

PARENT HANDBOOK



Cub Scout Pack 106 Kuna, Idaho

Pack 106 is a member organization of the
Boy Scouts of America Ore-Ida Council's Centennial District

www.pack106.org

Welcome to Cub Scouts and Pack 106!

Welcome to Cub Scouts, a division of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) for boys in the first through fifth grades. Pack 106 includes approximately 50 boys and their families from Kuna and the surrounding area, who actively participate in our program.

We know there's a lot of information to absorb—especially for new families. That's why the Pack 106 administrative committee has created this handbook.

We also have a website (www.pack106.org) that provides up-to-the-minute event details, points of contact, and just about any other scouting information you might need.

We're glad you decided to join Pack 106. We're looking forward to watching your young scout grow and develop as an individual, as a family member, and as a citizen and leader in the community.

Now let's have some fun!

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Important Information

My pack number is **106**

My den number is _____

My den leader's name is

My den leader's phone number is

My den meets on

My den meets at

Organization

A cub scout is a member of both a den and a much larger network of scouts and adult leaders who support his growth and development in the scouting program.

Dens

Boys who join Pack 106 are assigned to a den based on their grade in school. A den typically meets at least twice a month and usually includes a group of six to ten boys. In a den, boys get to know each other better and engage in activities that would be difficult in a larger group. Den meeting activities include games, handicrafts, hikes and other outdoor fun, practicing skits and stunts in preparation for the next pack meeting, and participating in simple ceremonies and songs.

Each den is run by a den leader, a trained parent volunteer. The den leader might be helped by an assistant den leader and/or a Boy Scout den chief. The den also provides leadership opportunities for the boys as they elect temporary youth leaders called *denners* to teach each other.

Occasionally, den leaders might ask for special help from parents. (For example, to assist with meetings, share special skills, or provide snacks.)

Note: Parents or guardians of Tiger cubs (first graders) are required to attend each meeting.

Packs

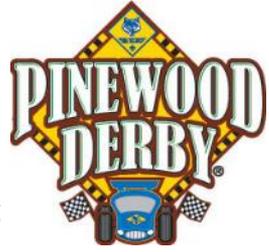
Cub Scout packs include boys and leaders from all of the dens. Each month, the scouts and leaders from all of the dens (along with their families) get together for a pack meeting. The pack meeting is the climax of each month's scouting activities. Pack meetings give dens something to look forward to and work toward. The monthly pack meeting is a chance to recognize the boys, parents, and leaders.

In addition to regular pack meetings, Pack 106 sponsors special pack projects, including the Scouting For Food Drive, outdoor activities (the Cuboree and family campouts), popcorn sale fundraisers, and fun competitions.

The Pinewood Derby and the Blue & Gold Banquet are two of the most popular pack activities held during the year.

Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood Derby is an exciting project in which a parent helps a boy build a model racecar from a block of wood. The finished car must weigh 5 ounces or less. Your pack leader will give you more details, including the date when the big race will be held.



Blue & Gold Banquet

The Blue & Gold Banquet is a party celebrating the birthday of the Cub Scout organization. The banquet is usually held in February. Most often it includes dinner and special program or entertainment.



The Cubmaster

Each Pack is led by a cubmaster. The cubmaster is an adult volunteer who leads pack activities of all kinds and serves as the master of ceremonies at pack meetings. The cubmaster will have an assistant cubmaster to help at pack functions.

The Role of Parents

You may participate at any level of effort that you want to enjoy scouting with your son. While den leaders are the volunteer adults who do the majority of the work—and have the most fun—there are numerous other ways you can help.

Parents play an important role in the pack. Because all of the leaders in Pack 106 are volunteers who have other commitments, it takes everyone to help at one time or another. We understand that you have other obligations as well and might feel too busy to take on additional duties, however, we depend on parents to help provide the good program we have.

Pack 106 requires *every* parent to help in some capacity. All parents and guardians should become trained in Youth Protection and participate in *This is Scouting* training, which is online, as a minimum introduction to the scouting program.

The help of parents makes the den leader's job easier and increases the boys' enjoyment. Please remember, Cub Scouting is a family activity, and den and pack meetings are a great place for family involvement.

