

I'm interested in Pack 378. What do I need to know?

Here are some answers to frequently asked questions.

- **How young/old can a child be to join Cub Scouts?** Pack 378 includes children as young as Kindergarten and as old as 5th grade. Beyond 5th grade, boys are eligible for Boy Scouts.
- **Must parents be involved?** Cub scouts is a family program and we encourage all parents/guardians to participate. The younger scouts (Kinder and 1st grade, which is the Lion and Tiger dens) require parent participation at den meetings. As scouts get older, the curriculum is designed to teach and encourage independence relying less and less on parents, however, the success of a pack is dependent on engaged and active volunteers including parents.
- **How often do Cub Scouts meet?** The Pack (all grade levels) meets once a month on the first Thursday from 7-8 pm. In addition, each den (individual grade levels) also meet roughly 2 times per month for about an hour each.
- **What is the cost to join? Are there any other costs?** Dues are \$85/year for youth. Typically these are collected when a scout joins then renewed each year around November. In addition, a uniform shirt is required with a few required patches. These generally run under \$40 and can last for more than one year. Throughout the year there may be optional activities with nominal fees such as den outings, family camping, or the annual Blue and Gold banquet.
- **What do dues include?** Portions of dues are provided to the national Boy Scouts of America (\$33), the regional Council (\$2.50), Boys' Life Magazine subscription (\$12), and local dues (\$37.50). Local dues provide program materials; recognition like patches, pins, and belt loops; funds for event like raingutter regatta, pinewood derby, and summer time activities; and other uniform pieces like neckerchiefs, pack patches, den patches, etc.
- **What is the difference between a pack and a den?** The Pack is the collective unit, which includes all grade levels (Kindergarten-5th). Each den is comprised of individual grade levels with a rank designation (eg. Lion, Tiger, Wolf, etc.)
- **What rank would my child be?** Kindergarteners are called Lions. First graders are Tigers. Second graders are wolves. Third graders are bears. Fourth and fifth graders are Webelos. Fifth graders will also work to achieve their Arrow of Light designation. All scouts will first earn their "Bobcat" badge no matter what grade or age.
- **When do dens meet?** It varies by den. Most meet roughly 2 times per month for one hour.
- **Who are the den leaders and pack leaders?** Please refer to the leader directory and contact sheet supplied in this packet.
- **What is the Pack/den schedule?** Please refer to the calendar provided in this packet for Pack meeting and activity dates. For den meeting times, please contact the respective den leader.
- **How does the Pack provide information and communicate with its members?** Primarily, we use a tracking software called Scoutbook. After a member joins, the contact information is entered into the software and an email invitation is sent to the parent(s)/guardian(s) affiliated with the member. This software is used for tracking purposes and provides access to the parents/guardians to view the members' record. In addition, the Pack's calendar is maintained via this software with reminder notifications scheduled to distribute via email to registered users including parents/guardians. If a phone number is provided, occasionally this software can also be utilized to text alerts. Resources such as the Remind app (for subscribed users) and our facebook page (for followers) may be utilized for additional communications. Finally, the Pack publishes a newsletter monthly to keep its members and parents informed of important information.
- **Are scholarships available?** Yes, there is a limited number of scholarships available each year to families who would like to be active in scouts, but have limited resources. Please see the Pack's Committee Chair to discuss potential opportunity.

I would like to join Pack 378. What do I need to do?

- Complete a youth application for your scout
- Pay annual dues of \$85

I've recently joined Pack 378. What should I do now?

It is recommended that you do the following in the first 30 days.

- Purchase a uniform shirt, world crest patch, and longhorn council patch (occasionally shirts are available with these already sewn on) from a Scout Shop or a Pack 378's Uniform Exchange. *Note: Please refer to the Pack's uniform guidance regarding what other uniform items are provided, optional, and recommended.*
- Complete a medical release form for your scout
- Complete a family talent survey for any/all adults in your household
- Review the Pack calendar for upcoming meeting and event dates
- Contact your den leader to find out the den meeting schedule
- Text "@pack378" to 81010 to sign up for Remind texts
- Like the Pack 378 facebook page (www.facebook.com/pack378/)

It is recommended that you do the following in your first 60 days.

- We encourage all parents to take the online Youth Protection Training (YPT) at my.scouting.org
- Review the resources and forms available at www.pack378.net/forms-resources/

Within your first year of scouting we encourage the following.

- Attend at least one camping trip.
- Look for places that you as a parent can volunteer and get involved.
- Participate! It's not reasonable to expect you and your child to attend every pack and den meeting, activity, or outing, but it is certain that the more you put in, the greater the returns as well.

Pack 378

Chartered by New World United Methodist Church

2201 N. Davis Dr.

Arlington, Texas 76012

www.pack378.net

www.facebook.com/pack378/

Meetings on the 1st Thursday of each month from 7-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall

