



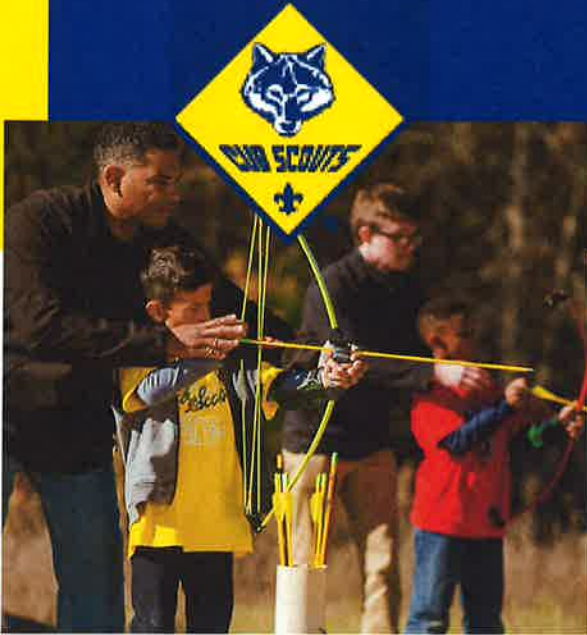
2023 Spring Cub Scout Recruitment Plan

Lions and Tigers, Oh My! My Best Friend is a Cub Scout

We have a multi-faceted plan for our Spring Cub scout recruiting efforts, it is here as follows:

- We will be publishing an article to the website about Spring Cub Scout recruitment, this article along with printed packet information and other resources will focus on what packs should consider when recruiting Kindergartners to become Lions and ideas about targeting current First Graders to join in time for all the summer activities and fill in low Tiger Den numbers across the Council. It will also focus on getting these families involved and engaged right away through Pack, District, and Council activities. It will push packs to consider doing at least one activity a month during the summer. This article will be sent out to all Cubmasters in the district to encourage them to consider recruiting in the spring.
- In addition to the article, your District Executives and District Membership Chairs will work with unit leaders to select cub scout packs and or specific areas where membership needs a boost. The plan right now for targeted recruitment is to have a **Spring School Night for Scouting on March 1st** with a turn in of applications at District Roundtables the next night on the Second. While March 1st is the target night, we acknowledge that some flexibility in the week surrounding that date may be needed can be arranged on a unit / school district basis. The focus this Spring (2023) will be on Lions and Tigers, however if your Unit leadership has a need or desire to expand that recruitment focus this can be facilitated with a discussion with your District Leadership. A component of the traditional flyers sent to Schools will be the peer recruiting program "MY Best Friend is a Scout".
- Order your flyers through the flyer request form as well as other resources for this campaign on the Council website
<https://www.cornhuskercouncil.org/resources/recruitment.html>
- Follow up event for new Scouts will be the Spring Cub Day of Awesomeness held at the OEC on March 18th and the Scoutapalooza event scheduled for April 22nd in Holmes Lake Park in Lincoln.

SCOUT ME IN™



Frequently Asked Questions:

WHY SIGN-UP NEW CUB SCOUTS IN THE SPRING?

- Registration is required for new Scouts to attend summer camp
- They'll go back to school and tell all their friends
- BSA insurance provided for all registered youth
- Identify and recruit new leadership before the fall
- Families commit in the spring so you don't lose them in the fall
- Youth can participate in your planned summer activities

Shouldn't we take the summer months off, other than camp, to give youth and parents a break?

No! Something as simple as one activity each month during the summer is enough to keep the youth and parents engaged in Scouting. Retention is higher with those Packs who do at least one activity every month and earn the Summertime Pack Award.

What are some activities I can do with my Scouts over the summer months?

Summer Camp, Day Camp, and Twilight Camps are always great options! Other ideas may include a Pack Swim, Bowling, Saltdogs Game, trip to the Zoo, etc



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA®
CORNHUSKER COUNCIL



My Best Friend Is a Scout!

Leader Information

Dear Leader,

Thank you for participating in this spring Cub Scout recruiting campaign! We have designed some new materials and approaches to help your pack recruit youth into the great program that your pack offers, a program that will positively affect the lives of the children and their families!

The basic thought of this program is to get your current Cub Scouts to help recruit their friends into the pack. Studies show that your current Cub Scouts will stay involved if they are participating with their friends. We have always had a “friends recruit friends” philosophy, but we need to give them the tools, and teach them how to use them, to be good recruiters for Cub Scouts! We are counting on you to help them become salespeople for Scouting.

The “My Best Friend Is a Scout!” campaign is designed to give your Cub Scouts some recruitment tools, and the desire, to recruit their two best friends to join Scouting with them. Your current Cub Scouts will have more fun if their friends join with them, and they will stay in Scouting longer. There will be less negative peer pressure when their friends are also Scouts.

The program should work as follows:

1. The pack receives Cub Scout Roundup materials, along with the new recruiting tools for Cub Scouts.
2. Either the pack, or preferably the den, will have a meeting prior to the recruitment event to teach the Cub Scouts how to use the new tools. Be sure to review the “How to Use the Materials” flier.
3. The leader plays a very important role by making sure that the Cub Scouts fill in the blanks on the new materials that they will give to their two best friends.
4. The leader will also follow a short syllabus that will get the current Cub Scouts thinking about all the fun things they did last year. Getting the Cub Scouts to remember all these things now will refresh their memories and they should tell their two best friends about these fun activities when they give them the invitation.
5. At the meeting be sure that all the materials are filled out, and that the Cub Scouts know what to do with the invitations. Give them the Parent Information flier to give to their parents, which explains the program and how parents can help.
6. On the evening before the recruitment meeting call each family and remind the parent, or the Cub Scout, to remind their two best friends.
7. Recognize any Scouts that recruit a friend by giving them the Scout recruiter patch! Order form available at: www.cornhuskercouncil.org/resources/forms

My Best Friend Is a Scout!

How to Use the Materials

(Cub Scout Version)

Each Scout will receive an envelope from his leader, which will include a postcard sized "Cub card" and two postcard sized invitations. A Cub Scout Leader should have a special Den Meeting to instruct the Cub Scouts on how to use these new recruiting tools.

1. Cub Card – Each Scout will fill their name in on the front side of the card and promise to "Do Their Best!" to invite their two best friends to join Scouts with them, because Cub Scouts is more fun when you join with your friends. On the reverse side of the card the leader helps them to write in the names of their two best friends that they will invite. Their friends can be from school, their neighborhood, or maybe even a relative. On the bottom portion on the back of the card the leader helps the Scouts fill in the date, time, and location of the next meeting where the new youth can sign up for Cub Scouts. Leaders may want to fill this information out on the cards ahead of time for their Cub Scouts, especially for the younger Cub Scouts. **Cub Scouts should hang on to this card as a reminder that they promised to "Do Their Best"! This card can also be used as a bookmark to be kept in their handbooks.**
2. Invitations – Each Scout will receive two invitations to give to their friends, which lists the date, time and location of the next meeting where the friends can sign up for Cub Scouts. The leader needs to help the Cub Scout fill in their name at the top of the card (so the parents of the friends will know that their child is being invited by a friend), or do it for them ahead of time. The date, time and location of the next meeting also need to be filled out by the Cub Scout or a leader. **The Cub Scouts should be instructed to give the two invitations to the best friends that they listed on the front of the card tomorrow at school, or the next time they see them.**

www.cornhuskercouncil.org/join

My Best Friend Is a Scout!

