

Cub Scout Pack 576



Handbook

Cub Scout Pack 576 – Brandon, MS
Chartered by Reservoir Scouting Association
Meets at: St. Marks United Methodist Church
400 Grants Ferry Rd, Brandon, MS 39047

Key Contacts

Cubmaster- Tommy Nichols (601) 540-7109
Pack Committee Chair- Vito Canizaro (601) 317-1695
Charter Organization Rep- Trey Curry (337) 967-0407

Dens

Lion Kindergarten (B)	Den 6
Lion Kindergarten (G)	Den 7
Tiger 1st Grade(B)	Den 1
Tiger 1st Grade(G)	Den 8
Wolf 2nd Grade(B)	Den 3
Wolf 2nd Grade(G)	Den 9
Bear 3rd Grade(B)	Den 2
Bear 3rd Grade(G)	Den 10
WEBELOS 4th Grade(B)	Den 5
WEBELOS 4th Grade(G)	Den 11
AOL 5th Grade(B)	Den 4
AOL 5th Grade(G)	Den 12

Table of Contents shortcuts to content

Page

- Purpose of Scouting	3
- History of Scouting	3
- Welcome to Cub Scout Pack 576	4
- About Our Chartered Organization	4
- Pack Organization	4
- Facility Guidelines	5
- Registration	5
- Meetings	5
o Den Meetings	6
o Pack Meetings	6
- Activities	6
o Pinewood Derby	6
o Blue and Gold Banquet	6
o Campouts	6
o Summer Activities	6
- Cub Scout Ranks	7
o Lion	7
o Bobcat	7
o Tiger	7
o Wolf	7
o Bear	7
o Webelos	7
o Arrow of Light	8
- About Advancement	8
- Uniforms	9
- Patch Placement	10
- What to buy from Scout Shop	10
- Books	11
- Awards	11
- Communications	11
- Pack Email	11
- Packmaster App	11
- Council Information	11
- Parent Responsibility	12
- What to Take Camping	14
- How to get Prepared for Camp	16
- Uniform Patches needed	17
- Scout Dues	17

Times and challenges change, yet the values of Scouting will never change. Scouts of any era would recognize every word that you live by today, because those words have always defined Scouting. The goodness of a person and of the society he or she lives in often comes down to very simple things, and the words found in the Scout Law. Every society depends on trust and loyalty, on courtesy and kindness, on bravery and reverence. These are the values of Scouting, and these are the values of America.

—George W. Bush

Purpose

Scouting can help young people enhance close relationships with their families and community while developing strong and desirable traits of character, citizenship, and physical and mental fitness. Scouting also provides leadership opportunities and helps them develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship.

The BSA defines the purposes of Cub Scouting as:

- Character Development
- Spiritual Growth
- Good Citizenship
- Sportsmanship and Fitness
- Family Understanding
- Respectful Relationships
- Personal Achievement
- Friendly Service
- Fun and Adventure
- Preparation for Scouts BSA

Cub Scouting uses six specific methods to achieve Scouting's aims of helping youth and young adults build character, train in the responsibilities of citizenship, and develop personal fitness.

1. The ideals: The Scout Oath, the Scout Law, and the Cub Scout sign, handshake, motto, and salute all teach good citizenship and contribute to a scouts's sense of belonging.

2. The den: As part of a small group of scouts, they are able to learn sportsmanship and good

citizenship. They learn how to get along with others. They learn how to do their best, not just for themselves but also for the den.

3. Advancement: The advancement plan provides fun for the scouts, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding. Cub Scout leaders and adult family members work with scouts on advancement projects.

4. Family involvement: Family involvement is an essential part of Cub Scouting.

5. Activities: In Cub Scouting, scouts participate in a wide variety of den and pack activities, such as games, projects, skits, stunts, songs, outdoor activities, and trips.

6. The uniform: The Cub Scout uniform helps build pride, loyalty, and self-respect. Wearing the uniform to all den and pack meetings and activities also encourages a neat appearance, a sense of belonging, and good behavior.

History of Scouting

Boy Scouts was started in England in 1908 by Lord Baden-Powell. Throughout the world, each country has its own independent Boy Scout organization. Every person in the world who is a member of their country's Boy Scout organization is allowed to wear the purple Boy Scout World Crest patch on their uniform.

The Boy Scout organization in the United States of America is called the Boy Scouts of America which is abbreviated BSA. In 1910 Boy Scouts of America incorporated by W. D. Boyce. The Boy Scouts of America receives a Congressional charter until Title 36 of the United States Code.

