

Cub Scout Pack 540

Chartered to

St Patrick's Parish

Stoneham, MA

Affiliated with

BSA America

Spirit of Adventure Council

Flintlock District



Parent Handbook

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Welcome to Cub Scout Pack 540!



We're glad you're here!

We are an active pack and have approximately 72 boys and girls and their families from around Stoneham. We are a family pack and welcome everyone to join in the fun. Our website at <http://pack540.org> provides information and links to sign up.

All Packs have a Chartered Organization that acts as a 'sponsor', and ours is St Patrick's Parish located at 71 Central St, Stoneham, MA. We have our meetings at St Patrick's.

Your Scout is a member of a Den

- A den is made up of 5-10 scouts who are the same age and/or grade.
- Dens are either all-girl or all-boy
- The den meets once a month.
- The den has a Den Leader, but the Den Leader shares the planning of the den meetings with the parents/guardians.

Your Scout is a member of the Pack

- A Pack consists of several dens and meets once a month on the first Friday.
- The Cubmaster leads the monthly pack meeting, but each den will have a part in the pack meeting.
- Some months, the pack meeting will have special themes such as Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Banquet or guest speakers. Other months may be devoted to recognizing the Scouts for the projects they have completed by the presentation of beads, belt loops, activity pins or rank advancements.

The Pack is run by volunteers: registered BSA Adult Leaders of the Pack who make up the **Pack Committee**, which includes a Committee Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Den leaders, Assistant Den Leaders, and others. All parents of a Cub Scout in Pack 540 are welcomed and encouraged to become a Committee Member or a Den leader - more on that later.

Meetings Overview

Committee meetings are held the last Monday of each month at 7pm in the St Patrick's School Art Room. It is open to all parents of Scouts in Pack 540.

Den meetings are held monthly in the St Patrick's School Art Room at 6:30pm.

Pack meetings are held the first Friday of every month in the St Patrick's Parish Hall at 6:30pm

Mission and Vision

The mission of BSA 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, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent

How Cub Scouting Works

Scout Dens

Each scout is a member of a Den. A Den is usually a group of six to ten scouts. Dens are separated in girl-only and boy-only dens. The den allows scouts to get to know each other better and work towards rank-specific requirements.

Each Den is lead by a Den Leader who may be assisted by an Assistant Den Leader and/or a Boy Scout Den Chief. Den Leaders are trained parent/guardian volunteers.

At each rank level the scouts have several required and elective adventures to complete to earn that rank award. The scouts work on the adventures during den meetings.

Den Meetings

Den meetings are held monthly in the St Patrick's School Art Room at 6:30pm.


Lots of Cub Scouting happens in the den. Please remember that your scout's Den Leader is a volunteer putting forth his or her time and effort to help your scout 'do their best' to earn their badges, participate in the fun, and gain all the positive values that the Cub Scout program offers.

Please assist them in the following ways:

- Please arrive to den meetings on time. Your Den Leaders have lots of activities planned and it is important to have the whole group together to begin the evening's fun and projects.
- Cub Scouts must have an adult stay with them. While you're there, please offer to help the Den Leader with activities.
- The Den Leader will lead the activities, but it is your responsibility that your child behaves.

- Make sure your scout has their handbook, and anything else they need for the meeting before leaving the house. They will be working on advancements during den meetings.
- Be an active parent. Everybody has some special abilities and 'know how' that can be of great help in matters relating to Cub Scouts. Please make sure you have completed the Parent Talent Survey Sheet and return it to your leader. In addition to the scouts learning new skills from you, I promise that you will have a good time helping them.

Scout Ranks

Start:	Bobcat	
Kindergarteners:	Lion Cubs	
First Graders:	Tiger Cubs - working toward the Tiger Award	
Second Graders:	Wolf Cubs - working toward the Wolf Award	
Third Graders:	Bear Cubs - working toward the Bear Award	
Fourth Graders:	WeBeLoS - working toward the Webelos Award	
Fifth Graders:	Arrow of Light (transition to Scouts BSA in February or March)	



Scout Advancement

In Scouting, advancement is the process by which a member meets certain requirements and earns recognition. The Cub Scout advancement program is a blend of activities scouts do in their homes and activities they do in a den meeting setting. As requirements are completed, scouts are awarded recognition items to mark their progress. Regardless of grade, all scouts who join Cub Scouts start by earning the Bobcat badge. After receiving the Bobcat badge, a scout works on the requirements based on their grade level.

Each Cub Scout rank has several required adventures that must be completed. Scouts will work on these during den meetings and at home with their adults. Elective adventures are available and covered in detail in each level's handbook.