Den Meeting Outline

1. While the Cub Scouts Gather – select a game from the Group Meeting Sparklers or How-To books. Try to catch parents and have them stay for this special meeting.
2. Opening – Pledge of Allegiance and Cub Scout Promise. Talk about the importance of the Cub Scout Promise.
3. Recite the Cub Scout Motto – Do Your Best! Ask the Cub Scouts what “Doing Your Best” means to them.
4. Introduce the “My Best Friend Is a Scout!” theme. Tell them that they are going to play an important role in getting their friends to sign up for Scouting with them this year. Ask them if they would like to be in Scouting with their best friends.
5. Give each Cub Scout the new materials. Read the “Cub card” with them, and ask them if they will “Do Their Best”. Have them write their names on that card. On the other side of the card help them to write in the names of their two best friends (that are not in Scouting now) that they want to be in Scouts with. Be sure that they write down the two names. Ask each of them to say out loud who they will invite. If two or more want to ask the same person, encourage them to choose a different person. Be sure to have them write in the date, time and location of the Recruitment Event on the card (or have it done ahead of time). Instruct them to give their two friends an invitation tomorrow at school, or the next time they see them.
6. Explain to the Cub Scouts that everyone needs reminding. They will need to remind their friends to come to the Recruitment Event.
7. Ask each Cub Scout to say out loud the two most fun things they did in Scouting. Some things that should come out: day camp, earning awards, pinewood derby races, den trips, Fun with Son, projects etc. It is important that they tell their friends all about these fun things!
8. Tell them that if they recruit a friend to join Cub Scouts they will get a neat recruiter patch. Tell them that they will have even more fun in the future because they have got their friends to join! Order form available at:
www.cornhuskercouncil.org/resources/forms
9. End the meeting by re-reading the Cub card where they promise to “Do Their Best!”



My Best Friend is a Scout!

Invitation Card Order Form

YES! My unit is interested in participating in this Spring recruitment activity.

Pack Troop Crew # _____
(Circle One)

Number of Invitation Cards needed _____

Name of Leader ordering cards _____
(Leader's Name and Position)

Contact Information

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

NOTE: Invitation Cards MUST be ordered two weeks before they are needed.

Please turn in your completed order form to your District Executive or mail to the Outdoor Education Center: P.O. Box 269, Walton, NE 68461. You can also download a form from the website and email it your District Executive

www.cornhuskercouncil.org

My Best Friend Is A Scout!



(Inviting Cub Scout's Name and Phone)
Invites You to Join Cub Scouts!

On _____
(Day and Date)

At _____
(Location and Room)

From _____
(Time)

**Come and join the fun with your friends in
Cub Scouts!**

My Best Friend Is A Scout!



(Inviting Cub Scout's Name and Phone)
Invites You to Join Cub Scouts!

On _____
(Day and Date)

At _____
(Location and Room)

From _____
(Time)

**Come and join the fun with your friends in
Cub Scouts!**

Dear Prospective Cub Scout Parent,

The boy on the front of this invitation is a friend of your child, and a Cub Scout, and has personally invited your child to join Cub Scouts with them. In Cub Scouts your child will have lots of fun, learn new things, and make new friends. But Cub Scouts is much more than that, it is *fun* — with a purpose. Everything he will do in Cub Scouts—ceremonies, earn awards, sports, games, and crafts, will be done with a specific purpose in mind. The reason parents want their son to get into Cub Scouts probably aren't the same as why they will want to join. Take a look at the 12 Core Values Cub Scouting strives to teach:

Citizenship	Honesty
Compassion	Perseverance
Cooperation	Positive Attitude
Courage	Resourcefulness
Faith	Respect
Health and Fitness	Responsibility

Please come find out what the fun is all about!
You and your child are invited to learn more about Cub Scouts at the date, time, and location listed on the front side of this card. If you like what you learn, you can join that night.

www.cornhuskercouncil.org/join

Dear Prospective Cub Scout Parent,

The boy on the front of this invitation is a friend of your son, and a Cub Scout, and has personally invited your son to join Cub Scouts with him. In Cub Scouts your son will have lots of fun, learn new things, and make new friends. But Cub Scouts is much more than that, it is *fun* — with a purpose. Everything he will do in Cub Scouts—ceremonies, earn awards, sports, games, and crafts, will be done with a specific purpose in mind. The reason parents want their son to get into Cub Scouts probably aren't the same as why he will want to join. Take a look at the 12 Core Values Cub Scouting strives to teach:

Citizenship	Honesty
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Health and Fitness	Responsibility

Please come find out what the fun is all about!
You and your son are invited to learn more about Cub Scouts at the date, time, and location listed on the front side of this card. If you like what you learn, you can join that night.

www.cornhuskercouncil.org/join

I _____
(Name of Scout)
Promise to do my best, to invite
my two best friends listed on the
front of this card (who are not
in Scouts) to come to a special
meeting on _____
(Date)
and join me in Cub Scouts!



