

Parents Guide to Norton Cub Scout Pack 61



Table of Contents

About our Pack.....	3
Contact Information.....	3
Meeting times and locations.....	4
Uniforms and handbooks	4
Annawon Council Contact information	5
Schedule Outline.....	5
Social Activities and Events	6
Transportation to Pack events	6
Advancement	6
Pack Fees	7
Fund Raising	7
Friends of Scouting	7
Summer Camp	7
Committees and Volunteering.....	7
2-deep leader policy.....	8
Preparation for Boy Scouts	8
Leader Guide, leader training.....	8

Be sure to check the Pack web site or with your leaders for the latest information.

About our Pack

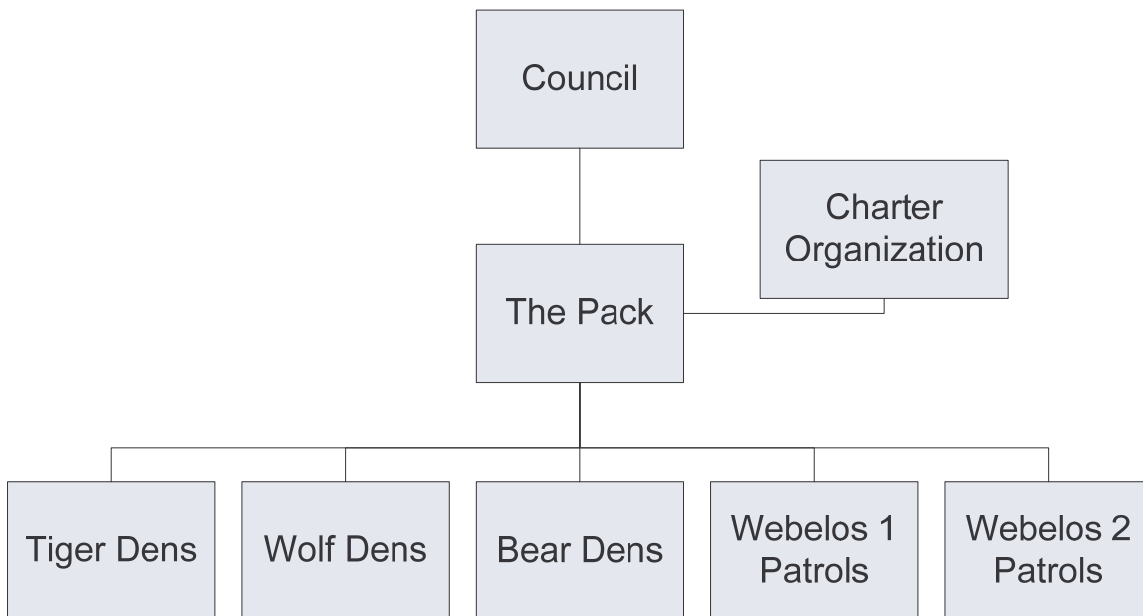
Welcome to Norton Cub Pack 61 Parent Guide. This guide will provide you with information about Cub Pack 61 as well as some introduction and pointers to more information regarding our Council and Scouting in general.

Cub Scouts is for boys from the first grade through fifth grade and their families.

Your Scout is now part of a den, a group of boys his same age and grade, and the Pack, which is all the dens put together. The dens groups are:

- Tiger – first grade
- Wolf – second grade
- Bear – third grade
- Webelos 1 – fourth grade
- Webelos 2 – fifth grade.

Your Scout may join the den appropriate for their age at any time. (New, older boys would not start at the Tiger Den. They would start at the den for their age group)



The Scouts participate in meetings and activities for each group, the Pack and the Den.

The Pack has a leader called the Cubmaster. He or she has one or more assistant Cubmaster. The dens each have a Den Leader and one or more assistant den leaders.

Note that all information in the guide is accurate as of the printing date. Changes may occur at any time. Check with the Cubmaster or web site for the latest information.

Contact Information

Cubmaster	Walter Eykel	weykel@computer.org	508-285-5206
Assistant Cubmaster	Bill Morrison	William_morrison_jr@comcast.net	508-622-1218

Pack Web Site: <http://waltereykel.com/Pack61/index.htm>

The Pack and Den leaders often use email to keep members up-to-date on Pack and Den activities. Be sure you provide a current email address to receive important communications.

The Pack and den leaders are always available to help you with questions and problems you may have with concerning Scouting. Please feel free to contact any leader for assistance.

Meeting times and locations

The Pack meetings are generally the third Sunday of each month from September to June and are usually held at St Mary's Parish Center at 1 Power Street, Norton at 2:00pm. Some special meetings, for instance the pinewood derby race and spring graduation are held at special times or places.

The dens generally have formal meetings two times a month for an hour to an hour and a half. Meetings are usually held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm-8:00pm and are also held at St. Mary's Parish Center.

Parents and siblings are welcome at all our Pack activities including Pack meetings and social activities. Den meetings are often held in the class rooms so we ask that siblings do not attend those meetings, if possible.

