

School Night for Scouting

Resource Materials

FAMILY NIGHT FOR SCOUTING AGENDA

Required Materials

Supplies Provided by Unit

Pre-opening activity

Activity for new cubs during meeting

Bobcat materials

Fun Activity for all youth, such as a name game and/or basic fitness exercises (you may want to have tennis balls or something similar for a name game)

Leader support

Pack calendar for each new family

Direction signs (so new families know where to go in the building)

Optional, but Recommended

Decorations

Pack pictures/display board

Refreshments

Supplies Provided by District

Preparation support

New family materials (including parent guide, talent survey, 100 point form, youth applications, table tents)

Resource box (extras of all paperwork, mini boys' life and attendance sign-in rosters)

Membership team presence (if desired)

Pre-Opening (at least 30 minutes prior to meeting)—*handled by the pack*

1. Place posters at entrances and to help guide people
2. Set up displays
3. Set up meeting room
4. Place table tents and den rosters on each table.
5. Place membership packets at the entry/welcome table
6. Be prepared with Pre-opening activities

Opening (5 minutes...10 max!)—*handled by the pack*

1. Start on time
2. Introduce pack leadership
 - a. Pack's opportunity to explain who they are and what they do
3. Divide the youth and adults into two separate groups
4. Send youth with a couple of current leaders to participate in activity planned by the unit.

Review New Parent Guide (10 minutes)—*handled by the pack or membership team*

Recruit Adults (15 minutes)—*handled by the pack or membership team*

1. Set the stage to get parental help (choose one)
 - a. Yardstick talk
 - b. It Takes the Whole Room talk
2. Motivate families by using personal stories
3. Secure den leadership
4. Registration
 - a. **Register and collect payment for each youth** and newly recruited direct contact leader
 - b. Each family completes the family talent survey
 - c. Each family completes the 100 point form
 - d. Each family pays the predetermined fee

Closing (5 minutes)—*handled by the pack*

1. Bring youth back in
2. Invite youth and adults to join for refreshments

Adjourn

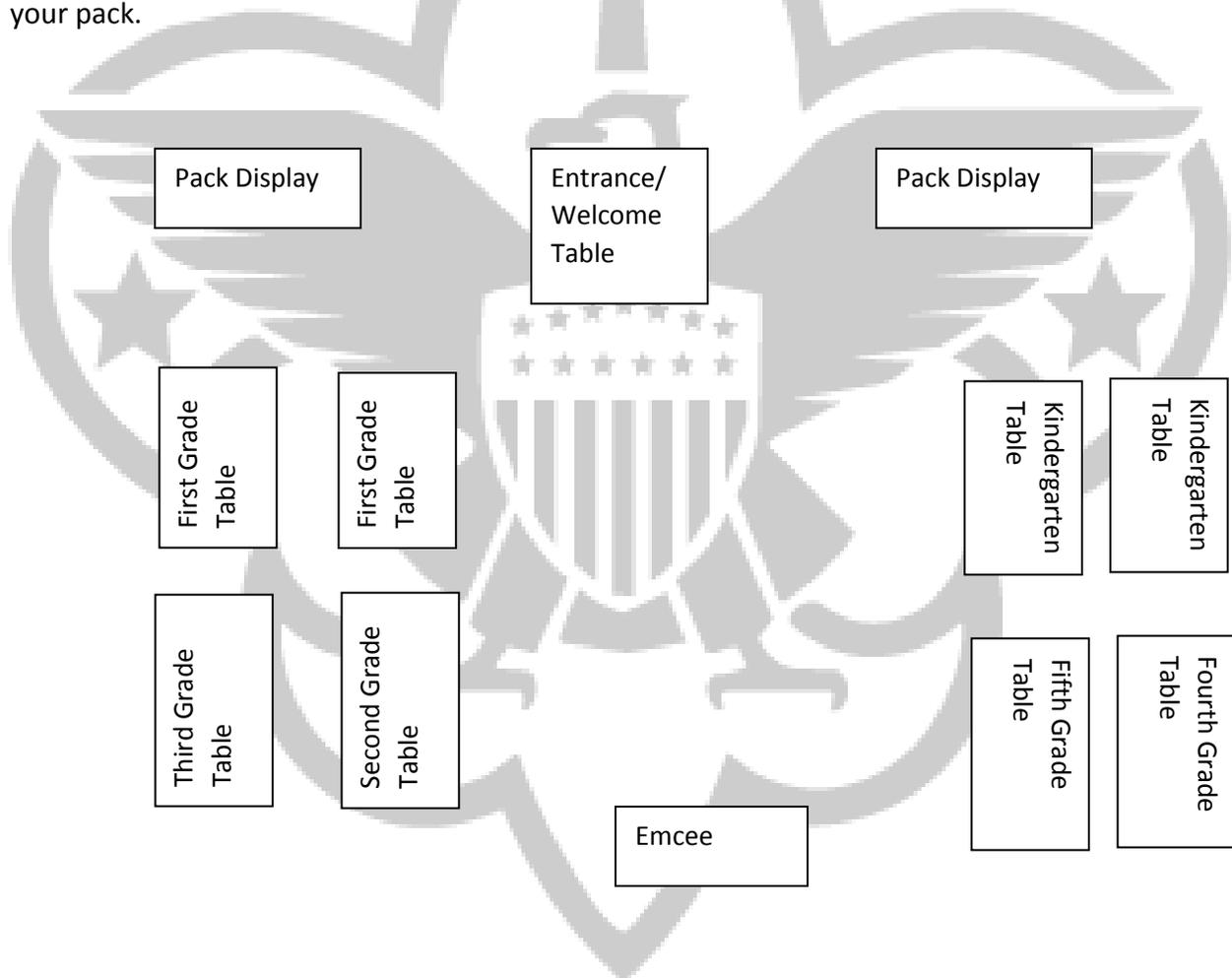
1. Paperwork and money given to district team member (if present)
2. Paperwork and money to council with 48 hours

