# CUB SCOUT PACK RECRUITMENT RESOURCES

# TO SERVE MORE YOUTH WITH A QUALITY PROGRAM

FALL RECRUITMENT | PEER TO PEER | SPRING RECRUITMENT | WEBELOS TO SCOUT TRANSITION



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA. ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL f 🌱 🔘 🚥 OCBoyScouts

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# INTRODUCTION

# A CASE FOR BUILDING CHARACTER

"Before we can put Scouting's values into youth, we have to put youth into Scouting." The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and law.

Thank you for your leadership and efforts in bringing the Scouting program to more youth and for making a significant difference in their lives.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of a Sign-Up for Scouting Night is to enroll Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, and Boy Scouts in existing Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops, to enlist parent participation in the program, and to organize new units for boys who want to join.

# **OBJECTIVES**

- To increase the number of youth served by the Boy Scouts of America.
- To showcase the Cub Scout program. Show that Cub Scouting is fun!
- **To provide parents with information** about their role in Cub Scouting, including advancement, Pack participation, and support.
- **To recruit new leaders**. Assist the Pack and chartered organization in the selection and enrollment of new adult leaders.

# **BASIC PRINCIPLES**

- Host enrollment event within the first 2 weeks of school and no later than 4 weeks. In Spring, recruit in April/May.
- Never hold the recruitment in combination with a Pack meeting or school sponsored back to school program/open house.
- Include a Boy Scout Troop where possible. Allow them to assist and recruit sixth grade youth.
- All adult leaders must be approved by the chartered organization.
- Essential Pack leaders (Cubmaster, Committee Chairperson, den leadership, and Charter Representative) should be in place before the recruitment night is held.
- Organize new dens with 5 to 6 boys, to allow room for future growth.
- Encourage new boys to bring friends.
- Training is vital for new leaders. All new Den leaders must be trained before they are officially registered.

# **RECRUITING METHODS**

#### Sign-Up for Scouting Night –

A recruitment night held at an elementary school to invite prospective members and parents to register for Scouting.

#### Back to School Night/Open House -

Packs provide information table at a school sponsored welcome back to school program.

#### In School Rally/Kid Talks -

Packs conduct special activities during regular school hours, i.e. recess, individual classrooms, and/ or school assemblies.

#### Chartered Organization Night –

Special evening meeting held at a location other than a school, i.e. a church, inviting members of the organization to sign up.

#### Peer to Peer Recruiting –

Host a meeting to invite friends of Scouts. Be sure to structure meeting around activities/games that include the friend. Also, don't forget to ask the friend to sign up.

#### BeAScout.org -

Online tool that can be customized for each unit to help prospective families find out more information about the unit. Units can authorize members to register and pay online.

# JOB DESCRIPTION AND TIMELINE

# **NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR**

Now		Complete Pack Recruitment Planning Worksheet. Turn in to District.
		Complete Pack Leadership Inventory.
		Finalize Pack Calendar and Org Chart – make copies for recruitment
	_	events.
		Update BeAScout.org unit pin. Setup online registration link.
		<ul> <li>Contact school principal of assigned school to inform of program and secure cooperation. Record Sign-up date on online Wizard.</li> <li>a. Make sure school is available, check facilities.</li> <li>b. Complete School Use permit. The council will provide proof of insurance certificate if necessary.</li> <li>c. Arrange locations to display banners.</li> </ul>
March / July / August		Attend Recruitment Kick-Off.
		Arrange with school: In-School Rally presentations, announcements over PA system and flyer distribution.
		Conduct Pack Recruitment Kickoff.
4 Weeks before Date		Order recruitment materials from the Council Service Center or go online at www.ocbsa.org/membership.
		<ul><li>Arrange recruitment exhibits:</li><li>a. Pinewood Derby track, Raingutter Regatta, or Space Derby.</li><li>b. Scout-O-Rama style booth display.</li><li>c. Games and/or crafts.</li></ul>
		Assign recruitment responsibilities to Pack leadership.
3 Weeks before Date		Put up Banners / Yard Signs.
1 Week before Date		<ul><li>Deliver Invitation flyers.</li><li>a. Ask school secretary for class count and add a few extra flyers.</li><li>b. Divide flyers into classroom Packets.</li></ul>
1 Day before Date		<ul><li>Call school principal to:</li><li>a. Make sure promotional materials have been distributed to boys.</li><li>b. Make sure school will be open 30 minutes early.</li></ul>
Day of Event	UN	<b>IFORM DAY</b> – encourage all Scouts to wear their uniform to school.
	IN	SCHOOL RALLY – hand out stickers.
		<b>SN-UP FOR SCOUTING NIGHT</b> – lead recruitment program. Take completed report envelopes with applications, fees, and attendance rosters to the District Report Meeting location, or call in attendance totals to District Membership Consultant.
		Have Head of Institution or Chartered Organization Representative sign all adult leader applications. Submit with fees to office.
1 Week after Date		Host Parent Orientation Meeting
		Follow up with new leaders and verify they have completed online training courses.
		Follow up to ensure that all new boys have been placed in dens.
10 Days after Event		Applications and fees are due to the Council Service Center, District Executive or to your District Membership Report Location.
		Host a follow-up recruitment event.
May/September/October		Host a Bring A Friend event for Scouts to invite their friends to join.

