

Order of the Arrow Cub Scout Support Tool Kit

Guide Booklet



BOY SCOUTS  OF AMERICA®

Introduction

This Order of the Arrow Cub Scout Support Tool Kit was developed to help you become more involved with Cub Scouting, specifically by assisting dens and packs with three key areas:

- **Recruitment**
- **Outdoor program**
- **Webelos-to-Scout transition**

As an Arrowman, you have a unique opportunity and responsibility to help further the aims of Scouting in your community and beyond. This tool kit will help prepare you to meet that responsibility. Once you are comfortable presenting the material, look for creative ways to get involved with Cub Scouting in your community or neighborhood in the three key areas. You might find opportunities at a Cub Scout roundup, an outdoor fun day, at BALOO training, or perhaps by participating in Webelos den meetings as the time approaches for transitioning to Boy Scouts.

This booklet outlines three sample presentations designed to introduce youth and parents to Cub Scouting, its outdoor program, and the Webelos-to-Scout transition. Each presentation requires the participation of adult Cub Scout leaders and Arrowmen to be most effective. Discuss with the Cub Scout leader what role you can play.

Your leadership skills are valued and needed to help ensure the success of this important mission. Adult leaders have recognized your potential to contribute to a successful presentation because you meet one or more of the following criteria:

- You have served as or been selected to be a trainer with the National Leadership Seminar.
- You have served as a conclave or Lodge Leadership Development trainer.
- You have achieved Star Scout or higher rank.

In addition, the following characteristics are highly desired for Arrowmen involved with Cub Scouting:

- A friendly and pleasant personality
- Enthusiasm about Scouting and the OA
- Experience speaking in front of groups
- Willingness to practice the presentations
- Proper wear of the official Class A uniform
- Ability to work with Cub Scout pack leaders

Having access to transportation and the time to attend rehearsals and presentations is also important.

After reading and practicing with the tool kit, you should be able to:

1. Help recruit new Cub Scouts.

- Present the purposes of the Cub Scout program.
- Answer basic questions about the Cub Scout program.
- Generate enthusiasm for Cub Scouting among audience members.

2. Promote the Cub Scout outdoor program.

- Present an overview of Cub Scout camping options.
- Answer basic questions about the Cub Scout outdoor program.
- Explain how outdoor activities benefit the pack or den.
- Share your camping experiences in an engaging way.

3. Encourage Webelos Scouts to transition to Boy Scouts.

- Educate Webelos Scouts and their parents about Boy Scouting and the Boy Scout program.
- Provide information to Webelos Scouts and parents on choosing a Boy Scout troop that is right for them.
- Describe some highlights of Boy Scout activities.



The Order of the Arrow Cub Scout Support Tool Kit DVD that accompanies this training syllabus features five segments:

1. Scouting's National Honor Society
2. Tiger Cub/Cub Scout
3. Webelos Scout
4. Parent Orientation
5. Outdoor Program
6. Webelos-to-Scout Transition
7. The Scouting Opportunity

Each module—Cub Scout Recruitment, Cub Scout Outdoor Program (Camping) Promotions, and Webelos-to-Scout Transition—uses a unique combination of these segments to help convey its message.

Practice is the most important aspect of making a good presentation. Be sure to rehearse your presentation for family and friends, and ask for feedback. Another good idea is to videotape your practice presentation, then study the tape with an experienced presenter, asking for feedback on your content and technique. Practicing in front of a mirror also can be helpful. Work closely with your presentation partners so you will know exactly what is expected of you, and polish your presentation until you can speak with confidence when you go before a real audience.

If you're ready, let's get started!

Preparing Your Presentation

An effective presentation requires effective preparation. First of all, be sure that you are knowledgeable enough about Cub Scouting to answer questions—or at least direct the questioner to resources that can provide the answer.

Review the basics of the Cub Scout program online by visiting www.scouting.org. Under the Cub Scouting link, click “Adult Leaders,” then browse the “About Cub Scouting” section.

Having energy is vital for a good presenter. When the person in the front of the room is plodding along in a monotone voice, audience members have to fight to stay awake! Help avoid that pitfall yourself by ensuring that you are up for your presentation. Marshaling your energy is part of being prepared. Your presentation is like a performance, so treat it that way.

Enthusiasm is contagious, so share yours!

The day before your presentation:

- Secure all handouts you intend to distribute from your local council or lodge leadership.
- Arrange to have a flip chart and markers, DVD player, and monitor available at the presentation site.

