



## WELCOME TO CUB SCOUT PACK 638

### Introduction

Cub Scout Pack 638, in Renton, WA, is sponsored by the Parents of Pack 638 and has been active since its chartering in 1999. The Pack has been a positive presence in our community and has earned many citations for its service projects. Most of our Cub Scouts attend Apollo Elementary, though our Pack is open to any scout in our area.

### Organization

Each Cub Scout is a member of a “Den” usually consisting of 4-8 youth in the same school grade. All the Dens together form the Pack. We usually have between 4-5 Dens in our Pack, and from 20-30 Cub Scouts. Pack 638 belongs to the Alpine District of the Boy Scouts of America’s Chief Seattle Council. The BSA Chief Seattle website (<http://www.seattlebsa.org/>) includes information on training and local Cub Scout and other scouting opportunities. They also have a free electronic newsletter, The eTotem. See more below or at <https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/how-cub-scouting-is-organized/>.

## ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW



For details on how a pack is organized refer to the [Cub Scout Leader Book](#).

#### Dens

A small group of Cub Scouts who are the same gender and in the same grade. The ideal size is 6 to 8 Cub Scouts.

#### Den Leaders

An adult, usually a parent, serves as a Den Leader. They carry out the activities related to adventures as they are presented in the Cub Scout's handbook and the Den Leader Guide.

#### Pack

The pack is made up of several dens. The make up and size of the pack varies based on local interest and resources. Each pack is identified by a number.

#### Cubmaster

The leader of the pack meeting is the Cubmaster. In addition to serving as the master of ceremonies the Cubmaster provides support to Den Leaders.

#### Pack Committee

Made up of parents, leaders, and other caring adults the pack committee works to support den leaders and the cubmaster.

#### Pack Committee Chair

The top volunteer in the pack is the Pack Committee Chair. They are responsible for ensuring enough qualified adult volunteers are in place to provide the program. They lead the pack committee meetings.

#### Chartered Organization

This is the organization that partners with the Boy Scouts of America to deliver a Scouting program. They adopt Scouting to serve the youth in the community.

#### Chartered Organization Representative

This person appoints the Pack Committee Chair and approves all adult leaders. They provide resources from the chartered organization.

## The Cub Scout Program, Learning with a Purpose

Cub Scouting is a program for youth grades K-5. Kids may join Cub Scouts during any one of the six Cub Scout years. The program is very much family-oriented and parent participation is required or encouraged for most activities. When possible and appropriate, siblings are welcome to attend.

The Pack 638 program has two main features: Pack and Den Activities and Individual Advancement.

### Pack and Den Activities

Each year, Pack 638 participates in many Pack events, including the following:

- Pinewood Derby
- Summer campout
- Hikes
- A fundraiser for Pack activities
- Scouting for Food (benefits the Issaquah Food Bank)
- Service projects (road clean ups, environmental service, military appreciation and more)
- Outdoor and first aid skills
- Building projects and art crafts
- Field trips and outdoor explorations
- Safety training and demonstrations

These activities are the highlights of the Scouting year and participation is highly encouraged. Each monthly Pack meeting will also have special activities planned and are a great way for the Scouts of all ages to get together. Den meetings will have activities that are more age-specific and more connected to the programs of the individual levels.

### Individual Advancement

At each level, the Scouts learn skills related to their development as community members and as Scouts in particular. The program is fun and is not overly demanding of time. The kids get a lot of satisfaction out of mastering the skills and earning their advancement. As discussed below, much of this program is designed to be done by the Scout with his or her parents, not as part of the Pack or Den activities. Your help is key to giving your child the full fun and benefit of Scouting. Take the time to look through your Scout's handbook to see what the program includes.



- Lion is the first level of Cub Scouting. Kids must be five years old or be in kindergarten. They join with an adult partner (usually a parent) and meet as a Den of up to 8 children and partners, usually once or twice a month. They work on the Lion Handbook.
- Tigers must be six years old or in the first grade. They work on activities in the Tiger Handbook.
- Wolf Scouts must be seven years old or in the second grade. They work on activities in the Wolf Handbook.
- Bear Scouts must be eight years old or in the third grade. They work on the Bear Handbook.
- Webelos Scouts are in the fourth and fifth grades and are Webelos for one school year in fourth grade and about 6 months in fifth grade. They have their own set of age- appropriate requirements for completion of the Arrow of Light. Webelos programming is designed to transition the youth into Scouts BSA

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## Parent Participation

Cub Scouting means family involvement. Scouting aims to foster interaction between parents and their children. It is the job of parents, not the Den Leaders, to bring the Scout through the various requirements in the handbook so that they can move to the next level. Lion, Tiger, Wolf, and Bear Cubs, particularly, will need adult assistance at home to achieve their goals.

A common misconception is that the Den meetings will handle all of the tasks required for advancement. While much of the material will be covered in Den and Pack Meeting activities, the primary obligation belongs to the parents. The Den and Pack meetings are geared toward encouragement of their efforts, recognition of their accomplishments, and development of comradeship. Meetings can be instructional and will cover much of the advancement requirements, but some of the learning tasks are detailed in the Cub Scout's handbooks for work at home.

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## What about Meetings?

