



Cub Scout Parent Guide

Pack 49

Denison ♦ Schleswig ♦ Charter Oak ♦ Ute

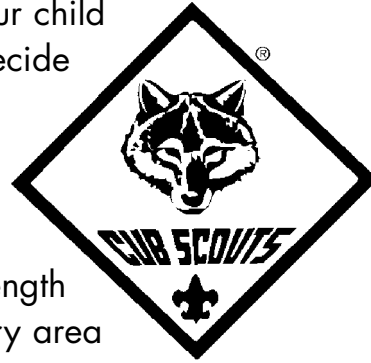
Ohwanasee District
Mid America Council
Boy Scouts of America

Durham Scout Center
12401 W Maple Road
Omaha, Nebraska 68164
402-431-9BSA

Prairie Gold Service Center
1102 Triview Avenue
Sioux City, Iowa 51103
712-255-8846

Why should we join Cub Scouts?

With all of the sports and activities your child could choose, why would you and he decide to join Cub Scouts? As one Scout leader said, "Scouting teaches your son skills for a lifetime, not just a season."



Many good organizations teach teamwork, skills, etc; however, Scouting's strength is a well-rounded program affecting every area of a boy's life, delivered in a non-competitive environment and at his own pace.

You can expect to see your son develop skills and attitudes that lead to a well-adjusted adult life. As a parent, you will enjoy the satisfaction of joining your son in the fun of constructive activities.

As the founder of Scouting, Lord Baden Powell said, "Scouting is fun with a purpose."

As a bonus, when you serve as a leader or helper, you can expect the additional satisfaction of helping other youth, as well as your own son, achieve their full potential.

Table of Contents

The Cub Scout Program . . . . .	.2
The Program Structure . . . . .	.3
Tiger Cubs (First Grade) . . . . .	.4
Bobcat Badge . . . . .	.4
Wolf Cubs (Second Grade) . . . . .	.5
Bear Cubs (Third Grade) . . . . .	.5
Webelos (Fourth and Fifth Grade) . . . . .	.6
Other Awards & Supplemental Programs . . . . .	.7
Adult & Leader Awards . . . . .	.9
Program Highlights . . . . .	.10
Finances of Scouting . . . . .	.12
Volunteering . . . . .	.13
How can I help? . . . . .	.14
Leader Training . . . . .	.17
Protecting Our Youth . . . . .	.18
Notes . . . . .	.19

The Cub Scout Program

As a parent, you want your son to grow up to be a person of self-worth, who is self-reliant, dependable and caring. Scouting has these same goals for your son. Since 1910, we have been weaving lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, promoting citizenship, and fostering physical fitness in youth.

Scouting is family values ... but Cub Scout age boys don't join Scouting just to get their character built - they join because it is fun.

Cub Scouting is a home and neighborhood centered program designed to support the values you teach in your home. Cub Scouts learn respect for God, country and other people. It also teaches your son how to:

- ◆ Develop physical skills through sports, crafts and games.
- ◆ "Do Your Best" rather than thinking winning is everything.
- ◆ Get along with others.
- ◆ Develop a sense of personal achievement through group activities.
- ◆ Improve academic skills such as writing, reading and calculating.
- ◆ Develop positive decision-making skills and independence.

Cub Scouts are divided into different levels based on grades. They work on achievements within their dens (small groups of 4 to 8 boys) and at home to advance in the program.

Program Structure

Your son is a member of a den based on grade levels:

- ◆ 1st grade: Tiger den
- ◆ 2nd grade: Wolf den
- ◆ 3rd grade: Bear den
- ◆ 4th and 5th grades: Webelos dens

Each den has four to eight boys and meets weekly or biweekly. The leader is a parent of one of the boys and is assisted by other parents and possibly an older Boy Scout.

Den meetings consist of games, crafts, skits and occasional field trips. When all of the dens and families meet together, it is called a Pack meeting. The Pack meeting gives the Scouts a chance to share what they have been working on in their dens, receive awards and badges, present skits and participate in games. The Pack meeting, usually the third Sunday of the month October through April, is run by the Cubmaster.

