



Cub Scout Pack 22

Parent Handbook

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Table of Contents

MISSION	3
WELCOME TO ANTELOPE PACK 22	3
CUB SCOUTING	3
CHARTER ORGANIZATION	3
THE PACK	4
THE DEN	4
WHAT ARE THE RANKS?	5
UNIFORM POLICY	5
THE CUB SCOUT UNIFORM OR "CLASS A" UNIFORM:	5
THE CUB SCOUT UNIFORM OF THE DAY OR "CLASS B" UNIFORM:	6
THE CUB SCOUT PATCH VEST:	6
WHERE TO GET SCOUT GEAR?	6
PACK DUES, REGISTRATION AND ADDITIONAL COSTS	6
PACK DUES AND REGISTRATION	6
ADDITIONAL FAMILY COSTS	6
DEN MEETING FEES	7
PAYMENT INFORMATION	7
PACK OUTINGS	7
FUNDRAISING	7
SCOUT ACCOUNT	8
FRIENDS OF SCOUTING	8
DISTRICT MEETINGS	8
HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR SCOUT?	8
HOW CAN YOU HELP THE PACK?	8
WHERE DO YOU GO WITH A QUESTION?	9
PACK MEETING CHECK TABLE	9
FORMS THAT NEED TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE COMMITTEE CHAIR	9
YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING CERTIFICATE COPY	9
PARTICIPATION STATEMENT AND CODE OF CONDUCT	10
MEDIA/PHOTO RELEASE FORM	12

Mission

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America and Pack 22 is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is:

Trustworthy	Obedient
Loyal	Cheerful
Helpful	Thrifty
Friendly	Brave
Courteous	Clean
Kind	Reverent

Welcome to Antelope Pack 22

We have an exciting program of learning and fun and we hope that you and your son will be glad you joined. This handbook was designed to provide members information about Cub Scouts and our Pack. If you have any further questions about our program, please call on one of our Pack Leaders.

The purpose of Scouting is to provide fun opportunities, events and activities to learn life-long skills, encourage good behavior, and help strengthen family bonds. The goal of these activities is to help build character and confidence, help your boy develop into a good citizen. Parents, Leaders and the Scouting Organization work together to help with character development while helping Scouts prepare for life. Our motto is "To Be Prepared".

Cub Scouting

In 1930, the Boy Scouts of America created a new opportunity called Cub Scouting for boys younger than eleven years old. A year-round, family-centered program emphasizing involvement between boys their community and the environment.

The Cub Scout colors are blue and gold. Blue signifies the sky, truth, spirituality, and loyalty. Gold stands for warm sunlight, good cheer, and happiness. Together they symbolize what Cub Scouting is all about.

Charter Organization

The Boy Scouts of America does not directly own or operate any of its scouting units. Instead, scouting units are owned and operated by Charter Organizations. These organizations are civic, faith-based, and educational organizations that operate Scouting units to deliver the programs to their youth members, as well as the community at large. The Charter Organization provides units with adequate meeting facilities and approves leadership in the unit. Without them we do not exist as a scouting unit.

Our Charter Organization is the Veteran's of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 4647 located at 3300 U Street, Antelope, 95843. For more than 100 years, the VFW has been an advocate and strong supporter of patriotic and educational programs for our country's youth. Annually, VFW and Auxiliaries donate millions upon millions of hours mentoring youth groups, visiting hospitalized veterans, volunteering in community kitchens and blood

drives to enhance the lives of veterans and families in the Sacramento area. Our specific Post provides a meeting place for a variety of community events in our area.

The Pack

A Pack is a reference to the cub scout unit of families with boys who are in 1st through 5th grade. A Pack is then broken into dens that are organized by rank that is dependent on the age of the scout. Our Pack meets together once a month on the fourth Tuesday at the VFW Hall at 7pm (unless noted in the Pack Calendar on our website). Pack meetings are for fun, including a combination of songs, skits, and games. It is also a time to recognize achievements by the Scouts. Each Den will take turns conducting parts of the Pack Meetings. Boys will learn flag ceremonies such as presenting and retiring the colors, developing a den cheer, telling jokes, and performing skits. Boys are expected to sit together as a Den at the meeting and to conduct themselves appropriately. Parental attendance (or other adult relative) is required, but family attendance is also encouraged at the Pack Meetings. The Pack meeting is a monthly showcase for what the boys have worked on in their den meetings; craft projects may be on display, skills are demonstrated, and skits are performed to show the boys' command of the monthly theme.