Regular attendance of the Den and Pack meetings will allow your Scout to get the most out of the program and make it easier to complete each rank's achievements. Your den leader may assign homework in the form of specific achievements that can (or must) be completed at home. Be sure to keep up with these assignments as they are important to your Scout's progress.

Uniforms and handbooks

A big part of Scouting is the uniforms and patches for the Scouts and leaders. The youths should have a Scout shirt, neckerchief (different one for each rank), neckerchief slide, Scout hat and Scout belt. Scout pants or shorts are optional.

Uniforms can be purchased at the Scout shop at 152 West Main Street or at Ryan and Son's sporting goods store in the center of Attleboro.

Class-A uniforms (the official shirt etc) should be worn to all Den and Pack meetings (except for certain special, messy activities) and to all formal Scouting events such as parades, fund raising and some trips etc.

Patches and emblems are worn on the Class-A uniform according to a Uniform Guide available on the Pack web site or at the Cub Scout web site. Certain patches are permanent meaning they can be sewn on the uniform (in the proper location) and other

are considered temporary meaning they are not permanently affixed to the shirt. Cubs (and leaders) can also wear year pins and other insignia described on the Uniform Guide. A uniform inspection is often held in the late fall.

The Pack also has a “class-B” uniform consisting of a blue t-shirt with our Pack number on it and logo. T-shirts are available for \$10 each for adults and youth. The t-shirt is appropriate for most social activities and outings and can be worn by all Scouts, their parents, siblings and extended families.

At the beginning of each Scouting year, the Pack provides each Scout with a handbook for that year. (with the exception of the Webelos 2 year) The handbook is full of information on the Scouting program in general and specific information on the Scouts current den activities and requirements. The handbook is also a record book for the Scout's accomplishments toward rank advancement.

Annawon Council Contact information

Pack 61 is part of the Annawon Council which includes Packs, Troops and Crews from 10 other surrounding towns. Annawon Council handles registering our Scouts with the National Council and provides resources and activities for the Packs such as training and outing opportunities. Check out their web site for more up-to-date information.

Council Web site	www.AnnawonBSA.org
Council Phone Number	508-286-9202
Council address	152 West Main Street, Norton, MA 02766

Each Scout council is headed up by a Senior Executive. Our Senior Executive is Allen Endicot. The District Executives report to him. Our District Executive (Angle Tree District) is Roberta Gilson while the District Executive for the Sachem district is Andy Hebner.

Allen Endicot	Senior Executive	Allen.Endicot@scouting.org
Roberta Gilson	Angle Tree District Executive	Roberta.Gilson@scouting.org
Andy Hebner	Sachem District Executive	Andrew.Hebner@scouting.org

Schedule Outline

Our first Pack meeting of the year is late in September. The Dens may start meeting earlier in the month. Your Den leader will contact you about the den meeting schedule. The Cubmaster will contact the whole Pack with the Pack meeting schedule.

Our first Pack meeting is always a fun meet-and-greet type event, after the business part of the meeting. We usually have a make your own smore or make your own ice cream Sunday event. (for the whole family)

From September through June, we will have our monthly Pack meeting. The meeting may involve a presentation or activity for the Scouts and their families. For example,

themes may include fall carnival, Christmas party, Blue and Gold dinner and ceremony, pinewood derby, space derby among others.

Social Activities and Events

In addition to our official Scout activities, the Pack usually has a social activity each month for the Scouts and their families. This might be a hay ride, ice skating, hiking or any number of other fun activities.

Our activities continue over the summer too. We traditionally do two Pack activities each summer in addition to Cub Day Camp at Camp Norse. Usually one of the events is a hike and the other is a bike trip. These activities aim to keep the Scouts involved and give them and their families an opportunity to try something new.

Each spring we hold an overnight campout at a local campground, possibly Camp Norse or even Camp Edith Read here in Norton. This gives families a chance to experience real outdoor camping and all that goes along with it.

A special note for our Tiger families. Please note that a parent or guardian must accompany their Tiger Scout to all meetings and activities.

Transportation to Pack events

The Pack and the dens participate in a large number of trips, social activities and other “go-see-it’s” throughout the year. At the Cub Scout level, all transportation to these events is provided by the individual parents. This means that there is no pack-sanctioned carpooling to or from these events and the Scout insurance is not in force while en-route to and from our events. Once an official Scout event starts, the Scouting insurance is in force for the duration of the event. Each Scout and leader is covered by our insurance. \$1.00 of our annual registration fee pays for insurance for the year.

Advancement

A big part of the Cub Scouting program is the advancement toward rank. Each rank has a set of requirement that the Scouts and their families need to accomplish to earn the rank. Note that the Tiger dens work on the Tiger Rank requirements, the Wolf dens work on the Wolf requirements, etc.

Most of the rank requirements involve groups of requirements related to Scouts, family and the community. Each Scout must complete a certain number of achievements in each group to earn the rank.

Earning the rank is not a requirement to advance to the next den. This means that, for example, if a Bear Scout does not complete the achievements for the Bear rank, that Scout still advances to the Webelos Den at the end of the year. The Scout may not wear the Bear rank patch however.