Each Pack has a pack committee made up of parents and leaders. The committee plans the Pack meetings and activities, assigns tasks, manages the Pack's finances, recruits new leaders, and does a host of other things. Without the Pack committee, there is no Pack!

The Pack is owned and operated by a chartered organization. This organization is a community service club, PTA or religious organization who shares an interest in providing a positive, character building program for youth. Pack 49's charter organizations are Our Savior Lutheran Church and the First United Methodist Church, both in Denison. The chartered organization approves pack leadership, provides a meeting place and appoints one of their members to serve as a liaison between the organization and the Pack.

Tiger Cubs

Tiger Cubs, BSA is a one-year program for first grade boys. Each boy participates with a parent or adult partner. Each Tiger Cub family team is a part of a Tiger Cub den made up of four to eight other families.



The Tiger den usually meets twice a month as a group, then meets once a month with the other Cub Scout dens (called a Pack meeting).

Between their meetings, boys work on family-centered activities at home with their parent or adult partner.

The boy/parent teams each take turns planning and hosting the den meetings.

Tiger Cubs wear the blue Cub Scout uniform with orange neckerchief, blue and orange cap, blue web belt and belt totem. Adult partners can wear the orange Tiger Cub t-shirt. The den leader should wear a Cub Scout Leader uniform with the orange neckerchief.

On his advancement trail, each Tiger Cub first earns his pocket totem. After the Tiger Cub completes five achievements, he receives the Tiger Cub badge.

For every 10 electives completed, the Tiger Cub earns a Tiger Track bead.

The last items completed as a Tiger Cub are the requirements for the Bobcat badge.

Bobcat Badge

All boys in second through fifth grade earn the Bobcat achievement badge first by learning the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack, handshake, salute, sign, motto and the meaning of "Webelos". After receiving the Bobcat badge, the boy works on requirements based on his grade level.



Wolf Cubs

A Cub Scout who has completed first grade works on 12 achievements to reach the rank of Wolf.

After he earns his bear badge, a boy may work on electives in different interest areas until he is old enough to begin his next rank. For every ten electives a boy completes while he is in the 2nd grade, he earns an Arrow Point. A boy may earn as many Arrow Points as he wants.



Each den has four to eight boys, and is lead by a den leader (usually a parent). The den leader is assisted by an assistant den leader, and sometimes a den chief (an older Boy Scout). The den usually meets about once a week or once every two weeks (depending upon the den leader's schedule). Den meetings have games, crafts, songs, ceremonies, and periodic field trips revolving around a monthly theme. Work on advancement is usually not done at den meetings. Boys do most requirements for the Wolf badge at home with the help of his parent or guardian.

Bear Cubs

A Cub Scout who has completed second grade works to complete 12 of 24 achievements to reach the rank of Bear. After he earns his bear badge, a boy may work on electives in different interest areas until he is old enough to begin his next rank.

For every ten electives a boy completes while he is in the 3rd grade, he earns an Arrow Point. A boy may earn as many Arrow Points as he wants.



Each den has four to eight boys, and is lead by a den leader (usually a parent). The den leader is assisted by an assistant den leader, and sometimes a den chief (an older Boy Scout). The den usually meets about once a week or once every two weeks (depending upon the den leader's schedule). Den meetings have games, crafts, songs, ceremonies, and periodic field trips revolving around a monthly theme. Work on advancement is usually not done at den meetings. Boys do most requirements for the Bear badge at home with the help of his parent or guardian.

Webelos

When a Cub Scout has completed the third grade, he becomes a Webelos (We'll Be Loyal Scouts) Scout. The boy now works at his meetings, instead of at home, on requirements for the Webelos rank and the Arrow of Light Award. (Camping and outdoor programs are an important part of the 18-month Webelos program).



Each den has four to eight boys lead by a Webelos den leader (usually a parent). The Webelos den leader is assisted by an assistant den leader, and sometimes a den chief (an older Boy Scout).

The den meets about once a week (depending upon the den leader's schedule).

Den meetings have games, crafts, songs, ceremonies, and periodic field trips revolving around a monthly theme.

In Webelos, boys do many of the advancement requirements at den meetings, but they still work on requirements at home with the help of their parents.

Each January, fifth-grade Webelos graduate from Cub Scouting into the adventure of Boy Scouting at an impressive graduating ceremony.