The following list describes the roles adults can play to assist the pack:

- **Charter Organization Representative** serves as the liaison between the pack and the charter organization
Note: The charter organization for Pack 106 is the Kuna United Methodist Church.
- **Pack Committee Chairperson** oversees the administrative pack committee who runs the business of the pack
- **Cubmaster** leads and organizes all pack activities
- **Assistant Cubmaster** helps the cubmaster
- **Pack Trainer** organizes and maintains training records of adult leaders
- **Pack Secretary** keeps notes of pack committee meetings
- **Pack Treasurer** oversees pack finances
- **Pack Membership and Recharter Coordinator** oversees membership paperwork and the annual recharter effort
- **Popcorn Kernel** organizes our main fundraising effort in the fall
- **Camp Coordinator** organizes pack activities including camping trips
- **Advancement Coordinator** works with den leaders to obtaining awards and badges
- **Webmaster** maintains the pack website
- **Den Leader** plans and organizes den meetings, keeps track of the boys' advancements, and attends pack committee meetings
- **Assistant Den Leader** helps the den leader
- **Blue & Gold Committee Members** organize the Blue & Gold Banquet



The Successful Scout

If a scout earns all of his rank advancements, arrow points, pins, and even his Arrow of Light, we're inclined to say he's a successful scout! The successful scout, however, goes deeper than a handful of patches, pins, and belt loops.



A successful scout demonstrates the following traits:

- He attends his den and pack meetings regularly.
- He is actively engaged during all meetings he attends.
- He begins to internalize and apply the 12 core values (described in the Cub Scout handbook).
- He receives plenty of ongoing encouragement and support from both his leaders and his parents in pursuing his goals.

Be involved, and know that you're greatly appreciated. In addition to motivating your son to attend scout activities, you can help him pass off requirements at home between meetings. You are a key factor in helping your cub to become not only a successful scout now, but a successful man in the future.

Scout Advancement Plan

The Scout Advancement Plan, outlined in the Cub Scout handbook, provides fun and challenging activities for boys. It also gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and it strengthens family understanding as adult family members work with boys on projects. The Cub Scout handbook will guide you through the requirements and electives available for your scout to work on during the year.

Scout Ranks

Cub scouts are classified by the following ranks:

- Bobcats: All new scouts begin by earning this rank, regardless of age
- Tiger Cubs: First Graders
- Wolf Cubs: Second Graders
- Bear Cubs: Third Graders

- Webelos I: Fourth Graders
- Webelos II: Fifth Graders (Transition to Boy Scouts in the spring)

Bobcat

The Bobcat rank must be earned by all boys who join Cub Scouts. If a boy joins after the first grade (Tiger Cub year), he must earn the Bobcat rank before he can earn the Wolf, Bear, or Webelos rank.

Earning the Bobcat badge provides scouts with the seven basic fundamentals (including the Scout Sign, Scout Handshake, and Scout Oath) that all scouts must know to work together as a den and a pack.

Tiger

The Tiger Cub program is for first grade boys and their adult partners (requires 1-to-1 participation). The Tiger cub, with his adult partner, completes seven adventure requirements. Six are mandatory and one is an elective of your den or family's choosing.

Wolf

The Wolf program is for boys in the second grade. To earn the wolf badge, scouts must complete seven adventure requirements. Six are mandatory and one is an elective of your den or family's choosing.

Bear

The Bear rank is for boys in the third grade. To earn the bear badge, scouts must complete seven adventure requirements. Six are mandatory and one is an elective of your den or family's choosing.

Webelos (WE'LL BE LOYAL Scouts)

Webelos is a two-year program for achievements and electives for boys in the fourth and fifth grades. For Webelos, the emphasis is on having fewer cub scout activities to do at home and more to do with the den. This change is the first step in a boy's transition from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts.

As scouts complete the Webelos requirements, they'll become familiar with the Boy Scout requirements and earn the highest Cub Scout recognition, the Arrow of Light Award. The Arrow of Light is the only Cub Scout award that may be worn on a uniform as a boy scout or as an adult scout leader.

CubTrails

Pack 106 uses an online program called CubTrails (www.cubtrails.com) to track advancements. Users (including parents) are granted access to varying areas of CubTrails based on their needs and responsibilities within the pack.

Users have their own user IDs and passwords, so CubTrails can identify them and present the appropriate capabilities and information. CubTrails is also used to broadcast reminder e-mails, which are our most powerful communications tool, to parents.