In 1914, Lord Baden-Powell had started a program for younger boys based on Rudyard Kipling's *Jungle Book*. Many of the terms that are still used come from the *Jungle Book* including "Law of the Pack," "Akela," "Wolf Club," "den," and "pack." In the 1930, Cub Scouting was started by the BSA with volunteer leaders and den mothers to lead the activities

Welcome to Cub Scout Pack 576

We're glad that your family has joined Scouting and

we hope you and your scout will have a great adventure with Cub Scout Pack 576. Pack 576 has been meeting in Brandon, MS since 1974, and continues to thrive due to the dedication of its volunteer leaders and parents like you! We all believe that Scouting is an important part of the physical, mental, and spiritual development of our scouts.



Pack 576 is part of the Strong River District, which is one of 6 districts that make up the Andrew Jackson Council, Boy Scouts of America. The Pack is chartered annually by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, which is chartered by the Congress of the United States of America.

About Our Chartered Organization

All Cub Scout packs are associated with a charter organization that sponsors the pack, provides meeting facilities, and approves the selection of leaders. Pack 576 is chartered by Reservoir Scouting Association which meets at St. Marks United Methodist Church located on Grant's Ferry Road in Brandon, MS. The church holds services each Sunday at 8:20 and 10:45 AM, and St. Marks United Methodist Church invites you to visit on Sundays. Children are a very important part of the St. Mark's UMC family, and the Church provides a pre-school, Sunday school, a Children's Choir, and other youth-oriented activities.

Check out the website for other activities at

<http://saintmarksum.org>

Scouting promotes a strong moral value system within its members, including the most important element – a belief in God and a sense of duty and reverence towards Him.

While requiring that its members acknowledge a fundamental belief in a supreme God, the Boy Scouts of America organization does not define the specifics of any particular religion except to say that God must be the center of it. The BSA encourages its members to actively practice

their own religious faith in worship of Him. Scouting is a non- denominational religious and educational institution and all faiths are welcome.

You do not have to be a member of St. Marks United Methodist Church to join Pack 576. But if you do not currently have a church home, we encourage you to visit St. Marks United Methodist Church and we invite you to join St. Mark's in worshipping the Lord!

Pack Organization

A group of youth of the same age who are working on earning the same rank make up a den. All of the dens together make up the pack.

Individual dens have a Den Leaders and Assistant Den Leaders. These leaders plan and execute the weekly den meetings.

A Pack Committee consisting of interested parents, leaders, and members of the chartered organization is in place to support the pack in areas such as to plan and implement pack activities, fundraising events, field trips, outings, camping trips, banquets, derbies, etc.

The Pack Committee is headed by the Pack Committee Chair, and includes the following members over the following areas:

- Treasurer
- Advancement
- Membership
- Outings
- Communications
- Service Projects
- Pack Trainer
- Quartermaster



The Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster plan and execute monthly Pack meetings around monthly themes. The Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmasters, and Pack Trainer work to support the Den Leaders and encourage and provide training relevant to the leader's position.

Facility Guidelines

Please Show Respect for Our Meeting Place, St. Marks United Methodist Church

We are fortunate to have the support of the church leadership and we are proud to be associated with this church in our community. We have a tradition of respecting property and do not wish to reflect negatively on Scouting or on St. Marks United Methodist Church.

We understand that "kids will be kids" and outbursts of enthusiasm will occur. However, there may be other groups meeting in the building at the same time we are meeting, so please be polite to them, and reasonably quiet so as not to disturb what they are doing. We are guests in this building! Please avoid running and yelling in the halls and do your best to keep everything neat and clean. Please ask your Scout to stay away from the piano, organ, and other musical instruments or church equipment that may be present while we are meeting.

We always provide all of our own materials for our programs, so there should never be any need to use any of the church's materials found in the classrooms. Please leave the classrooms and other facilities set up the way you found them, or even neater than you found.

St. Marks United Methodist Church understands that upon occasion accidents happen and that things get worn, dirty, and broken. Pack 576 is committed to act responsibly to prevent as much damage as possible and to be good stewards of what we have graciously been given by the church. We will check all of the facilities before and after our meetings, especially the bathrooms and grounds. We will clean, repair, replace, or reimburse as needed. **If you see any problems, please alert the Den Leaders or the Cubmaster right away!**

You can help by talking frankly with your scout about the importance of respect and stewardship and what their responsibilities are. We want to remain a welcome part of St. Mark's United Methodist Church's ministries!