#### PACK RECRUITMENT PLAN

A successful recruitment begins with a well thought out plan. The Pack Recruitment Plan helps a unit set goals, create an easy to follow timeline and outlines steps to strengthen relationships with schools and charter partners. A few minutes spent on this worksheet will pay dividends in serving more youth this year.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Conduct a Membership Inventory.
  - a. How many Scouts will continue?
  - b. How many vacancies are in dens with existing leadership?
- 2. Evaluate and set goal to increase membership in the Pack.
- Set dates to complete the 10 Fall Recruitment Steps. Fill-in online form is available at www.ocbsa.info/packplan.
- 4. Verify which schools your Pack will recruit from. Don't forget local private schools.
- 5. Assign Sign-Up for Scouting Night recruitment tasks for each school.

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6. Provide copies of the worksheet to both the District Membership Chair and your District Executive.

These steps for a recruiting new youth and adults have proven successful over time, however it is not required to complete all steps. Pick which ones your Pack can concentrate on and then do your best.

Drange County Council		Boy Scouts of America
Cub Scou	t Pack Organ	ization
	Pack Number	Date
LEADERSHIP POSITIONS	Commissioner	
(Note: * = required positions)		
POSITION	APPLICATION CODE	NUMBER NEEDED
*Charter Organization Representative	CR	1 (Member of unit Key 3)
*Committee Chairperson	CC	1 (Member of unit Key 3)
*Committee Members	MC	2 minimum
*Cubmaster	CM	1 (Member of unit Key 3)
Assistant Cubmaster	CA	1
*Den Leader	DL (WL)	1 per 6–8 boys
Assistant Den Leader	DA (WA)	1 per Den Leader
LEADER INVENTORY		
DUNIT LEADERS CONTINUING FROM	I LAST YEAR	
Charter Organization Representative	Membership	Chair
Committee Chair	Pack Tra Pack Tra	iner
Cubmaster	New Sco	ut Coordinator
□ Assistant Cubmaster <u>✓Multiple</u>	Dens DAOL to S	cout Transition Chair
Lion Cub Guide	Den Chie	ef Coordinator
Tiger Den Leader	Advanceme	nt Chair
Tiger Assistant DL	Service H	Hours Coordinator
Wolf Den Leader	🗆 Blue & G	old Banquet
Wolf Assistant DL	Pack Gra	aduation
Bear Den Leader	Religious	Emblem Coordinator
Bear Assistant DL	Fundraising	Chair
Webelos Den Leader	Friends of	of Scouting Chair
Webelos Assistant DL	Popcorn	Kernel
Arrow of Light Den Leader	Adventur	e Card Chair
AOL Assistant DL	Other	
Committee Members:	Pack Activiti	ies Chair
Secretary	Scouting	For Food Chair
Public Relations Chair	🗆 Day Cam	p Coordinator
Webmaster	Pinewoo	d Derby Chair
Newsletter	Other	
Journey to Excellence Coordinator	Other	
Recharter Specialist	Other	
Treasurer		
Quartermaster	Circle Positio	ns not filled at this time.
Uniform Closet	These become	e positions to be filled during entation meeting.

# PACK LEADERSHIP INVENTORY

With every new Scout, comes a potential new leader. Make sure every family has an engaged parent involved in running the unit. Many hands make light work, and there is plenty of positions needing help.

- To begin, identify which leaders are continuing and vacancies to be filled during the Sign-Up for Scouting Night. Use the Cub Scout Pack Organization form as a way to identify places where all families can help. Remember, no position can function alone. Parents can serve as a chair or be a member of a committee.
- Next, prepare a Pack Organization Chart that can be distributed to new families. A sample is provided in the Pack Recruitment binder.

# STEP ONE

# PACK PLANNING

#### **Conduct a Pack Planning Conference**

- □ Review district and council programs for the coming year as well as program themes and other program support materials.
- Develop a program calendar for the coming year and begin to make leadership assignments. Create a calendar to distribute to all families.

Packs with calendars, distributed to families, have better participation in Pack activities. A well planned calendar promotes the fun of Scouting and allows parents to include important dates in their personal calendars. Be sure to have copies available at the Sign-Up for Scouting.

# **CREATE A PACK INVITATION PLAN**

STEP TWO

Research has shown that parents need between 4 and 7 hits before they make a discussion to join. Distributing flyers alone is not enough to convince families to join Scouting. In addition, School Access is becoming more complicated. Scouting must adapt to new procedures and think of new ways to reach more youth. Here are a few ideas your Pack can use to make your efforts more effective. Use this summary sheet to keep track what methods the Pack will use.

#### ☑ Check which ideas the Pack will use.

То	p 10 List		19. Intercom Announcement
	1. Pack Information Sheet		20. Video Announcement
	2. Organize Visits / Scheduling		21. Online Newsletters
	3. Recruitment Flyers		22. Display Case
	4. Youth wear uniform to school		23. Personal Letter of Invitation
	5. School Visits / Boy Talks		24. School Marquee
	6. Stickers		25. Follow up Join Scout Night
	7. Yard Signs/Banner		26. School Lunch Tray Liners
	8. Picture Boards / Power Point		27. Parents Lunch with child
	9. School Open House	Сс	ommunity-wide
	10. Update your BeaScout.org map pin and		28. Local Newspaper
	regularly follow up with leads		29. Display Boards a Community Events
То	Pack Families		30. Patriot Day Flag Ceremonies
	11. Information Invitation Cards		31. Pack Special Events in the Community
	12. My Best Friend / "Buddy Card"		32. Volunteer for Community Events
	13. Invitation Letter		33. Church Bulletin Inserts
	14. Personal Phone Calls / Email Invitation		34. Church Presentations
	<ol> <li>Promote at Church &amp; Other Personal affiliations</li> </ol>		35. Sports Fields / Recreation Centers
	16. Halloween Candy		36. Parades
At	School		37. Community Marquees
	17. PTA/PTO Presentation		38. Pack Website and/or Facebook account
	18. Be Involved in School Activities		39. Libraries
			40. Business Window / Counter Displays

# **INVITATION PLAN FOR YOUR PACK**

#### Top 10 List

The following methods are considered to be the "Top 10" most important ideas for recruiting. All Packs should complete all of the following methods.

- 1. Pack Information Sheet
  - This is your chance to brag about the Pack and have a quick handout ready to distribute.
  - Should include meeting times, locations, Pack calendar, leaders and contact information, and other exciting information about your program.
  - Provide copies to charter organization, families in the Pack, other neighborhood organizations, and local library.
- 2. Organize Visits / Scheduling (See principal visits section of this booklet)
  - Pack leaders need to schedule a face-to-face meeting with partner school (this may or may not be charter partner). This gives you the chance to thank the organization for their support and outline ideas on ways to invite families to participate.
- 3. Flyers
  - Flyers are provided by the Council. Order online at www/ocbsa.org/membership.
  - Should aim to have one set of flyers to go out a week before the join night
  - Divide into groups of 20-25 so the school secretary can easily distribute into teacher mailboxes without counting themselves.
- 4. Youth wear uniform to school
  - Easy way to get exposure. Serves as a walking billboard and a conversation piece.
  - Wear day of your school night, den meetings, Pack meetings, and other Pack activities.
  - Leaders should also wear their uniforms to school events or just have lunch with their children (where permitted).
  - Offer a reward at that night's meeting for any boy that wears his uniform.
  - Design Pack t-shirt for Scouts to wear to school on a regular basis.
- 5. School Visits / Kid Talks
  - Boy talks should be conducted 24-48 hours before join night. They can be done in classroom, lunchroom, during recess, school assembly, or on the buses.
- 6. Stickers
  - Provided by the Council and customized with Sign-up for Scouting information.
  - Distribute at Boy Talks and lunch recesses.
- 7. Yard Signs/Banner
  - Provided by the Council. Pack can customize with own information.
  - Place signs in high traffic areas.
- 8. Picture Boards / Power Point Presentation (show on a laptop/tablet/projection screen)
  - A picture is worth a 1000 words. Highlight your Pack's outdoor program with a picture board.
  - Create during a den meeting.
  - Display at PTA/PTO meetings, join nights, school activities, and at local churches.

#### **Invitation Plan for Your Pack—continued**

- 9. School Open House / Back to School Nights
  - Your Pack should be part of the fiber of the school and its families.
  - Being present at your school's "Back to School Night" and all other activities is an important way to raise exposure to your program.
  - Set up table with flyers, a sign-in sheet, stickers, picture board, and other visuals.
  - Have members of Pack volunteer to help with Back to School Night.
  - Have ALL parents in Pack wear nametags that say "Ask Me About Scouting".
  - Assist schools with setting up chairs, greeting families, or conducting a flag ceremony.
  - Be sure to have all families and leaders in uniform.

10. Update your Pack's map pin at www.BeAScout.org.

- You can include meeting times and key contacts.
- Upload links to a Pack video, pictures, Facebook page and Pack website.
- Follow up with leads within 24 hours!

#### **Pack Families**

The following methods and the remainder of this booklet are divided into ideas that can be done within your family, school and in the community. The more methods you can use to promote your Pack, the better your recruitment results will be, so use as many as you can! The following ideas are methods that the Pack leadership should ask all families to participate in.

11. Information Postcards

- The Orange County Council provides these and can be customized with Pack information.
- Have each leader carry and hand out cards at all school functions.

12. My Best Friend is a Scout "Buddy Card"

- This card is designed for the Scout to use to recruit his friends. Templates are available at www.scouting.org/membership.
- They are fun in nature and may include a few of the exciting activities going on in the Pack or a quote of the Scout's favorite part of Scouting.
- These cards should also include meeting dates, locations, and contact information.
- 13. Invitation letter
  - This letter is a customized form the family can send to their friends and acquaintances.
  - Include thoughts like the benefits of Scouting and why your family is involved.
  - Letter includes meeting and joining information as well as who to contact for more information.
- 14. Personal Phone Calls / Email (Facebook or Text) Invitation
  - Ask each family to brainstorm other families that they could call or email to personally invite to be part of the Pack.
  - The Pack should provide each family with the Pack Information Sheet and other items to help spread the word and excitement of Scouting.
- 15. Promote at Church and Other Personal Affiliations
  - Families also have many other affiliations; such as church and sports. These other activities can be used to spread the word of Scouting.
  - Make 1/2 sheet flyers to insert into church bulletins with all pertinent information.

#### **Invitation Plan for Your Pack—continued**

16. Halloween Candy

• On Halloween, many children pass through the neighborhood and stop at homes. Use Halloween candy to promote your Pack. Use a sticker or label to provide a few activities about the Pack and leader contact information.

#### School

The following ideas are methods that the Pack leadership or recruiting committee should do in the school. Special attention should be given to developing relationships with the school leadership and Parents' Organizations. This will help with the success of these ideas and your recruitment efforts.

17. PTA/PTO Presentation

- Make a brief presentation to your school's parent teacher organization. This should be done at the beginning of each school year. Share your recruitment plan and annual activities
- Share an update on your Pack, including the number of families and upcoming activities.
- Offer your services at PTA/PTO sponsored events.

18. Be Involved in School Activities

- In addition to Back to School Nights, there are events such as carnivals and other activities that the Pack should be involved in throughout the year.
- Conduct a service project for the school such as playground and flower garden clean-ups.
- The Pack's participation will help the school see the Pack as a positive resource and an extra supporter of the school.
- Be available for flag ceremonies throughout the year.