RECRUITMENT NIGHT SAMPLE FLOOR-PLAN

This is a floor plan for a typical Family Night for Scouting. Be sure all tables are clearly marked by grade. As families enter, distribute the membership packets, and direct them to the appropriate table for their grade.

Doing this simple task at the beginning will save a tremendous amount of time and organization later. Parents and youth will be sitting in “den areas” that will make the registration process go smoothly. Design a well laid out, professional presentation, with books and flyers at each table. This type of set-up provides an eye-catching display.

Promote buying and wearing uniforms. This will help with year-round recruitment. A mini campsite or other display in the entry area serves as a great visual for the Cub Scout outdoor program. Be sure to set up your pack display board so new parents can see the fun photos of your pack.



SIGN-UP NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Two things should be accomplished with the scout on sign-up night: finish most of the Bobcat rank, and HAVE FUN!

Start with a fun activity or two. For example, use tennis balls around a circle of scouts, and have them repeat each other's names, to get to know each other. Even in small schools, younger scouts may not know the older ones; in packs that serve more than one school, this activity is especially important. Do this a couple of times. You have them do some basic exercises, teaching them that scouts are physically fit. Jumping jacks, crab races and sit ups are good basic exercises that they will know how to do.

Now, cover the Bobcat badge. You should be able to cover requirements 1-6. These include:

- the scout oath
- the scout law
- the Cub Scout sign
- the Cub Scout handshake
- the Cub Scout motto
- the Cub Scout salute

Remember, for the Oath and Law, scouts can have help, if needed. And Lions *do not earn the Bobcat!* It's okay for them to participate, but don't expect them to "get it".

Feel free to make and have posters with these requirements on them. Older scouts will be able to read the oath and law, while younger ones may need to repeat it.

To help scouts LEARN the Oath and Law, talk about what each part means.

Finally, if time allows, play the name game again with the tennis ball. Get the scouts good and wound up, with information to take home on the preventing abuse section of their handbooks, so they can receive their Bobcat at *the very next meeting!*

FAMILY TALENT SURVEY

Each parent or adult family member should fill out a separate sheet and turn it in at this meeting.

Pack _____ Chartered Organization _____ Date _____

Welcome to the Cub Scout family of our Pack. As explained to you, Cub Scout is for parents as well as scouts. We have a fine group of families who have indicated a willingness to help, according to their abilities. We invite you to add your talents and interests so that the best possible program can be developed for your child and his or her friends.

Den Leaders are always busy with den activities. Our pack leaders and committee members know you have some talent that will help in the operation of our pack. Although your help may not be on a full-time basis, whatever you can do will be appreciated.

In making this survey, your pack committee wants to uncover ways you can enjoy giving assistance. Please answer the following as completely as possible:

My hobbies are: _____

I can play and/or teach these sports: _____

My job, business, or profession would be of interest to Cub Scouts: _____

Previously, I have been in Scouting as a Cub Scout _____ Boy Scout _____ Girl Scout _____ Venturer _____
Explorer _____ Adult leader _____ Rank(s) Earned _____

I can help in these areas:

- Carpentry
- Swimming
- Games
- Nature
- Sports
- Outdoors
- Crafts
- Music
- Other:
- Computer Skills
- Drawing/Art
- Radio/Electricity
- Drama/skits
- Cooking
- Sewing
- Transportation
- Bookkeeping

Special Program Assistance

- I have a SUV Van Truck
- I have a workshop
- I have family camping gear
- I can make contacts for special trips/activities
- I have access to cottage/camping property/boat
- I can give other special assistance

NEW CUB SCOUT PROGRAM AREAS!