Once a boy joins a Boy Scout troop, he starts working towards the rank of Tenderfoot. He continues through the ranks; Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and then Eagle Scout - the highest award available in the Boy Scout program.

Cub Scout World Conservation Award

Webelos Scouts can earn the Cub Scout World Conservation Award by earning the Forester, Naturalist, and Outdoorsman activity badges and participating in a den or pack conservation project.

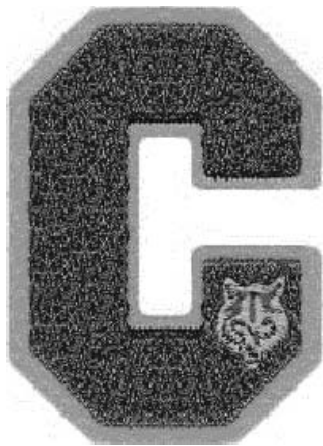


Other Awards and Supplemental Programs

Religious Emblems Awards: To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, many religious groups have instituted programs that enable youth to earn a religious emblem. The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform. However, the emblems are awarded through the various religious organizations rather than the BSA. Pack 49 has program booklets available for scouts of the Catholic and Protestant faiths, and will work with those of other faiths to obtain their materials.



BSA Family Award: The BSA Family Award program includes a series of activities designed to help strengthen all families—whether two-parent, single-parent, or nontraditional. This program was designed to help families accomplish worthy goals while building and strengthening relationships. All family members are encouraged to participate and earn the award. Pack 49 has program booklets available for families to “check” out, or they are available for purchase through the council.



Academics and Sports Program: The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a supplemental enrichment program that complements the existing Cub Scout program. The Academics subjects and Sports activities allow boys to learn new techniques, increase scholarship skills, develop sportsmanship, and have fun. Emphasis is on introducing a boy to a sport or academic subject, allowing him to participate in it and encouraging him to do his best. The Academics and Sports program focuses on learning and skill develop-

ment—not winning. Pack 49 has the forms and guidelines available on our website, or a book is available for purchase through the council.

Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award: Tiger Cubs, Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts have the opportunity to earn the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award. This award recognizes the Scout's participation in outdoor recreation and conservation projects, and can often be earned in conjunction with other Scouting activities. Pack 49 has a family campout each summer to help the boys earn this award.

Leave No Trace Awareness Award: Cub Scouts and leaders are eligible to earn the Leave No Trace Awareness Award, which helps people to be more concerned about their environment and helps them protect it for future generations.



Emergency Preparedness Award: To encourage Scouts of all ages to be prepared for emergency situations, the BSA has approved an Emergency Preparedness Award program for members of all ages.

Knotheads: Pack 49 will soon have a new award for the boys to earn, and all they have to do is learn how to tie knots. Each boy is issued a length of white rope to begin learning his knots. The color of a boy's rope corresponds to the number of knots he has mastered. The rope is worn as part of the uniform, suspended from the belt at the boy's right leg. Any boy observed swinging his rope in an unsafe or dangerous manner, or hitting others with his rope, will have the rope confiscated until the next Pack meeting. Repeated unsafe use of the rope will result in the loss of all privilege to participate in the knot-tying incentive program.

Adult and Leader Awards

National and District Earned Awards

Physical Fitness Award
Donor Awareness Award
Crime Prevention Award
Emergency Preparedness Award
United States Heritage Award
James. M. Stewart Good Citizenship Award
Leave No Trace Award
Religious Emblems
Interpreter Strips
Lifesaving and Meritorious Awards
Awards for Cubmaster (earned & nominated)
Leader Awards (earned)

National and District Nominated Awards

George Meany Award
Whitney Young Jr. Award
Scouting...Vale La Pena Service Award
Asian American Spirit of Scout Award
District Award of Merit
Adult Religious Award
James West Fellowship Award
Silver Beaver
Silver Antelope
Silver Buffalo
Medal of Merit
Heroism Award
Honor Medal

Pack 49 Awards

Crawford County Heritage Award
Iowa History Award
Service Award
Parade Award

Program Highlights

Popcorn and Wreath Sales

Pack 49 Cub Scouts are involved in the annual council-wide popcorn fundraiser during the month of October. In addition, the pack also sells wreaths, swags and garlands. Their participation in this sale helps them gain self-confidence and earn prizes, and Pack 49 receives a commission on sales that goes directly to the Pack treasury to help with payment for badges, activities and summer camp fees. In the spring, the Cub Scouts also sell candles. Proceeds from this sale also help pay for badges and activities.

