



Cub Scout Pack 92
Ogden Presbyterian Church
Spencerport, NY.

www.spencerportpack92.org

Parents' Guide

Lighthouse District
Otetiana Council
Boy Scouts Of America

Pack 92 Mission

The committee and leaders of Cub Scout Pack 92 are committed to providing a quality, year-round program of Cub Scouting activities. Special emphasis is placed on Character Development, Physical Fitness, Citizenship and Family.

Cub Scouts are required to memorize the Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack. We seek to make them real in their lives and hope that you will encourage your son as he strives to do so. We are also incorporating a Code of Conduct this year to be signed by all participants, leaders and parents.

Cub Scout Promise

I, (name), promise to do my best
to do my duty to God and my country
to help other people and to obey the
Law of the Pack

Law of the Pack

A Cub Scout follows Akela
The Cub Scout helps the pack go
The pack helps the Cub Scout grow
The Cub Scout gives goodwill

Purposes of Cub Scouting

The Boy Scouts of America began Cub Scouting as a program for younger boys more than 75 years ago. The purposes of Cub Scouting state that Parents, Leaders and Organizations work together to achieve the following:

1. Influence the development of character and encourage spiritual growth.
2. Develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship.
3. Encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong in mind and body.
4. Improve understanding within the family.
5. Strengthen the ability to get along with and to respect others.
6. Foster a sense of personal achievement by developing new interest and skills.
7. Show how to be helpful and to do one's best.
8. Provide fun and exciting new things to do.
9. Prepare Cubs to become Boy Scouts.

Pack Structure

Like every effective organization, Cub Scout Packs have a structure. Understanding this structure and how it works will increase your son's enjoyment of the program (and leave the parent far less confused).

Dens

Groups of 6 to 8 boys meet together as a den. A den leader, with the help of an assistant den leader and/or the other parents from that den, leads each den. Dens in Pack 92 generally meet once a week at either the den leader's house, at Ogden Presbyterian Church or at Ogden Rec. Many dens meet on Monday nights since our pack meetings are also on Mondays. Den meetings are generally not held during holiday periods.

Dens are organized by age groups. We will have one or more dens for 1st Graders (Tiger Cubs), 2nd Graders (Wolf Cubs), 3rd Graders (Bear Cubs), 4th Graders (Webelos I Cubs) and 5th graders (Webelos II Cubs).

Pack

The Pack consists of the dens and their families. Pack 92 meets monthly and for special activities. The Pack serves as a "parent" organization to the dens and provides direction, program support and maintenance of the budget. The Pack is led by the Cubmaster and an Assistant Cubmaster. With the assistance of the pack committee, they plan and direct the monthly pack meetings and other pack events.

Pack Committee

The pack committee consists of representatives from each den and other volunteer adults who are charged with managing the pack and its programs. Parents are encouraged to volunteer to serve on the committee and attend regular (monthly) meetings. Pack committee meetings are the second Wednesday of each month (usually September – May).

Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are always needed. If you'd like to help in any capacity, please contact the Cubmaster or your son's den leader. All types of help are needed – setting up and planning special events, shopping for and serving refreshments at our celebrations, driving for trips, assisting in den leader absence, etc. If training is required, registration fees/cost of attending training is paid by the pack.

In addition to the Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster, a cub scout pack needs den leaders and assistants, a Secretary, Treasurer, Popcorn Organizer, Special Events Coordinator, Membership Coordinator, Webmaster, Awards coordinator, Cub Adventure Camp Coordinator, Committee Chair, etc.

If you are not able to lead a den, your assistance is needed in many other capacities. *Remember that Cub Scout packs don't exist without volunteer leadership so please do your part when asked and able.*

Ogden Presbyterian Church

Every Cub Scout pack has a sponsor. Pack 92's sponsor is Ogden Presbyterian Church. OPC has sponsored Pack 92 and its brother Boy Scout troop for over 40 years. The church provides us with a meeting place for our pack committee and dens. A representative from the church approves all pack leaders.

