

Pack 3147 Introduction to Cub Scouting

Dear Scouting Families,

On behalf of myself and all of our leaders, I want to welcome you to Cub Scout Pack 3147! We are thrilled that you and your family have joined us for an exciting year of adventure, growth, and fun.

Cub Scouting aims to be “fun with a purpose”. For our Scouts, that means racing Pinewood Derby cars, camping under the stars, learning new skills, and discovering the world around them through hands-on adventures. Every activity is designed to be exciting for the kids while also building character, citizenship, and confidence.

Cub Scouting is a whole family experience. Parents, siblings, and grandparents are encouraged to take part in their Scout’s journey. My hope is that you’ll find that the Pack quickly feels like an extended family, where everyone pitches in, cheers each other on, and celebrates milestones together.

Parents, your involvement is vital. Whether it’s helping with a den activity, assisting at a campout, or simply encouraging your Scout at home, you play a big role in making their Cub Scout journey successful. Cub Scouting works best when families and leaders work side by side.

As Scout leaders, we take great pride in an emphasis on safety during programming, while outdoors, and in life. Scouting is about adventure, but it is done with careful preparation, trained leadership, and an emphasis on teaching Scouts how to respect and protect themselves, others, and the natural world. You can feel confident knowing that our activities are guided by a commitment to keeping your Scout safe while giving them opportunities to grow their independence and sense responsibility.

We are so glad you’ve chosen to be part of Scouting with Pack 3147. Get ready for campfires, laughter, friendships, and memories that will last a lifetime. If you ever have questions, please reach out to me or any of our leaders—we’re here to support you and your family on this journey.

Welcome to the adventure of Cub Scouting!

Yours in Scouting,

Michael May
Cubmaster, Pack 3147

Parent Involvement: Cub Scouting is a family activity, and everyone is encouraged to participate in their child's Scouting experience. We require that a parent (or another designated adult) be present during meetings and all outdoor activities (camping requires a legal guardian to be present). Ideally, parents would choose an adventure to lead at some point during the year. If parents would like to get involved with leadership, Pack 3147 invites them to do so. You do not need to join leadership to have a voice in the Pack. We accept all feedback and encourage parents to openly communicate and invest in their child through Scouting.

Schedule and Location – The Scout year runs from August to May, but we also schedule summer events. Our calendar is posted on our website NoogaScout.com. We meet on Mondays 7PM – 8PM at Ooltewah United Methodist Church (6131 Relocation Way, Ooltewah), follow the Hamilton County Schools calendar, and our schedule generally includes:

- Regular Den meetings and a Pack meeting roughly monthly
- Raingutter Regatta in the fall
- The Pinewood Derby in February
- Two camping trips in the fall and two in the spring
- Two activities per month in the summer

Camping, the pinewood derby, and the raingutter regatta are covered more in depth later in this guide.

Participation: We provide a robust calendar of events for the Scouts to participate in. We encourage families to attend the Monday night meetings where we provide the opportunity to earn the adventures required to progress to the next rank year over year. If you are unable to participate weekly during the school year, many of these adventures can be completed with your family at home. Your Den Leader is happy to provide suggestions on how to meet the requirements. Extra activities, including camping, races, and summer events are optional and not required for Scouts to earn their rank.

Dues – Pack 3147 wants to be completely transparent about where dues go and how they are used for your Scout's experience. All listed dues are for 12 months, not just the program year. Other costs are covered by fundraising.

Dues Breakdown		
Item	National / Council	Pack
National Dues	\$85	
Scout Life Magazine (Optional)	\$15	
Council Fee (Includes Insurance)	\$40	
Den Supplies		\$10
Regatta Boat		\$8
Pinewood Derby Car		\$8
Celebrations		\$13
Awards		\$49
Leader Scholarship Fund		\$5
Total	\$140	\$93*

*The Pack Committee has worked hard to keep the pack dues as low as possible.

Two Deep Leadership – Scouting America requires that all activities involving youth in Scouting have at least two adult leaders present. However, during den meetings, one leader and one parent satisfies the in room two deep leadership as long as a second leader is on site.

Medical Forms – We have to have Part A and B of the Scouting America medical forms for all Scouts regardless of whether they will be camping or not. We also need forms for all participants that are camping. There are no exceptions, and we need them turned in as soon as possible. Anyone without med forms will not be allowed to remain at a camping event. The Pack keeps them in an organized binder at all times, and they are shredded at the end of the summer programming each year. New med forms must be submitted at the beginning of each Scout year.