- Fitness
- Science
- First Aid
- Duty to God
- Engineering
- Civics
- Healthy Snacks
- Genealogy
- Pet Care
- Online safety
- Collections/Hobbies
- Law Enforcement

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Scout's Name _____

Phone _____

100 POINT ADULT PARTICIPATION FORM

For over 75 years parents have made Cub Scouting an enriching experience for their youth. The Cub Scouting program has strengthened families, provided adventure and diversity, created fellowship, and instilled ideals in young men. By volunteering for 100 points, you will help ensure that we can provide the best Cub Scout program for your Cub Scout. Thank you for your support.

POINTS & POSITION DESCRIPTION

- 100 DEN LEADER OR ASSISTANT – run weekly den meetings, complete on-line training, attend monthly committee meeting, and monthly Pack meetings.
- 100 TITLED COMMITTEE PERSON - perform titled job, complete on-line training, attend monthly committee meeting, and monthly Pack meeting.
_____ treasurer _____ secretary _____ advancement _____ outdoors _____ activities
- 80 COMMITTEE MEMBER AT LARGE – serve on at least one Pack subcommittee, complete on-line training, attend monthly Pack meetings, and at least four monthly committee meetings.
- 60 DAY CAMP LEADER VOLUNTEER – June or July one week. Attend day camp training, register and supervise eight boys or girls through one week of activities during the day
- 40 BLUE & GOLD BANQUET COMMITTEE –February. Annual Pack celebration dinner
- 40 PINEWOOD DERBY COMMITTEE – 1st quarter of the year
- 40 POPCORN SALES COMMITTEE – September through December
- 40 ROUNDTABLE ATTENDEE – Attend monthly district leaders meeting and report information to Pack Committee
- 40 Data Entry/Record-keeping
- 20 SCOUTING FOR FOOD COMMITTEE – Spring food collection drive
- 20 FOOD SERVICE – Serve food or attend concessions at selected dinners
- 20 BOOTH & EXHIBITS – Volunteer two hours in a booth at a back to school or open house activity
- 20 SPORTING EVENTS – Volunteer to organize and supervise a Pack athletic competition
- 20 DRIVER-Provide transportation to selective non meeting events during the year

Parent Signature _____ Date _____ Email _____

TOTAL POINTS _____ Child's Name(s) _____

ADULT RECRUITING SCRIPT

We have included two useful scripts for encouraging adults to register as leaders. After the second talk is the rest of script. You can use either in recruiting adults to help your pack. At the conclusion of the talk, discuss the specific needs of the pack. If you need a den leader, go to the table of that den and tell them what you need. Give them time to discuss—more often than not, you will get “co” leaders. Parents will look at each other and say “I will if you will.” What a great answer! You’ve now picked up two leaders! Then, hand out the resource survey and the 100 point form. Explain that these are for the pack leaders to know who to call when something comes up, and that you would like every *family* to score 100 points. All of this is explained in each script. Neither is better than the other—decide which is best for your pack personality!

The Yardstick

Hello! My name is _____. I’m here tonight to reinforce everything that you have been told already. We’re all here—you, me, the leaders—because we want the very best for those youth in there.

<hold up a yard stick with markings at 8 inches and 16 inches>

If your child is 8 years old today, you have very little time to make an impact on him before he or she turns 16. (reference the distance between the 8-inch mark and 16-inch mark)

As I look around the room tonight, I would guess that the average age of the scouts would be about eight years old.

We know that as we all get older the time tends to slip away and go by faster each year.

Think for a moment how fast that nine years has gone by. We are always commenting on “how fast they grow up” and “where does the time go.”

Your child is nine years old today. Just think how quickly the next nine years will go by. Before you know it, he or she will be sixteen, with a job, a license, and on the way to independence. Two years after that, he or she may be going off to college, moving away from home or joining the military.

With that said you have just nine quickly passing years to positively impact what type of young person your child will turn out to be. Being a part of Cub Scouts can help you with that positive impact. Scouting makes leaders. In your parent guide, you see the evidence of what scouting does: more education, more community participation, less risky behavior as a teenager, and so on.