Raingutter Regatta

At the November Pack meeting, boys race ships which they have designed from a kit given to them at the October Pack meeting. The annual Raingutter Regatta is the first chance new Cub Scouts have of designing a model.

Cub Scouts race again their own dens, blowing their ship down a section of raingutter, which has been capped at both ends. First, second and third place medals are awarded to each den.

Blue and Gold Banquet

The Blue & Gold banquet is a birthday party for Cub Scouting, which takes place at the February pack meeting.

Pack 49's annual celebration involves a potluck dinner and a program with entertainment. Each family is usually asked to provide a side dish and dessert, with the meat provided by the den.

Many times, Scouts work hard to receive their rank advancement at this event.

Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood derby is an annual parent/son project where the boys design a race car from a block of wood. Scouts race their cars on a gravity track. Prizes are awarded for speed, design, originality, etc, and first, second, third and fourth place trophies are awarded to the fastest boys' cars in the pack.

Pack 49's Pinewood Derby takes place during the March pack meeting at the Zion Lutheran School gymnasium.

Program Highlights

Annual Overnighters

Each year, the boys participate in an overnighiter. In the past boys have rotated between the SAC (Strategic Air Command) museum overnighiter and the Omaha Doorly Zoo overnighiter. During the 2005-2006 year, we attended the Zoo overnighiter, and during the 2006-2007 year, we will attend the SAC overnighiter. A family member (male or female) is invited and encouraged to attend overnighiter programs with your scout. This is a program for families.

Day Camps

Day camp offers exciting summertime activities, which include crafts, games, nature study, sports, songs and skits. Several Day Camp options are offered throughout the Mid-America Council, including one at Yellow Smoke Park in Denison in June. Camps can vary from a one-day option for Tiger Cubs, up to five days for older Cubs. The Pack is also beginning to plan day camps throughout the year, including one in the winter and one in late summer.

Cub Overnight Summer Camps

Cub overnight camps offer the same exciting activities as day camp, as well as giving the Scout a chance to experience overnight camping. Pack 49 Scouts usually attend the overnight camps at Little Sioux Scout Reservation in Little Sioux; however other camping experiences are offered at Camp Eagle in Fremont, Nebraska.



The Finances of Scouting

The good news is that if your son participates fully in the annual popcorn and wreath sale, his scouting experience could be free after the first year! That's because if a scout sells at least \$100 of popcorn and wreaths, his dues are paid for during the following year.

Prizes are awarded to the boys based on the amount they sell over that amount, and some of the prizes include the handbook and uniform components for the following year.

The first year Cub Scout in Pack 49 can expect to pay approximately \$67 to \$98. This includes:

Pack dues	\$25.00
This includes National Yearly Dues, prorated for the current year and the next year, pack dues, and a subscription to Boys' Life Magazine.	
Handbook	\$3.60 to 6.50
Uniform Necessities	\$39.15
This includes the basic uniform, neckerchief, slide & patches.	
Other Uniform Items (not necessary, but nice to have)	
Belt	\$6.30 to \$8.65
Cap	\$11.80

We do have the ability to scholarship some registration fees, and we do have some "experienced" uniforms available.

Also remember, this is only the first year, and if your son sells popcorn, the following year could be free!



Volunteering

You will soon find that the time you spend involved with your son's Pack will give you the opportunity to be a "hero" in your son's eyes, and will give you a way to teach volunteerism by example. More boys will go on to volunteer later in life when their parents have led by example.

Be assured that the time you spend as an active Scouting parent will be quality time with your son, creating memories to cherish for a lifetime!

What do I get out of volunteering?

