

Cornhusker Council Commissioner Corner

How Can Commissioners Help Units this fall?

Some of these tips are repeats from last month and some are new! These tips can be shared with both packs and troops.



- ◆ **Ensure the unit's BeAScout pin is current and monitored.** Interested families should not have to wait weeks to be contacted. Need help navigating? Go to: <https://www.scouting.org/resources/online-registration/>
- ◆ **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. Create cards for scouts to handout to friends with details of upcoming events.
- ◆ **Promote the Recruiter Strip** — the only requirement is to recruit a friend into Scouting! Present the patch at a pack meeting or COH.
- ◆ **Quality programs keep scouts interested and active.** Data shows that 55% of the families that leave Cub Scouting were only enrolled for one year or less. Why would they leave so quickly? Boring or nonexistent programming, disorganized leadership and lack of communication were the most common reasons.
- ◆ **Ensure new families feel welcomed and are informed of upcoming events.**
 - ◇ Find the super friendly people in your unit to greet new families
 - ◇ Use paper calendars or newsletters
 - ◇ Use social media to showcase families having fun at scouting activities
- ◆ **Promote AOL attendance at Trails to Troops, Oct 18-20.** It will be an opportunity for each AOL to find a troop that will work best for them!
- ◆ **Scouting America Marketing Tools** — check out this site for recruiting resources and social media best practices: <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/resources/recruitment-marketing/scouts-bsa-marketing-tools/>
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **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.



October 2025 Priorities for Unit Commissioners

Logging Connections/visits in Commissioner Tools:

Please document any contacts you have had 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).

Changes to BeAScout Notifications:

The frequency of email notifications to the unit Key 3 for membership open leads and pending applications has been increased from twice a week to three times a week. Leads notification emails will be sent on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Pending Application notification emails will be sent on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Increasing the frequency of these notifications should lead to faster response times and, ultimately, welcoming more families into Scouting.

Save the Date!

College of Commissioner
Science

April 11, 2026

Bellevue College



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

Save the Dates:



October 9:
Prepared for Life
Auction

October 18:
Corn to Run



November 8:
Wood Badge
Alumni Banquet



Commissioner Staff Contact Info

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Dates to Remember

Oct 2: Roundtables
Oct 11: CS Day of Awesomeness
Oct 15: Project iGuardian —
Combatting Online Threats
Oct 18-19: Trail to Troops
Oct 20: Popcorn Sale ends
Oct 24: CS Night at the Museum
Oct 25: Youth Mental Health First Aid
Nov 1: First Aid, CPR, AED training
Nov 2: Great Pumpkin Shoot Out!
Nov 6: Roundtables

Top 10 Elective Adventures in Cub Scouting



Encourage pack leaders to try these popular electives:

- 1. Pinewood Derby (the Race Time Adventure)**
It's no surprise that Pinewood Derby continues to be an all-time favorite across ranks.
- 2. Let's Camp**
Camping is at the heart of Scouting, and this elective lets Scouts experience the magic of sleeping under the stars, cooking outdoors and building lasting memories.
- 3. Fish On (Tiger rank)**
The data shows Cub Scouts love fishing! This Tiger elective introduces the basics of casting, baiting hooks and enjoying time by the water.
- 4. Wolf Goes Fishing**
For Wolves, the fishing fun continues. This elective builds on what younger Scouts experienced as Tigers, letting them practice patience and skill.
- 5. Catch the Big One (Webelos)**
Webelos take fishing to the next level with this Adventure. And it's as much about the thrill of the catch as it is about learning respect for nature.
- 6. Whittling (Bear)**
Knife skills are serious business, and this elective introduces Bears to safe pocketknife use. Scouts learn responsibility while gaining independence with a new tool.
- 7. Chef's Knife (Webelos)**
In this Adventure, Scouts move from outdoor tools to the kitchen. They learn proper knife handling and get a taste (literally!) of cooking skills they can use at home.
- 8. Knife Safety (Arrow of Light)**
By the time Cub Scouts reach Arrow of Light, they combine all of their knowledge into a deeper focus on knife safety for both outdoors and in the kitchen.
- 9. Count on Me (Lion)**
Math meets hands-on fun. Lions explore patterns, shapes and building activities, making learning feel like play.
- 10. Air of the Wolf**
What kid *doesn't* love paper airplanes? This Adventure takes simple paper and transforms it into flight tests and competitions in design and engineering.

Source:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2025/09/17/the-most-popular-elective-adventures-in-cub-scouts/>

Safety Moment

Safeguarding Youth Parents' Guide Video

As Scouting America continues to invest in prevention efforts, we have recently introduced this Parents' Guide video, which will also be sent directly to the parents of new members. With this new asset, we aim to share key aspects of our Safeguarding approach with new parents while encouraging them to take the full Safeguarding Youth Training and join the journey with their child. This video doesn't replace the written Parent Guides but instead acknowledges that people absorb information in different formats. **Please use the link below to watch it, share it with your parents and volunteers, and encourage them to share it with their own networks.**

Source:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EcoMswvWmo>

Scouts BSA Advancement Webinar Series



Scouts BSA is launching a webinar series focused on troop advancement. This new monthly webinar is titled "Scouts BSA Advancement Demystified: Separating Myth from Reality" and is scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00 pm Eastern. Encourage Scouts BSA and advancement-related Scouters to get additional information from this link.



<https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-scouts-bsa/>

*Be the Heart
Build Relationships
Change Lives*



Cub Scout Overnight Camping

Camping for Packs and Webelos & Arrow of Light Dens is limited to no more than two consecutive nights. All **Barriers to Abuse** must be followed. For details see the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#).

 LION Kindergarten	 TIGER 1 st Grade	 WOLF 2 nd Grade	 BEAR 3 rd Grade	 WEBELOS 4 th Grade	 ARROW OF LIGHT 5 th Grade
Parents and Legal Guardians of Cub Scouts Are Not Required to Register with Scouting America to Attend Overnight Activities with Their Cub Scout All Other Adults Attending Overnight Activities Must Register with Scouting America					
PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN REQUIRED TO ATTEND		PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN ATTENDS- Option for extenuating circumstances for a registered leader to supervise			
Council Coordinated Cub Scout Camping - Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Not Required					
Unit Coordinated Camping - Pack Overnight Camping - Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Required					
 Updated 1/30/2025				Den Overnight Camping Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Registered Leaders may provide supervision if parent or legal guardian is unable to attend	
				Scouts BSA Troop Campout Same as Den Overnight Camping	
				Council Coordinated Scouts BSA Campout Same as Den Overnight Camping	