The day of the presentation:

- Arrive well in advance of the scheduled presentation time.
- Check that the DVD player is operating correctly and that you understand how to use it.
- Play the DVD and adjust the volume to the anticipated audience size.

These tasks should be finished before the first audience member arrives. Again, coordinate all assignments with the Cub Scout leader in charge and your fellow presenters.

Module 1 – Cub Scout Recruitment

Audience: Parents and youth currently not involved in Cub Scouting.

Trainer Preparation: Before presenting this module, Arrowmen should be prepared to:

- Present the purposes of the Cub Scout program.
- Answer basic questions about the Cub Scout program.
- Generate enthusiasm for Cub Scouting.

Materials Needed

- Handouts with council contact information
- Supply of BSA youth and adult applications
 - Youth (English), No. 28-406C
 - Youth (Spanish), No. 28-423
 - Adult (English), No. 28-501E
 - Adult (Spanish), No. 28-502S
- Order of the Arrow Cub Scout Support Tool Kit DVD
- DVD player and monitor
- Prepared flip chart listing the purposes of Cub Scouting
- Masking tape or other means of posting the prepared flip chart page
- Sign-in sheet for attendees
- Pencils or pens

The purposes of Cub Scouting are character development, spiritual growth, good citizenship, sportsmanship and fitness, family understanding, respectful relationships, personal achievement, friendly service, fun and adventure, and preparation for Boy Scouting.

Getting Started

When you arrive at the presentation site, set up the DVD, monitor, and flip chart for the presentation. Greet the guests as they arrive.

The Presentation

After the pack leader introduces himself and the other leaders, you can introduce the first video, saying, *“I’m a member of an organization within Scouting called the Order of the Arrow. I’d like to show you a brief video about the Order of the Arrow, called OA for short.”*



Play the “Scouting’s National Honor Society” segment on the DVD.

Ask for any questions, then deliver the following content in your own words: *“I’m here to talk about Cub Scouting, and I’d like to get your impressions of the program. Two questions: What comes to mind when you think of Cub Scouts? And, what would you hope your son and you would get out of participating in the program?”*

Take two or three minutes to take answers from the group. Write answers on the flip chart.

Say, *“That’s all good input. For the next few minutes I’m going to give you an overview of Cub Scouting and talk about the benefits of the program for your son and you. Cub Scouting is a year-round family program designed for boys in the first through fifth grades, or 7 through 10 years of age. Cub Scouts, parents, unit leaders, and their chartered organizations all work together to achieve the purposes of the Cub Scouting program. Let’s take a look at those purposes and see how they correspond to some of the things you told me you’re looking for from Cub Scouting.”*

Display the prepared flip chart of the purposes of Cub Scouting. Compare the Cub Scout purposes on the prepared flip chart page with what the parents gave you as input.

Say, *“Looks like we have some agreement here between what Cub Scouting offers and what you expect from the program. I’m going to show you two short videos that will give you a good overview of the Cub Scouting program.”*



Play the “Tiger Cub/Cub Scout” and “Webelos Scout” segments on the DVD.

Say, *“Well, as you can see, Cub Scouting is fun. And the program’s main focus is youth development in a safe, age-appropriate setting.”*

Enthusiastically relate your positive, personal Cub Scouting experience. Then ask for any questions from the group. Answer questions, providing resources for questions to which you do not know the answer.

At this point in the presentation, you and an adult leader can take the boys out of the room so another adult leader can speak to the parents. Be prepared to teach the boys something about Scouting. Talk about and demonstrate Bobcat requirements, knot tying, or any of your favorite Scout skills, keeping in mind that what you show should be age-appropriate for Cub Scouts. (See www.scouting.org/pubs/gss/ageguides.pdf for guidelines.)



The adult leader plays the “Parent Orientation” segment on the DVD,

then you will bring the boys back to the room and let them demonstrate what you taught them. After the boys complete their demonstration, you or the adult presenter say, *“As you can see, your son will learn many new skills in Cub Scouting, while having fun. Now we’d like to show you one more short video.”*



Play the “Scouting Opportunity” segment on the DVD.

When the video is complete, the adult presenter will ask parents to sign their sons up for Cub Scouting. While the parents complete the paperwork, you can re-engage the boys (Keep them in the room, as their presence can help sell the program!) and teach them more about Scouting or share what you enjoy most about the program. After the applications are completed and fees collected, assist the adult leader in thanking everyone for coming.