Registration (we accept cash, check and [paypal.me/pack576](https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/pack576))

Our Pack's charter runs from July 1 to June 30 each year and the Pack encourages all Scouts to re-register for the next year no later than September 30th. **Our Pack annual registration fee is \$250.**

Upon initial registration, there is a one-time additional \$25 fee for Boy Scouts of America that also includes a subscription (\$15) to *Scout's Life Magazine*. Future years of *Scout's Life* will be covered in Pack Annual registration fees. **About half of the fees** go to national and the council to support Camp Hood. The remainder of the registration fee is used by the Pack to pay for Scout awards, Scout books and neckerchiefs for 2nd and 3rd year scouts, Pinewood Derby cars, one class b pack shirt per scout and some crafts supplies.

Scouts Life magazine is geared toward scouting, and ties in closely with the monthly scouting program activities. This is included with your annual dues.

Because of insurance liability, Scouts who have not made at least a partial payment of the registration fee for the current charter year will not be allowed to participate in Scout activities. Unregistered Scouts are not members of BSA and cannot earn badges or awards of any kind (the Council records system will not accept their entries!)

Meetings

Most dens in Pack 576 meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays from 6:30 -7:30 evening at St. Marks United Methodist Church, 400 Grants Ferry Rd, Brandon, MS 39047. Please try to arrive at meetings on time.

The Pack Calendar is on the packmaster web 2.0 web site, www.pack576.com and facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Pack576/> Any updates to the calendar will be also be communicated via email.

If the Rankin County School System cancels scheduled classes due to inclement weather (or for any other reason), the Den or Pack will not meet that night

Den Meetings

Den Meetings are usually held on 1st and 3rd Mondays from 6:30 -7:30 and provide your scout with opportunities to enjoy various planned activities, learn new skills, and have great fun. **PARENTAL ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL DEN MEETINGS.** Please keep in touch with your scout's Den Leader so that you will know what activities are taking place. All progress for your scout's advancement toward rank can be monitored by parents through the [packmaster 2.0 website](#) and app. The den leader will give you access after you request it. Meeting rooms will be assigned when the dens show up for their first meeting.

Pack Meetings

Once a month all Dens meet together for a Pack Meeting. All Cub Scouts and their families are encouraged to attend. The pack meeting is a fun time for everyone. Dens show off the projects they have been working on, lead songs, perform skits, and awards are presented to the Scouts. It is a time for the family to get information on upcoming activities and share in the Scouting spirit. Be sure to attend and join in the excitement while watching your scout advance!

Awards are a very important part of the Scouting program. They are intended to help build self-esteem by providing recognition for a Scout's hard work. We encourage you to applaud, whistle, and cheer for all of the Scouts as they are presented with their awards at Pack Meetings.

The Pack Meeting is usually the last Tuesday of each month but may change due to legal holidays or other events. See the Pack Calendar for exact dates and consult the website. Regardless of the time that your scout's Den meets, Pack meetings will take place from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM unless stated otherwise.

Activities

Aside from normal Den activities and occasional field trips, there are a number of activities that are worth mentioning in this parent handbook.

To receive proper credit for all of the activities which your Scout participates in, please make sure that they signs up in advance, checks in with their Den leader, and signs in as appropriate.

Pinewood Derby

Once a year, **the pack has a build day where the Pack provides each Scout with a Pinewood Derby kit and we provide skid saws and sanders to help cut your car design out.** Each Scout (with the help of their parents) designs and builds their car from a block of pine and wheels included in the kit. There is also weight provided so you can get your car close to regulation weight before it is painted. **The race itself is usually the next month and can be found on the pack calendar.** Each car must meet the weight and size requirements The cars are judged for speed in different age groups (the fastest time is what wins not the amount of races you win)

Blue and Gold Banquet

Each year the Cub Scouts celebrate the anniversary of the founding of Scouting in the U.S. by having a Blue and Gold Banquet. This is traditionally a supper where the entire family is encouraged to attend. It is usually held in February and it takes the place of the Pack Meeting for that month.

Campouts

As a pack we participate in several district organized campouts. These are held at Warren A Hood Scout Reservation located outside of Hazlehurst, MS. **The annual campouts we participate in are [Fall Akela](#), [Polar Bear](#), and [Spring Cuboree](#).**

Summer Activities

The Pack will schedule activities during the summer months. All summer activities will be publicized using email, Facebook, and [Packmaster website](#). Scouts who attend at least one Pack activity per month during the months of June, July, and August can earn a special 'summertime activity' award.

Cub Scout Ranks

Cub Scout Packs are organized into four basic groups: Lions, Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts (Wolf and Bear ranks), and Webelos Scouts.

The Lion program weaves traditional Scouting concepts of character development, leadership skills, personal fitness and citizenship into activities that are age-appropriate and fun for the scouts and their parents.

