating information to members and families. On this site you can register for email/text updates – our way of notifying the Pack with event reminders, etc.

You can also follow us on **Facebook!** Just search for “BSA Pack 19 Archdale United Methodist Church”