In addition to the presentation outlined here, you could help with other aspects of Cub Scout recruiting, including:

- Assisting in distributing roundup announcement posters and flyers, and in making announcements in places of worship.
- Properly wearing the Class A uniform when assisting with boy talks at schools.
- Conducting an opening or closing ceremony at the presentation.
- Setting up a model campsite outside, and doing a cooking demonstration.
- Helping with games during the pack adults’ meeting.
- Teaching boys some of the Bobcat requirements during the pack adults’ meeting.

Module 2 – Cub Scout Outdoor Program (Camping) Promotions

Audience: New Cub Scouts and their parents

Trainer Preparation: Before presenting this module, Arrowmen should be prepared to:

- Present an overview of Cub Scout outdoor and camping options.
- Answer basic questions about the Cub Scout outdoor program.
- Explain how outdoor activities benefit the pack or den.
- Share your camping experiences in an engaging way.

Materials Needed

- Handouts listing types of Cub Scout outdoor programs (Visit www.scouting.org. Under the Cub Scout link, select “Adult Leaders” for a complete listing of Cub Scout outdoor activities.)
- Local council day camp/resident camp/family camp promotional materials
- Order of the Arrow Cub Scout Support Tool Kit DVD
- DVD player and monitor
- Sign-in sheet for attendees
- Pencils or pens
- Flip chart and markers

Getting Started

Review the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, No. 34416, before conducting the session. (Note that overnight camping by Tiger Cubs, Wolf Cub Scouts, and Bear Cub Scouts AS DENS is not approved, except at council-organized family camps.) You should be very familiar with Cub Scout outdoor program options, even though the video for this session will give the audience an overview. You will be conducting this session with at least one adult leader, so you should establish with the leaders what parts of the presentation you will handle.

The Presentation

Once you have arrived at the presentation site and set up the DVD and monitor for the presentation, greet the guests as they arrive.

After the pack leader introduces himself and the other leaders, you can introduce the first video, saying, *"I'm a member of an organization within Scouting called the Order of the Arrow. I'd like to show you a brief video about the Order of the Arrow, called OA for short, before we cover the Cub Scout outdoor program."*



Play the "Scouting's National Honor Society" segment on the DVD,

then say, *"If you think about it, 'Scouting' is three-fourths 'outing.' (Pause to let that sink in.) We all know that boys have a great desire for outdoor fun, excitement, and adventure. Well-organized and programmed outdoor pack events help keep the fun in the Cub Scout program. These outdoor experiences encourage Cub Scouts to spend time with their families, while doing so in a safe, supervised, and age-appropriate setting. Introducing the boys to the fun and adventure of Scouting in the outdoors will help them as they mature through the program. Let's take a look at a brief video about the various options for Cub Scout outdoor activities."*



Play the "Outdoor Program" segment on the DVD,

then distribute the handouts listing Cub Scout outdoor program (camping) options and ask for questions. Answer all questions or direct questioners to adult leaders or resources for those questions to which you do not know the answer.

Relate your positive, personal Cub Scout outdoor program experience to the group. Be detailed and enthusiastic, but don't take more than three minutes to share the highlights of your Cub Scout outdoor days.

Then say, *"Before I turn our meeting over to our pack leaders, I'd like to show you one more short video."*



Play the "Scouting Opportunity" segment on the DVD.

Answer any more questions, then thank the attendees for coming and turn the meeting back to the Cub Scout leader for closing comments and adjournment.

In addition to the presentation outlined here, other opportunities to be involved in Cub Scout outdoor activities promotions include the following.

At a Cub Scout outdoor activity

- Demonstrate outdoor skills to Cub Scouts and their families.
- Help boys experience hands-on outdoor activities.
- Help boys with rank requirements involving outdoor activities.

During BALOO training

- Serve as an assistant instructor.
- Provide equipment.
- Put on demonstrations.

For the troop and associated packs

- Serve as a camping resource for pack leaders.
- Help plan outdoor pack events.
- Serve as a den chief, role model, and mentor.

For the council and district

- Promote outdoor events at pow wows, roundtables, and pack meetings.
- Give demonstrations at outdoor events.
- Help with Cub Scout activities at outdoor events.
- Develop and maintain, with the permission and direction of the council's camping committee, a "where to go camping" booklet for Cub Scout packs.
- Provide service to Cub Scout camps, including at lodge work weekends.
- Assist the council/district camping committees in increasing the number of approved pack camping sites.

