

# CUB SCOUT PACK 527

## Parent Information Guide

Welcome to the Adventure of Cub Scouting  
For Boys in Grades K-5



Prepared. For Life.®

### Why Join Cub Scouts?

- Your time is valuable. More than ever, today's families struggle to find time to spend together. Cub Scouting helps to support your family by providing ready-made opportunities for you and your son to do things together.
- Your son needs to belong to a group of boys his own age. Through this sense of belonging, he builds his self-esteem and learns to get along with others. As a parent, you want to be assured that the groups that your boy joins will teach values consistent with good citizenship, character development, and physical fitness. The Boy Scouts of America has been weaving these lifetime values into fun and educational activities since 1910.
- In a society where your son is taught that winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches him to "do his best" and to be helpful to others.
- Scouting teaches family values and works to strengthen your relationship with your son. Scouting activities can bring added value to the time you already have with your son.
- He will learn to live by the code of "On my honor."

But we know that boys do not join Cub Scouting just to get their character built:  
**boys join because it is fun.**



## How Much Does Scouting Cost?

**Pack annual dues** are collected once a year and total \$135. This also includes a subscription to the great magazine *Boys' Life*. Your den leader may ask for additional dues for den-specific activities. Many of the events that we offer are free but there may be additional fees for some activities that are offered, such as our camping trips.

## Paying for the Fun is Easy with Popcorn!

Our Pack holds one main fundraiser every year in the Fall where we sell Trails End popcorn. This helps provide a quality program for Scouts and families: the money goes towards the maintaining of the Pack, awards, our annual Pinewood Derby, special ceremonies such as Blue and Gold, and Advancement. It directly lowers the cost of activities for our Scout families and results in more free activities.



The sale is simple and very profitable, which makes paying for Scouting easy. We're excited for your participation in our popcorn fundraiser!

## What do I need to buy?

### Handbook

Each rank has their own rank-specific handbook: the Lion Handbook, Tiger Handbook, Wolf Handbook, Bear Handbook, and Webelos Handbook.



### Uniform

Our Lion Scouts wear a simple uniform consisting of the Lion t-shirt and hat.

For Tigers and above, The *Field Uniform* (sometimes called *Class A*) is the formal Cub Scout uniform which consists of:

- Cub Scout shirt
- Cub Scout pants
- Cub Scout belt and buckle
- Cub scout socks
- Cub Scout hat - specific to rank



Upon joining and each year after, the Pack will provide each Scout with the rank-specific neckerchief and the slide that goes around it.





Tigers, Wolves and Bears wear the blue Cub Scout uniform.



Webelos in our Pack may wear the tan and olive uniform of the Scouts BSA.

Uniforms can be purchased from the scout stores (see below) or online at [scoutshop.org](http://scoutshop.org). Our Pack also has a 'uniform locker' where you may find gently-used items.



Our Pack Activity T-shirts (sometimes called 'Class B') are available for Scouts and parents. This item can only be purchased from the Pack.

### Insignia and patches

Please purchase the following patches for the uniform:



Western Los Angeles County Council (WLACC) shoulder patch



World Crest Emblem



Pack Numerals  
(a custom patch is available to purchase from the Pack)



Den Number

### Scout Stores:

Santa Clarita Valley service centre  
24338 Walnut Street, Newhall, CA 91321  
(661) 284-6330  
*Hours vary*