By coming this evening, your child simply asking that you spend an average of three hours per week helping him have a fun experience in Scouting. You have opened the door to that fun experience by being here. Now, you ask yourself one question: am I going to push my child through the door? Or am I going to walk through the door with my child?

Remember—your direct impact time with your child is just about half over. Tonight, we ask not only that you sign-up your child for Cub Scouts, but that you commit to help, to be part of your child's Cub Scout experience.

Is that too much for an eight-year old to ask?

Option 2

We Need Everyone

Hello! My name is _____. I'm here to reinforce everything you've been told this evening.

I want to explain to you how scouting works—really works—in a local program such as this. At the top of every Cub Scout pack is a Cubmaster. You have met our Cubmaster already this evening, so you can rest a little easier—we aren't going to ask you to be Cubmaster! But let's see how this works. <ask someone to stand and represent the Cubmaster>

The Cubmaster is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Cub Scout pack. He or she is assisted by a committee chair. Again, we have one of those, so you don't need to worry here either! <ask someone to stand and represent the committee chair>

The committee chair is responsible essentially for the "back office" operations of the pack.

Each den, or grade level, has a leader. <ask a parent at grade table to stand> Each den leader really needs to have an assistant as well. <ask another parent at each table to stand>

Now, for the back office. Each pack should have someone responsible for finances, for record-keeping, for activities, and for membership. <ask four more parents to stand>

At this point, how many more parents you ask to stand depends on how many you have in the room. Start giving examples of pack positions: pinewood derby, day camp, outdoors, blue and gold, popcorn and invite people to stand. Use more than one per position if you'd like. Finally, finish with this next part...

Finally, you may be one of those parents who really wants to be involved, but you work a crazy schedule. So what can you do? Every pack needs someone who can help drive! <ask the last of the parents to stand and represent the drivers>

Now, look around the room—see that the room is all standing. Cub Scouts is just like other organizations and teams...everyone needs to take a turn bringing Hi-C and orange slices!

<ask everyone to sit down>

Now, let's talk about your pack. Our top leadership is secured, but we do need a few other positions.

_____ grade, we need a <leader><assistant leader> for your den. In addition, we need a couple of additional members of our committee.

_____ grade parents, I'm going to give a few minutes to discuss among yourselves which of you or more than one of you would like to have a role with the den. Remember, we do have training for you. We will make sure that you know what you are doing before you even get to your first meeting!

For everyone else, please give some thought to how you can help!

At the conclusion of either talk:

And let's move on to filling out our paperwork!

In your packets, you have several things we'd like you to fill out.

First, you have the youth application for your child. Please fill this out this evening as well. Remember the fee to join is \$_____.

Next, you have a parent resource survey. This will help us know what skills lie in our pack! We do lots of different activities, as you've seen. We need to know what you can do!

Finally, you have a form called the "100 Point Form". We want every family to score 100 points tonight! The form is very easy. Using the form, mark which lines describing positions you are interested in filling. We'd like to your family to total at least 100 points.

When you are all done with these three forms, please turn them in to _____ . Your children are done with their activity; refreshments are coming soon! Thank you for coming tonight!

2019 Cub Scout Recruitment Incentive

Pack: _____ of _____ District, ended December 2018 with _____ Scouts

We want EVERY pack in the Sioux Council to receive FREE pinewood derby cars in 2019. The requirements are listed below. No points, no extra things to do. Participate in your sign-up nights and have growth. If you do those things, you will get free pinewood derby cars.

Let's explain how "growth" is determined. We use the number of registered Cub Scouts in your pack on December 31, 2018, rather than the roster you rechartered with. If we used your recharter roster, and you dropped, say, 10 youth, and you recruited 8 in the fall, your pack is SMALLER in 2019 than it was in 2018! You recruited new youth, and new families, but you didn't really grow—you shrank! We want to make sure that you GROW! Hence, we use the December 31 roster number—those youth registered in your unit on December 31, 2018.

Here, then, is your checklist for FREE pinewood derby cars.

Requirement	Completed?
Actively participate* in a Sioux Council-supported school recruitment night in August or September, as described in the recruitment guide	
Actively participate* in a 2 nd recruitment night at your October pack meeting	
Have unit growth on October 31, 2019 over December 31, 2018.	

*Actively participate means that you:

- staff your own school for the first sign-up night
- provide the needed materials for the first sign-up night
- create a meeting plan for the second recruitment night and provide information to your district executive at least three weeks in advance
- collect applications and fees at both sign-up nights
- turn in applications and fees within 48 hours of your sign-up night to your district executive or the Sioux Council office.

Please note: you can still have the district assist you with adult recruitment at your sign-up night and be considered as having "actively participated" in your school sign-up night.