19. Intercom Announcement

- Ask the school to make announcements using the school's public address system or intercom regarding the Pack and specifically the school night.
- Make announcements exciting and use as a reminder for all upcoming activities.
- 20. Video Announcement
  - If the school has a closed-circuit television system, ask if one of your articulate, well-uniformed Cub Scouts or leaders could read a joining night announcement on-camera.
  - Make sure the reader is well-rehearsed. You can point to your favorite television anchor as an example for how your "news" should be read.
  - Your school may also allow you to show one of the Boy Scouts of America's membership promotional videos, either over their TV system, at an assembly, or in a classroom.
  - Have the boys in the Pack create a commercial for their Pack. Boys appeal to boys!
- 21. Online School Newsletter
  - Insert flyers or announcements in online newsletter.
- 22. Display Case
  - Use the display case or bulletin board at school to display the excitement in your Pack. Use
    pictures and other visuals to catch attention and motivate boys to attend and the School Night.
- 23. Personal Letter of Invitation (See draft in this booklet)
  - Personally invite all families in the school by sending a personal letter or post cards for formal invitation. Use a school directory (if available) or work with families in Pack to gather names and addresses.
  - These should go out 7-10 days prior to school night.

#### **Invitation Plan for Your Pack—continued**

24. School Marquee

- Use the school outdoor marquee to promote the school night and the Cub Scouts.
- Speak with your school early to provide information on upcoming events and details regarding your school night.
- 25. Follow up Join Scout Night
  - Be sure to hold a follow-up recruiting event to give families another opportunity to join. Should have at least two opportunities to join after school night; one in September and one in October.
- 26. School Lunch Tray Liners (See examples in booklet)
  - Provide information, games, picture, puzzles, and etc.
- 27. Parent's have lunch with their son wearing Scout Uniform: Have parents eat lunch with their son at school and hand out invitations to join Scouting to their son's friends.

#### Community

The following ideas should be done in the community around your Pack. It is important that the community knows that the Cub Scouts are alive and well and in the neighborhood. These methods reach additional families and provide community support for your Pack.

28. Local Newspaper

- Community newspapers are always interested in neighborhood events and are great about publishing information.
- Submit an ongoing listing to be included in their community calendar section.
- Invite local reporters to cover special Pack events such as bike rodeo, Scouting for Food, etc.
- 29. Display Boards at Community Events
  - Wear your uniform and set up a Pack display at community events such as carnivals and parades.
  - Most communities have a summer or fall festival and these are great ways to increase exposure for your Pack.
  - Be sure to have plenty of flyers or other literature on hand to distribute and be prepared to answer questions and tell stories about your Pack.

30. Patriot Day Flag Ceremonies

- A lot of organizations look for color guards throughout the year and especially on Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, and Patriot Day. Have Scouts in uniform present the colors.
- Make a list of events in your community and call organizers early to volunteer to participate.
- 31. Pack Special Events in the Community
  - Hold a community event such as a "Kite Day", bike rodeo, or a carnival and invite all members of your community.
  - Partner with a local police or fire station to gain exposure of the event and additional credibility.
- 32. Volunteer for Community Events
  - Park clean-ups and July 4th celebrations for example.
  - Community service is a cornerstone of the program and a great way to gain exposure for your Pack

33. Church Bulletin Inserts

- Work with churches in your area and create a small insert to be distributed to the congregation.
- If there are families in your Pack that attend the church, have them coordinate distribution.

#### **Invitation Plan for Your Pack—continued**

34. Church Presentations

- Make a presentation at local Sunday School classes.
- Participate in Scout Sunday by wearing your uniform to church.
- Promote youth earning religious awards.

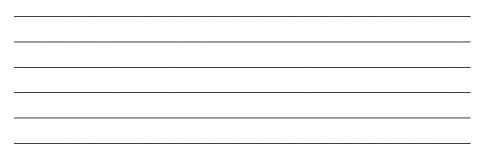
35. Sports Fields / Recreation Centers

- Sports are a major activity of many families. Work with local sports venues to hang banners, posters, and set up information tables and yard signs at the field or court.
- Target efforts as season is winding down as the "thing to do next"
- Host at activity at the recreation center.
- Hang banners on fences where approved.

36. Parades

- Build a float or march in community parades.
- 37. Community Marquees
  - Use marquees at churches, recreation centers, neighborhoods or business to promote school night.
  - Be sure to thank the organization for their support.
- 38. Pack Website and/or Facebook account
  - Post pictures of Pack activities of youth having fun in Scouts. "Tag" schools Facebook page so fans of school's page also see your page. Encourage parents to do the same.
  - Websites and Facebook are very popular forms of communication.
  - Check with community organizations and your school to see if you can list your Pack information on their website or link to your Pack's website
  - Include web address on promotional materials.
- 39. Libraries
  - Ask to hang posters and distribute Pack information sheet.
  - Design bookmarks with Pack activities and information for distribution.
  - Have Pack leaders read story time in uniform.
- 40. Business Window / Counter Displays
  - Visit local businesses and post offices to see if they will allow you to post or leave information regarding your Pack and its activities.
  - Identify family friendly business such as Dairy Queen, McDonalds, Toys' R Us, etc.

# **Additional Pack Ideas:**



# UPDATE PACK WWW.BEASCOUT.ORG PIN

STEP FOUR

As we engage more prospective families in this electronic age, we must work to make sure units are sharing the correct and most up-to-date information about Scouting programs in the community. The "Be A Scout" tool provides a great opportunity for Scout units to highlight what makes their unit unique, to express how excited they are about Scouting, and to show protective families the benefits of Scouting through video and/or photos. This tool will also assist families with up-to-date registration information so that they can attend the Sign-Up for Scouting Night or other Pack recruiting events.

