

Cub Scout Program - Organizational Structure

DEN - Each Cub Scout belongs to a den. The dens are organized by school grade level as follows:

- 1st grade - Tigers
- 2nd grade - Wolves
- 3rd grade - Bears
- 4th grade - 1st-year Webelos
- 5th grade - 2nd-year Webelos

The den is led by a volunteer Den Leader who has taken on the responsibility of organizing the den activities. This leader relies heavily on the adult partners to fulfill the program goals by participating with their cub scout. An adult partner can be a parent, relative, or friend who is at least 18 years old and who cares about the boy.

Adult partners should take turns working with the den leader to plan and lead den meetings. Dens should have from 5 to 9 scout-adult teams. More or less is possible, but since every scout needs to have an adult partner, having 20+ people at a gathering can mean more managing than enjoying.

PACK - Your Den is part of a Cub Scout Pack. The Pack is run by a Cub Master. The pack includes tiger, wolf, bear, and webelos dens made up of ALL of the boys from 1st grade through 5th grade. After 5th grade, Webelos scouts graduate on to a Boy Scout Troop. A pack in Cub Scouting and a Troop in Boy Scouting are similar and are both referred to as 'units' in the scouting hierarchy.

The Pack holds a monthly meeting where you have recognition ceremonies, skits, songs, and announcements of upcoming pack events. There are around 150,000 Cub Scout packs and Boy Scout troops across the country.

The Pack is supported by a pack committee, all volunteers. There is a Pack Committee Chairman and other pack committee members. Most pack committees consist of family members and members of the pack's chartered organization. The chartered organization is granted a charter by the Boy Scouts of America to use the Scouting program. The chartered organization approves the leadership of the pack, provides a meeting place, and operates the pack within the guidelines and policies of that organization and the BSA. Our pack is chartered by St. Gerald Catholic Church.

DISTRICT - Packs are organized into a District based on geographic boundaries determined by the local Council. At the district level, summer camps, day camps, leader roundtables, and other events are planned. The district supports units through membership, finance, and program services. There are thousands of districts.

COUNCIL - Districts are grouped into a Council. A council is responsible for growing a successful scouting program in its locality. A Council owns camp property and runs summer camps. It also offers fundraising programs, adult training, and service projects to support the pack and troop units. According to the BSA National Council there are over 300 councils.

AREA - Councils in a geographic area are grouped into Areas of which there are 26 in the country. Each area director works with 10 to 15 councils. The area director maintains contact with the Scout Executive in a council and provides support as needed.

REGION - Areas are grouped into Regions of which there are 4 in the country. Regional management centers are liaisons between councils and the National Council. A region provides direct support to its councils in the areas of fund raising, program, computers, and administration. Regional offices provide direct support services to Area Directors.

NATIONAL COUNCIL - BSA National Council, located in Irving, Texas, is the governing body of the scouting program in the United States. They set policy, offer national awards, organize national jamborees, have 3 high-adventure camps, and define the scouting program. There are many helpful resources on their website. On-line registration and membership support, program and literature development, advancement support, liability insurance, and maintaining program consistency across the country are all services provided by the National Council.