Pack Structure

Charter Organization - A chartered organization is a community-based group whose objectives, mission and methodologies are compatible with those of the BSA. It agrees to use the Scouting program to further its mission to serve young people. Kiwanis Club of Ooltewah/Collegedale is our Charter Organization.

Charter Organization Representative – Serves as a liaison between the Pack and the chartered organization. Ensures that both the Pack and the chartered organization goals and values aligned. In the case of our Pack, they also serve as a liaison between the Pack and the church, OUMC, where most of our activities occur. This ensures that our use of the facility aligns with the church's direction while maintaining the Pack's ability to provide programming to the Scouts.

Committee - To make Cub Scouting work it takes a team made up of each Cub Scout's parent or guardian and other caring adults who agree to take on roles that best fit their individual talents. Together this team makes up the Pack Committee. Every pack has a pack committee, which consists of at least three members (chair, secretary, and treasurer). By handling administrative and support tasks, the pack committee allows the Cubmaster, den leaders, and their assistants to focus on working directly with the Cub Scouts. Most Pack Committees will meet at least once a month. When and where the meetings are held is up to the Pack Committee Chair and that best meets the needs of the members of the committee.

Committee Chair – The top volunteer in the pack is the Pack Committee Chair. They are responsible for ensuring enough qualified adult volunteers are in place to provide the program. They lead the pack committee meetings.

Vice Committee Chair – This is a position we built for our Pack, not a typical Scouting America position. They serve as the backup for the Committee chair. Their duties are similar to the Committee Chair, but they serve to lighten the load. This position can be used to help smooth leadership transitions by them either taking over as Committee Chair or providing continuity when a new leader moves into the Committee Chair role.

Secretary – Records and distributes meeting minutes for the Committee Meetings. Works with the Committee Chair to build the agenda for the meetings. Serves as the time keeper for the meetings.

Treasurer – Manages the Pack’s finances and provides monthly financial updates to the Committee.

Advancement Chair – Maintains the advancement records for the Pack. Manages the Purchase Orders sent to the shop monthly for purchasing awards. Picks up and sorts awards prior to each pack meeting. At the end of each year, they manage the online advancement of each Den.

Activities Chair – Plans the major activities for the Pack with the help of the Cubmaster and the Committee. For camping trips and races, this typically includes the meal planning and the extra activities as the primary program portions are planned by the Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster(s). For celebrations, this typically includes the entire plan for the event.

Membership Chair – They plan and execute the onboarding and orientation for new families. Collects the medical forms for all families. During recruiting, they answer questions and respond to inquiries from prospective families. The Cubmaster and the Committee Chair also serve as responders depending on who is available at the time.

Quartermaster – Maintains the Pack supplies. They inventory and maintain the gear, identify needs, recommend purchases.

Committee Members – These are involved adults that do not hold a formal position listed above but still want to be involved in the leadership and direction setting of the Pack.

Program – The curriculum and activities that make up the Cub Scouting experience. This includes the adventures, rank advancement, camping, ceremonies, etc...

Cubmaster - The leader of the pack meeting is the Cubmaster. In addition to serving as the master of ceremonies the Cubmaster provides support to Den Leaders. Generally, the top volunteer in the Pack dealing with the youth and the programming details. Serves as the program liaison to the Committee.

Assistant Cubmaster – Assists the Cubmaster with Pack meeting and event planning. Ideally, they plan and execute at least one of the major events for the year. This can be one of the races, a camping trip, or summer programming. Fills in for the Cubmaster when they are unavailable.

Den Leaders - An adult, usually a parent, serves as a Den Leader. They carry out the activities related to adventures as they are presented in the Cub Scout’s handbook and the Den Leader Guide.

Assistant Den Leaders – They serve as a back up to the Den Leader and teach some of the lessons. In larger Dens, they may take half of the group and teach the lesson plan to help make sure everyone can participate and to help meetings not run late.

Dens – Scouts are broken up into Dens by grade level. They can be coed as we are a family Pack, but the kids will all be in the same grade. Adventures and rank advancement activities happen at the Den level during Den meetings. The Dens are as follows:

Lion – Kindergarten
Tiger – 1st Grade
Wolf – 2nd Grade
Bear – 3rd Grade
Webelos – 4th Grade
Arrow of Light (AOLs) – 5th Grade

When a Scout is in a given Den, they are working towards that rank, they do not earn their rank patch until completing the requirements.

Pack - The pack is made up of all of the dens.