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, and Bear are one-year programs. The Webelos program runs for up to 2 years

Lions (Kindergarteners)



In the Lion program, an Adult Partner (a parent, grandparent, or other guardian) always

accompanies each scout. The Lion and Adult Partner form a team. The first few meetings are organized and run by the Lion Den Guide in order to introduce the Lions and Adult Partners to Scouting. After that, each Lion Adult will volunteer to do a meeting or two for the rest of the schedule (one topic per meeting).

All new Scouts (Tiger through Webelos) must first earn the Bobcat badge. After earning the Bobcat badge, Scouts work towards the rank of Tiger, Wolf, Bear, or Webelos, depending upon their age. Each of these ranks has its own unique handbook from which the scouts work on their advancement. *The pack provides a handbook and neckerchief for scouts that have completed one year to keep track of their progress.*

Bobcat

The Bobcat badge is the first badge that is earned by all Tiger, Cub, and Webelos Scouts. This badge is required for all scouts because it involves learning the Cub Scout Promise, the Law of the Pack and



other fundamental aspects of Cub Scouting.

Tigers (1st Graders)

In the Tiger Cub program, an Adult Partner (a parent, grandparent, or other guardian) always accompanies each scout. The Tiger Cub and Adult Partner form a team. The first few Tiger Cub meetings are organized and run by the Tiger Cub Den Leader in order to introduce the Tigers and Adult Partners to Scouting. After that, each Parent should select a topic from the Tiger Cub book and lead a meeting or two with the content they feel most comfortable with.



Wolves (2nd Graders) (Den 3)

In the Wolf program, completion of achievements in the Wolf handbook leads to earning the Wolf badge.



The Wolf handbook includes many activities that are family oriented.

Your scout will need your assistance to earn this rank.

Bears (3rd Graders) (Den 2)

In the Bear program, completion of achievements in the Bear handbook leads to earning the Bear badge



The Bear handbook includes many activities that are family oriented.

Your scout will need your assistance to earn this rank.

Webelos (4th Graders) (Den 5)



The Webelos program (and there is always an S at the end of Webelos) is designed to transition the scouts from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA. In the Webelos program, scouts earn activity pins in areas such as geology, scholarship, fitness, and outdoorsmanship that count towards the Webelos rank.

As such it's really broken into two phases, based upon the rank badge being earned.

In the First-Year Webelos program, the scouts work on their Webelos badge. The focus of the Webelos den is to work together as a team, much like a

scout Scout Patrol. This includes Webelos den camping.

The Webelos program prepares the scouts to enter the Scouts BSA program. (Webelos is an acronym for "We'll Be Loyal Scouts").

Arrow of Light (5th Graders) (Den 4)

The Second-Year Webelos work on the Arrow



of Light award. You may find some literature

that refers to the Second-Year Webelos as an Arrow of Light den.

The Arrow of Light is the highest award that a Cub Scout can earn and one of the few Cub Scout emblems that may be worn on the Scout uniform.

In our pack, the 2ND year Webelos scouts are awarded the Arrow of Light at the Blue and Gold banquet, just moments before ending their Cub Scout career.

About Advancement

All rank advancement must be turned in to the Den Leader at least one week before a Pack meeting. The leaders must turn in an advancement report to the Advancement Chairman on that date in order to get the awards in time for the Pack Meeting. If your scout has worked on their advancement, make sure they bring their book (signed by you where applicable) to the meetings. The Den Leader is required to do the final sign-off for all advancement.

If the advancement is not turned in at least a week before the Pack meeting, the award cannot be presented to the Scout until the next Pack Meeting, which will certainly be a big disappointment to your scout. Scouting is a family adventure and your assistance and cooperation is essential to your scout's success in earning their rank.

Your Den Leader will try to let you know what the Den will be doing each week in advance. If you are unable to attend a Den meeting, consider doing the same activity with your son on some other night so that he/she will not feel as though they are dropping behind the other Scouts in his/her Den.

*Cub Scouting is a very family oriented program. As such, responsibility for promoting rank advancement lies with the parents, the scout, and their family. Although there will be activities organized by the Den and the Pack which count towards rank advancement, **most of the activities should be done at home under your guidance.** There is no substitute for active family involvement.*

The standard to apply when determining if your scout has accomplished an achievement or elective is simply **"did they do their best?"** While that is somewhat subjective, and obviously not the same from scout to scout, it is the standard used in Cub Scouts. As such, that is why advancement is something to be done under the parent's guidance, where he/she signs off in the handbook as the "Akela". (or Leader)

Advancement is a good indicator of how much a Scout is participating in the program and how successful they have been in learning the new things that the program offers. As a parent, you will see ups and downs over your scout's Scouting career with an occasional lack of interest. This is normal, especially with all of the activities kids are involved with these days, such as sports programs and video games. Please encourage your scout and help motivate them to hang in there and earn their advancement.