Being involved in Cub Scouting is fun, challenging, and rewarding. Leaders find that their experiences help them to become better parents. Following are some of the many dividends that will enrich your life as you dedicate your time, talents, and enthusiasm to Scouting:

- Fun and fellowship with other families, sharing your pride in the boys' accomplishments.
- The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families.
- A chance to help boys learn good citizenship and to help shape them into men who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.
- The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of boys as they grow strong in mind and body.
- A code to live by which will set a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.
- The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and pride in being publicly identified as a part of this organization – wearing the Scouting uniform is a visible means of showing you believe in and stand up for the ideals and objectives of the Boy Scouts of America.

How can I help?

So, how can you help? We're glad you asked, because we have many ways you can get involved, big and small, year-long or short-term. You are the best judge of the time you can commit. The pack cannot exist without your involvement on some level. Following are ways you can become involved. The descriptions are brief; however, if you are interested in a position, we can give you a full job description.

Large, ongoing commitment

The following positions are uniformed leadership positions that require training (see page 15). These people should attend the monthly pack leader's meeting.

Cubmaster: Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Emcees monthly pack meeting and attends the pack leaders' meeting.

Assistant Cubmaster: Helps Cubmaster plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. When Cubmaster is absent, emcees monthly pack meeting.

Advancement Chair: Maintains advancement records for the pack. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Assists Cubmaster in awarding boys at Pack meetings.

Tiger Program Leader: Leads first Tiger Den meeting. Coordinates parental leadership of den meetings. Recruits parent to serve as Den Leader. Stays at same level of scouting each year to help provide a consistent program to each boy. Summers off!

Wolf Program Leader, Bear Program Leader, and Webelos Program Leader: Leads the den at weekly den and monthly pack meetings. Stays at same level of scouting each year to help provide a consistent program to each boy. Summers off!

Den Leader: Helps lead den at weekly den and monthly pack meetings. Stays with the den as they move through each level of scouting to provide consistent leadership for each boy. Summers off, except for camps!

Assistant Den Leader: Assists the den leaders at the weekly den meetings and monthly pack meetings. Summers off, except for camps!

Medium to Small Ongoing Commitment

The people in the following positions can choose to be uniformed or non-uniformed. Some of the positions may require training.

Committee Chair: Acts as a liaison between the chartering organizations and the pack. Help leads committee meetings (committee members include Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Advancement Chair, Activities Chair, and Youth Protection Chair).

Secretary: Handle correspondence for pack including newsletters, pack scrapbook, notes on business and leader meetings. Attends the monthly pack leader's meeting.

Treasurer: Keeps all records for the pack, including pack bank account, financial records, etc. Assist pack with fall popcorn and wreath sale, as well as winter sale. Attends the monthly pack leader's meeting.

Membership Chair: Help with re-organization papers and annual report to charter organizations. Assist in recruiting members on an ongoing basis, but especially in fall and winter.

Activities Chair: Help plan and arrange other activities.

Youth Protection Chair: Plan for emergencies, promote safety, maintain health forms and oversee Youth Protection training.

Pack Trainer: Train leaders and coordinate training of leaders so every stays up-to-date on mandatory training.

Public Relations Coordinator: Work with local media to promote Cub Scouting. Reports to the Secretary.

Website Coordinator: Works to keep website updated. Reports to the Secretary.

Religious Activities Coordinator: Promote and publicize use of religious emblems program. Reports to Advancement Chair.

Family & Special Awards Coordinator: Promote and publicize BSA Family Award. Researches, promotes and publicizes other special awards. Reports to advancement chair.

Outings Coordinator: Coordinate pack outings and assist leader in planning and doing paperwork for den outings. Reports to Activities Chair.

Parades Coordinator: Research parades and coordinate pack participation in local parades. Reports to Activities Chair.

Service Coordinator: Coordinate service projects including Scouting for Food. Reports to Activities Chair.

Troop liaison: Relay information between Troop 55 and Pack. Coordinate Webelos graduation ceremony each January. Reports to Membership Chair.

Short-term Commitments

The following positions are not ongoing, and those in the positions will only spend a couple months out of the year coordinating their responsibilities.

The people in the following positions can choose to be uniformed or non-uniformed. Some of the positions may require training.