The belt loop program offers the Scouts an opportunity to learn about and participate in a large number of civic, sporting or educational skills in addition to the achievements required for rank advancement. The belt loops can be earned by the Scouts either with the Pack, den or at home. (Parents can sign for the completion of belt loops too) Belt loops are presented with other advancement and recognition at the pack meetings.

Note that the set of belt loops are intended to be available for the Scout to work on throughout their entire Cub Scouting career, so don't try to complete too many in any one year. Save some for the later years of Cub Scouting.

Pack Fees

The Pack does not receive any funding from outside sources so we must be completely self-sufficient in our operation. Each fall, as part of our re-registration process, the Pack collects the Scouts registration fee (currently \$29) which goes directly to Council to register the Scout. This covers registration, insurance and a year subscription to the Boys Life magazine for your Scout. In addition, the Pack collects the annual pack Fee of \$45 to provide the operating budget for the pack for the year. Both fees are required to register each Scout and include him on the Pack roster. Scouts can earn money toward their Pack fee by participating in the Pack fundraiser in the fall. A portion of each Scout's popcorn sales contribute to deferring the Pack fee. See the Fundraising section for more information.

Fund Raising

The Pack participates in the National Scouting popcorn sale each fall in order to help raise funds for the National Council, our Council, our Pack and the Scouts. Selling popcorn to your family and friends helps all levels of Scouting. Information on selling and delivering popcorn will be available at the fall pack meetings.

Friends of Scouting

Each year, usually at the spring graduation, a representative from the Council Friends of Scouting program addresses the Pack in order to raise funds for Annawon Council. This is a valuable service for the Council and helps our Scouts directly by assisting the Council in providing Council activities such as Camp Norse, Webelos Woods, Covered Wagon and lots more.

Summer Camp

Each summer, our Pack sends a large number of boys to summer day camp at Camp Norse in Kingston, MA. This is a camp run by the Annawon Council that provides the Scouts with the opportunity to participate in lots of fun camp activities. Swimming, BB, archery, crafts, boating, biking are just a few of the activities available to the Scouts. Information on registering for summer camp is mailed to each Scout family in the early spring. Each year, the Pack chooses one week when we plan to send down a group of volunteer parents to serve as the chaperones for the Scouts during the week. We ask each family to think about contributing a day or two or more to our Scouts at summer camp. It is a lot of fun for all. Scouts are able to attend any or all of the weeks available at camp.

Parent volunteers must complete an application and agree to a CORI check, participate in Youth Protection training as well as summer camp training. These requirements help to make sure we provide our Scouts with the best, and safest, camping experience.

Committees and Volunteering

The Pack relies on adult volunteers for all aspects of the program and operation. A large number of volunteer opportunities exist for parents of Scouts, including:

- Fund raising, popcorn
- Camping
- Membership
- Events (Blue and Gold etc)
- Scout Committee
- Cupboard of Kindness delivery
- Den leader
- Assistant den leader
- Assistant Cub Master
- And others

These volunteer positions offer the opportunity to work with a great group of other adult volunteers to present a quality program you our youth. Some volunteer positions can be undertaken unofficially while others require a completed adult leader application to participate. In either case, the Pack needs to staff all our positions in order to have a smoothly running and fun program. Remember that all the adults you see in uniform are volunteers who give their time and resources for all our Scouts. If you can help out, please see the Cubmaster or den leader.

The Pack has a Scout Committee consisting of Chairman, Assistant, Treasurer, Secretary and members at large. This group helps to make policy and provide direction and assistance to the Cubmaster and all other pack leaders. This committee, like all other committees, is made up of adult volunteers.

2-deep leader policy

One of the most important policies followed by all Scout adults is the requirement for 2-deep leadership. This means that in all situations where adults come into contact with youth, there must be at least two adults present and one must be a registered leader. This provides the maximum protection for both the youth and leaders and is a policy that must be followed at all times.

So, for example, if an assistant den leader is not able to make it to a meeting, you might be asked to stay at a meeting to provide the 2-deep leadership necessary to conduct any Scout activity. Thank you for your understanding and help with this.

If you have any questions on this or any other Scout policy, please contact either your den leader, Cubmaster, Asst Cubmaster or any Council representative.

Preparation for Boy Scouts

One of the goals of Cub Scouts is to prepare the Cubs for Boy Scouts. Each progressive rank requires more effort and responsibility for the Cub to get them ready for the rigors (and fun) of Boy Scouts. Before they cross-over to Boy Scouts, the Cub will have the opportunity to visit the Troop meetings and even camp with the Boy Scout Troop at Webelos Woods.

Leader Guide, leader training

Hopefully this guide has provided you with enough information to get started with the Scout year and the Scout program. Maybe you have been motivated to step up and become a registered adult volunteer. If so, welcome aboard! This can be an imposing

prospect but it can also be very rewarding. There are a huge number of resources available to all adult leaders in the form of training, program information, monthly roundtables, paid Council staff, on-line information and more. The point is that when you come on board, you are not expected to reinvent the wheel. The program and training for the program has been evolving for 100 years to the point where anyone can contribute right away. If you are interested in becoming an adult volunteer in any capacity, see the Cubmaster any time.