Don't let a sports season end a Scouting career. We realize how important sports and other seasonal or short-term activities are to the scouts and their families. Please try to participate as often as you can, even if you have to show up late and in your soccer/baseball uniform! And plan to get back into the swing of things as soon as you can. Our leaders will be happy to help your scout get caught up with

the rest of the den.

If you are concerned about the quality of any aspect of the program or about your scout's loss of interest in the program, please talk with their Den Leader or the Cubmaster right away. Scouting is the best youth program anywhere, but like anything worthwhile, it takes commitment from everyone involved. **You only get out of the program what you are willing to put in.** Your scout cannot benefit at all from Scouting if they drops out!

Uniforms

The Boy Scouts of America is a uniformed organization. We encourage you to acquire a uniform for your scout at least by the time of the October Pack meeting so that they may proudly wear their Bobcat badge and other awards on it.

BSA has many reasons for requiring uniforms. Among them are quick identification of the group, providing a place to display emblems representing hard work by the Scouts, and to foster a sense of brotherhood and pride.

We realize that uniforms can be expensive, so we suggest you start with the shirt and encourage grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. to purchase Scouting uniform parts, equipment etc. as gifts throughout the year.

Pack 576's uniform is the official uniform designated by the Boy Scouts of America. An official uniform (including the BSA shirt, hat (optional), neckerchief, emblems, and so on) is known as a **"Class A" uniform** (i.e., a dress uniform). Occasionally, it is appropriate that Scouts do not wear their "Class A" uniform), but still be quickly recognizable as Scouts. (For example, while playing outdoor games or while on a hike). In these cases, Scouts may wear an optional **"Class B" uniform** consisting of blue jeans or shorts, a printed T-shirt (often with a Scout theme), and their Cub Scout hat. ***If not otherwise indicated scouts should wear their***

"Class A uniform."

Tiger, Wolf, and Bear Cub Scout "Class A" uniforms consist of the following:

- Cub Scout Shirt (blue)
- Cub Scout Pants/jeans or Shorts (blue)
- Cub Scout Belt (blue)
- Hat (optional)
 - Tiger Cubs – Orange front
 - Wolf – Red front
 - Bear – Light Blue front
- Neckerchief
 - Tiger – Orange
 - Wolf – Red
 - Bear -- Blue
- Neckerchief Slide

Webelos Scout uniforms consist of:

- Webelos Shirt (blue/tan)
- Webelos Hat (Plaid front – optional)
- Webelos Pants or Shorts (blue/green)
- Scout Belt (blue/green)
- Webelos Neckerchief, slide and **"Webelo Colors"**

Webelos Scouts are in transition from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA. They may also be at an age where they are outgrowing their Cub Scout uniform and need a new one, even though they'll bridge to Scouts BSA soon. *For this reason, BSA provides the option that Webelos Scouts may wear the blue Cub Scout uniform until they outgrow it.* Webelos Scouts purchasing a new uniform should buy the tan and green Scout uniform. All Webelos scouts should be wearing the tan and green uniform by the time that they earn the Arrow of Light and bridge into a Scout Troop.

Webelos Scouts also wear a set of colorful, braided ribbons called the "Webelos Colors" on their uniform. The activity pins that they earn should be displayed on the Webelos Colors.

Cub Scouts will find that the Adventure belt loops fit on the blue Scout belt easier than other belts and may wish to include this belt as part of their uniform.

Uniform items that are easily removable (such as hats, neckerchiefs, and neckerchief slides) should be marked permanently with the scout's initials so that lost items can be returned to their owner.

Uniforms can be purchased online at
www.scoutshop.org

Directions can be found here:

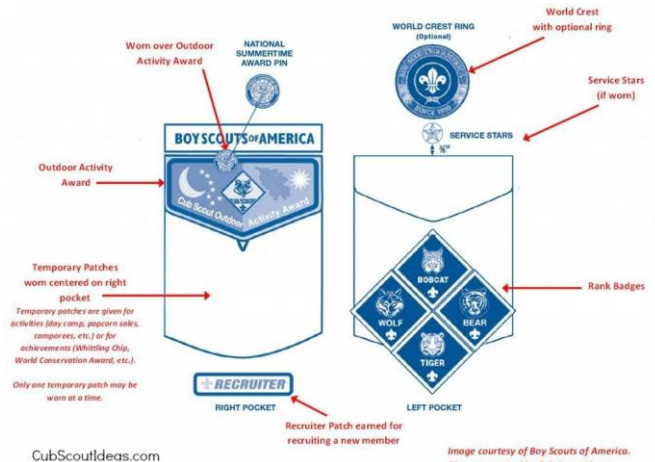
[https://www.google.com/maps/dir/"/scout+shop+jackson+ms/@32.3228852,-90.2424949,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x862832ede52e5f81:0x42de1413d98fcacd!2m2!1d-90.1724547!2d32.3229045](https://www.google.com/maps/dir/)

Patch Placement

(576 patch to be supplied by Pack)



Image courtesy of Boy Scouts of America.
 Diagram created by Cub Scout Ideas.