Packs must update their Pin to allow girls, boys, or both girl and boy dens.

Packs may also choose to turn on the online application feature built into this tool to allow families to register online.

See the **How to Set up Your BeAScout Pin** handout in the appendix for instructions.



# STEP FIVE

# SETUP ONLINE REGISTRATION

The Orange County Council uses an online registration to meet the demand for completing the registration process for youth members and adult leaders. This includes online fee payments.

Ask new members to register online using their own electronic device or the Pack can provide tablets at the recruitment event.

Instructions for Online Registration: http://www.scouting.org/onlineregistration.aspx

#### How to Prepare for Online Registration

- 1. **Complete Your Preparation Checklist:** It is critical you complete all items on the checklist for your Scouting role to ensure you are granted the necessary permissions to work within the online registration system. To have the appropriate access, your role, council name, and a valid email address must be listed correctly in your My.Scouting Tools profile.
- Review Training Videos and How-To Documents: Learn how to use the application manager, review an application, and process youth and adult applications by watching the online training videos. Also included online are how-to documents that provide application manager and invitation manger instructions.
- 3. Update Your "Contact Us" Pin in BeAScout.org: Unit leaders must update their pin in BeAScout.org. See online instructions.
- 4. Add the unique Pack URL address on all recruitment materials.

**Need Help?** An FAQ document is available online. If you need assistance completing the preparation checklist, please contact the Member Care Contact Center at myscouting@scouting.org or 972-580-2489.

STEP SIX

# **RECRUITMENT PLANNING STEPS**

# PACK RECRUITMENT KICKOFF

#### Host a Spring Rally and a Fall Back to the Pack Night.

#### Get your program off to a great start!

Cub Scout Packs put a lot of time and effort into organizing their Sign-up for Scouting Nights. Now is the time to begin securing help with the Sign-up for Scouting events and evaluate leader vacancies in the spring and going into the fall. A pack recruitment kick off should rally the unit to use the marketing plan established earlier and encourage parents and youth to use social media to invite friends to singn-up.

We encourage you to make this a fun event for your returning Scouts and parents. Suggested activities include: an ice cream social, watermelon feast, pool party, carnival, sports, etc. The meeting is designed to make sure that your Pack is organized prior to receiving new boys and parents.

The Fall back to pack event helps encourage current members to reengage for the the new program year. Unfortunately, somewhere amidst all of the hustle and bustle is the fact that many members do not get contacted to come back from the summer break. As a result, youth are lost along with potential leadership from their parents. Research has shown that many boys will not continue without being personally contacted to return.

In addition, the Pack can take this time to get Scouts and families excited about bringing more boys to Scouting. Create an atmosphere that now is the time to fill Dens, create new dens, and fill leadership positions in the Pack. Generate enthusiasm for Scouts to invite friends and encourage parents to invite friends and neighbors to the sigh-up night. Don't forget to ask parents to help at the upcoming join nights. Because most Packs cover multiple schools, each Pack will need lots of help to open each school during the fall recruitment campaign.

#### SAMPLE AGENDA

#### I. Gathering

Ask each parent to sign in and verify information on a Pack roster.

II. Opening

Sing "The More We Get Together", be sure to use the body motions. Welcome families back to another great year of Scouting. Introduce Pack leadership.

III. Pack Information

Take note that most Dens are not full and that the Pack needs to grow. Assign Cubs to dens and determine any room for new boys joining at the join night. Go over Sign-Up for School Night dates, locations and times. Encourage families to invite friends and neighbors to experience Scouting. Build enthusiasm for the Pack's Ideal Year of Scouting. Distribute Pack Calendar and Org Chart. Go over Recharter fees and deadline for payment. Introduce Popcorn campaign and share how the Pack is funded.

#### IV. Parent Engagement

Recruit Den Leaders to fill vacancies in existing dens. Discuss additional Pack leadership vacancies, fill positions as needed. Ask for parent help at Join Scout Nights.

V. Bring A Friend Plan

Get Scouts excited to bring their friends to join Scouting.

Ask Scouts to bring a friend to a Sign-Up for Scout Night or a Pack Bring a Friend meeting. Go over dates for recruitment night again.

Distribute Peer to Peer/Bring A Friend recruiting materials and show how to use them. Show recruiter patch and share any Pack incentives.

Ask Scouts to wear uniform to school on day of Sign-up for Scouting Night.

VI. Closing

# **PROMOTION MATERIALS**

The Council provides free of charge, materials to help attract new families to Scouting. Materials can be ordered online at www.ocbsa.org/membership and customized with Pack information.

#### Cub Scout and Scouts BSA Invitation Flyers – for distribution at schools and churches.

Banners - for school and community areas.

Yard Signs – place at school and in neighborhoods.

Stickers - for kid talks.

**Post cards** – for Bring A Friend Invitations.

Parent Orientation Guide – for use in recruiting adults.

Recruitment Kits - materials for sign-up night.

# **ONLINE RESOURCES**

BSA has created videos and a variety of helpful resources for your Pack to use. Checkout these great online tools:

- www.ocbsa.info (Cub Scout Wizard—use to track progress and review additional resources)
- www.scouting.org/membership
- www.ocbsa.org/membership

# **RECRUITMENT KITS**

Pack recruitment kits are provided for free at the council office. Kits are built for 10 Scouts/Adults. Request multiple kits if needed.