Membership in Pack 92 is open to all boys in the Spencerport area regardless of any church affiliation.

Dues and Fundraising

Annual Dues

The annual dues for membership in Pack 92 for 2009-2010 are \$65.00 per scout and \$60.00 for additional siblings from the same family. All boys joining the pack for the first time pay a \$12.00 registration fee (which covers the cost of the area Council registration fee and Pack 92 patch) and an optional \$10.00 for a pack T-shirt. The annual dues fee is collected each September/October.

Parents should be aware that during the course of the program year, special programs or field trips may be offered by your child's den or pack, which would require an additional participation fee. Ex. A visit to RMSC or the nature center at Genesee Country Museum to work on an achievement toward rank.

Fundraising

Every fall, Pack 92 participates in the sale of *Trails End Gourmet Popcorn*, a major BSA fundraiser. Every boy is encouraged to sell popcorn. In past years we have been so successful with the popcorn sale that we have not needed to do any other fundraising during the year to cover basic expenses.

The combination of dues and popcorn proceeds are used to pay for:

- Annual registration and insurance fee (to Boy Scouts of America National office)
- Subscription to *Boys Life* magazine
- All awards for each boy (rank badges, arrow points, instant recognition, Webelos colors and activity badges, Academics and Sports belt loops and pins, etc)
- Rank neckerchief awarded to each boy as he 'crosses over' to new rank (Tiger/Wolf, Wolf/Bear, Bear/Webelos)
- Pinewood Derby car and trophy for each boy
- Refreshments at pack meetings and other events (Pinewood Derby, holiday parties)
- Building rental at Camp Cutler for annual pack campout
- Money is also made available to the den leaders to help pay for den projects based on the number of boys in each den
- Scout's ticket to Blue and Gold banquet

Friends of Scouting Campaign

Our pack also participates in the annual "Friends of Scouting" fundraising campaign, where each family is asked to consider giving a tax-deductible contribution to our local council each spring. This campaign is very important because funding from other sources such as the United Way has been on the decline, and none of the money collected in registration fees goes to the local council (it all goes to national).

The funds raised by the council are used to pay the professional Scouts that support us, to run the Scout office and the Scout store, and to pay for the upkeep of our council's two Scout camps.

Pack Program Highlights

Pack 92 plans a very busy calendar year. Although we don't expect every boy to attend every function, we encourage him to be as active as he wants to be. Two or more leaders or parents lead pack outings and special events.

Program Calendar

Every year, Pack 92 leadership meets in late summer to finalize the calendar for the upcoming school year. We generally try to have one pack event each month (plus the pack meeting). We realize that boys and families have different needs and we attempt to plan a program that meets as many needs as possible. Please note that dates are subject to change, as we get closer to events.

Announcements and fliers about upcoming events of special events and calendar updates will be available at our monthly pack meetings, on our web site and may come home with the boys from den meetings. If you have suggestions for our program, please let a leader know. We are ALWAYS looking for new ideas for our pack.

Pack Meetings

Monthly pack meetings are held the last Monday of each month (from September until April) at 6:30 PM at Terry Taylor Elementary School. These meetings give the boys a chance to demonstrate the skills they have learned and receive the awards they've earned. The entire family is welcome and encouraged to attend. Many pack meetings also include a guest speaker or other activity such as a holiday party.

Pinewood Derby

Each January the pack comes together on a Saturday morning for our annual Pinewood Derby. The boys first judge the cars in categories like "Best Paint Job" or "Fastest Looking" and then cheer each other on during the racing. The emphasis is on fun, and each car is raced three times with the winner determined by fastest overall time. Each boy receives a trophy (awarded at the February pack meeting) and the den with the best average time is the keeper of the pack trophy for the next year.