CubScoutIdeas.com

Image courtesy of Boy Scouts of America.
 Diagram created by Cub Scout Ideas.

What to buy from Scout Shop

Council Strip

Scouting World Crest

Den Number Patch (*see book cover* for what Den your child is in)

Belt – Get one large enough that your scout can use the same belt for his entire Cub Scout career.

Neckerchief – These are Rank Specific.

Neckerchief Slide – These are Rank Specific also.

Cub Scout Handbook – These are Rank Specific.

“Webelos Colors”



Books

Owning a copy of the handbook for their rank is important. The book provides the requirements for each activity and a place to record progress. Each Scout is expected to own a copy of the handbook appropriate for their rank and to bring the handbook to each Den meeting.

Scouts should write their names in permanent ink on the title page (inside the book) in the space provided for this purpose.

The pack provides a copy of the handbook and neckerchiefs for 2nd year scouts as part of the registration fees. If you lose your handbook, replacements can be purchased at the www.scoutshop.org.

Awards

The pack pays for all awards, and presents them to the uniformed scout at pack and den meetings. The pack does not cover the cost of replacement awards. Additionally, in some cases a scout may repeatedly earn an award (for example, belt loops); however only a single award is presented by the pack.

Communications

In this busy society we live in communication is at the heart of every successful organization.

The same is true for Cub Scouts. Our pack uses four primary forms of communication:

[Facebook page](#)

[Email](#)

Text Message

[Packmaster Web site](#)

Packmaster App [iOS](#) [Android](#)

The possibility of phone calls exists as well, though this is rare and impractical for a pack of our size.

Email

The primary communication mechanism of the pack is via email. If you are unsure if you are on the email list, please contact the Cubmaster immediately at pack576stmarks@gmail.com

- *It is essential that you check your email, and if a response is requested, to do so in a timely fashion. If nothing else, it's respectful to the leaders who are communicating. Not responding only creates additional work for someone.*

Packmaster App and Web site

- Packmaster App [iOS](#) [Android](#)
www.pack576.com

We encourage parents to bookmark this site and check it often – it's an excellent tool for us to keep you up to date on your scout's progress toward rank. The pack calendar is maintained on this web site.

District and Council Information

Pack 576 is part of the Strong River District of the Andrew Jackson Council.

Andrew Jackson Council –

<http://www.bsa-jackson.org/>

Boy Scouts of America

2506 Lakeland Dr Suite 320,

Flowood, MS 39232

District website:

<http://www.bsa-jackson.org/2543>

Parent Responsibilities

Pack 576 simply cannot be successful without your involvement. As a Cub Scout parent, we hope you'll recognize and take seriously the following responsibilities:

- Understand the requirements for your scout's rank advancement; assist them in fulfilling these requirements; help keep the record of their achievements (in their book) accurate and up to date and make sure that they bring their book to each Den meeting. Leaders cannot possibly do all achievements at their meetings without boredom soon setting in and lack of time to complete them all. Some achievements must be done at home. The same goes with practice for any sport or requirements for any club. Your child spends a limited time at scouts. To get the most from their experience, they will need to put in some time at home.
- Assure that your Scout has a "Class A" uniform (as described elsewhere in this guide) and that they dress appropriately for all Scout functions. Uniforms create a sense of belonging to the group and build a sense of pride as your scout shows off her awards and accomplishments.
- Accompany your scout to events, and you cannot, please make arrangements with another parent to take responsibility for your scout's transportation and behavior. This other parent is NOT to be the leader. Cub Scout leaders already put in a lot of time to assure your scout has a quality program. They have a lot to organize for any event they attend. Finding another parent to help you out allows the leader to concentrate on their own duties. An important note: be sure the leader knows if your scout will be going home with another parent.
- Notify your scout's Den leader whenever your scout will be absent or late for a meeting. Prompt arrival ensures activities get started on time and your scout doesn't miss anything. Sickness, vacation, and many other things come up. Please be courteous to your scout's leaders and let them know in advance of any absence.
- Notify your scout's Den leader whenever your scout participates in a Scout activity that is not sponsored by the Pack (for example, Cub Scout Day Camp), so that they'll receive proper credit.
- Keep your scout under control when you are present at functions. It is awkward for a leader to reprimand a child when their parent is sitting right there! Please reinforce with your scout that the rules of the meeting place are to be obeyed. If you have other children with you, they need to behave, also. Nothing is more disruptive than children running through a meeting.
- Volunteer to be a Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, Den Parent, Assistant Cubmaster, Cubmaster, or member of the Pack Committee. Or volunteer time to help organize and execute one or more specific Scout activities throughout the year (such as banquets, derby races, field trips, etc). Often times with a pack this size, on any given evening there is a need for additional adult help. We are all busy, but a little help goes a long way. If every parent who's involved puts in a little effort it would go a long way with the volunteers who make your scout's den and pack possible.