Den meetings are usually held once a month with an additional activity sometimes planned. Den parents set the time and place for Den meetings by consensus. There must be two adults (or more) at these meetings. However, we consider these meetings to be parent/child events and parent attendance and help is the norm.

Pack meetings are held once a month, usually on the second Friday of the month at Apollo Elementary School in the Multi-purpose room at 6:30pm. A parent or responsible adult must attend the Pack meeting with the Cub. All family members are welcome at Pack Meetings. The meetings last about 1 ½ hours.

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## How can you help?

Our activities are a lot of fun but often take a lot of work to organize. The Cubmaster and Pack Committee cannot do everything. Help is always needed. We can always use den leaders or others helping the Den Leader. We ask that every family volunteer to help prepare for and conduct at least one Pack meeting with the assistance of the Cubmaster. We hope that everyone will help at least a little or to take on a small task so that the work is shared. We work hard, but have fun doing it! No contribution of time or effort is too small.

Committee meetings (the Pack's steering committee) are held once a month. Den leaders and/or a Den representative are expected to attend. Any parent who wants to is welcome to attend.

Roundtable meetings are chaired by the Chief Seattle Council once a month (Second Thursday of every Month @ 7:00pm at the Issaquah LDS Church) for parents from different Packs in the county to share helpful hints on Scouting. Pack 638 sends a representative to these meetings and all parents are always welcome.

## Insurance

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Cub Scout activities are covered by BSA insurance. Coverage begins upon receipt of the Cub's application to join the Pack and receipt of the Cub's registration fee by the Chief Seattle Council. Field trips and outings in private automobiles are covered.

## Uniform, Handbook and Dues

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### Provided by the Pack:

- Neckerchief: orange for Tigers, yellow for Wolves, blue for Bears, plaid for Webelos.
- Neckerchief slide: Tiger/Bear/Wolf or Webelos.

### Provided by the Scout:

- Shirt: navy blue Cub Scout shirt (short sleeved is most common – get it big enough to fit for a few years to save on sewing!). Webelo Scouts may wear the tan Scouts BSA shirt (this is known as the Class A uniform).
- Handbook for each rank
- Shirt badges and patches: emblems sewn onto the shirt as described below.
- Cub Scout belt: blue webbing belt for adventure belt loops. Each scout will earn 7 adventure belt loops per year.
- Badges and Patches – The Cub Scout shirt comes with the American flag patch already sewn on the right sleeve. You will need to purchase:
  - Den number patch (goes below the American flag patch).
  - Chief Seattle Council circular patch (goes on the right breast pocket)
  - Chief Seattle Council oblong patch (goes at the top of the left sleeve, close to the sleeve seam line).
  - Pack numbers "638" (goes just below the Chief Seattle Council oblong patch of the left sleeve).
  - World Crest (is centered above the left pocket). This badge is worn by 28 million Scouts in 160 countries

### Optional:

- Hat: blue for Lions, orange for Tigers, yellow panel for Wolf and Bear, blue panel for Webelos.
- Class B shirt: A casual, scout-related t-shirt may be purchased from the pack.
- You do not need the Cub Scout trousers. Pack 638 Cub Scouts wear blue jeans or navy blue shorts or long pants.
- Brag Vest, camping blanket or canvas bag for patches: A great way for showing off the various patches that the Scouts earn for participating in Scout events. Kids love badges.

Uniforms may be purchased at the Puget Sound Scout Shop, 3120 Rainier Ave, Seattle (206-721- 5945) or online through [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org). The Salvation Army or Goodwill stores may also be good sources for Cub Scout uniforms. On occasion the Pack also has shirts available as part of a hand-me-down program. Please contact the Cubmaster if financial hardship prevents you from obtaining the uniform.

When you are at the scout store, get some "Badge Magic" to save on tiresome sewing. It works great. Refer to your handbook or look online for additional badge info. All other badges and patches that are earned throughout the year and are paid for by the Pack out of the scout dues. Badges indicate the Cub's rank: Lion, Bobcat, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos or Arrow of Light.

## Dues

Dues for the school year are posted on the Pack's homepage on our website. They are prorated for kids entering the Pack after the beginning of the school year. Dues cover the following: BSA registration fees, insurance, neckerchiefs and slides, badges, awards, adventure belt loops, pins, pinewood derby race car kit, Pack meeting supplies and general Pack

expenses. There may be additional activities fees for field trips during the year, depending on the trip (such as campground fees, park entrance fees, and so on). Dues may be paid out-of-pocket or can be covered by Pack fundraising events. Scholarships may be available for scouts in need, however, we strongly encourage participation in the fundraising events to cover dues. Cub Scouts are a not-for-profit group and our Pack strives to set the dues to a price that just covers our budget for the year.

For More Information about our Pack or anything in this document, contact our Cubmaster through our website: [www.pack638.scoutlander.com](http://www.pack638.scoutlander.com).

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### **To Learn More About Scouting**

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Chief Seattle Council BSA website: [http:// www.seattlebsa.org/](http://www.seattlebsa.org/)

Boy Scouts of America national website: <http://www.scouting.org/>

World Organization of the Scout Movement: <http://www.scout.org/>

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### **To Stay Up-to-Date on Our Pack Happenings**

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@cubscoutpack638

And make sure we have your current email address and phone number!