Since parents are in attendance at the Pack meetings, we encourage siblings to come as well. Parents are expected to enforce some general rules of behavior:

- Show proper respect for the Scouts, leaders and others involved in the Pack meeting by not talking during ceremonies, skits, and presentations.
- Show encouragement by applauding afterwards.
- All attendees may participate in games, songs, audience participation activities and all the fun that the pack meeting involves.
- Please arrive 10-15 minutes before the official meeting start time. This allows Scouts/siblings to participate in any pre-meeting gathering activities and helps the meeting start on time.
- We try hard to keep Pack meetings to about 1.50 hours and need your cooperation in order for that to happen.

Our Pack also has a Committee Meeting once a month on the 2nd Tuesday at the VFW Hall at 7pm. The committee is made up of parent volunteers who assist in the day to day operation of the Pack. It is essentially the adult business meeting for the Pack. Leaders and parents work together to plan future outings, iron out Pack meeting details and discuss other Pack-related business. All parents, whether members of the committee or not, are invited and encouraged to attend.

Our Pack has developed and approved a set of "Cub Scout Pack 22 By Laws". These By Laws give detailed descriptions of the Pack Leadership organization, roles, and responsibilities. You can find them on our Pack Web site. **Our Pack Leadership and contact numbers are listed there as well.**

The Den

A Den is the basic unit in Cub Scouts. It consists of a group, usually about 5 - 8 boys of similar age, who work together on age appropriate activities and are led by an adult den leader. In Cub Scouts, your son will be placed in a Den based his grade in school.

- Tiger Den – Completed Kindergarten or is in 1st grade
- Wolf Den - Completed 1st grade or is in 2nd grade
- Bear Den - Completed 2nd grade or is in 3rd grade
- Webelos Den - Completed 3rd grade or is in 4th grade
- Webelos Patrol - Completed 4th grade or is in 5th grade

The Den will meet at varying intervals and independently from the Pack. BSA recommends three Den Meeting each month but this is dependant on the Den Leader, Den Parents, and the amount of home activities which will be required to help him complete his rank requirements and additional electives. Den Leaders are responsible for coordinating den activities; however, parents will be called upon to assist as needed. This may mean helping with a Den meeting or one of the other Den activities, gathering materials for a craft project, or providing snacks. The Den Leader should be assisted by an Assistant Den Leader and/or a Den Chief (an older Boy Scout who has offered to volunteer his time). Pack 22 requires that all parents attend den meetings with their scout unless arrangements are made with the leader prior to the meeting.

What are the Ranks?

There are six ranks that scouts can earn in Cub Scouting. The first rank is the Bobcat, which has to earned before any other advancements can be awarded. Then there is Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, and the Arrow of Light. Each of these ranks come is based on age and come with a book that explains what the scout has to do to achieve the rank badge by May of each year. A Cub scout year begins on June 1st and ends on May 31st. All scouts automatically go up in rank at the end of the cub scout year but can only get the rank badge if the requirements are completed for that rank. All rank advancement information is in the Cub Scout Rank Handbook (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos). Please read these books they are the guide to the entire program and give the required criteria for earning Rank Badges.

In Cub Scouting, boys are judged against their own standard, not against other boys. If a boy has a disability or other reason why he cannot accomplish an achievement, bring this to the leader's attention as soon as possible. We want all scouts to advance and achieve their rank badge. An important thing to remember is that in order to make progress toward earning awards, the Scout must "do his best".

Each Rank Book defines the parents role as the Akela for that rank and explains the program. Your den leader will help you understand the program for each of your rank levels. For Webelos, the Den Leader signs off on all achievements. The Webelos Scout is still expected to work on some achievements at home but he must "show what he knows" to the Leader before he/she will sign off on the achievement.

Each year, the advancement requirements become more challenging. The adult Den Leader becomes more central to teaching and the parental role decreases slightly. However, even in the Webelos Dens, parents are needed and will be called upon to assist the den leader for teaching and advancements in areas of their expertise.

After a year, a Webelos the Den becomes a Patrol to prepare for joining a Boy Scout Troop. Our Pack bridges our Webelos to a Troop at our Blue and Gold at the end of February.

Uniform Policy

The Cub Scout Uniform or "Class A" Uniform:

Our Pack is a "belt up" uniform unit. We requires the following BSA Cub Scout Uniform and that the scout wear their uniform to all Cub Scout events and meetings, unless specifically directed not to. Please see handbook for placement of patches on shirt.