- Support the Pack's financial goals by understanding the Pack budget and paying your registration fee as soon as you're able to. Getting fees and forms on time enables the leaders to make effective use of their time and energy in planning and delivering a quality program that benefits the entire group.
- Complete the BSA Youth Protection Training, available online at <https://my.scouting.org/> within 30 days of your scout joining the pack. Once you have completed this training, be sure to notify the pack membership chair via email with a photo of the completed certificate at pack576stmarks@gmail.com
- Complete parts A and B of the BSA medical form for EVERY family member (scout, parent, siblings) that will be participating in any of our outings. Turn this and a copy of your insurance card into the membership chair. This form can be found at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/healthsafety/pdf/680-001_ab.pdf
- Appreciate the scout leaders. A smile and a kind word of gratitude will make up for a lot of noise and rowdiness. Any volunteer who works with children expects a certain amount of craziness, and that's OK, but it can be tiring. Sometimes simply knowing they're appreciated makes all the difference.

What to Take Camping

Tent
Ground Cloth
Folding Chair(s)
Sleeping Bag/Bedding
Air Mattress or Pad
Scout Uniform (Class A and Class B)*
Cub Scout Cap
Extra Clothes (appropriate for weather)
Comfortable Closed Toe Shoes
Rain Gear/Poncho
Bug Repellent
Sunscreen
Flashlight / Extra Batteries
Canteen/ Water Bottle/ Hydration Pack

Personal Hygiene Items

Toothbrush/Toothpaste
Deodorant
Soap/ Shampoo/ Body Wash
Wash Cloth
Towel
Comb/Brush
Any Daily Medication

***Class A Uniform – Button Up Cub Scout Shirt, Neckerchief, and Slide**

Class B Uniform – Pack 576 T-shirt or other Scout T-shirt

Good Scout Attitude

Good Manners

Camera

Small Cooler and Any Snacks that You Can't Live Without

Pocket Knife – **ONLY IF YOU HAVE COMPLETED WHITTLED CHIP!!**

(Bears, Webelos and Webelos 2 only)

REMEMBER, AT CAMP HOOD, YOU HAVE TO CARRY WHATEVER YOU BRING TO THE CAMPSITE!!

SCOUTS DO NOT BRING ANY GAME SYSTEMS (Switch, iPad, Phones, Etc.)

DO NOT BRING ANY FIRE PITS, CHARCOAL GRILLS, OPEN FLAME TORCHES OR WOOD FROM OFF CAMP PROPERTY. A FIRE PIT WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE CAMPSITE.

How to get prepared for Camp

1. Don't stress.
 - a. You are going to be at a council owned and run scout camp (Hood Scout Reservation) [8065 Old Port Gibson Rd, Hazlehurst, MS 39083](#)). This is a great experience, but it's not the uncharted wilderness. You'll be within walking distance of your car, first aid, and food. So focus on having fun and learning, not all the things that could (but won't) go wrong.
2. Pack Menu, Food and Kitchen Duty
 - a. All of the meals will be planned and purchased as a pack before we get to HSR (Hood Scout Reservation) [8065 Old Port Gibson Rd, Hazlehurst, MS 39083](#)
 - b. Most of the food will be cooked on a flat top propane grill and a big cast iron skillet the pack has. If you have any special dietary items we need to be aware of please tell your den leader asap.
 - i. Everyone is on their own for Friday evening. (most people bring a sandwich or pick up something in Hazlehurst before they arrive)
 - ii. Saturday Moring we will have eggs, bacon, cereal and some fresh fruit. We will have turkey bacon for those who do not eat beef or pork (We will need help from parents cooking and cleaning so we can have all of the scouts dressed and at the Flag ceremony at 8:15 sharp Saturday morning)
 - iii. Saturday Lunch we will have sandwiches and chips (everyone will be responsible for making their own)
 - iv. Saturday Evening we will have hamburgers and hot dogs and chips. We will have turkey burgers and dogs for those who do not eat beef or pork. (After dinner Saturday night we normally fix brownies in the Dutch ovens we have. We also clean up all of the items so they will be easy to put back in the pack trailer Sunday morning)
 - v. Sunday Morning Breakfast we normally have honey buns and cereal and try not to dirty anything else up.
3. Pack Chores
 - a. We will be responsible for a cleaning schedule for the bathrooms and showers. This will be assigned to us at the leaders meeting on Friday evening. Every pack will be responsible for doing this throughout the weekend

