

Cornhusker Council Commissioner Corner

How Can Commissioners Help Units this fall?

These tips can be shared with both packs and troops.



- ◆ **Watch for Scouting America streaming TV spots and social media videos produced by the national organization, many featuring NFL star David Montgomery.** These promos will drive more traffic to the Scouting America website and BeAScout which leads to. . .
- ◆ **Ensure the unit's BeAScout pin is current and monitored.** Interested families should not have to wait weeks to be contacted.
- ◆ **Every Scout deserves a trained Leader.** Promote leader training in each unit. In addition to the online training, there are many resources available on the national website.
- ◆ **Quality programs keep scouts interested and active.** Recommend that units have their program planned for at least the next six months and have calendars available for current and prospective scouts.
- ◆ **Promote "invite a friend" at multiple events.** Scouts (and parents) inviting friends to join the fun is the most effective recruitment tool! Units don't need to plan separate events—just use the meetings/events already planned.
- ◆ **Encourage units to have a New Member Coordinator.** This person serves as the first point of contact with new families ensuring they are welcomed into the unit and provided with pertinent information.
- ◆ **Highlight the values found in the Scout Oath & Law.** Research has found that parents want their children to develop these values, in addition to spend more time outside and have less screen time.
- ◆ **Be aware that most prospective families don't know a thing about Scouting.** Watch the acronyms and jargon used — keep it simple!
- ◆ **Promote attendance at the monthly Roundtables.** It's a great opportunity to network with other leaders and to gather information.
- ◆ **Celebrate the successes and THANK the unit leaders for their efforts!** Remember we do this so that all youth in our communities can be part of the scouting program.
- ◆ **Buy POPCORN! Support our units and the council!**



Sept 2025 Priorities for Unit Commissioners

Membership, Membership!

Logging Connections/visits in Commissioner Tools:

Please document any contacts you have with unit leaders, even if you are not "assigned" to that unit — this includes all UC's & RTC's!

Focus on Membership Growth (fall recruitment plans), Retention (annual planning), Leader Training (efforts to get new Cub leaders trained), and Outdoor Activities (summer camp review).

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

With a goal of increasing the number of trained leaders across the council, the Council Training Committee is ready to take the various position specific training "on the road" with in-person training. If you have a unit that is interested, please contact Pam Chandler, Ass't Council Comm, (pkmchandler@gmail.com). SYT and den leader are just two examples of these trainings.

Save the Date!

College of Commissioner
Science

April 11, 2026

Bellevue College



We will need instructors and a Dean of the Master's Program!

Beaver Days at Camp Cornhusker



Encourage troops to help on any of these fall Saturdays:

Sept 6, Sept 20, Oct 11, Oct 25

Save the Dates:



October 9:

Prepared for Life
Auction

October 18:
Corn to Run



November 8:

Wood Badge
Alumni Banquet

*Be the Heart
Build Relationships
Change Lives*



Commissioner Staff Contact Info

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Dates to Remember

Sept 4: Roundtables
Sept 12: Popcorn Kickoff
Sept 17: Life to Eagle Seminar
Sept 19-21: PW/7F Tailgate-OREE
Sept 26-28: SV Camporee
Oct 2: Roundtables
Oct 11: CS Day of Awesomeness
Oct 18-19: Trail to Troops

Cub Scout Den Meeting Activity Card Decks



Check out this resource developed to support unit-level program delivery and simplify Den meeting planning. Each deck includes **116 cards**, customized by rank (Lion through Arrow of Light), and covers:

- **All 6 Required Adventures** with activity cards for every requirement
- **4-5 Elective Adventures** per rank
- **5-10 Fun & Game Cards** to drive engagement
- **Leader Resource Cards** covering onboarding, safeguarding, and training support

Created with volunteer input and aligned with the latest Cub Scout program updates, these decks also integrate with new support tools available at [Scouting.org](https://scouting.org)—ideal for both new and experienced leaders.

Check with the Scout Office for availability!



The Recruiter Strip has just one requirement: recruit a friend into Scouting.

Any youth member — in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing or Sea Scouts — who gets a friend, classmate or relative to sign up for Scouting can receive the red, white and blue patch.

Each Scout unit comes up with its own procedure for awarding the strip. In most packs, troops, crews and ships, the young person receives the strip the first time he or she successfully recruits someone into the unit.

Encourage Scouts to make that personal invitation. They should approach the recruiting opportunity the same way they'd talk to a friend about a favorite book or videogame.

See the attached form for scouts to complete to receive their **free recruiter strip!**

Source:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2019/03/06/most-important-patch/>

Share go-to ideas with the Cub Scout community using this new resource:

The Cub Scout team is excited to launch a new way to share great Cub Scouting ideas: a crowd sourced hub for activities, games and ceremonies. Whether it's a rainy-day game that saved your sanity or a truly moving crossover ceremony idea, we need to know the activities that worked for you.

Source:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2025/08/04/share-your-go-to-ideas-with-the-cub-scout-community-with-this-new-resource/>

Safety Moment

Beyond Criminal Background Checks



While criminal background and reference checks can be valuable tools in helping to prevent abuse, no organization should ever rely on them alone. Youth-serving organizations, schools, sporting organizations, houses of worship — every institution where adults interact with kids — must remain vigilant and bolster the use of criminal background and reference checks along with a set of policies, awareness, training, and implementation measures that are always applied.

"Stranger Danger" can be very real, and criminal background and reference checks can provide a line of defense against the type of people with known issues and criminal intent who would attempt to infiltrate youth-serving organizations with the aim of accessing, befriending, grooming, and sexually abusing children. However, most people who sexually abuse children are not strangers but are *already known* to their victim(s), and many of them may have no prior criminal background.

Those who commit the difficult-to-contemplate crime of sexual exploitation or abuse of a child are often referred to as "monsters" or "predators." Unfortunately, those types of labels can make it seem impossible that such a person could be someone you already know, someone you like, someone you trust.

To be clear, this is not about being mistrustful of people we know and like, it's more about active awareness. If anyone starts to think, "We're okay because this is a small community where we know everyone, so that helps reduce risk," that is exactly the type of blind spot these individuals are looking to exploit.

It's not our job to be detectives or "investigate," — that's the role of law enforcement. It is, however, our responsibility to recognize improper or inappropriate behavior and **report it**.

Reporting inappropriate behavior, innocuous as an incident might seem at the time, can provide a piece of the puzzle that may help reveal an identifiable pattern of behavior. That may lead to a problematic adult being **PREVENTED** from working or volunteering with children; not because a crime was committed, but before an offense can take place.

Source:

<https://scoutingwire.org/beyond-criminal-background-checks-making-sure-that-great-guy-really-is/>