Uniforms – Pack 3147 encourages, but does not require the Class A official uniforms. If you choose to get one, get as much or as little of the full uniform as desired. We do strongly encourage Scouts to get a Class B uniform which is the Pack t-shirt. Those can be purchased through the Pack and help identify Scouts during activities. The t-shirts also cover the majority of uniform requirements from camps to meetings. For Class A uniforms, I would encourage families to buy a size or so larger to make it last longer. The blue uniforms are used from Tiger – Webelos, and the tan uniform is used for AOLs – the Troop.

Meetings

Pack Meeting – These happen “monthly” and everyone remains together as a unit in order to give out awards and rank advancements. Each Den is called up and awards presented to each Scout. Typically, these are themed, and the second half of the meeting has some type of activity matching the theme. Pack meetings will almost exclusively happen at the church.

Den – Meetings that involve the dens gathering as a small group to work on adventures. These typically will happen three or so times per month, and provide the majority of the time needed to complete the adventure requirements. These will typically happen at the church but can also happen in other locations depending on the activities planned by the den leader / parents.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, do not worry. There will likely be opportunities to either make up the adventure in a later meeting or at home. Parents can work with the Den Leader to determine the best path forward.

Adventures – Each rank generally has 6 required adventures (listed below) as well as needing two elective adventures to earn rank. Any additional completed electives are entirely optional. Families are welcome to work on adventures outside of meetings. Earning every available adventure, except the shooting sports, qualifies Scouts for the “Super Achiever” award*. Upon completing the requirements for an adventure, the Scout is presented with their award or belt loop at the following Pack meeting.

*There may be some adventures not covered during den meetings. Often, work at home is required to complete every adventure.

2024-2025

Cub Scout Badges of Rank

Requirements

The Bobcat Adventure is designed to be the first required Adventure.

Each badge of rank is earned by completing six required and two elective Adventures.

The six required Adventures are focused on the aims and focus areas of the BSA.

LION Kindergarten	TIGER 1 st Grade	WOLF 2 nd Grade	BEAR 3 rd Grade	WEBELOS 4 th Grade	ARROW OF LIGHT 5 th Grade
BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership
MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors	TIGERS IN THE WILD Outdoors	PAWS ON THE PATH Outdoors	BEAR HABITAT Outdoors	WEBELOS WALKABOUT Outdoors	OUTDOOR ADVENTURER Outdoors
FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness	TIGER BITES Personal Fitness	RUNNING WITH THE PACE Personal Fitness	BEAR STRONG Personal Fitness	STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER Personal Fitness	PERSONAL FITNESS Personal Fitness
KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship	TEAM TIGER Citizenship	COUNCIL FIRE Citizenship	PAWS FOR ACTION Citizenship	MY COMMUNITY Citizenship	CITIZENSHIP Citizenship
LION ROAR Personal Safety	TIGER ROAR Personal Safety	SAFETY IN NUMBERS Personal Safety	STANDING TALL Personal Safety	MY SAFETY Safety/First Aid	FIRST AID Safety/First Aid
LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	TIGER CIRCLES Family/Reverence	FOOTSTEPS Family/Reverence	FELLOWSHIP Family/Reverence	MY FAMILY Family/Reverence	DUTY TO GOD Family/Reverence
2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures

11/9/23

Rank Books: Each den has a specific handbook that contains all the information needed for that program year. Families are encouraged to get the book and use it as their guide. All of the adventures for each rank are detailed, and all the requirements are laid out in an easy follow format.

Online Training: Scouting America offers extensive online resources available to both leaders and parents to help families get the most out of Scouts. This can be accessed through your online account created during registration at my.scouting.org. The training is free and available to anyone wanting any / all available information.

Celebrations – About least twice a year, the Pack meeting becomes a larger celebration. For example, the December Pack meeting take the shape of a holiday party where we play holiday themed games, activities, and refreshments.

Religious Implications – Scouting has no expectations of religious affiliation. The goal is to emphasize the importance of duty to your faith, regardless of what it is. We encourage families to do the faith-based portions of the programming on their own so that it can be done in a meaningful way for each Scout and family.

Award Entry

Scoutbook / Internet Advancement – The system where awards and adventures are entered.

This can be done by both leaders and parents. We have a tutorial video for any parents that would like to know how to enter their scout's completed adventures. This system allows parents

and leaders to record and track a Scout's progress so that their progress and status is known throughout the year.

Timing – All awards need to be entered by Tuesday night before a Pack meeting on the following Monday. Any awards entered afterwards are presented at the next month's Pack meeting.

Advancement - After completing all the requirements to earn their rank, the Scout participates in a short rank advancement ceremony where they are awarded their rank patch. They will then continue to work on other available adventures until the end of the Scouting year (May).