- Attendance Sheets Parents need to sign forms according to the grade and school child attends. Doing this will simplify forming dens.
- \*Bobcat Trail Book
- \*Lion Cub Placemat for Kindergartners
- \*Parent Orientation Guide
- \*Boys' Life mini-magazine
- \*Activity Promotion Flyers
- Application Forms Youth and Adult
- Registration Checkout Forms
- Table Tents
- Name Tag blanks

**STEP EIGHT** 

- Registration Report Form and Fee Chart
- Sample Application Poster

#### \* Hand to parents upon arrival

#### HOST SIGN-UP FOR SCOUTING NIGHT And Parent Orientation Meeting

Follow School Recruitment Plan Instructions on page 18.

# YOUR PACK IS NOT ALONE

The Orange County Council has a large support staff to assist your needs:

- District Membership Consultant
- District Commissioner Staff
- Membership District Executive
- Council Membership Committee

Remember that they are here to ensure your success in reaching more youth with a quality program.

# **PACK SUPPLIES**

Provided by the Pack

- Pack Flags.
- □ \*Pack Calendar and Org Chart.
- □ \*Pencils & pens.
- Sound System, if school does not have one (A Must!).
- Electronic Devices (i.e. Tablets) for online registration.
- Display of leader handbooks.
- Display of Youth handbooks.
- □ Picture board with Pack activities.
- □ \_\_\_\_\_
- □ \_\_\_\_\_
- □ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Hand to parents upon arrival



**STEP SEVEN** 

Boy Scouts of America
REGISTRATION CHECKOUT
REGISTRATION C.
Scout Name:
Forms: (choose one method of registration)
Forms: (choose one method of the Payment Online Application with Fee Payment
Pack URL Address: Adult
Pack URL Address YouthAdult
Pack URL Address:AdultA
intration Fees: (rees are provided in the second seco
BSA Registration (\$24/year)
Insurance (\$12/year) Due \$ \$ Boys' Life Subscription (\$12/year) Due \$ \$
Boys' Life Subscription (\$12/year)
Boys' Life Subscript           Pack Program:           Pack Dues (\$/year)           Due \$\$
Pack Dues (\$ / car, / c
is of Scouting (****
Scoutty Council spends 5500 00
arouram support to a second the belief to a
<ul> <li>It is hoped that your family will appreciate dotation.</li> <li>Scouting and make an annual charitable donation.</li> </ul>
Family participation in the annual Fall Popcon and of Family participation in the annual Fall Popcon and Spring Adventure Card Sales can reduce future out-of- Spring Adventure Card Sales can reduce future out-of- Spring Adventure Card Sales can reduce future out-of- Subtotal \$
Spring Adventure costs, i.e. summer camp: Subtotal \$
Total Collected +
ADVENTURE OF A

#### **REGISTRATION CHECKOUT FORM**

- 1. This forms helps explain the real costs of Scouting.
- 2. Hand out with applications and use to track fees paid and balance due.
- 3. The Pack will need to pre-fill in information:
  - a. Parent Orientation Date
  - b. Pack specific URL address for online registration site
  - c. Pro-rated registration/Boys' Life/Insurance fees for month of sign-up
  - d. Pack Dues (full year/ pro-rated amount due)

#### Helpful Hints

- 1. Give parents the option to register and pay online with their smart device.
- 2. In the Fall, collect current and next year registration fees including Boys' Life as one fee. By asking a parent for a total fee, eliminates having to "nickel and dime" them later at recharter time.
- 3. Collect Pack dues at the Parent Orientation event.
- 4. Inform parents of the Pack's participation in the Popcorn and/or Adventure Card sales.
- 5. If asked about FOS, please inform parents that information will be emailed describing the annual

#### Registration fees are the same for both youth and adults.

We recommend collecting at the time of recruitment the Youth and Adult fee that includes a subscription to Boys'

		201	8			2019				Fees for both 2018 and 2019			
	Join Scouting Night Turn-In					Keep in Unit Account				Youth Only		Youth & 1 Adult	
Pro-Rated Fees	Registration	Insurance	Boys' Life	Total	Registration	Insurance	Boys' Life	Total	Total To Collect w/o BL	Total To Collect w/ BL	Total To Collect w/o BL	Total To Collect w/ BL	0
March	\$27.50	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$47.50	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$60.50	\$104.50	\$121.00	\$139.00	22
April	\$24.75	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$42.75	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$57.75	\$99.75	\$115.50	\$134.25	21
Мау	\$22.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$38.00	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$55.00	\$95.00	\$110.00	\$129.50	20
			1										_
August	<b>\$1</b> 3.75	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$23.75	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$46.75	\$80.75	\$93.50	\$115.25	17
Septembe r	\$11.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$19.00	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$44.00	\$76.00	\$88.00	\$110.50	16
October	<b>\$</b> 8.25	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$14.25	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$41.25	\$71.25	\$82.50	\$105.75	15
November	\$5.50	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$9.50	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$38.50	\$66.50	\$77.00	\$101.00	14
December	\$2.75	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$3.75	\$33.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$57.00	\$35.75	\$60.75	\$71.50	\$95.25	13
Exampl	e:						Maga Subscri			Boys' Life		Boys' Life Scoutin	

For \$80.75, only \$4.75 per month, a family can register their son for 17 months which inlcudes a high quality youth magazine. Not bad, compared to seasonal organizations like Soccer, Baseball and Football.

For \$115.25, or less than \$7.00 per month, a family member and child can register for 17 months and receive both Boys' Life and Scouting magazines. Scouting magazine is included in the adult registration fee.