- Shirt:
 - Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos I – Blue Cub Scout Shirt
 - Webelos Patrol – Khaki Boy Scout Shirt to prepare for Troop
- Patches:
 - Pack 22 and appropriate Den number for Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Den (Webelos Patrols chose their own Patrol Patch.)

- Purple Worldwide Wide Scouting Patch
- Golden Empire Council Patch
- Rank Hat, neckerchief and neckerchief slide
- Cub Scout Belt which fits the beltloops earned.
- Cub Scout Rank Book
- Blue or dark colored belted pants or shorts of your choice

In order to participate in the Pack flag ceremony with their den, scout must be full uniform. Boys must wear their uniform shirt neatly tucked in and should wear their uniform proudly. Parents are encouraged to teach their Scouts the skills necessary to take care of their own uniform. Uniform should be kept neat, clean, and without holes.

The Cub Scout Uniform of the Day or “Class B” Uniform:

The Class B Uniform consists of regular street clothes with the Pack 22 T-Shirt or any Boy Scout Camp T-Shirt. We often wear these items at the optional activities. They are also handy to wear at special den activities that may be very physical or dirty.

The Cub Scout Patch Vest:

Many Cub Scouts wear the optional red patch vest to display the various participation patches that they have earned. The pack does not provide these but they can be hand made or purchased from the Scout Shop or other Scout retailers.

We also encourage the Scout to wear his Class A’s or Class B’s uniform to school on days when there is a scheduled organized Scout activity after school (example - Den or Pack meeting). We find this is an excellent way to spread the word about Scouting and encourages recruitment.

Where to get Scout Gear?

The uniform and other “official” Scout items can be purchased at: Council Headquarters, (River City Scout Shop), 251 Commerce Circle, Sacramento, CA 95815, (916) 649-1800, or on-line at www.Scoutstuff.org

Pack Dues, Registration and Additional Costs

Pack Dues and Registration

Pack 22 dues are \$60 a year plus National Dues of \$15 and optional Boys’ Life Magazine of \$12. These dues are prorated based on the when the scout joins. Your dues cover costs incurred to run the pack.

Additional Family Costs

There are additional costs beyond the initial registration and Pack dues for optional activities. These costs include individual attendance at BSA sponsored activities, such as Twilight Camp and other outings. Throughout the year the Pack or Dens may have excursions that require entrance fees such as museums and parks. Outing costs will vary widely depending upon the duration and location. Fees will be listed on the sign up sheets when we announce these events.

Den Meeting Fees

Dens may also have a dues system to help defray costs associated with Den activities. The dues will vary by Den, so please contact your Den leader to find out more about Den dues.

Payment Information

Whenever you write a check to the Pack, please write **your son's name and what you are paying for on the memo line**. This makes it easier to keep the financial records. All checks involving Pack activities should be made out to **Cub Scout Pack 22** and handed to or mailed to our Pack Treasurer.

Should your check be returned to us, you must reimburse the pack for any additional bank fees that we are charged. Should you commit to an "outside" activity that requires the Pack to commit funds on your behalf, you remain financially responsible for that amount even if your plans change. Scouts cannot receive any awards or advancement unless their financial account is current

Pack Outings

Parents are welcome on all outings. In all cases a Scout must be escorted by a family member, unless other plans have been made. At least one adult in the group must have completed Youth Protection Training, and all parents who attend a Scout outing are encouraged to have completed Youth Protection Training, available at <http://www.gec-bsa.org/districts/pioneer/home>. Please login and follow the directions If you need help please call our Pack Trainer.

We recommend that all parents, regardless of participation in an outing, take the training, especially the Youth Protection Training. Once training is completed, you will receive a certificate stating your completion of the class. These certificates are required for attendance in many the cub scout outings. This information will also be used to complete necessary tour permits. Give a copy of all certificates to our Pack Trainer, and keep a copy for yourself.

Fundraising

Pack 22 will participate in fundraisers every year. These may include:

- Popcorn Sale in the Fall
- Camp Cards in the Spring
- Other BSA approved fundraising opportunities

Pack 22 asks for your support in our fundraising endeavors and strongly encourages you and your Scout to participate in them for several reasons:

- Knowing he is helping pay his own way increases a Scout's self esteem.
- It helps relieve parents from a substantial financial commitment.
- The Law of the Pack says "A Cub Scout helps the Pack go" and one way to do this is through fundraising.
- Fundraisers allow the Pack to keep our annual dues at a reasonable level.
- Certain fundraisers share the profit with the participating Scouts which will be accumulated in their "Scout Account".

