

FAQs about Pack 12 and Cub Scouts

Q: *What will my child(ren) get out of scouting?*

A: A lot! They will make a new group of friends and have a lot of fun! Scouting also offers a community where children can learn and grow into kind and productive members of society. They will practice essential life skills like cooking and first aid, learn how to hike and camp outdoors safely, appreciate and respect nature and work on leadership skills and advocating for themselves.

Q: *Does Pack 12 accept boys and girls and at what ages?*

A: Yes, Pack 12 is a “family pack” which means it’s coed with age- and grade-specific dens for Kindergarten through 5th grade. Our pack’s motto is, “A Pack for all People”! The Den Levels are Lions (K), Tigers (1st Grade), Wolves (2nd Grade), Bears (3rd Grade), Webelos (4th Grade) and Arrow of Light (5th Grade).

Fifth grade scouts finish the cub scout year in the spring, at which time they can join a Scouting America Troop for middle- and high school aged-children. The Scouting America Troops are based on gender (T451 and T456 at Westminster Presbyterian are local troops for boys and girls, respectively). You can find more information about cub scouting and advancement at <https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/> The Pack website also has useful info and links: <https://pack12durham.org/>

Q: *What is the time commitment like?*

A: The minimal commitment is attending meetings on the first three Tuesdays of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm. At the meetings, kids generally do fun activities (with parental support and supervision) and participate in scouting lessons and activities to earn badges. There are many other (optional) pack activities, events, trips, and service projects for scouts and their families, such as monthly hikes (~2 hours), an annual Halloween party and ‘Packsgiving’ potluck, camping trips (3-4x/year), and special events like Scout Sunday and the Pinewood Derby.

Q: *What is parent involvement in scouting like?*

A: A parent or caregiver must attend meetings and activities with Kindergarten and 1st grade children. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend with children in grades 2-5. There is no other requirement for parents, but the pack is based on volunteer commitment so the more parents are involved, the more the pack can do!

Pack 12 is led by volunteer Cubmaster, Tracey Dissel, and volunteer Committee Chair, Karen Hassett, who strongly encourage parents to get engaged with the pack.

Opportunities for parent volunteers are numerous; currently the pack is seeking two more Den Leaders, a Pack Photographer; a Social Media Coordinator to keep up with posting on Facebook, and a Fundraising Coordinator. Parents who are registered with Scouting America are necessary to help supervise scouts and can serve as Den Leaders or Committee Members. 2 registered adults are needed at every Pack activity. Adult registration costs \$91 and required online training takes about 1 1/2 hours.

Q: *How much does scouting cost?*

A: Costs include annual Scouting America membership fees of \$165 for scouts. Adults who want to register cost \$91. Note that these funds go to the National and Local Scout Councils; they do not support the pack. The regular uniform (kids’ blue shirt and patches) costs about \$50. A Pack 12 t-shirt costs \$10. Some pack activities are free, like our monthly family hikes; other activities are charged on a cost basis. For example, food and site rental for a weekend camping trip is usually \$25 per person. Advancement items like neckerchiefs, a belt, and belt loops are provided “free” to families but typically cost the Pack about \$60 per scout. The Pack Parents decide how much fundraising to do during the year offset these costs. Scholarships are also available (please contact Karen and/or Tracey for details).

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Putting up a camping shelter



A collection of first aid supplies is displayed on a red and black plaid surface. The items include a clear plastic first aid kit box with a white label, a white first aid kit bag, a box of Band-Aid adhesive bandages, a box of Curad Band-Aids, a box of Gauze Pads, and a box of Gauze Pads. There are also several individual packets of Band-Aid adhesive bandages, a box of Curad Band-Aids, a box of Gauze Pads, and a box of Gauze Pads. A small white cloth is also visible.

Pack 12: Join the Fun!!!

