

# Lion Den Leader Orientation



*The Boy Scouts of America's program  
for kindergarten-age youth*

**Sam Houston Area Council**

*Version 2*

**August 8, 2018**

*This presentation may be updated as new  
information becomes available.*

# Lion Den Leader Orientation

- ❖ This orientation is a council supplement to Den Leader Position-Specific Training.
- ❖ The session will cover information that is unique to Lion dens.



# Job Description

An experienced and engaged Lion den leader is recruited to take the lead on *facilitating* den meetings with assistance and support from the parents/adult partners.



# Shared Leadership: The Key to Lion Success



- ❖ Your role is not to run den meetings.
- ❖ Your role is to coach the adult partners to run the den meetings.
- ❖ Introduces parents /adult partners to Scouting & family involvement.
- ❖ Will give them the confidence to take on a leadership role next year.

# Lion Dens

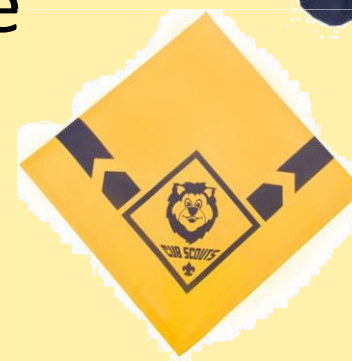


- ❖ Kindergarten boys and girls.
- ❖ Six to eight youth and their adult partners.
- ❖ Youth and adults join as a team, as with Tigers.
- ❖ Boys and girls are divided into separate dens with unique leadership.
- ❖ Female dens must have at least one registered female leader.
- ❖ Two **registered** leaders are required at all den meetings and outings (effective 10/1/18).

# Lion Uniform



- ❖ T-shirt for Lion and adult partners; optional polo shirt for adults
- ❖ Cub Scout belt - for adventure belt loops
- ❖ Optional cap, neckerchief, slide
- ❖ Lion den leader – BSA field uniform or Lion T-shirt/polo



# Lion Handbooks

Youth and adult handbooks are sold as a kit:



- ❖ *Lion Cub Scout Handbook*
- ❖ *Lion Den Leader Guide* (also for adult partners/ shared leadership)
- ❖ *Youth Protection: Parents' Guide*
- ❖ Stickers

# Lion Den Meetings



- ❖ Lions and adult partners meet twice per month as a den.
- ❖ First meeting is a den meeting, based on the adventure selected for that month.
- ❖ Activities are outlined in the *Lion Den Leader Guide*.
- ❖ The second meeting will be a den outing, based on the monthly adventure.
- ❖ Meetings should last about 45 minutes.



# Parts of a Lion Den Meeting

- ❖ Gathering activity
- ❖ Opening
- ❖ Talk Time (business/share time)
- ❖ Activities
- ❖ Closing
- ❖ After the Meeting



# Den Meeting Adventures

## 5 Required Adventures

Lion's Honor \*

Fun on the Run!

Animal Kingdom

Mountain Lion

King of the Jungle

\* *First meeting*

## 7 Elective Adventures

I'll Do It Myself

Pick My Path

Gizmos and Gadgets

On Your Mark

Build It Up, Knock It Down

Rumble in the Jungle

Ready, Set, Grow

**The timing for completing adventures is at the discretion of the den.**

# Recognition for Adventures

## 12 adventures (5 required)

### ❖ Stickers

- Immediate recognition upon completion of each adventure
- Placed on Lion Trail page in *Lion Cub Scout Handbook*



### ❖ Adventure belt loop

- Presented per pack tradition – immediately or at pack meeting
- Worn on Cub Scout belt



# First Lion Den Meeting: Lion's Honor

- ❖ Led by Lion den leader – sets the example for future meetings
- ❖ Introduction Game – to learn names (includes adult partners)
- ❖ Salute or Sign Game (includes adult partners)
- ❖ Den Poster – introduces Lions to the pack
- ❖ Lion's Honor activity in *Lion Cub Scout Handbook*.



# Monthly Outings for Required Den Meetings

- ❖ **Lion's Honor** – Pack meeting
- ❖ **Fun on the Run** – Den field day at local park
- ❖ **Animal Kingdom** – Service project
- ❖ **Mountain Lion** – Nature hike
- ❖ **King of the Jungle** – Observe flag ceremony at Webelos den meeting



# Lion Badge



- ❖ Earned after completion of the five required adventures
- ❖ Considered a rank, but Bobcat badge is not earned first.
- ❖ Strip is worn on the upper left side of the T-shirt, over the heart.
- ❖ Later transferred to below the left pocket of the uniform shirt.

# Elective Adventures

- ❖ Together with required adventures, can be earned in any order.
- ❖ Elective adventures are optional – not all are expected to be completed.



# Lion Activities



- ❖ May participate in pack camping – with adult partner.
- ❖ Encouraged to use pre-cut wedge cars for pinewood derbies.
- ❖ Not required to participate in fundraising activities.
- ❖ Do not participate in BB-guns or other activities prohibited by *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

*See Age-Appropriate Guidelines in Guide to Safe Scouting.*



# Goals for End of School Year

- ❖ Successful transition to Tiger den with meaningful ceremony
- ❖ Attendance at day camp
- ❖ Parent engagement in pack leadership

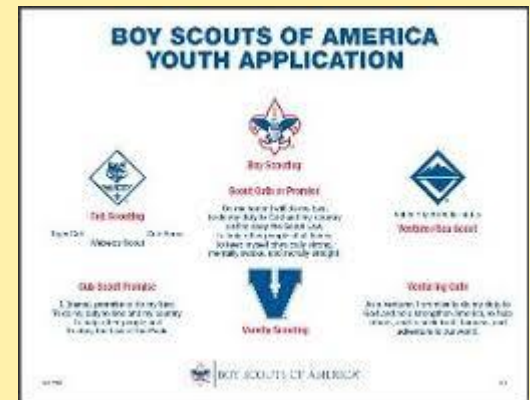


# Recruitment Night



- ❖ Conduct a separate session for Lion prospects.
- ❖ Since Lions cannot participate in all activities, don't want to make promises we can't keep.
- ❖ Need to make clear the shared leadership role – that all adult partners will take a turn leading.
- ❖ If the Lion program is not what parents want for their family, thank them for their interest and encourage them to return next year. If they sign up and are not happy, Scouting will likely lose them forever.

# Lion Registration



- ❖ Standard \$33 national registration fee – pro-rated.
- ❖ Standard BSA youth/adult applications.
  - Each youth requires an adult partner.
- ❖ Packs may charge activity fees appropriate for level of participation by Lions – or might only charge den dues.

# Tips for Working with Lions

- ❖ Include adult partners in all den meeting activities. You want them to be participants, not spectators.
- ❖ Engage the youth. Talk “with” them, not “to” them.
- ❖ Use positive reinforcement.
- ❖ Demonstrate respect and kind language.
- ❖ Communicate regularly with parents/adult partners.





# Lion Cub Scouts

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**QUESTIONS?**

**Contact Program Services  
office at Sam Houston Area  
Council.**