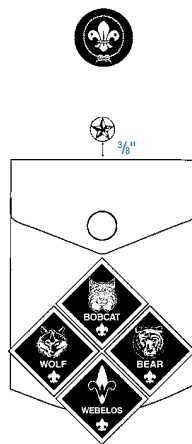
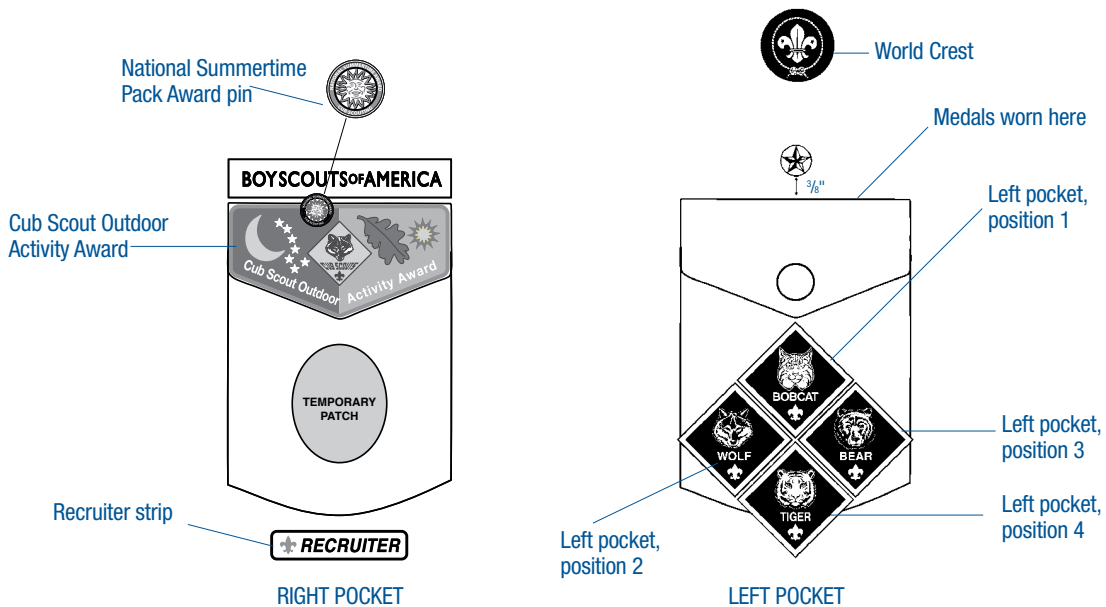
Anna Ruggueri Service centre  
(Van Nuys Scout shop)  
16525 Sherman Way, unit C-eight  
Van Nuys, CA 91406  
(818) 785-8700

### Online:

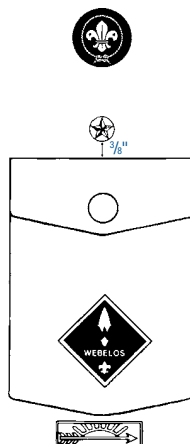
[www.scoutshop.org](http://www.scoutshop.org)



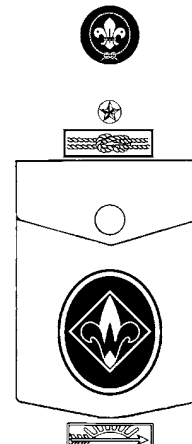
## Where to place your insignia



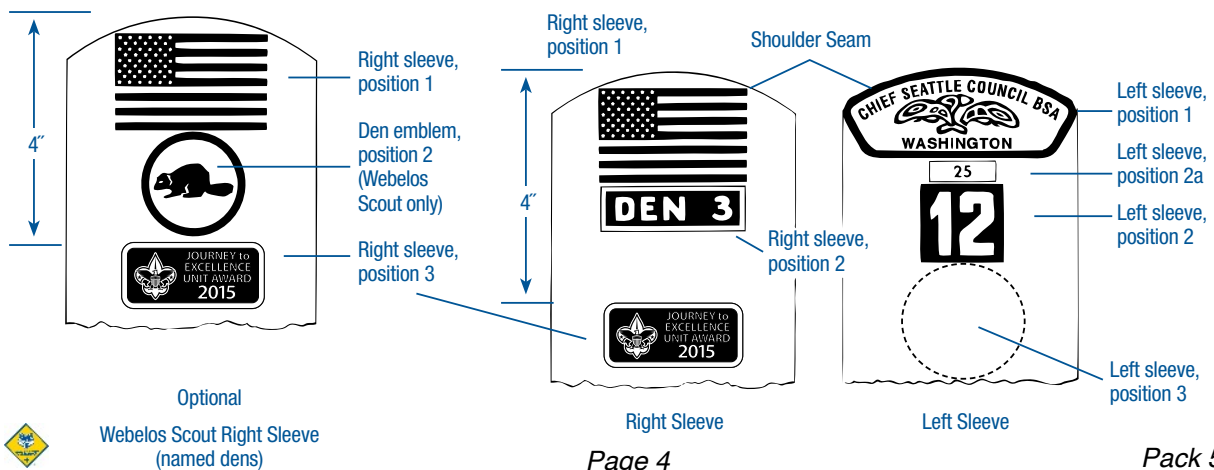
WEBELOS SCOUT  
LEFT POCKET  
(blue or tan shirt)



WEBELOS SCOUT  
LEFT POCKET  
(blue or tan shirt)



WEBELOS SCOUT  
LEFT POCKET  
(tan shirt)



## How does cub Scouting work?

Scouts participate in den meetings, a monthly Pack meeting, and other Scout events and Pack activities. This program is run entirely by unpaid volunteers, which are parents just like you that have Scouts in the program.