# **COMMON DEFECTS ON YOUTH APPLICATIONS**

The following items must be completed - if any of these are missed, the application can't be processed:

- Youth members date of birth
- Youth members grade
- Signature of Unit Leader
- Signature of Parent/Guardian

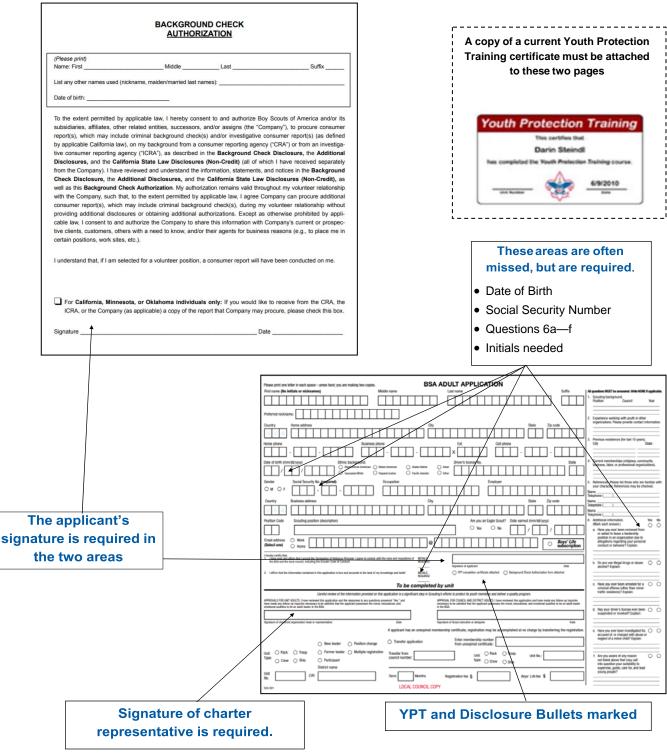
If the youth member is in the 1st grade, the parent section must also be completed with a date of birth.

YOUTH INFORMATION	BSA YOUTH MEN	IBER APPLICATION				
First name (No initials or nicknames)	Middle name	Last name	Suffix	Preferred nickname		
	1 [ ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ] ]					
Country Mailing address	City		s	tate Zip code		
USA						
Home phone Dat	te of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) Gr	rade Ethnic background:		Gender:		
		OBlack/African American ONative An		OMale OFemale		
School		OCaucasian/White OPacific Isl	lander OAsian			
		OHispanic/Latino OOther		OBoys' Life subscription		
PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION						
	u are the Lion or Tiger adult partner. OMark here	e if the Lion or Tiger adult partner is not living at the sar	me address and complete and a	ttach an adult application		
	irandparent OOther (specify)					
First name (No initials or nicknames)	Middle name	Last name	Suffix	Preferred nickname		
Country Mailing address	City			tate Zip code		
USA						
Home phone Dat	te of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) Oo	ccupation Employ	er	Gender:		
				OMale OFemale		
Cell phone Bus	siness phone	Ext. Previous Scouting et	xperience			
		×				
I have read the attached information for parents and appro						
application. I affirm that I have or will review "How to Prote Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide."	ct Your	Parent/guardian email address				
Signature of parent/guardian Date To be completed by unit						
		If applicant has unexpired members no charge by transferring the regist		may be accomplished at		
Signature of unit leader (or designee)	Date	OTransfer application Enter men	nbership number			
Unit type: OCub Scout OBoy OVenturing OS Pack Scout Crew S	Sea Scout OLone Cub Scout		pired certificate:	2012/04/14		
Тгоор	OLone Boy Scout	Transfer from council number:	type:	Unit No.:		
Unit No.: For pack registration select	tone: OLion OTiger OWolf OBear	OWebelos	OCrew OShip			
				loys'Life fee \$		
524-406	LOCAL CO	UNCIL COPY Registration f	16 9 B	loys Life tee 3		

#### **COMMON DEFECTS ON ADULT LEADER APPLICATIONS**

There are two pages of the application that need to be completed and turned in to the council, along with a Youth Protection Training certificate, in order to be processed.

One of those pages (identified below as the "CBC" page) contains information about the criminal background check progress and asks for the name of the applicant and their signature, authorizing the council to complete a background check.



"CBC" Page

STEP 1	NAME COUNCIL RECRUITME and the bonest years rechara at the bottom of the form of the bottom of the form of the bott nectrols.		DISTICN REPORT	200111 OF AMERICA Pact 8 Toolo 8 2014 2015 LINE (/)
Cube Scot	ACCORDINATES	TTENDANCE BY C	Celle FIFTH SUITH FIFTH SUITH CELLE CELE CELLE CELE CELLE CELLE CELLE CELLE CELLE	I TOTAL TOTAL AMILES'

#### **REGISTRATION FEE INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Complete the Registration Report Form.
- 2. Use attendance sign in sheets to record attendance.
- 3. Only the fees for the current year will be charged by the Council. Next year's fees will be credited to the unit account or you can deposit to the unit checking account.
- 4. **Please note**—online registration will only charge families the prorated amount and not next year fees.
- 5. Use the second page of the report to track next year's fees paid. Indicate where money has been deposited so at recharter time you know that those fees have been collected.
- 6. **Turn in applications**, fees and Registration Report Form to the District Membership Report Location, Council Service Center, or to District Executive.
- 7. All paper applications must be turned into the council within **10 Days** of registration. All youth applications must be processed in order for youth to show up on Internet Advancement. No youth may receive a rank if not listed in the **Online Advancement System**.
- 8. All new Scouts will receive a welcome email describing upcoming events and providing additional information to help with onboarding.

