

The Dulaney District Cub Advancement Committee News

2 September 2018

Most of the following items are excerpted from the Sept-Oct. 2018 National Advancement News:

1. Webelos-to-Scout Bridging Ceremonies:

Arrow of Light and Crossover Ceremonies—Important Changes to Order of the Arrow Participation Guidelines:

The Arrow of Light is the culmination of years of effort in the advancement of Cub Scouts, which should be recognized with an appropriate ceremony. (*Guide to Advancement 2017, topic 3.0.0.3.*) The recognition for Cub Scouts who earn the Arrow of Light Award “should be presented during an impressive ceremony involving Scouts from a local Scout troop.” (*GTA, topic 4.1.1.3.*) These types of ceremonies often are conducted and benefit from the assistance of the local Order of the Arrow lodge and its chapters.

Recently the BSA National Order of the Arrow Committee revised its guidance for lodges and chapters concerning the types and details of ceremonies that will be permitted after January 1, 2019. Of particular note: Arrowmen in these ceremonies are to be in a Scout uniform and are no longer permitted to be done in American Indian regalia.

The newly approved official ceremonies may be downloaded from the OA Inductions Portal at <https://oa-bsa.org/resources/inductions>. The following links will provide groups with a list of the materials needed, as well as the detailed speaking parts for each ceremony:

Arrow of Light Award Ceremony:

<https://oa-bsa.org/uploads/publications/OA-Arrow-of-Light-Ceremony-2018.pdf>

Spirit of Adventure Crossover Ceremony:

<https://oa-bsa.org/uploads/publications/OA-Cub-Crossover-Ceremony-2018.pdf>

2. Revised Training for Den Chief Leadership Position: (repeated from last newsletter)

How long and how effectively a den chief will serve depends upon how seriously the position is valued and by whom, particularly the adults in the pack they serve as well as those within their home unit. Youth value the opinion of adults, so if a den chief sees that adults ask for and value their input, they will take their responsibilities more seriously.

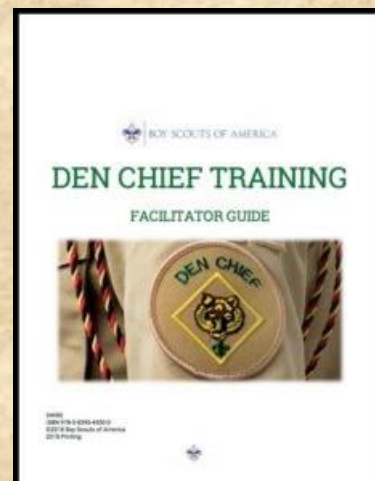
Like most things in Scouting, this process begins with training. Den Chief Training is intended to build enthusiasm, develop higher morale among den chiefs, and provide the tools a new den chief will need to be successful. This training can be delivered in approximately two hours. The time should, however, match the needs of the young people to be trained as well as the availability of the trainers. An evening session, for example, might work better for a Cubmaster training a couple of den chiefs, or a weekend session might work better for a district training for den chiefs of multiple packs.

The training should be offered in a facility that provides suitable space and access, perhaps council camping or training facilities, or a local pack meeting location. A session held early in the program year is likely to prove more useful to beginning den chiefs and their “adult partners”, those new den leaders, or den leaders who have not previously had a den chief. Thus, all adult leaders who recruit or work with den chiefs are encouraged to attend with the Scout being trained.

At the end of the course all participants should be awarded a certificate of completion.

The Scout troop should then recognize the newly trained Scout with a *Trained* badge for his sleeve next to his den chief position badge of office.

Although den chief training currently is only available through face-to-face sessions, online modules are being developed that will mirror the content of these in-person materials. When ready and approved for use, there will be announcements in Bryan’s Blog, *Scouting* magazine and other sources of BSA information. Meanwhile, everyone is encouraged to review the current course’s Facilitators Guide at: www.scouting.org/training/youth/den-chief-training.



3. Family Scouting for All:

Fall recruiting will be a particularly exciting activity as Cub Scouts will include boys and girls. The configurations of the packs will be established by the chartered partner organizations and may include a new all-girl pack, an all-boy pack, or one that includes girl dens and boy dens. All dens of Cub Scouts will be single gender – all boys or all girls.

A major question that arises is regarding the curriculum that girl dens will be pursuing – it will be the exact same advancement requirements and activities that are in effect for all Cub Scouts, girl dens and boy dens. The girl dens will be pursuing the same processes – for Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, and Arrow of Light and the handbooks outlining advancement are used for all Cub Scouts. For Lion dens, the *Adventure Book* will outline advancement opportunities as well. After all, the programs of the Boy Scouts of America support the values of the Boy Scout program – the mission, aims, and values of the Scout Oath and Law are appropriate for all individuals, regardless of gender.

As recruiting builds it will be important to present the advancement activities that Cub Scouts will complete and for parent interest, to highlight the process – Cub Scouts complete the activity, record in their handbook or adventure book, the den leader will record and as appropriate request the pack supply recognition, and that recognition is then bestowed upon the Cub Scout in a meaningful way.

As the den and pack leadership prepare for activities, the time is current to ensure that adequate leadership is trained with new Youth Protection Guidelines and completed BSA registration. These guidelines include the presence of female leadership at all activities when girl Cub Scouts are present.

To review the process of advancement, see [Section 2.0.0.0 of the Guide to Advancement](#).

To review Family Scouting Questions and Answers, download the Q & A document at <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/FAQ-Family-Program-061218-FINAL.pdf>

Yours in Scouting;

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