One unique thing about Cub Scouting is that you, as his family, join in on the program with your son, and you will help him along the way. The family is the basis of Cub Scouting, and Cub Scouts exist to support your family and help enrich your family time together. Your son's success in Cub Scouting depends on you!

## What is a den?

Your son will be a part of a den, a small group of boys in the same grade level, with two registered and trained adult leaders. The boys have a different handbook at each grade level (rank), with suggested activities that are age-appropriate for their developmental level. As your boy advances through these books by working on activities with you, he will earn belt loops, pins and patches that can be displayed on his uniform.

## Cub Scout ranks

						
Lion	Bobcat	Tiger	Wolf	Bear	Webelos	Arrow of Light
Kinder- garten	<i>All Scouts, except Lions, need to earn their Bobcat badge when they join</i>	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grades 4 and 5	<i>Webelos in their second year work on their Arrow of Light adventures. This is the highest rank awarded in Cub Scouts.</i>

## The Path to Advancement

Cub Scouts need to complete seven **Adventures** from their handbooks to earn their rank. After this, they can go on to complete as many of the remaining adventures as they wish.

Lions, Tigers, Wolves and Bears are awarded with Adventure loops which can be worn on their belts. Webelos are awarded with Adventure pins which can be worn on the Webelos colors or hat.



## 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 and activities, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentation of badges that boys earned during the month. This is where families - not just parents, but siblings, too - can see the achievements of their Cub Scout.

## Pack activities

Our Pack offers year round activities, and community involvement, which has continually earned us the highest *Quality Unit Award*. With all the activities that we do, we give our Scouts opportunities to earn the Outdoor Activity Award, National Summertime Pack award, Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award, World Conservation award, and 'High Adventure' Activity awards, to name just a few. Here are some of Pack 527's many activities:

**Pinewood Derby** - You can build and race a model car with your son.

**Blue and Gold Banquet** - This is Cub Scouting's birthday party in February, which celebrates the birthday of Scouting.

**Camping and overnights** - Our Pack organizes several family camping trips and overnights during the year that introduce your family to the camping experience, and we encourage you to come and join in! In addition, our district runs an exciting Cub Scout Day Camp every summer that includes archery, BB guns, swimming, crafts, games, sports, songs and skits. Moreover, both our district and council (WLACC) run Cub Scout-Parent and Family camping weekends several times a year in different locations such as Emerald Bay on Catalina island, Camp Whitsett in the Sequoia National Forest and local Camp Josepho. You can even join in with activities run by other districts and councils - the choice is endless!

**Hiking** - We have many hikes throughout the year which vary by difficulty and distance. Our Hiking Chair tracks each Scouts' mileage from Pack and den hikes so that we can award patches at 5 and 10 miles, and then for every 10 miles after that the scout completes. When a Scout reaches 10 miles, they will receive a hiking staff at one of our ceremonies.

**Biking** - Pack 527 offers several bike rides many times during the year. Don't forget - all riders (Scouts, siblings and parents/guardians) on any outing must wear a helmet! We also award a special patch for scouts who participate in bike rides, and mile rockers from 10 miles onwards.

**Service Projects** - We participate in food drives, conservation projects, and other community activities.

**Field trips and Special Outings**- Great ways to learn more about the people and places in your community.



## How Can You Help?

The most important help that you, as a parent, can give your boy is to work with him on his Cub Scouting activities. His handbook is full of age-appropriate activities that you will enjoy doing together at home. When he completes an activity or project, it is your responsibility to sign his book to verify that he has done his best. And then it is all-important for you to attend the monthly Pack meeting with him, so that you can celebrate his achievement.

### Spending Time With Your Child: The Secret of Success!

Come join the fun of Cub Scouting as a family! You'll make new friends, too, as you work with the parents of your son's new friends. No task is too difficult when you're having fun as part of a team of Cub Scout parents, reinforcing each other's efforts to help your boys grow up to be good citizens.