We use Scoutbook to track advancements, schedule events, and send emails. You will get an invitation for Scoutbook after your scout's application has been received by us.

Other Awards

Emergency Preparedness Award

This award can be earned by Tigers, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Scouts in addition to adult leaders. There are age-appropriate activities to earn the award for each rank. The award is a pin that can be worn on everyday clothes or on the uniform on the left pocket flap.



Religious Emblems

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, religious groups have developed the following religious emblems programs. The Boy Scouts of America has approved these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform. The various religious groups administer the programs. Check with Woburn Council Scout Shop or contact the religious organization directly to obtain the curriculum booklets.

Outdoor Activity Award

Cub Scouts may earn the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award in each of the program years as long as the requirements are completed each year. The first time the award is earned, the scout will receive the pocket flap award, which is to be worn on the right pocket flap of the uniform shirt.



Shooting Sports Award

Tigers to Webelos Scouts can earn awards for learning the safety rules and participating in three different disciplines of shooting sports: archery, BB gun, and slingshot. Shooting sports can only be conducted on a district or council level such as council-organized family camps, Cub Scout resident camp, or Cub Scout day camps.



Nova and Supernova

The NOVA Awards program incorporates learning with cool activities and exposure to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for Cub Scouts.

World Conservation Award

Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Scouts who have participated in either a den or pack conservation project and have completed certain requirements can earn the



World Conservation Award. The purpose of the award is to encourage all youth members to think globally and act locally to preserve and improve our environment.

Cyber Chip

Earning the Cyber Chip is a requirement for Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos ranks. Cub Scouts complete the requirement by visiting www.netsmartz.org/scouting and completing the age-appropriate activities.

Whittling Chip

Beginning at the Bear rank (third grade), Cub Scouts may earn the Whittling Chip. This is a required training for Scouts in order to use and carry a pocketknife during Scouting activities. The Scout must demonstrate to their adult leader the safe way to use a knife as a tool. In addition to a pocket card, a patch may also be presented but is not to be worn on the uniform.



Scout Uniform

One of Scouting’s methods of youth development includes wearing a uniform. The Scout uniform makes Scouting visible as a force of good, signifies a Scout’s commitment to Scouting ideals and serves as an economic equalizer of all scouts. Additionally, the uniform serves as a recognition mechanism for earned advancement.

Below are the basic parts of a Cub Scout uniform. As a scout earns advancement ranks, they will receive belt loops, emblems and badges to add to their uniform. A detailed guide to correct patch placement is available at the Woburn Council Scout Shop. 2 Tower Office Park,, Woburn, MA 01801 (drive around the back). The Cub Scout uniform can be purchased at the Woburn Scout Shop or online at <https://www.scoutshop.org/>

Class A Uniform

Purchase at Woburn Scout Shop

Lion	Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos	Webelos
Lion shirt	Blue shirt	Tan shirt
Lion hat	Badges for shirt	Badges for shirt
	Neckerchief	Neckerchief
	Neckerchief slide	Neckerchief slide
	Belt	

Optional:	Hat	Belt
	Blue pants	Hat
		Khaki pants



Class B Uniform

This is the Pack T-shirt given to each scout after joining.