Camping Coordinator: Help plan and arrange outdoor activities for pack. Reports to Activities Chair. (spring and summer)

Friends of Scouting Coordinator: Assist council in raising funds through the Friends of Scouting program. Reports to Treasurer. (1 to 2 months in January and February)

Popcorn Coordinator: Lead pack in fall popcorn sale. Reports to Treasurer. (2 to 3 months in the fall)

Greenery Coordinator: Lead pack in fall greenery sale. Reports to Treasurer. (2 to 3 months in the fall)

Blue & Gold Coordinator: Coordinate annual Blue & Gold Banquet. Reports to Activities Chair. (1 to 2 months in January and February)

Derby Coordinator: Coordinate annual Raingutter Regatta in November and annual Pinewood Derby in March. Reports to Activities Chair. (1 month in November, 1 month in March)

Greeter: At the beginning of the year, we need people to sign up to greet and direct people when they arrive at pack meetings. These people will be responsible for making sure everyone signs in, and that all guests are welcomed.

Leader Training

Some positions require leaders to be trained. The following describes each level of training:

Fast Start & Youth Protection Training

So you're a new leader! Congratulations!

To get you started, the Mid-America Council has training available online. To complete Cub Scout Leader Fast Start Training, go to www.mac-bsa.org, click on the "Training" button on the right of the screen. At the bottom of the training page is a button for "Cub Scout Fast Start Training" and another for "Youth Protection Training". You should complete both of these trainings first, before you begin meeting with your scouts.

Basic Training

After you have completed the Fast Start training for your leadership position, the next step is to attend a Cub Scout Leader Training session conducted in your area. This training will give you a more in-depth understanding of your new leadership position and the Cub Scouting program. These sessions are scheduled to be conducted in both the fall and the spring. Ask your Cubmaster for the date, time and location of the session nearest to you.

Supplemental Training

After you have completed Fast Start and Basic Training, you will be well on your way. But every good leader looks for opportunities to expand their skills, so the Tecumseh Council offers supplemental training sessions such as BALOO, Outdoor Skills, University of Scouting, and Wood Badge courses. Look for information about these training opportunities in the council newsletter, *BSA Bugle*, or by visiting the council website.

Other Publications

When you become a registered leader with the BSA, you will start receiving issues of *Scouting Magazine* and *BSA Bugle*. These publications will keep you up-to-date with new information. You can also visit the council website for even more information!

Protecting Our Youth

After selection of the best possible leaders, additional protection for children is built into the program. The BSA has adopted the following policies to provide security not only for youth in Scouting, but also for the adults.

Two Deep Leadership: Two registered adult leaders or one registered adult leader and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age, are required on all trips and outings. The chartered organization is responsible for ensuring that sufficient leadership is provided for all activities.

No One-on-One Contact: One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted in any situation. Personal conferences should take place in view of other adults and youths.

Respect of Privacy: Adult members must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes or taking showers at camp. Adults should intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. They should also protect their own privacy in similar situations.

Separate Accommodations: When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian.

Proper Preparation for Activities: All activities should consider the capabilities of the participating Cub Scouts. No activity should be undertaken without the proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures.

No Secret Organizations: The BSA does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program. All activities are open to observation by parents and leaders.

Appropriate Attire: Proper clothing for activities is required.

Constructive Discipline: Discipline used in Cub Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.

Hazing Prohibited: Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.

Parents are a critical element in the education of Cub Scouts about child abuse. The BSA publishes a booklet, *How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*, that is inserted in the front of each Cub Scout handbook. The BSA also has an award-winning video, *It Happened to Me*, for use by Cub Scout packs and dens.

Notes

Notes



Mid America Council Boy Scouts of America

The Mid-America council is the largest youth-serving agency in Nebraska and Iowa. The council serves more than 33,000 youth and 10,000 registered volunteers in 58 counties.

The Mid-America council supports our volunteers with a 330 member board of trustees, a professional staff of 30 and a support staff of 26 full and part-time employees.

The Boy Scouts of America have consistently recognized the Mid-America council as a quality council.

The Mid-America council owns and operates six camps. With these camps, the council provides an outstanding outdoor experience for both youth and adults.

BSA Mission Statement

To prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the scout oath and law.

Cub Scout Motto

Do Your Best

Cub Scout Promise

I promise to do my best,
to do my duty to God and my country,
to help other people, and
to obey the Law of the Pack.