I _____
(Name of Scout)
Promise to do my best, to invite
my two best friends listed on the
front of this card (who are not
in Scouts) to come to a special
meeting on _____
(Date)
and join me in Cub Scouts!



Cub Scout Reminder Sheet

These are the two friends I chose to
INVITE to our special meeting

1. _____
(Name of first friend Scout is inviting)

2. _____
(Name of second friend Scout is inviting)



Meeting Reminder

(Meeting Date)

(Meeting Location)

(Meeting Time)



Cub Scout

www.cornhuskercouncil.org/join

Cub Scout Reminder Sheet

These are the two friends I chose to
INVITE to our special meeting

1. _____
(Name of first friend Scout is inviting)

2. _____
(Name of second friend Scout is inviting)



Meeting Reminder

(Meeting Date)

(Meeting Location)

(Meeting Time)



Cub Scout

www.cornhuskercouncil.org/join

My Best Friend Is a Scout!

Parent Information

Dear Parent,

We are asking your Cub Scout to help make a difference in the lives of their friends by personally inviting them to join Cub Scouts with them. Studies have shown that children tend to gravitate towards participating in activities that their friends participate in. We believe that your child is more likely to stay in Scouting, and get the full benefits of a proven program, if their friends are in it with them!

What are those benefits again?

- Learn new things
- Develop new skills
- Develop a sense of belonging
- Enjoy a “safe haven” for activities
- Learn citizenship, character, and fitness
- Develop leadership skills
- Develop self-confidence as he earns badges
- Spending “quality time” with family and leaders
- And, YES, he will have a lot of fun too!

Please help your child participate in the “My Best Friend Is a Scout!” program by reminding them to do a couple of things.

First, make sure they attend the special Den Meeting so that they can learn how to use the recruitment materials; you may even want to attend with them! The materials are fun, and your Cub can earn a special recruiter patch if they get a friend to join.

Second, the day after that Den Meeting, remind them to take the two invitations to school to give to their friends. The invitation is personalized and comes directly from your Cub Scout to their friends.

Third, on the morning of the recruitment meeting/or Spring School Night for Scouting (listed on the materials), be sure that they remind their friends of the meeting that evening.

Another way you can help is to follow up with the parents of your Cub’s friends and encourage them to come to the meeting. Your child will have more fun in Scouts if their friends join, and you may just make some new friends yourself!

Many thanks to you and your family for choosing Scouting for your child. The time you spend with them in Scouting is very important and will help them to grow into the best adult they can be!

For more information about the values of Scouting, please contact your child’s leaders or the Cornhusker Council Service Center, (402) 488-6020.

www.cornhuskercouncil.org/join

WELCOME! NEW CUB SCOUT FAMILY

A FAMILY INFORMATION GUIDE



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Why Join Cub Scouting?

- If you could give only one gift to the young people who are most important in your life, what would it be? No matter what your family situation is, it is within your power to help these children grow into people with a good feeling about themselves and a genuine concern for others. Cub Scouting can assist you in providing this greatest gift of all.
- Cub Scout-age children benefit developmentally from belonging to a small group of peers. Your child will be a part of a den, a small group of Cub Scouts in the same grade level and who are of the same gender. Through this sense of belonging, children build self-esteem and learn to get along with others.
- As a parent, you want to be assured that the groups that your child joins will teach values consistent with good citizenship, character development, personal fitness, and leadership. The values we seek to instill are found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

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.