Do Your Best

Cub scouting should NOT be hard work, is NOT a competition, and should encourage boys to *Do Your Best*. Advancement toward ranks should be a natural progression as boys grow, experience life, and emphasize learning by doing. For the program to work properly and effectively, please let your son do the work—don't do it for him.

Scout Expenses

The scouts, their parents, the pack, the chartered organization, and the community are responsible for supporting Cub Scouting. Packs obtain income by working on approved money-earning projects such as popcorn sales and banquet dinners. Pack 106's principal fundraising project is the annual fall popcorn drive, which pays for the majority of the pack's activities, equipment, and awards.

Fees

Pack and den fees for scouts in Pack 106 include the following:

- Registration dues are \$25 for every *new* scout
- Recharter dues (annual registration) are \$65 for every scout per calendar year
- Den dues are set by the den

If a boy enters Cub Scouts mid-year, he'll pay the pro-rated portion of the annual dues that will carry him through December of the scout year.

Scholarships

Scholarships for registration and recharter fees are available. It's the policy of Pack 106 that families meet the following requirements to be eligible for a registration/recharter scholarship:

- The family must receive a recommendation from the pack.
- The family must meet other qualifying criteria established by the Ore-Ida Council.
- A parent of the scout must serve on the Pack Committee, Popcorn Committee, or Blue & Gold Banquet Committee.

Uniforms

The Cub Scout uniform identifies the organization within our community. We want our scouts to wear it properly and proudly. The scout purchases the uniforms (see below), and the pack purchases the rank, achievement, and recognition awards.

Pack Closet

We have a Pack Closet with items that other scouts have outgrown or no longer need. These items are limited and available only to those who are unable to afford them on their own. Once an item received from the Pack Closet is no longer needed, it must be returned. Please contact the Cubmaster to determine which items are available.

Uniform Types

Pack 106 has two approved uniforms: *Class A* and *Class B*.

- **Class A uniforms** are used during pack and den meetings or whenever a scout is representing Pack 106 at civic or council events.
- **Class B uniforms** can be used during den and pack outings, where the boys are likely to get dirty.

In either case, a scout should *always present a neat appearance*, with shirts tucked in and caps on straight.

Class A uniforms can be purchased at two local locations:

- The Scout Store, 8901 W Franklin Road, Boise
- A Scout Is Thrifty, 4301 Garrity Blvd Suite 102, Nampa

Class B uniforms are not available at the retail establishments, because they're specific to Pack 106. Class B uniforms are ordered when families pay their scouts' annual registration (recharter) fees.

Scout Class A Uniforms

Class A uniforms for cub scouts include the following items:

- Blue Cub Scout shirt
 - **Note:** Webelos may choose to continue to wear the blue Cub Scout uniform or buy the tan/olive Boy Scout uniform.
- Neckerchief by rank
- Neckerchief slide by rank
- Patches
 - ◆ World Crest patch
 - ◆ American flag patch (sold on shirt)
 - ◆ Den number strip
 - ◆ Ore-Ida Council patch
 - ◆ Pack number patches
- Cub Scout hat by rank (optional)
- Blue Cub Scout belt
- Navy blue slacks, blue jeans, or navy blue shorts (no cut-offs, no holes, and no athletic pants)
- Closed toed shoes or boots (no sandals or *Crocs*)



Adult Leader Class A Uniforms

Class A uniforms for adult leaders include the following items:

- Tan Boy Scout shirt
- Dark blue leader neckerchief or bolo tie
- Leader's neckerchief slide
- Patches
 - ◆ World Crest patch

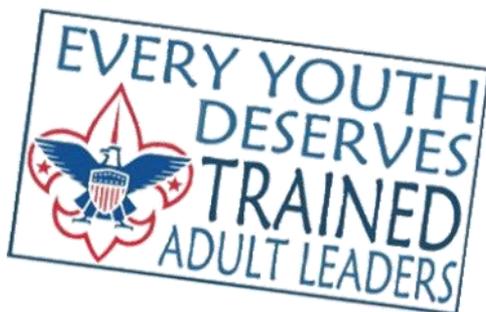
- ◆ American flag patch (sold on shirt)
- ◆ Den number strip (if a den leader or assistant den leader)
- ◆ Ore-Ida Council patch
- ◆ Pack Number patches
- ◆ Position patch (Den Leader, Cubmaster, etc.)
- ◆ Blue epaulettes (shoulder loops)
- Olive Boy Scout belt
- Olive pants or shorts
- Closed toed shoes or boots (no sandals or *Crocs*)



