

# **Parent Handbook**

# **Cub Scout Pack 320**

Chartered to:

**Rehobeth United Methodist Church**  
**Greensboro, NC**

Affiliated with:

**General Greene District**  
**Old North State Council**  
**Boy Scouts of America**





## Cub Scouts Pack 320

Welcome to Cub Scouts Pack 320! We are hoping the information and guidelines presented to you in the next few pages will help you get off to a good start for the coming year. Please keep this packet as a handy reference for future information needs regarding Pack policy and uniform information. Thank you.

To begin with, your son is a member of Pack 320, which is in the General Greene District, belonging to the Old North State Council, which encompasses Alamance, Davie, Davidson Guilford, Randolph and Rockingham Counties. The pack is made up of dens, which is a group of boys usually in the same grade as that of your son. Collectively, we are Cub Scouts, and are members of the National organization, the Boy Scouts of America, BSA.

All Packs have a Chartered Organization which acts as a “sponsor,” and ours is the Rehobeth United Methodist Church located at 4475 Rehobeth Church Road.

The Pack is run by the registered BSA Adult Leaders of the Pack who make up the Pack Committee, which includes a Committee Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Event coordinators, Awards coordinators, Den leaders, Assistant Den Leaders and others. All parents of a Cub Scout in Pack 320 are welcomed and encouraged to become a Committee Member. Our committee meetings are usually held on Mondays of each month at 7:00 pm at Rehobeth United Methodist Church and is open to all parents of Scouts in Pack 320. Please visit our website at <http://www.pack320.org> for the specific meeting date.

Den meetings are held *weekly* on Tuesdays at Rehobeth United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm.

Unless previously announced, our Pack meetings are usually the *third* Tuesday of every month at Rehobeth United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm. The Pack Calendar on the website will have detailed dates of Pack Meetings.

### Den Meetings

Lots of Cub Scouting happens in the den. Please remember that your son’s Den Leader is a *volunteer* putting forth his or her time and effort to help your son “do his best” to earn his badges, participate in the fun, and gain all the positive values that the Cub Scout program offers. Please assist them in the following ways.

- Please have your son to den meetings on time. Your den leaders have lots of activities planned and it is important to have the whole group together to begin the evening’s fun and projects.

- Please pick up your son from den meetings on time. Your den leader has places to go and kids that they have to put to bed, too. Better yet, ask your den leader if they could use an extra pair of hands that night and stay. Not only will your help be appreciated, but also you can see what your son is working on.
- Tiger Cubs must have an Adult Partner with them at all meetings, trips, etc. Enjoy the time together!
- Be an active parent. *Everybody* has some special abilities and “know how” that can be of great help in matters relating to Cub Scouts. Please make sure you have completed the Parent Talent Survey Sheet and return it to your leader. In addition to the boys learning new skills from *you*, I promise that you will have a good time helping *them*.

### Pack Meetings

Whereas at weekly Den meetings the boys might do activities towards earning rank badges and awards, the monthly Pack meeting is *where* these awards are presented. It is an **important** part of the program, as it allows the boys to receive their recognition in front of the group as a whole, inspires the younger scouts to strive towards achieving future ranks, and brings everybody together for the big night!

At Pack meetings, the Cubmaster will “do their best” to make sure that each Den has a chance to display that special craft they made, song they learned, skit they’ve rehearsed, or interesting place they visited. In addition, there might be a drawing, advancement ceremony, or other themed event planned for the evening.

Please observe the followings guidelines in regards to Pack meetings.

- Please accompany your son to his Pack meeting. Pack meetings are a *family* event—brothers, sisters, grandparents, but most of all, **YOU!** We require you there not only to help keep order at the meeting (things *can* get a bit rowdy), but also because in Scouting many awards are presented to the parent who then presents it to the Scout. Cub Scouts is a family program.
- Please arrive to Pack meetings on time. Plan on arriving at least ten minutes early to receive a ticket for a drawing, confer with your son’s Den leader about upcoming things, chat with friends, etc., as the meeting needs to begin on time. If your son is helping out as a member of a flag ceremony, or assisting with other Pack meeting activities, it is imperative to have him there on time.
- If your son has a uniform, the Pack meeting is *definitely* the place to wear it. Class A - Shirts tucked in - looking sharp!

