



The Dulaney District Advancement Committee News

May 2014

PACK CAMPING What are you waiting for?

A little while ago I wrote about our responsibility to ‘deliver the promise’ of Cub Scouting—and nowhere is that more evident than in our outdoor program. Say the word “camping” to a Cub Scout, and he probably has many visions: a campfire, “s’mores,” sleeping in a tent, cooking breakfast, and maybe hiking or fishing. All these things are fun for the boys and can be fun for the adults and if some care is taken in the planning, they can be related to advancement requirements, too, because Cub Scout pack overnight camping can and should be ‘fun with a purpose’.

There are several types of Cub Scout camping; all of which are discussed toward the end of Chapter 32 in the Cub Scout Leader Book, No. 33221. Camping with the whole Pack may involve all of the dens in a pack: Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Scouts, as well as all family members. For a truly successful experience planning must focus on age appropriate Cub Scout activities and be conducted at council approved locations. If siblings participate, the event should be structured accordingly to accommodate them.

What does a pack need to conduct an overnigher? For starters, at least one person who attends, and helps plan and conduct the event must complete Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation training (BALOO, No. 34162). This day long district or council course covers planning, health and safety, outdoor skills, campfires, resources, and program. In addition, at least one adult attending must have completed Planning and Preparing for Hazardous Weather training, which is found online at MyScouting.org.

A quick scan of the four Cub Scout youth handbooks and the Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide will provide planners and leaders with dozens of campout activities that have advancement links for each rank. Although Tiger Cubs and Webelos Scouts have different requirements, planners should look for activities that are similar or “progressive.” For example, Tiger Cubs might fulfill achievement 5G, “Take a hike with your den”, while the Webelos Scouts may complete Outdoorsman 9, “Discuss with your Webelos den leader the things you need to take on a hike”, before they enjoy a hike together. Similar “threads” can be found with nature, cooking, fitness, games, outdoor activities, and even crafts: one activity with different levels of

preparation/participation on an age specific basis. Working on an academics or sports subjects can be done by all levels of Cub Scouts. The sports program is particularly easy to adapt to a camping setting if care is taken that each age level be respected in planning the activities.

Cub Day Camp:

There are still opportunities to attend in the July session: July 14 to 18 @ Baltimore County Fish and Game.

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