

# Pack 320 New Scout Orientation

Welcome to Pack 320! We're looking forward to sharing Scouting with you and your youth. Our pack meets weekly on Tuesday from 7pm to 8pm at Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church on Judd Parkway. Please take some time to read over this guide to better understand how the pack and the Scouting program work.

## Next Steps

- ☐ Read this guide..... ASAP
- ☐ Register and pay National and Council Dues..... ASAP
- ☐ Join the Pack WhatsApp..... ASAP
- ☐ Pay required Pack dues..... First 30 days
- ☐ Turn in Health Forms..... First 30 days
  - ☐ For your Scout
  - ☐ Family participating in events
- ☐ Have Fun!..... Always

## Ranks and Advancements

Cub Scouts are organized into dens based on the Scout's grade level. Each den will stay together for the entire Cub Scouting journey. A Scout can join at any grade without having to complete any of the previous years.

### Ranks

Kindergarten - Lion  
First Grade - Tiger  
Second Grade - Wolf  
Third Grade - Bear  
Fourth Grade - Webelos  
Fifth Grade - Arrow of Light

### Advancements

Each rank has a set of required adventures that the Scouts must complete to be awarded their rank. These should all be completed during the den meetings with minimum work completed outside of the weekly meetings. However, if your Scout misses a meeting, the requirements can be completed at home and reported to the Den Leader for recording. Once your Scout has completed an adventure, their Den Leader will present them with their beltloop / pin to reward them with the completion.

# Key Events

There are a number of activities that are important throughout the year.

## Pack Night

Pack nights are meetings where the entire pack comes together and participates in activities. These are typically themed and involve outside groups such as firefighters or police. These occur roughly every month and will be announced via Scoutbook by the Cubmaster.

## Den Night

The majority of meetings will be den nights where the Scouts will meet with just their den and will work on their advancements.

## Camp Outs

Our pack participates in multiple campouts throughout the year. The primary ones being our kickoff campout, Spook-o-ree and spring Cub-o-ree. The pack practices family camping where the Scouts and their family stays together. In Cub Scouts, the Scout cannot be left alone at camp without a guardian. If you have questions about camping, reach out to the Cubmaster or the Assistant Cubmaster. The pack has camping gear that can be borrowed if you do not have any camping gear.

## Pinewood Derby

This is one of the most fun activities of the year where the Scouts design and build a Pinewood Derby car and race them. The winners of the race will also get to race at the District level against other local packs. The event occurs in late January.

## Bridging Over

The Arrow of Light (AOL) Scouts are our highest rank in the Pack. The Scouts participate from September through February where they then move over to the Scouting Troops. This ceremony moving from Cub Scouts to Scouting BSA is the bridging over ceremony that occurs at the end of February and is when the Scouts move from the Pack to the Troop.

## Blue and Gold

The Blue and Gold is our end of year celebration where the Scouts celebrate their year and are awarded their rank badge and cross over to the next rank. This is the last pack night of the year and anyone that is important to the Scout is invited. This could include siblings, grandparents, teachers or mentors.

# Paperwork

In order to participate in the Pack there are some things that you have to do. You will need to register either online or in person with a paper application. While registering you will need to pay your National and Council dues. The dues are paid yearly and go to our National and Council groups for operating expenses. In addition to those there may be Pack level dues to cover our Pack's operating expenses. If you have any problems paying for your dues, please let the Cubmaster or Council office know. There are scholarships available for financial assistance.

In order to participate in any offsite activities the people participating will need to have a BSA health form on file. The health forms for Cub Scouts only require part A and B which can be completed at home. These forms must be completed annually and include a photo copy of your insurance card.

# Uniforming

The Scout uniform is an important part of the program. The uniform helps to make a cohesive group and sets up all of the Scouts to be equals and see each other as a team. Each Scout should have the official Cub Scout blue uniform with the Council insignia and the 320 pack number. This uniform and related patches can be purchased from the Council Office off of Atlantic Ave in Raleigh. The Scout Shop does have a service to sew on patches for a small fee if you do not have the ability to do so.

The pack does have a uniform closet that contains used uniforms that Scouts can get for free. Additionally, the Scout Shop will provide a Scout uniform shirt for free to any Scout who needs it.

# Communication

The primary source of communication from the Cubmaster to the Pack is via email using Scoutbook. Scoutbook is an application that Scouting uses to track advancement and unit membership. Weekly the Cubmaster will send an update via email to everyone in the pack that will go over the next week and include upcoming events. If after you have been registered you are not receiving weekly updates from the Cubmaster please let one of the leaders know. In addition to Scoutbook we also utilize WhatsApp to communicate real time updates about urgent changes. You can join our WhatsApp community by following the QR code on the last page of this guide.

# Unit and Council Structure

Scouting America consists of different levels that are responsible for different functions throughout the program

## National - Scouting America

The highest structure in the Scouting program is National. They set the standards, rules and requirements for all programs in Scouting America. Some of your dues that you pay yearly go to run the national program.

## Council - Occoneechee

The Council is a small geographic area that serves as our local representation of National. The Council coordinates all units and handles advancement and registration for Scouting. The Council also owns and operates various camp facilities in our area such as Camp Durant, Camp Reeves and Camp Campbell. The Council works to ensure that units are following the information provided by national. A portion of your annual dues goes to the council to maintain facilities and to pay for professional staff that work in the Council Office.

## District - Cardinal

The council is broken down into smaller geographic units called districts. Each district provides updates to individual units and provides programs for multiple units to participate in such as Spook-O-Ree and summertime activities

## Unit - Pack 320

Each individual Pack, Troop and Crew are considered a Unit. Each Unit operates under the supervision of the pack leadership to provide the program to the Scouts and to help them advance through the program. Your pack dues / fundraising goes towards paying for the awards presented to the Scouts and for program related expenses.

# Pack Leadership

## Cubmaster

The Cubmaster leads the pack and its planning throughout the year. They are the face of the Pack and lead the weekly opening ceremonies and Pack Nights.

## Committee Chair

The Committee Chair coordinates the administration of the Pack and its leaders. They lead the monthly committee meetings and handle new leaders.

## Organization Representative

The Organization Representative is the bridge between the Pack and the Pack's Chartered Organization. Pack 320's Chartered Organization is Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church.

## Assistant Cubmaster

The Assistant Cubmaster(s) work with the Cubmaster to help deliver the program and to step in for the Cubmaster or Den Leaders in case of absence.

## Den Leader

The Den Leader is responsible for delivering the rank specific instruction for their den. The Den Leader should advance with their rank year over year, providing consistent leadership for their youth for the whole Scouting program.

## Assistant Den Leader

The Assistant Den Leader assists the Den Leader in providing rank instruction.

## Committee Members

The Pack Committee consists of multiple different members with varying roles. Some of these roles include Treasurer, Advancement, Fundraising, Training and Quartermaster.

# Important Names and Numbers

## Cubmaster

Micheal Ambrose  
(215) 816-8695  
ambrose.scouting@gmail.com

## Committee Chair

Kathy Connelly  
(919) 801-4290  
kathy@deadlypenguin.com

## Advancement Chair

Beth Connelly  
(919) 559-4556  
beth@deadlypenguin.com

## Occoneechee Council Office

3231 Atlantic Ave.  
Raleigh, NC 27604  
(919) 872-4884

## Pack 320

WhatsApp community