Most of all, we hope to make Pack meetings entertaining, enriching, and FUN!!!

**\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Pack 320 and Boy Scouts of America Dues \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$**

Throughout the Scout year, your Den leader or Pack Treasurer will be collecting money for various Pack functions and activities. These will be addressed in the monthly newsletters that will be handed out at Pack

Meetings, and also via weekly information given to you at Den meetings. The following is a reminder of what fees are required for your son's involvement in the Pack.

**Boy Scouts of America Dues \$11.00** This annual fee must be collected in January from every registered Scout and Adult leader for the annual rechartering of the Pack. This fee includes the \$10.00 yearly membership to Boy Scouts of America and \$1.00 for the insurance issued to cover the boys and Adult Leaders at all Scout functions. The deadline for this is the **second Tuesday of February**.

**Boy's Life Magazine Subscription \$12.00** This annual fee is for each Scout and provides a yearly subscription to the *Boy's Life* magazine that is age appropriate and Den appropriate for each Scout. While the subscription is optional, it is highly recommended as it should supplement what is taught at Den Meetings and at home.

The Pack maintains a separate bank account at BB & T with records being kept by a Pack Treasurer.

### **Fundraisers**

Throughout the year there will be various fundraisers. Some of these might go to benefit the Pack for a trip, outing, or needed supplies, and some to benefit the Scout, Pack, and Old North State Council. As Cub Scouts, we will always try and make sure to emphasize the *fun* in *fundraising*. *Please also note that participation in fundraising is optional.*

### **Cub Scouting and You**

When your son earns his Bobcat badge he learns the Law of the Pack. One of these laws states "The Cub Scout Helps the Pack Go." Throughout the year there are banquets, fundraisers, Scout shows, parades, derbies, camping trips, and many other activities and functions. Ambitious as they are, a Cub Scout still needs *your* help in implementing the program and thereby giving *us* the chance to keep our promise in the part of the Law that states "The Pack Helps the Cub Scout Grow."

Remember, the Pack is all of us working together... leaders, parents, and Scouts.

Unlike other programs your son might enroll in, Cub Scouting involves the whole family, no matter what size or parental make-up exists in the home. In Tigers, you are your son's Adult Partner. In Wolves and Bears, you are Akela, the wise leader of the tribe of Webelos, and the final judge of your son's efforts. At the Webelos rank, you are the Activity Badge counselors that could help influence a boy's career direction.

Throughout the year you may be asked to assist on different committees, and at different events. Please volunteer freely, and give of yourself when called upon to help. You will find it a rewarding experience, and one in which you and your son will remember that you did together.

### **Uniforms, Patches, and Accessories**

Scouts in uniform are more conscious of their role in Cub Scouting, and feel a sense of pride and belonging when wearing one. A uniform provides a proper place for the display of badges earned and a way for him to "show the world" that he has been rewarded for his achievements.

In addition, Scouts in uniform create a strong, positive, visible image in the community that helps to strengthen the important ties between the public and the Scouting organization.

### Where to Buy

Uniforms, patches and accessories are available at the Royce Reynolds Family Scout Office and National Scout Shop located at 1405 Westover Terrace in Greensboro. Their phone number is 336 235-0977, and they will be happy to assist you.

In addition to uniforms, they carry everything you see in the Scout Catalog and then some. Enjoy the time spent there! Your son will love it!

### Shirts and Pants

The main article of the uniform is the shirt, as it displays the rank of the Scout, and identifies him as belonging to a certain Den, Pack and Council. When purchasing a new uniform, remember that your son is growing and if, for example, he is now a newly signed up Wolf Cub, get an extra size or two larger, so he can wear it for his Bear year as well.

Although a complete official uniform for your son is encouraged, if cost is an object, many of the large discount stores sell pants in colors that closely resemble those of the official uniform. Blue jeans are acceptable for Cub Scouts.