### Your role as a parent is the secret of success to the Cub Scouting program!

The den and the Pack also rely on parent participation to run a successful program. *Cub Scouting is run entirely by volunteers.* Consider volunteering as a member of the **Pack leadership team** or as a **parent helper**. Volunteer leaders are an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. By volunteering in Scouting, you are also giving your son the gift of your time. What could be more valuable? You will have an opportunity to be a positive influence in the lives of him and his friends. Here are some of the ways you could volunteer:

- Den leader
  - Cubmaster
  - Committee chairman
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Activities chair
  - Hiking chair
  - Biking chair
  - Camping chair
  - Pack trainer
  - Recruitment chair
  - Recharter chair
  - Friends of Scouting (FOS)
  - Popcorn chair
  - Fun Patch chair
  - Uniform locker
  - T-shirt chair
- **Parent Helpers** - Each year, the Pack undertakes several short-term projects. Parents and other volunteers are needed for activities such as Pack fundraisers (Popcorn Sale), Scouting for Food, Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Banquet, camping trips, and other activities and field trips. These jobs are of short duration and still enable all families to assist with important Pack responsibilities.





## Training

The Boy Scouts of America offers convenient training for everyone—parents, leaders, and youth members. As a new parent, you can learn all about Cub Scouting and the wonderful year-round adventure your Cub Scout is about to experience. All den leaders and assistant den leaders will need to be registered and trained prior to starting their den meetings in August. Log on to [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org), create a MyScouting account and get started!

## 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.

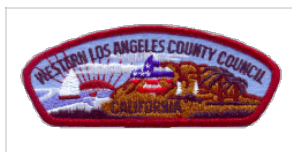
The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on providing the most secure environment possible for its youth members. To maintain such an environment, the BSA has developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies, and provides parents and leaders with numerous online and print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

We encourage all parents to take the BSA's Youth Protection training. This training is required for all BSA registered volunteers and must be renewed annually.

To find out more about the Youth Protection policies of the Boy Scouts of America and how to help Scouting keep your family safe, see the Parent's Guide in any of the Cub Scouting or Scouts BSA handbooks, or go to [www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx).

## You Are Not Alone!

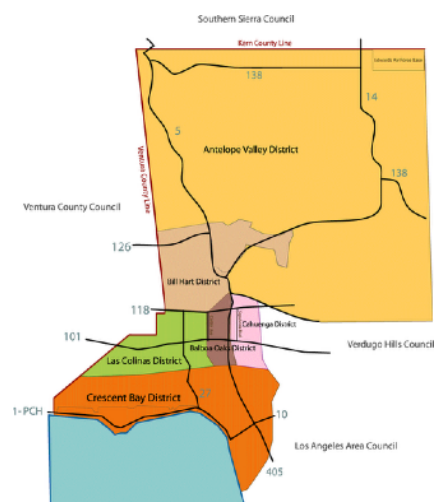
Cub Scout Pack 527 is part of a much bigger scouting picture!



**Boy Scouts of America** (BSA) is subdivided into different local 'councils': we are part of the **Western Los Angeles County Council** (WLACC) and the insignia for this is worn on the left shoulder of the uniform.

Our Pack is a member of the **Bill Hart District** which, along with five other geographic districts, make up the WLACC council. Each district helps support their units in providing a successful and high-quality program. An employee of the local council - a district executive - is assigned to assist the units in your district.

Each district also has a volunteer team called the commissioner staff. They are a service team that checks on the program 'health' of





your Pack, and they are a communication link between your Pack and the local council. A commissioner is assigned specifically to assist your unit.

All leaders need training to be effective. Your district provides online or instructor-led training for adult volunteers in how to be a successful leader.

Our Pack belongs to the *American Legion Post 507* who are our **chartered organization**. The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) charter each organization to operate a Scouting unit. The role of each chartered organization is to approve leadership, help secure a meeting place, and make sure that the Pack works within the guidelines and policies of their organization as well as those of the BSA.

## Communications

All of our events, updates and other information is broadcast via the *ScoutLander* website. Here, you will find our events calendar, and lots of other information including links to forms such as medical forms, expense reimbursement forms etc.

We have a private facebook group. Visit the link below and request to join. It's a great way to see pictures from den and Pack activities.

## Other Resources

Pack 527:                      [www.scoutlander.com](http://www.scoutlander.com)  
                                      [www.facebook.com/Pack527SantaClaritaCa](https://www.facebook.com/Pack527SantaClaritaCa)

Bill Hart Website:	<a href="http://www.billhart.bsa-la.org">www.billhart.bsa-la.org</a>	<i>Calendar, training events, &amp; district news</i>
Council website:	<a href="http://www.bsa-la.org">www.bsa-la.org</a>	<i>Calendar, training events, council &amp; national news</i>
National website:	<a href="http://www.scouting.org">www.scouting.org</a>	
Online training:	<a href="http://my.scouting.org">my.scouting.org</a>	
Cub Hub:	<a href="http://www.cubscouts.org">www.cubscouts.org</a>	

<i>Boys' Life</i> magazine	<i>Your Scout will receive a yearly subscription to this great BSA magazine!</i>
<i>Scouting</i> magazine	<i>The magazine for adult Scouting leaders</i>



### **Scout Oath (or Promise)**

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.