Blue & Gold Banquet

Pack 92 and Cub Scout packs all over the USA celebrate Scouting's birthday each February by hosting a Blue & Gold Banquet. In past years this event has either been a Saturday morning brunch or a Friday or Saturday evening dinner. Proceeds from the popcorn sale are used to subsidize this event and keep the cost for families down.

Scouting for Food

Every year the pack participates in the annual "Scouting for Food" drive to collect food for local food pantries. Our Cubs hand out bags or door hangers one Saturday morning in March, and the following Saturday local Boy Scouts collect the food and bring it to a collection station for distribution

Pack Campout

Each spring, the pack rents one of the Cub Scout buildings at Camp Cutler (near Naples NY) for a pack campout. The pack provides the food and program for the boys. This is a great chance for the boys to get a taste of camping and lets them see the facilities that are used for the council's summer Cub Adventure Camp. This is one of the highlights of the entire program year and all cubs are strongly encouraged to attend. Siblings and the rest of the family are welcome to come along. A small fee applies to each person that attends to cover meals.

Council and District Activities

Every year the pack participates in several events put on by our district and council. In past years this has included Fall, Winter and Late Spring Fun Days, and several 'Scout Nights' at our local sports teams, both during the winter and summer.

Summer Activities

Cub scouting is a year-round activity, but our summer program is designed to be more informal since we understand that many boys are involved in baseball, soccer, or other activities. Our summer schedule starts in May with our annual 2-liter pop bottle Rocket Launch and dessert auction. We also try to include at least one pack/council activity in the other three summer months.

Cub Adventure Camp

Pack 92 also strongly encourages the boys (and a parent) to attend Cub Scout Adventure Camp that is put on each July and August by Otetiana Council. This is a 3-day/2-night resident camp and is a wonderful experience for the boys and their mom or dad. We try to have boys attend as a pack during one or two of the camp sessions, but if that session doesn't fit into your schedule you are welcome to attend any of the others. Please note that slots for CAC do fill up fast!

Other Activities

Pack activities in previous years have included:

Roller skating, bowling, pack bike ride, Halloween and December holiday parties, RGE Live Wire show, Lighthouse District Park Cleanup Day, ice skating, mini golf and participation in the Spencerport Memorial Day parade.

Parent Responsibilities

When joining Pack 92, each parent or adult family member agrees to support their son in the following ways:

1. See that he has the proper uniform and handbook.
2. Assist him in attending weekly den meeting and monthly pack meetings.
3. Work with him to complete achievements for his rank award.
4. Return information forms and permission slips as asked.
5. Support his den leader as a resource person or substitute as asked.
6. Agree to serve in some leadership capacity as called upon.
7. Provide input to the den leader or pack leadership with regard to pack or den programming.

Scout Uniform

An essential component of Cub Scouting is the uniform. Cubs are made to feel part of a group and have a place to 'show off' their awards when they wear their uniforms.

Please see the "What do I need to buy" sheet which explains what to get for your son's uniform. This sheet can be found on our web site or please contact your son's den leader or the Cubmaster for assistance. The boys are expected to wear their uniforms to all den and pack meetings unless otherwise notified.

Pack T-shirt

An optional pack T-shirt will be provided to each boy when they join the pack for a \$10 fee. This T-shirt can be worn for summer activities and other events where the uniform might get dirty or damaged.

Additional Costs

In addition to dues (see Dues and Fundraising section), parents will need to pay for:

- A Uniform shirt and basic insignia (council strip, unit number, etc.)
- A handbook for each rank
- Food costs for pack campout
- Fees for district/council events or other pack outings or special events (overnighters, etc.)

Additional Resources

<http://spencerportpack92.org> Contains info on upcoming meetings, events, pack news, a photo gallery and links to other scouting resources.

<http://www.otetiana.org> Otetiana Council web site

<http://www.joincubscouting.org> Join Cub Scouting web sitesite

<http://www.scoutparents.org/> Scout parents' site