We know that kids do not join Cub Scouting for character building. Youth join because it is fun. Your child will learn great lessons, but they will be far too busy having fun to notice.



How Does Cub Scouting Work?

In Cub Scouting, you and your family join in on the program with your child, and you will help them along the way. Cub Scouts have a different handbook at each grade level, with adventures that are age-appropriate for their developmental level. As your child advances through these books by working on adventures, they will earn badges and other recognition that they wear on their uniform. As your child grows in Cub Scouting, your role will change with them, from hands-on involvement to guiding and coaching. Your child's success in Cub Scouting depends on you!

The Cub Scouting program takes place at two levels. Your child will be a part of a **den**, a small group of Cub Scouts in the same grade level and who are of the same gender. A den typically meets twice a month, although some may meet more often. All dens, from kindergarten through fifth grade, make up a **pack**. Once a month, the dens, with their families, come together at the pack meeting and Cub Scouts are recognized for the adventures and badges they have earned.

Dens

The Lion (Kindergarten) and Tiger (First Grade) Dens

Cub Scouts who join in kindergarten or first grade join with an adult partner, usually the parent or guardian. A Lion or Tiger den should be no more than eight Cub Scouts and their adult partners. An adult is selected to serve as the den leader (usually one of the parents) and coordinates the meetings. Each adult partner takes a turn assisting or hosting meetings or activities with the den leader. This shared leadership model is a great way to ensure the den leader has the help needed to deliver a quality program.



Lion dens (kindergarten) meet once a month or more often if the den leader and families choose to.

Tiger dens (first grade) meet typically twice a month or more often if the den leader and families choose to.

At den meetings, Lions and Tigers work on adventures that are found in their handbooks.



The Wolf (Second Grade) and Bear (Third Grade) Dens

Children this age are becoming more independent, and activities are designed to meet their developmental needs.

A Wolf (second grade) or Bear (third grade) den is ideally no more than eight Cub Scouts of the same gender, a den leader, an assistant den leader (usually parents of some of the den members), and often a den chief (an older Scout who helps the den leader).

They typically meet twice a month at a regularly scheduled time and place, and they also attend the pack meeting with their families



The Webelos Scout Den (Fourth and Fifth Grades)

The Webelos den is much like the Wolf and Bear dens, but there is more emphasis on learning to take leadership roles and preparing to join a Scout troop.

Pack Meetings

The Cub Scout pack is made up of all the dens, which meet monthly at the pack meeting, led by the Cubmaster.

There are games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of achievements and badges that Cub Scouts earned during that month. This is where families can see the achievements of their Cub Scout.

The pack, including families, also participates in other special events throughout the year, including:

Pinewood Derby®—You can build and race a model car with your child.

Blue and gold banquet—Cub Scouting's birthday party—for all pack members and their families— takes place in February.

Camping—Overnight and day camp opportunities introduce your family to the camping experience.



Service projects—Packs may participate in food drives, conservation projects, or other community activities.

Field trips and special outings—Den outings are a great way to learn more about the people and places in your community.

Make memories with your child that will last a lifetime!

How Can You Help?

The most important help that you, as a parent, can give your child is to work with them on their Cub Scouting adventures as they work toward their badge of rank. The Cub Scout handbook is full of age-appropriate activities; some of them you do together at home. Den meetings are designed for Cub Scouts to complete adventures that are required for them to earn their badge of rank. When you have completed a requirement at home, make sure your den leader is informed so that they can properly record it and your child can be recognized for their achievements.

Your role as a parent is the secret to a successful Cub Scouting program!

The den and the pack rely on parent participation to run a successful program. Cub Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Volunteer leaders are an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. By volunteering in Scouting, you are also giving your child and family the gift of your time. What could be more valuable? You will have an opportunity to be a positive influence in their life and in the lives of their friends. Here are some of the ways you could volunteer:

Den leader. Uses the Den Leader Guide and den meeting plans to lead the den at den meetings. Attends the monthly pack committee meeting.

Cubmaster. Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Emcees the monthly pack meeting and attends the pack committee meeting.