Pack 320 may from time to time offer 'Class B' Pack T-shirts for sale for many of our outdoor activities.

### Patches

In addition to the purchasing of a uniform, there will be many patches that need to be sewn on your son's shirt. Please pay close attention as to *where* on the uniform these need to be placed.

It is important that when your son receives a badge that is to be a part of his uniform, you affix it to his shirt as soon as possible. He earned it, and he deserves to have it displayed.

A uniform is something that a Scout can help pay for himself by assigning him various chores around the house, or helping out with other home projects. Also, keep in mind that uniforms, Scout accessories, camping supplies, and other "Scout stuff" make *excellent* birthday and holiday presents for your son or the Scouter in your family.

### What to Buy

#### **Tiger Cub Adult Partners**

- Orange Tiger Cub T-shirt (optional)

#### **Tigers, Wolves and Bears**

- Tiger, Wolf or Bear Handbook (please purchase handbook as soon as possible)
- Blue Cub Scout Shirt with U.S. flag
- Old North State Council Patch
- Pack 320 (red and white numerals)
- World Crest Emblem (purple patch with the fleur-de-lis symbol)

- Tiger (orange) Wolf (yellow) or Bear (blue) Cub Scout Neckerchief and Cub Scout Slide
- Official Tiger, Wolf or Bear Hat (optional)
- Cub Scout Web Belt And Buckle (optional)
- Official Cub Scout shorts or pants (optional)
- Official Tiger (orange stripe) or Cub Scout (yellow stripe) Socks (optional)

### **Webelos**

- Webelos Handbook (please purchase handbook as soon as possible)
- Tan Boy Scout Shirt with U.S. Flag
- Old North State Council Patch
- Pack 320 (red and white numerals)
- World Crest Emblem (purple patch with the fleur-de-lis symbol)
- Checkered Webelos Neckerchief and Webelos Slide
- Blue Shoulder Loops for tan shirt
- Official Webelos Hat (optional)
- Cub Scout Web Belt and Webelos Buckle (optional)
- Webelos Colors (optional) Activity Badge pins may be worn on the Webelos Hat or the Webelos Colors
- Official Boy Scout Socks to match shirt worn
- Official Boy Scout shorts or pants

### **Uniform Insignia Placement**

For the placement of the uniform insignia, parents are encouraged to check the Pack 320 website at <http://www.pack320.org>. The Uniform Insignia Placement Guide is located on the Forms page under Uniform Guidelines.

### **Individual Scout Account**

Our Pack Committee will set a yearly Popcorn Sales goal to ensure that we offer the *Ideal Year of Scouting* for all of our Cub Scouts.

The percentage that will be credited to each Cub Scout's Individual Scout Account is 10% of the Cub Scouts total sales.

If the Cub Scout drops out of Cub Scouts any remaining balance will stay in the Cub Scout's account for one calendar year. If the Cub Scout does not rejoin or transfer to another unit during the calendar year, the remaining balance will be transferred to Pack 320's general fund.

If the Cub Scout transfers to another Cub Scout unit any remaining balance will be transferred to the new unit upon a written request signed by the Cub Scout, their parents and the Unit Leader of the new unit along with an address for the unit treasurer. A check to the new unit will be written from the Pack Individual Scout Account.

If a Webelos Scout transfers to a Troop and he has a remaining balance, the remaining balance will be sent to the Troop upon a written request signed by the Webelos Scout, their parents and the Troop Leader of the new

Troop along with an address for the unit treasurer. A check to the Troop will be written from the Pack Individual Scout Account.

The Individual Scout Account can be used for Scouting related activities and purchases **only**. Approved purchases could include uniforms or handbooks from the Scouting Store, tents, sleeping bags, registration fees for Scouting activities, annual recharter fees, etc. In the case of questionable reimbursements the Pack Committee shall review the purchase and render a final decision.

***All requests for reimbursement must be accompanied by a receipt.***

If the Pack conducts another fundraiser during the Scouting year, the profit from the fundraiser will be deposited into the Pack's general fund.