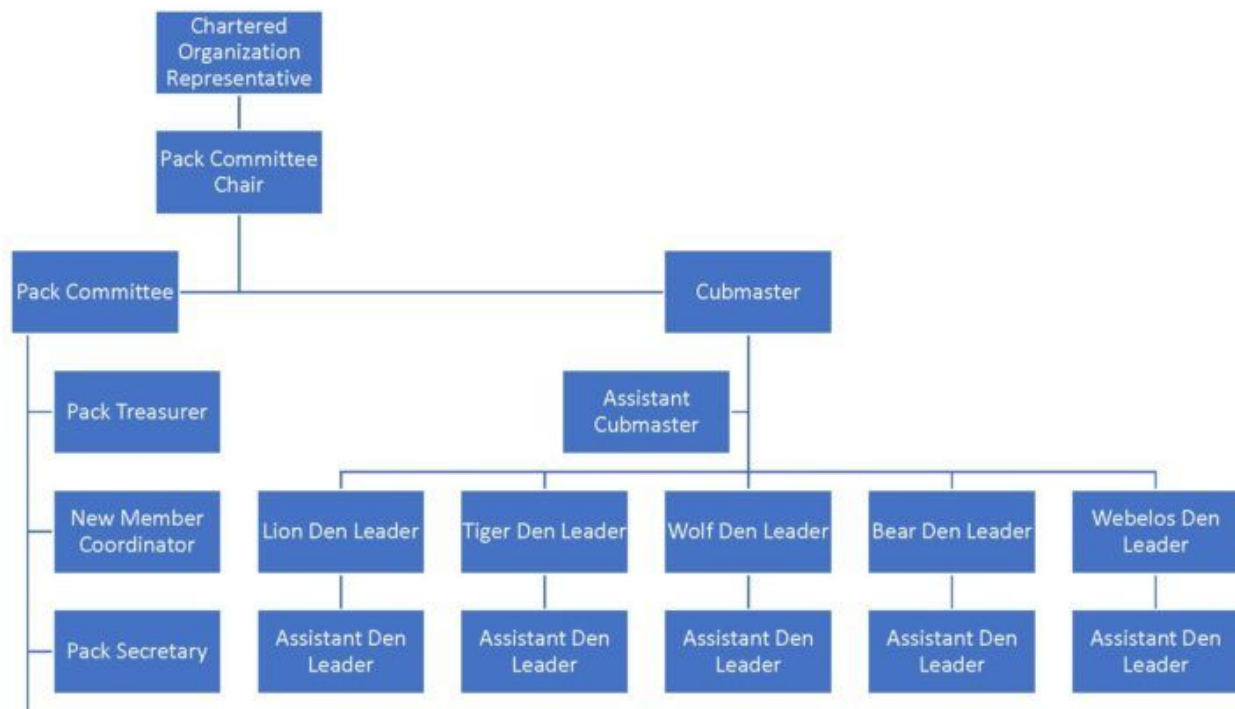
How the Pack Works

Parents and Caregivers' Role

You may participate at any level of effort that you wish to enjoy scouting with your scout. While Den Leaders are the volunteer adults who do the majority of the work and who have the most fun, there are numerous other roles in the Pack.

The more you put in, the more you and your scout will get out.

Pack Leaders 2019-2020



Cubmaster

Angelika Paul

Assistant Cubmaster

Christine Carpenito

Den Leaders

- Lions (Kindergarten)
 - Den 3
- Tigers (Grade 1)
 - Den 9: TBD, TBD
- Wolves (Grade 2)
 - Den 8: Jim McLaughlin, Ben Killilea
- Bears (Grade 3)
 - Den 2: Paul Condon, Santhosh D'Souza
- Webelos (Grade 4)
 - Den 1: Brenna Langenau, Melissa Hansen
 - Den 4: Angelika Paul

- Arrow of Light (Grade 5)
 - Den 5: Christine Carpenito, Lisa Demoulias, Melissa Danoff-Roberto, Maria Ciriello

Committee

Committee Chair: Pete Romanowski

Fundraising Chair: TBD, TBD

Membership Coordinator: Lisa Demoulias

Secretary: TBD

Treasurer: Tammy Vallas

Adult Volunteer Training

Every Scout deserves a trained leader.

Cub Scout leader training is easy. All courses needed to be fully trained are available online through <http://my.scouting.org> . Steps to set up a my.scouting.org account are available in each new leader's packet.

Youth Protection Training

Before an individual can be registered as an adult volunteer, he or she must complete Youth Protection training and a CORI through the Spirit of Adventure Council.

Position Specific Training

Each adult pack position requires position-specific training, available online at my.scouting.org

Pack Meetings

Pack meetings are held the second Friday of every month in the St Patrick's Parish Hall at 6:30pm. For Pack Meetings all dens come together for an evening of fun, service and learning.

Please observe the following rules in regards to Pack meetings:

- Scouts must have an adult at the Pack meeting, so please stay.
- Please remember you are in charge of your scout's behaviour
- Pack meetings are a family event - bring brothers, sisters, grandparents!
- Please arrive to Pack meetings on time. Plan on arriving at least ten minutes early, as the meeting needs to begin on time. If your scout is helping out as a member of a flag ceremony, or assisting with other Pack meeting activities, it is imperative to have them there on time. Thank you.
- Please have your scout wear their Class A uniform - Shirts tucked in - looking sharp!

Calendar

Cub Scouting is a year-round family program designed for boys and girls who are in Kindergarten through fifth grade (5-11 years of age). During fifth grade scouts will cross over into the Scouts BSA program, where they will work towards achieving the Eagle rank.

Pack Events - 2019-2020

Month	Pack Meeting Theme	Pack Outing
September	Launch	Popcorn
October	Camping Skills	Overnight Camp Sayre
November	Thrifty	Rocket Launch
December	Holidays	Service
January	Pinewood Derby	Battleship Cove Overnight
February	Blue and Gold Banquet	Sledding
March	March Madness	Swim
April	Basecamp Express	Overnight Camp Sayre
May	Wheel into Summer	Service Projects: Zoo, Memorial Day

Other Activities

Pack Camping

Pack 540 has at least one overnight camping trip outside in the Fall. During January or February we do an overnight at the Museum of Science, and then try to squeeze in another camping trip in the late spring.