Fundraising

Scout Accounts – Pack 3147 utilizes the idea of “scout accounts.” This means that each scout that performs fundraising has an “account” that they can use to pay for all things Scouting. The idea is that any scout that participates in fundraising will “earn” funds that only they can use. This rewards those who actively fundraise. The account cannot be cashed out, but it can be transferred to another unit if necessary.

Do I have to fundraise? No. The Pack does use money earned through fundraising to cover the additional costs of providing the programming offered, however there is no family level fundraising requirement. As we do focus the reward of fundraising on the individual Scouts who participate, there is a benefit to fundraising. Your Scout can “earn their way” through Scouting if they choose to participate.

Show N Sells – A fundraising event that involves staffing a booth / table out front of a specified location (i.e. Food City, Ace Hardware, Tractor Supply) to sell fundraising items. We sell Camp Cards in the spring. Signups are available ahead of time to allow two scouts at a time to staff the booth for two-hour blocks of time. The funds raised during the two-hour time block is split evenly between the participating Scouts and added to their “scout accounts.” These events provide prime fundraising opportunities to earn money to cover the costs of dues, camping, summer camp, and more.



Crossover and Blue and Gold Celebration – The last meeting of the year is a celebration where the Scouts “crossover” to their next rank level (Wolves to Bear for example). They receive a new neckerchief and cross a small bridge as a symbolic gesture of advancement. The AOLs will go through crossover sometime December – February depending on the year and the group of Scouts. If they cross over before the Pinewood Derby, we invite them back to participate in the race.

Summertime Programming – In order to keep families and scouts active in the Pack during the summer, we plan two events per month for June, July, and August. One event is typically on a Monday night, and one is typically on a Saturday. If your scout participates on three events over the summer, they will earn the Pack Summertime Award. Examples of activities include summer camp, kickball, movies, a hike, etc...

Camping

Camping with Scouts is a very rewarding experience, but it is different than what some families experience when they camp outside of Scouts. Camping is the main reason a lot of kids want to join Cub Scouts, and it proves to be one of the most popular activities we do. Scout camping is a tent camping experience and trips carry on rain or shine unless there is severe weather.

We must abide by certain rules: a legal guardian must camp with the Scout, and only adults who are a legal guardian can camp without being a registered leader. Unfortunately, this means grandparents or significant others that are not legal guardians cannot camp without first registering as a leader. If this affects your family situation, let a leader know.

We must have medical forms for everyone attending. There is a big focus on safety during camping. This includes fire safety, wilderness safety, any concerns specific to that location, etc. We do a safety briefing at the beginning.

In the case of an issue, find a leader immediately. They can assist with getting first aid. In the event of a real emergency, the Pack will have the location and contact information of the nearest medical facility.

Water and restrooms are always available but can range from pit to porcelain toilets

Electricity is rarely available, so plan for the ability to charge phones or power necessary items without outlets.

There is a two-night maximum with Cubs: typically, Friday evening to Sunday late morning.

Most sites will be within about two hours of Ooltewah but can be further at times.

We cook meals as a Pack: three meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.

Food allergies are accommodated if possible.

The cost of the food is included in the cost of the campouts.

Usually the cost is \$15 - \$25 based on the location and the overall cost to camp.

Pricing covers the costs of activities and food, never more than necessary.

The Cubmaster will send out an expected agenda (Subject to necessary changes) ahead of the camping trip so that families have an idea of what to expect. This agenda will also include important notes that are specific to that trip and that location. For example: No cell phone signal at the site or a unique activity, like fishing or swimming, that will result in nonstandard items to pack. A sample agenda is listed below

Campouts are not required to complete a Cub Scouts rank.

Packing Lists – The packing list can change depending on where the trip is and what activities are scheduled, and we will send out a recommended list ahead of a trip. The Pack does have a basic packing list below to use as a starting point.