A parent may request a copy of their Cub Scout's current balance in the Individual Scout Account and the information will be provided as soon as possible.

In the event a Cub Scout wishes to use their Individual Scout Account balance to pay for activities and events, the Cub Scout must submit a payment voucher signed by the Cub Scout and their parents. The payment voucher must be submitted by the stated registration deadline for the activity or event.

All records of the Individual Scout Account will be maintained in Excel.

At the end of the Scouting year any remaining balance for a Cub Scout's Individual Scout Account will remain in the Cub Scout's name and will be available for use the following Scouting year.

If the Cub Scout wishes to use their Individual Scout Account and the available balance is insufficient to cover the expenditure the Cub Scout may:

1. Use the balance of the Individual Scout Account and pay the remaining amount by cash or check; or
2. Pay the entire amount by cash or check leaving the Individual Scout Account balance unchanged.

These guidelines are considered to be accurate as of August 18, 2008. The Pack Committee reserves the right to update or clarify these guidelines as circumstances warrant. Any changes to these guidelines will be provided to the Cub Scout, their parents and posted on the Pack website.

Any questions or concerns regarding this policy should be submitted to the Cubmaster or the Pack Committee.

### **A Brief Summary of Scouting and the Cub Scout Program**

Scouting has been around a long time. The Boy Scouts of America was founded in 1910, and became federally chartered with the United States in 1916. Cub Scouts came into being in 1930. Millions of boys have worn the uniform, cooked over an open fire at a campsite, earned their Bobcat, raced their Pinewood Derby cars, worked on service projects, and made new friends under the umbrella of Scouting.

Flowing underneath all this fun and excitement is a character-building program that encourages making good ethical choices, family strengthening, physical fitness, and citizenship skills in the lives of our boys.

Scouting utilizes an advancement system that requires a boy to “do his best” to fulfill and complete the requirements outlined in his handbook so that he may earn his rank badge. After receiving his badge, these Scouts can go on to earn other awards by completing a series of electives. Please keep in mind that although there are lots of awards and recognitions in Scouting, Pack 320 will strive towards the end that these are earned through significant, meaningful methods that your son will remember for a long time.

At the Tiger, Wolf, and Bear ranks, Cub Scouting centers around monthly themes that have lots of appeal to boys at this age. During den meetings, the boys will be playing games, building craft projects, learning songs, etc. relating to this theme. In doing so, these boys will be improving on different skills as they learn to get along with others, become more resourceful, and participate in new activities and venues.

At the Webelos level, in lieu of the monthly theme, the boys are introduced to several diverse Activity Badges and, within the framework of the Webelos den, they work on completing these badges.

If you’ll notice, there are Webelos I (4<sup>th</sup> graders) and Webelos II (5<sup>th</sup> graders). At the first level, after earning their Webelos badge, Webelos I continue to earn additional activity badges and gain new knowledge and skills in these areas. The Webelos II, though may be still earning Activity Badges, also begin focusing on completing other requirements for their Arrow of Light award and will be conducting activities with various Boy Scout Troops.

Pack 320 follows a “Scout year” of September to June and upon nearing the end of the school term, all the boys “cross over” into the next rank. During the summer, Den meeting work on achievements may be suspended as the Pack will meet monthly at fun outings such as a bowling derby, fishing derby, kite derby, baseball game, Pack swim, etc. that goes toward the boys earning their Summertime Award pin.

There are many, many events offered in Scouting. In addition to the events at Den meetings, Pack 320 will have family camping trips, Pinewood Derby races, a Blue and Gold dinner, and much more that’s just for us in the Pack 320.

In addition, there are District events, which unites us with hundreds of Scouts, and Council events that can have thousands of Scouts in attendance. Your participation at these functions will definitely add to your son’s Scouting experience.

Thank you for taking the time to go over this handbook with your new Cub Scout! With your help, this will be an exciting, rewarding experience for you, your son, your family, and your Pack.

We’re glad you’ve joined us! If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to ask.

Yours in Scouting,

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