4. Camp Location (Campsite 1)
 - a. There are showers and bathrooms close by
 - b. It is close to the parking lot in case you need to walk to your car to get something
5. What to do when you arrive
 - a. If the gate is still open you can drive down to the campsite, unload your items, take your car back to the parking lot and then come back to setup your tent and camp
 - b. If the gate is not open you will need to carry all of your items to the camp. Small fold up wagons come in handy to do this.
 - c. Attend the Saturday events with your den throughout the day, attend campfire that night.
6. Required prerequisite before camp outings
 - a. Make sure you register for the camp through the [BSA website](#) (if you register late you will have to pay \$5 more per person)
 - i. Bring your receipt so they can verify you have paid when you arrive at camp
 - ii. You will be given a schedule at check in that normally includes all activities, patches and information relevant to the camp.
 - b. It is important to register early so they know how many people will be attending from our Pack. The Council assigns campsites by knowing how many we have.
 - c. Make sure [Scout Health form filled out \(parts A & B only\)](#) no doctor is required for this
 - i. Please print out the completed form and place in a folder with your child's name on it
 - ii. Will need a separate form for all adults as well in an envelope
 - d. Please let your Den Leader and cub master know about any food allergies you or your child may have.
 - e. Pay your pack kitchen dues for your family (\$25 per family) to the pack treasurer 2 weeks before campout
 - f. Make sure you've practiced setting up your tent, and verify you have all the stakes, etc. Never neglect to put on the fly, even if you don't think you need it.
7. Bring all items on the what to bring camping sheet
 - a. You can fit most of them in a [large plastic tub](#) and will also make this water resistant in case of rain and you can leave it outside the tent if needed.
 - b. Bring a few snacks and beverages if you like (ice chest)

Welcome to Pack 576

We are glad that you are here!!



New Parent Sheet

Make sure that your scout is registered. Fill out a Youth Application and return it to either the Cubmaster (Tommy Nichols), the Pack Committee Chairman (Vito Canizaro), or your Den Leader. This will insure that your scout gets signed up. There are also Adult Applications available for any parents interested in helping with the Pack. Don't worry about having never been a Scout because we'll find a place for you.

Cub Scout Handbooks:

Den specific handbooks are available online at www.scoutshop.org. Each of the Handbooks include all the requirements needed to attain the rank badge (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light) for the Den that your scout is in.

Please write your name in the book as they all look the same.

Uniform:

Every Scout needs a uniform. Uniforms are available online at scoutshop.org. Uniform consist of Shirt, Neckerchief, slide and hat

WHAT TO BUY – Only buy the items listed below

1. Scout Uniform Shirt – Get 1 or 2 sizes larger than your child wears to ensure that they get several years of use.
2. Council Strip
3. Scouting World Crest
4. Den Number Patch – ([see book cover](#) for what Den your child is in)
5. Belt – Get one large enough that your scout can use the same belt for their entire Cub Scout career. They are adjustable and the extra material can be tucked behind their belt.
6. Neckerchief – **These are Rank Specific.**
7. Neckerchief Slide – **These are Rank Specific also.**
8. Cub Scout Handbook – **These are Rank Specific.**
9. If Webelos they will need a **color Strip**

You only have to purchase the neckerchief and Handbook the first year that you are in the Pack. After that, the Pack provides the next year's neckerchief and Handbook.

Where does your money go?

Your Pack Dues cover the operating costs of the Pack for the year. Our Pack annual registration fee is \$250. Upon initial registration, there is a one-time additional \$25 fee for Boy Scouts of America. About half of the fees go to national and the council to support Camp Hood. The remainder of the registration fee is used by the Pack to pay for Scout awards, Scout books and neckerchiefs for 2nd and 3rd year scouts, Pinewood Derby cars, one class b pack shirt per scout and some crafts supplies.

WE DO NOT REQUIRE FUNDRAISERS.



Dues can be paid by:

PayPal, Check or Cash (Paypal preferred)
paypal.me/pack576.

Please pay \$250 if paying by PayPal
Choose Friends and Family to avoid fees being charged to the Pack. Make sure to note your scouts name so we can properly apply it.