Module 3—Webelos-to-Scout Transition

Audience: Webelos Scouts and their parents

Trainer Preparation: Before presenting this module, Arrowmen should be prepared to:

- Educate Webelos Scouts and their parents about Boy Scouting and the Boy Scout program.
- Provide information to Webelos Scouts and parents on choosing a Boy Scout troop that is right for them.
- Describe some highlights of Boy Scout activities.

Materials Needed

- Handouts citing considerations in choosing a Boy Scout troop
- Handouts listing Boy Scout troops in the immediate area, with contact information and the meeting day and place
- Order of the Arrow Cub Scout Support Tool Kit DVD
- DVD player and monitor
- Sign-in sheet for attendees
- Pencils or pens
- Flip chart and markers

Getting Started

Helping our younger brothers in blue and gold get to khaki and olive is one of your key responsibilities as an Arrowman.

The Presentation

Once you have arrived at the presentation site and set up the DVD and monitor for the presentation, greet the guests as they arrive.

After the pack leader introduces himself and the other leaders, you can introduce the first video, saying, *“I’m a member of an organization within Scouting called the Order of the Arrow. I’d like to show you a brief video about the Order of the Arrow, called OA for short, before we cover the transition from Webelos Scouts to Boy Scouts.”*



Play the “Scouting’s National Honor Society” segment on the DVD, then address the audience: *“I’m here to help you understand how*

Webelos Scouts transition to Boy Scouts. Before we get into some details, I’d like to show you a brief video that talks about the basics of the transition.”



Play the “Webelos-to-Scout Transition” segment on the DVD, then ask if there are any questions about the video. Answer all questions or

direct questioners to adult leaders or resources for those questions to which you do not know the answer. Tell the guests, *“Probably the biggest change from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts has to do with independence. Boy Scouts develop their own activities with the help of an adult leader. So, while there is adult supervision, youth leaders and troop members decide what they want to do, plan the program, and then go do it. One of the favorites obviously is camping, which can be done year-round with proper preparation and training.”*

Take about three minutes to relate your favorite, positive Boy Scout camping experience. Then say, *“Selecting a troop is really important. Each troop has its own personality, so it’s a good idea to visit several troops in your area and maybe even attend events with them to get a feel for the troop culture. You want a troop with an atmosphere that’s comfortable for you and your parents.*

“When choosing a troop, ask yourself some key questions, such as: Is the troop the right size for me? Are the day and time of the weekly meetings convenient for me? Which troops are my Webelos Scout friends joining? Ask to see their yearly schedule or program summary and review the events. Things like that. I have a handout here that covers points to consider when selecting a Boy Scout troop.”

Distribute the handouts citing considerations in selecting a Boy Scout troop.

Say, *“Let’s spend a few minutes talking about advancement.”* Describe the Boy Scout ranks and some of the requirements before moving on to a discussion about summer camp.

Tell guests, *“One of the highlights of Boy Scouting is summer camp. Many troops attend their local council’s camps. In addition to having fun and enjoying the excitement of camping, Scouts have the opportunity to learn outdoor skills, earn merit badges, and possibly advance a rank. Some troops stay for a week, some longer. Also, camps can offer Boy Scouts the opportunity to go on multiday hikes, experience rock climbing and rappelling, learn survival skills, and explore the three national high-adventure bases.”*

Take about two minutes to relate your favorite, positive Boy Scout summer camp experience. Then say, *“Before I finish, I’d like to show you one more short video.”*



Play the “Scouting Opportunity” segment on the DVD, then ask for any final questions. Answer all questions or direct questioners to adult leaders or resources for those questions to which you do not know the answer.

Close the session by relating your favorite positive, personal Boy Scouting experience to the group. Be detailed and enthusiastic, but do not take more than three minutes to share the highlights of your Boy Scout days.

Answer any more questions, then thank the attendees for coming and turn the meeting over to the adult leader for adjournment.

In addition to helping with the presentation outlined here, other opportunities to be involved in Webelos-to-Scout transition include the following.

- Serve as the liaison between packs and troops.
- Serve as a den chief.
- Be a role model and mentor.
- Assist Webelos Scouts with advancement activities.
- Volunteer at the council’s day camp/resident camp/ family camp.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

1325 West Walnut Hill Lane

P.O. Box 152079

Irving, TX 75015-2079

<http://www.scouting.org>

24-416
2007 Printing