The Pack Committee

Every Cub Scout parent or guardian is invited to become a member of the pack committee. Pack committee members perform administrative functions of the pack. The committee meets monthly and includes the responsibilities below.

Committee chair. Presides at all pack committee meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders and attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Advancement chair. Maintains advancement records for the pack. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

New member coordinator. Manages the transition of new Scouts into the pack and coordinates orientation for new Scouting families. Responsible for the marketing and recruiting initiatives of the pack as well as the growth and retention of the unit.

Secretary. Keeps records of the pack committee meetings and communicates with families about upcoming pack events and activities.

Treasurer. Keeps all financial records for the pack, including the pack bank account, and gives a monthly financial report to the pack committee. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Training

The Boy Scouts of America offers convenient training for parents who volunteer. As a new parent, you can learn all about Cub Scouting and how quality Scouting programs are built. Log on to my.Scouting.org and create an account to gain access to all available training content. For more information about training at all levels of the program, go to www.scouting.org/training.

Youth Protection

Child abuse is a serious problem in our society, and unfortunately, it can occur anywhere, even in Scouting. Youth safety is of paramount importance to Scouting. For that reason, the BSA continues to create barriers to abuse beyond what have previously existed in Scouting.

The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on providing the most secure environment possible for its youth members. To maintain such an environment, the BSA has developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides parents and leaders with multiple online and print resources for all Scouting programs.

All leaders are required to complete Youth Protection training. All parents are encouraged to take the training. To complete the training online, go to my.Scouting.org and establish an account using the member number you receive when you register for BSA membership. If you take the training online before you obtain a member number, be sure to return to my.Scouting.org and enter your number for training record credit. Your BSA local council also provides training on a regular basis if you cannot take it online.

Youth Protection training must be taken every two years. If a volunteer's Youth Protection training record is not current at the time of recharter, the volunteer will not be registered. For more information about Youth Protection, please see BSA's Youth Protection website at www.scouting.org/youthprotection.aspx.

How Much Does Scouting Cost?

Youth registration fee

(Includes a one-time joining fee of \$25 and an annual fee of \$75)..... \$100

Local program fee (Pack dues and/or council program fee) —

Adult registration fee \$45

Scout Life magazine (optional; strongly recommended for all members) \$15

Books: Youth handbooks are the *Lion Handbook* (comes with the Lion kit), *Tiger Handbook*, *Wolf Handbook*, *Bear Handbook*, and *Webeles Handbook*. Adult leaders use Scoutbook, the online tool found at scoutbook.scouting.org. Parents have a free app, "Scouting" for Apple and Android, that allows you to connect with your child's activities.

Pack dues: The amount varies by pack, depending on money-earning projects conducted by the pack to decrease the amount needed to run the pack program.

Uniform: The uniform and its cost vary by program for both youth and adults. Uniforms may also be purchased at your local Scout shop. See www.scoutshop.org for details and current prices.



You Are Not Alone!

Your **den** is in a **pack** that belongs to an organization chartered by the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) to operate a Cub Scout pack. The chartered organization approves leadership, helps secure a meeting place, and makes sure that the pack works within the guidelines and policies of their organization as well as those of the BSA.

Many volunteers and BSA professionals are interested in the success of your pack. A special volunteer assigned to help your pack is called a **commissioner**. The commissioner helps the pack provide a successful and high-quality program. The commissioner is also the communication link between your pack and the local council.

There are professional staff at your council service center who can help or will get you in touch with someone who can. Local Council Locator:

www.scouting.org/LocalCouncilLocator.aspx

My child is in Pack _____, which meets at _____ (location)
at _____ (time) on _____ (day and week of month).

My child is in Den _____, which meets at _____ (location)
at _____ (time) on _____ (day of week).

Our pack's chartered organization is _____

Our local council name is _____

Phone No. _____ Website _____

Our Leaders	Name	Phone No.	Email
Den Leader	_____	_____	_____
Committee Chair	_____	_____	_____
Cubmaster	_____	_____	_____



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
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