### **The Outdoor Code**

As an American, I will do my best to—  
Be clean in my outdoor manners.  
Be careful with fire.  
Be considerate in the outdoors.  
Be conservation minded.

### **Cub Scout Motto**

Do your best.

### **Scout Motto**

Be prepared.

### **Scout Slogan**

Do a good turn daily.



## Glossary

**Advancement.** The process by which a Scout meets certain requirements and earns recognition.

**Adventure.** The basic unit of advancement required to achieve the Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, and Arrow of Light ranks. Adventures are either required or elective; seven must be completed for each rank advancement.

**Adventure loop.** A recognition device for Cub Scouts seeking the Lion, Tiger, Wolf and Bear ranks. The loops are used to denote having achieved elective and required adventures. The loops are designed to fit on the Cub Scout web belt.

**Adventure pin.** A recognition device for Cub Scouts seeking the Webelos and Arrow of Light ranks. The pins are used to denote having achieved elective and required adventures. The pins may be worn on the Webelos colors or on the front of the Webelos cap.

**Arrow of Light Award.** Highest rank in Cub Scouting. The only Cub Scout badge that may be worn on the Scouts BSA or leader uniform.

**Baden-Powell, Robert Stephenson Smyth.** Founder of the worldwide Scouting movement. Known as Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, Chief Scout of the World, and B-P.

**Be Prepared.** The motto of Boy Scouting.

**Buddy system.** One part of the Safe Swim Defense plan. Swimmers of like ability are paired, check in and out of the water together, and stay within 10 feet of each other during a swim. The buddy system is

also used in other Scouting activities for safety reasons.

**Chartered organization.** A community organization that has been granted an annual charter by the Boy Scouts of America to use the program of the Boy Scouts of America. Responsible for the selection of leaders in the organization's Scouting programs.

**Commissioner.** A volunteer Scouter, representing the district or council, who works as a friend and mentor to Scouting units to help them succeed.

**Council.** A geographically defined administrative organization, tasked with delivering the programs of the Boy Scouts of America to the community organizations within its borders.

**Cubmaster.** The top volunteer position in each Cub Scout Pack. Responsible for planning the monthly Pack meetings and working with the Pack committee to make sure the Pack is moving together and in the right direction

**Den.** This is the name given to smaller, working groups of Cub Scouts (typically 6 to 8 boys). Dens are organized by age and/or grade. In large Packs, there may be more than one same-age and/or -grade den. Dens usually have a number (Den 1, Den 2, etc).

**Den chief.** A Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer selected by the Cubmaster to help the den leader lead the activities of a Cub Scout den.

**Denner.** A Cub Scout or Webelos Scout who is elected or selected to be the temporary youth leader of his den. Denners can change every few weeks, monthly, or other term so every Scout gets leadership experience.



**District.** A geographic administrative committee of volunteers within a council, organized to serve the Scouting units within its borders.

**District executive.** A career Scouting professional who works as a staff member of the local council. They are assigned specific communities within the council. Sometimes a district executive is referred to as a *DE*.

**Friends of Scouting (FOS).** An annual opportunity for Scouters and interested people in the community to be identified with the local council through their financial support and influence in the expansion of the council program.

**Pack.** The larger group a Cub Scout belongs to beyond the den. All Packs have numbers that identify them (*Pack 527*, for example). Packs usually consist of more than one den, and are commonly referred to as a scouting unit.

**Pack committee.** A group of registered Scouting volunteers who serve as the

administrative support for the Cub Scout Pack. It consists of at least three members, including a committee chair. The committee assists with tasks such as program planning, recordkeeping, correspondence, finances, advancements, training, public relations, and membership and registration.

**Roundtable.** A monthly gathering of adult scouting leaders in the district designed to provide help with program planning, training, and other useful tools.

**Scouter.** A registered adult member of the BSA who serves in a volunteer or professional capacity.

**Webelos Scouts.** The part of Cub Scouting for fourth- and fifth-grade (or 9- and 10-year-old boys). The word comes from We'll Be Loyal Scouts.

**Unit.** Term used to designate any one of the following: Pack, patrol, troop, squad, or team.

*Pack 527, Santa Clarita  
April 2019 edition*

