

Weston Cub Scout Pack 157 - Frequently Asked Questions

What is Cub Scouts?

Start with the BSA's yellow "Cub Scout Parent Information Guide". It is available on the "Join us now" tab of our pack web page.

Where can I find all the details about to Pack 157?

<http://cub157.org> Be sure to see the latest newsletter and events! For news of upcoming events, be sure that contact@cub157.org has your e-mail address.

My family is very busy, should we make time for Cub Scouts?

Absolutely! Scouting is a valuable combination of "fun with a purpose". The boys see fun, but everything in the program supports the aims of Scouting: character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

When are Pack Meetings?

Pack Meetings (grades 1-5) are one Tuesday per month, generally from 6:30-7:45 at St. Julia Parish Hall, or 6:00-7:15 at the Weston Scout House.

When are Den Meetings?

Age specific Dens Meetings (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos) are 1-3 times/month at a time and place chosen by the den parents. Den meetings are generally 60 minutes.

When are Special Events?

Overnights are on weekends. Den and pack day-time events may be on either weekends, or week-days, depending on the school calendar.

St. Julia Parish Charters Pack 157, but I'm not a member there...

Pack 157 welcomes families of all faiths.

Should I drop my son off at Cub Scouts?

Please stay! Cub Scouts is a special opportunity for you to spend quality time with your son, it is not intended as a drop-off activity. Indeed, the BSA requires that Tiger Cubs (1st graders) have a parent present at all activities. Pack 157 requires that older Cubs have a parent present at all activities unless explicit prior agreement has been made with the meeting leader. For all Cub Scout trips and overnights, a parent must be present for each child, regardless of age. Webelos (4th and 5th grade) may participate in some Boy Scout activities where parents may be optional.

Can I bring siblings to Scouting events?

Yes! Siblings are always welcome at Den and Pack Meetings. When special events have limited seating, siblings are accommodated after Scouts.

My son has some behavior problems, what do I need to do?

You are responsible for the supervision of your children at Cub Scout events. Simply be prepared to take them home, if asked.

We have calendar conflicts, can we still participate?

Absolutely! Pack 157 offers a very rich Scouting experience and a very full calendar. Few can attend every activity. No activities are mandatory. Note, however, that if your son is unable to attend the den activities related to rank advancement, that he needs to be emotionally prepared for his peers earning awards that he was unable to complete.

How much are dues? What do they cover?

Pack 157 dues are \$62/year per child, payable in November. Dues are reduced for Cubs that participate in the October popcorn fund-raiser.

For each Cub, Pack 157 pays annual BSA youth registration fees w/ Boys Life subscription; supplies all handbooks, neckerchiefs, and all patches and awards.

What do I need to pay for above dues?

You need to acquire a Cub Scout uniform shirt for your son. Hats are encouraged, but optional. Patch vests, belts, and Scout pants are optional. Trips and overnights have a fee, which is the cost to the Pack divided by the number of participants.

We do accept “experienced” uniforms, and offer them at no charge for re-use, when available.

How does Pack 157 pay for meeting expenses, special events etc?

We participate in a single council-sponsored annual fund-raiser, the Cubs sell Trails-end popcorn in Sept/Oct, delivering in November. This is a highly regarded program, far superior to Girl Scout cookies:-)

Should I support the Friends of Scouting Campaign?

Absolutely! Our Pack is supported by Knox Trail Council (KTC) -- <http://ktc-bsa.org>. KTC maintains council facilities that we use, such as Nobscot Scout Reservation. KTC organizes council-wide activities that we enjoy, such as the Museum of Science overnight and the Paw Sox overnight. KTC organizes adult leader training. KTC runs summer camp for both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. KTC is not supported by our annual BSA dues (which go to the national BSA). KTC is supported solely by their portion of popcorn proceeds and what we donate during their “Friends of Scouting” campaign.

Should I support the Weston Scout House Inc.?

Absolutely! Weston was blessed many years ago by the generous donation of a house dedicated to scouting and enjoyed by both Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. However, it is not maintained by the GSA or BSA. It is maintained by an independent volunteer board who apply donations to the maintenance of the property to support current and future generations of Scouts in Weston. It is easy to contribute on-line:

<http://westonscouthouse.org/>

Who runs Pack 157?

Parent volunteers run Pack 157. This year's adult leader committee is listed on <http://cub157.org> and they are assisted by the rest of the parents. We have a committee phone conference about once/month – join us!

How can I help?

Cub scouts is a family centered activity, and so the more your family participates, the better the experience for your boy, his den, and his pack. Above supporting your own child's participation, there are two ways that adults can help. Fill out a “parent talent survey” to let leaders know how you may be able to help; and answer the call when helpers are needed.

Become an official den leader or pack committee leader. To do so, start by creating an account at <http://myscouting.org>, complete “youth protection training”, and submitting an adult application. Additional training is available on-line, and also in-person several times per year.