Summer Day Camps

The Spirit of Adventure Council runs day camps for Cub Scouts at New England Base Camp in Milton and at satellite areas near Stoneham: Cambridge STEM Camp, Topsfield Day Camp & Topsfield Twilight Camp, Wakefield Day Camp, Haverhill Day Camp, Wakefield STEM Camp, Lexington Day Camp, and Chelmsford Day Camp.

February and April Vacation Day Camps

The Spirit of Adventure Council runs day camps during both February and April vacations at New England Base Camp in Milton

Service Projects

The Pack and several individual dens have service projects we complete around Stoneham. In the past we have helped restore a playground, run a food drive, and assist at the Stone Zoo.

Hikes

Den Leaders try to organize an educational hike in the area each month. We have explored the Middlesex Fells, Breakheart Reservoir, and Harold Parker State Forest.

Fees and Dues

Pack 540 collects \$115 for the year from each scout. Scholarships are available if needed.

\$80 of this fee is registration we pay to BSA, to Council, and for the Spirit of Adventure Card for each scout.

The Pack then spends about \$300 a year per scout on activities, materials, books, awards, pinewood derby cars and track, rockets, banquet...

How do we do it? With a very strong fundraiser:

Fundraising

To do all the activities we do we raise about \$300 per scout per year. We have a single fundraiser: selling popcorn.

Please participate. Without money, we can not do many activities.

Please plan on selling popcorn during the last 3 weekends in September. We have several locations around Stoneham where we set up tables with popcorn. The scouts ask whether a potential customer can help support them in their scouting.

We have 2hr shifts. Scouts frequently like to sign up for several shifts because they a) qualify for better incentive prizes and b) if they are top seller throw a pie in a leader's face.

Rules

To be sure everyone is safe, we have established a core set of rules that each scout, sibling, and parent must follow. Some are based upon BSA regulations for scout safety, others are meant to ensure respect to our Chartered Organization for the use of their facilities, and the rest are simply common sense and good manners that we expect from our your scouts.

1. All Scouts must be supervised by their own adult
2. Respect the meeting place and follow the "Leave No Trace" guidelines. Scouts should not use the equipment (toys/schools supplies, etc) or other items in the meeting place unless authorized by the Den leader. Every scout will work with the other scouts in their Den to leave the meeting place as clean as, or cleaner than, how it started.
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. Do not send a scout back in to get something while you wait in the car. Do not leave the scout unattended in the car while you run back in to get something. Do not send your child to the restroom - that doesn't count for being a buddy. Do not stop to talk and allow your child to walk down the hall and out to the car. Do not leave your scout when only one adult is present.
4. No electronic games/devices at scouting events. The purpose of the program is to encourage the scouts to interact with others; games/devices are counterproductive to that goal.

Code of Conduct

Scouts

- Be on time.
- Wear the Scout uniform properly, as shown in each Scout handbook.
- When the Scout Sign is up, only adult leaders speak ·
- Follow Akela's instructions and help others to follow them.
- Take pride in yourself, your Pack, your community and your country.
- Most Den and Pack meetings are held at St Patrick's Parish, our charter organization, and Scouts should behave with reverence while in the building ·
- DO YOUR BEST

Adults

PARENTAL LEADERSHIP: Cub Scouting is based on parent/scout participation. The success of Pack 540's Scouting 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 (e.g., Pinewood Derby, Christmas party, Blue and Gold Banquet)
- Help plan and run one Den meeting program a year
- Read your Scout's handbook and work with your Scout on activities not covered in Den meetings. Cub Scouting is an opportunity for parents and Scouts to spend time learning and doing things together.
- Track your Scout's progress on scoutbook.com.
- Assist in maintaining order during any Pack or Den functions
- Model good behavior and cease talking when the Scout Sign is up

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 our Cub Scouts. Discipline at Pack and Den events is at the discretion of the Scout leaders in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Failure to obey a rule will result in the following action:
 - First warning: A verbal instruction
 - Second warning: A 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 Scout in Den functions.
- Den leaders have the right to exclude a Cub Scout from their Den for reasons of continuing misconduct. The situation will be reviewed by the Pack Committee and the Cub Scout's parents. In extreme cases the Scout may be dismissed from the Pack.
- Non-Scout siblings are welcome at many Pack 540 functions, but parents are responsible for the conduct of their non-Scout children at all times. Parents may be asked to remove disruptive children from these events.
- No Scout or adult in attendance at a Cub Scout function is permitted to smoke, drink alcohol or use 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.