Pack 3147 Recommended Pack List	
Essential Six - The essential items Cub Scouts take on hikes and camping	
First Aid Kit	Optional Extras
Flashlight	Camera
Sun Protection	Binoculars
Trail Food	Notebook and Pen
Filled Water Bottle	Sunglasses
Whistle	Battery Powered Fan
	Power Bank to Charge Phones
Overnight Camping Gear	
Tent	Spare Batteries
Sleeping Bag	Tarp
Extra Blanket	
Pillow	
Sleeping Pad or Air Mattress	
Rain Gear / Poncho	
Warm Jacket / Sweatshirt	
Sleeping Clothes	
Cup, Bowl, Plate, Utensils	
Insect Repellant	
Seasonally Appropriate Clothing	
Toiletries	
Pack Shirt	
Durable Shoes	
Hat	
Scout Handbook	
Camp Chair	

Agenda – Every campout will have a different agenda depending on the location and goals of the event. For example, a campout may have a focus on water activities if at a camp with a lake, a historical focus when at a battlefield, or a hiking and wildlife focus at a place like Cades Cove. A sample agenda from Red Clay Historic Park:



Red Clay Campout Agenda
March 7th – 9th 2025

Please make sure you have turned in your **Medical Forms (with copy of health insurance card)** for all attendees (Scouts, parents, and siblings) if you haven't, we will have some blank forms just in case.

Please make sure you eat or pick up and bring dinner on Friday **before** coming to the campout.

Schedule is subject to adjustments if necessary during the trip

Friday, September 20, 2024

5:00 pm – Arrival time at Red Clay - Camp Set-up begins. If you need help setting up, please let us know!
7:00 pm – All gather for Welcome and Camp Rules / Safety Briefing.
7:15 pm (Maybe 7:30) – Pack Movie Night and snack
10:00 pm – Lights Out

Saturday, September 21, 2024

7:30 am – Wake up
8:30 am – Prepare and eat breakfast and clean up**
10:00 am – Opening Flag Ceremony (Class A Uniforms if you have one, Class B if not).
10:30 am – Ranger guided hike around the property
12:30 pm – Prepare lunch, eat, clean up** (Prep will start right after the hike)
2:00 pm – Service project with the park followed by a Cherokee weapons demonstration
4:00 pm – Snack Time
4:20 pm – Leave No Trace Check (aka kids pick up all the trash they have left around)
4:45 pm – Den Time or Free time
6:30 pm – Prepare dinner, eat, and Clean Up**
After Dinner Scouts not involved with dinner clean up can help with Camp Fire Preparation
At Dark (around 8:00 pm) Campfire: Roasted Marshmallows and other desserts then Campfire program*
10:00pm – Lights Out

Sunday, September 22, 2024

7:00 am – Wake up, Grab and Go breakfast
9:00 am - Break down Camp, final Leave No Trace check, and depart by 11.

***CAMP FIRE PROGRAM:**

Each Den can come up with a skit to put on or some jokes to tell at the campfire.

******Each Den will be assigned a meal to help set up or clean up.

We strongly encourage the Scouts to be device free for the weekend. The movie is primarily to keep them occupied during camp set up.

Additional Items to Bring:

Shovel and work gloves for tree planting

Raingutter Regatta – A boat race that takes place in the fall, typically October. Each scout will assemble and decorate their own small boat from an official Scouting America Raingutter Regatta kit. They race the boats on an inflatable “raingutter” track. We give each Scout a straw that they can use to blow air into the sail of the boat to race them. Rules and regulations for this race are sent out closer to when we give out the kits. The race occurs on a Monday night, typically starting earlier than a standard meeting. The cost of the kit is included in the dues and is handed out about three weeks before the race.



Pinewood Derby - A car race that takes place in the winter, typically February. Each scout will build and decorate their own small car from an official Scouting America Pinewood Derby kit. They race them, six at a time, down a track. Rules and regulations for this race are sent out closer to the time to give out the kits. The cost of the kit is included in the dues and is handed out about 3-4 weeks ahead of the race. For families that do not have access to saws, we offer a cut night in January where volunteers will rough cut and rough sand a Scout's cars. During this "cut night" we will also have templates available to help inspire ideas if needed.

With Pack 3147, the Derby is... Special. It is not only the quintessential Cub Scout event, but we turn the Pinewood Derby into a large event on a Saturday. Derby cars are checked in and inspected, then the race occurs. The event usually lasts a total of 2-3 hours in the late morning or afternoon and usually includes a pot luck style meal. We incorporate a Pack meeting and awards into the race window as well.



Closing: This guide is meant to make the transition into Scouting smoother and make integrating new families easier by giving them information on what to expect and what Scouting looks like. There is a lot of information, and it may not, however, answer all your questions. If you have any additional feedback on what can be included, or any additional questions, please let a leader know. Again, welcome to Scouting with Pack 3147!

Links:

<https://scoutbook.scouting.org/>

Messages are sent from the Scoutbook platform.

<https://advancements.scouting.org/login>

Awards are entered through the advancement platform.

<https://www.noogascout.com/>

Our Pack's Website.

<https://www.noogascout.com/resources.html>

Resource tab of the Pack website.