Scout Account

Scouts that participate in a shared profit fundraiser will have their hours recorded and will earn an hourly rate determined by PACK profits and how many Scouts participate. These funds will go into their "Scout Account". The Scout and his family can decide where to apply his funds toward Scouting related expenses. Some, for example, may direct the money he has earned to defray the cost at a day camp or other special outing; others may decide to spend the funds on Scout items available from the Scout Store.

Moneys in Scout Accounts can only be used for Scout related activities and can not be withdrawn for other purposes. These funds are not refundable and if a Scout drops from the Pack, any Scout Account moneys would be added to the Pack general Fund. The exception is a Cub Scout moving another unit, any moneys would be given to the units Treasurer for his Scout Account. This includes transferring to another pack or into troop.

Friends of Scouting

The Friends of Scouting program offers an opportunity to help meet the financial responsibilities of scouting in our area. Your donations directly support the Golden Empire Council's operating and other expenses such as leadership training materials, camp staff, and supplies necessary for your son's involvement. This donation is not mandatory but is optional if you have the funds.

District Meetings

Within the Golden Empire Council (GEC), Pack 22 belongs to the Pioneer District, which holds monthly Roundtable meetings and Committee meetings. The Pioneer District Roundtable meetings are on the third Thursday and the District Committee meetings are on the second Thursday of each month. Please check the Pioneer District Website for updates and locations. Parents are welcome to attend any of these meetings.

How can you help your Scout?

Scouts need the support of their families to be successful. It is important that you take an interest in what your Scout is doing. You should attend special activities, such as the Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Dinner and Pack get-togethers.

You should also get your Scout to meetings on time. Encourage him and support his efforts to advance in rank. Go through his Scout Handbook and understand what he is working on. Share your life's lessons and skills that he can use in Scouting, such as cooking, carpentry, camping, etc. Review papers that come home for upcoming events, costs and due dates.

Most importantly, please help your Scout get to Den and Pack meetings so he can learn, keep up with the news and develop strong ties with his peers..

How can you help the Pack?

There are many opportunities to get involved in Scouting. The Pack requires the support of parents to function effectively. You can help by joining the Pack Committee, becoming a scout leader, organizing an outing, plus much more. **Parents of each family are expected to actively support the Pack in some form.** We have a wide variety of tasks that can go a long way to bettering the Pack.

Where do you go with a question?

You can contact any Pack 22 leader with any issues, questions or concerns. We will do our best to help. We also have a Pack website; we are in the process of improving the information and resources you will find there.

Always ask your Den Leader they are a great resource for information. He/she will refer you to the right person or get the answer for you.

Pack Meeting Check Table

At each Pack Meeting, there will be an check in table at the entrance of the room. This table is “Information Central” for Pack 22 and will be the place where you sign up your Cub for trips, obtain permission slips, etc.

Forms that need to be completed and returned to the Committee Chair

For Youth or Scout

Youth Boy Scouts of America Application

Annual Health and Medical Record (you may ask for a copy or fill it out online and print it)

The current accepted form for 2013 can be found at

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/parts_ab.pdf

Immunization Exemption Request - <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/680-451.pdf>

Participation Statement and Code of Conduct

Media/Photo Release Form

For Adult Volunteers or Leaders

Adult Boy Scouts of America Application

Annual Health and Medical Record - http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/parts_ab.pdf

Immunization Exemption Request - <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/680-451.pdf>

Youth Protection Training Certificate Copy

Participation Statement and Code of Conduct

I have read and understood the Parent Handbook for Pack 22 (posted on Bigtent) and agree to abide by them. I agree to be an active member of the Pack Program staff, realizing that if each parent/guardian takes on a small part of the program responsibility, the Program can be that much more fun for all.

Cub Scout Parent/Guardian Signature

Cub Scout Committee Member

DATE: _____

CUB SCOUT NAME: _____

DEN/RANK: _____

Media/Photo Release Form

Pack 22
Golden Empire Council
Boy Scouts of America

Date: _____

I hereby agree and consent to the use of any photograph, voice recording, or videotape of the child (minor) named below for promotional and/or publicity purposes on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America and its subsidiary organizations, including but not limited to use in newspapers, broadcast media, Web sites, and so forth.

All rights and interest in the finished product are relinquished and all rights to payment or compensation are waived.

Child/Scout Name (Minor): _____

Unit Number: Pack 22

Charter Organization: VFW Post 4647

Unit Leader: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

Print Parent Name: _____