Training

A good pack includes trained leaders, parents, and youth. Pack 106 recommends that parents participate in the following key training courses:

- Youth Protection^{1,2,3}
- This is Scouting^{1,2}
- Leader Specific Training^{1,2}
- Cub Scout Fast Start^{1,2}
- Weather Hazards^{1,2}
- BALOO
- Health and Safety
- Safe Swim Defense²
- Trek Safely²
- Safety Afloat²
- Climb on Safely²
- Leave No Trace
- University of Scouting



¹ Required for all leaders

² Course available online at

<http://myscouting.scouting.org>

³ Required for all Tiger Parents and recommended for all parents.

Rules

To ensure everyone is safe, Pack 106 has established a core set of rules that each scout, sibling, and parent must follow. Some are based on BSA regulations for scout safety, and others are meant to ensure respect for our chartered organization for the use of their facilities. The rest are simply common sense and good manners that we expect from our scouts.

1. All scouts must be escorted to and from the place (room) where den meetings are held. Dropping off or picking up scouts in front of the building is not allowed. This is a safety rule and will be closely enforced. Also, please be prompt when bringing your son to and picking up your son from den meetings.
2. Respect the meeting place and follow the *Leave No Trace* guidelines. Scouts should not use the equipment (toys, supplies, etc.) or other items in the meeting place, unless authorized by the den leader. Scouts will work together to leave the meeting place as clean as, or cleaner than, it was at the start of the meeting.
3. Scouts must implement the Buddy System at all times. Scouts must remain in their meeting place for the duration of the meeting. The only reason a scout should leave the room is for an "emergency" trip to the restroom—and that should be with a buddy.
4. Do not leave your scout when only one adult is present.
5. No electronic games or electronic devices are allowed at scouting events. The purpose of the program is to encourage the scouts to interact with others; games and electronic devices are counterproductive to this goal.

Code of Conduct for Scouts

Scouts in Pack 106 are expected to do the following:

- Arrive on time at meetings and pack events.
- Wear the Cub Scout uniform properly, as shown in each Cub Scout handbook.
- Stop speaking when the Scout Sign is up.
- Follow Akela's instructions and help others follow them.
- Take pride in yourself, your pack, your community, and your country.

Pack Discipline Process

Being a cub scout is a privilege, not a right. Pack discipline is meant to ensure the safety and best interest of all of our scouts.

Discipline at pack and den events is at the discretion of scout leaders. Failure to obey rules and adult leader inspections will result in the following action:

- **First warning:** A verbal instruction is given.
- **Second warning:** Time-out or removal from an activity. In the case of dangerous behavior, a scout leader may choose to proceed directly to this warning.
- **Third warning:** Parents will be asked to remove a scout for the remainder of the activity.

In the case of repetitive behavior, den leaders may require parents to participate more directly with their scouts in den functions.

Continuing Misconduct and Extreme Cases

Den leaders have the right to exclude scouts from their dens for reasons of continuing misconduct. In this scenario, the situation will be reviewed by the pack committee and the boy's parents. In extreme cases the scout may be dismissed from the pack.

Non-Scout Siblings

Non-Scout siblings are welcome at many Pack 106 functions, however, parents are responsible for the conduct of their non-scout children at all times. Parents may be asked to remove disruptive children from pack events.

Alcohol and Drug Use

No scout or adult in attendance at a Cub Scout function is permitted to use alcohol or illegal drugs. Any scout or adult in violation of this rule will be suspended for 30 days, pending an expulsion review by the Pack Committee.

Adult tobacco use is strongly discouraged at pack functions. If tobacco must be used, it should be a minimum of 100 yards from the scouting program and it should be outside the view of the scouts or members of the public.

Do Your Best Parental Leadership

Cub Scouting is based on parent/son participation. The success of the Pack 106 Cub Scout program is based entirely on our parents—no parent involvement, no activities.

Parents are expected to contribute in these ways:

- Accompany your cub scout to pack and den activities
- Help organize one special event each year (for example, the Pinewood Derby or Blue & Gold Banquet)
- Help plan and run one den meeting program a year
- Track your scout's progress on CubTrails
- Assist in maintaining order during any pack or den function

Finally, read your scout's handbook and work with him on activities not covered in den meetings. After all, Cub Scouting is an opportunity for parents and boys to spend time learning and doing things together.