DISTRICT TURN-IN LOCATIO	NS
District:	
Date: Time:	Location:
Date: Time:	Location:
Date: Time:	Location:
District Membership Consultant:	Membership District Executive:
Email	Email
Phone	Phone

STEP TEN

# **RECRUITMENT PLANNING STEPS**

# HOST A BRING A FRIEND EVENT

The number one recruiters in Scouting is our own Scouts. Each Pack should host a special event to allow Scouts to bring their friends to experience the fun of Scouting. See program outline in Recruitment Binder.

#### Key Points:

- Distribute postcards to all Scouts and ask parents to share pictures on their social media.
- Scouts are not recruiters, they merely invite friends to a meeting.
- It is the role of the leader to formally ask the friends to sign up. Be sure to provide information to parents.
- Schedule a specific date for a Bring a Friend meeting, and orient the event around a theme to give the new boy's first visit a great experience.

# **BRING A FRIEND RECOGNITION**

Every Scout whose friend joins, will receive a special RECRUITER patch. The Unit Membership Chair will need to contact the District Executive with a count of patches needed. We recommend tracking for a month, and then recognizing Scouts at the next Pack Meeting. The Bring A Friend recognition program will end December 31st.

In addition to the special collectible recruiter patch provided by the Council, Packs may purchase Recruiter Strips from a Scout Shop. These strips maybe worn on the Scout's uniform.

Patch Order forms are available online at www.ocbsa.org/membership or contact elenag@ocbsa.org.



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#### INTRODUCTION

Sign-Up for Scouting Nights are an effective and easy invitation for parents to discover the world of Cub Scouting. However, just sending a flyer home with a student does not guarantee success. Listed in the next few pages are helpful tips to make your recruitment event a super success. First some...

# **Recruitment Dos and Don'ts**

- DO get the message out in plenty of time for parents to make plans.
- DO wear Scout uniforms.
- DO plan plenty of staff include Cub Scouts.
- DO set up exhibits.
- DO provide activities for children who accompany parents.
- DO NOT wing it plan carefully, practice presentation.
- **DO NOT** get long-winded; say what you need to say, then stop.
- **DO NOT** get involved in policy or requirements keep it basic.
- **DO NOT** let parents get away without committing to a volunteer position.

# SCHOOL RECRUITMENT PLAN

Using the Pack Recruitment Plan worksheet identify dates for individual schools and the tasks the Pack will use to complete a successful Sign-Up for Scouting Night. It is important that a separate recruitment night be scheduled for each school/church the Pack serves.

#### **Recruitment Plan Tasks:**

- □ School Visit
  - -- Meet Principal
  - -- Schedule Sign-Up for Scouting Night
  - -- Review communication plan
- □ Order recruitment materials for each recruitment location
- □ Conduct a presentation to the Parent/Teacher Organization
- □ Conduct a school service project
- Distribute Banner and Yard Signs
- Distribute flyers
- □ Host a Patriot Day (September 11th) activity
- □ Host a table at the School Open House/Back to School night
- □ Conduct Kid Talks
- Distribute peer invitation to Scouts
- □ Conduct a Sign-up for Scouting Night and a Parent Orientation Meeting
- □ Conduct a follow up recruitment event

# PRINCIPAL VISIT

Building and maintaining a strong relationship with your Pack's elementary school is important to have and may foster support for recruitment efforts. This meeting should last no longer than 30 minutes.

#### SAMPLE AGENDA

- 1. Welcome and introductions
  - Take a minute to introduce everyone to each other. Be sure to thank principal for taking time to meet with you. Find out if Principal has any Scouting background either as youth or as an adult.
- 2. Update Principal about the Pack
  - Share exciting news and successes regarding your Pack and upcoming events i.e. service projects, field trips and other learning opportunities
  - Share roster of Pack so Principal can see kids and parents that are involved in Scouting.
- 3. Service opportunities for school
  - The Pack is a resource and an asset to the school. Explain the benefits for the boys and for the school. Schools should be the sites of many Pack service projects. And, Cub Scouting is educational: It has been established that active Scouting programs improve grades and study habits, and lead to better jobs and more successful lives.
  - State that in the next school year, your Pack would like to conduct 1-2 service projects for the school. See Adopt-a-School webpage: www.ocbsa.org/adoptaschool.
  - Take a couple minutes to brainstorm ideas, come to agreement of what that a service project should be.
  - Remember, a Principal will appreciate a Pack that is a source of school volunteers.
- 4. Review the Sign-Up for Scouting plan and set the recruitment night date
- Determine the school's Open House/Back to School Night and secure permission to have a table to promote the recruitment night
- 6. Discuss the following promotional strategies:
  - Promotional flyers (When do homework folders go home?)
  - Kid Talks (classroom to classroom, lunchroom rally, recess, etc.)
  - Banners/Yard Signs/Posters
  - School Electronic Newsletter
  - Morning announcements, audio visual
  - Marquee Sign
  - Patriot Day Flag Ceremony
- 7. Confirm decisions made during discussion
- 8. Thank them again for their support of Scouting
  - Take a can of popcorn or other gift to thank the Principal for support. See your District Executive for giveaways.

Principal Visit – School Worksheet
School
Principal
Secretary
Cell Phone # of Custodian
First Day of School
Approval to Do (Date/Time):
Open House
Back to School Night
Sign-Up for Scouting Night
Flyer Drop Off Date
# of ClassroomsQuantity of Flyers
Kid Talks:
Classroom
Recess
Lunchroom
Banners/Yard Signs
Morning Announcements
Video PSA
Marquee Sign
Flag Ceremonies

# **PARENT / TEACHER ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **School Relationships**

The greatest potential for Cub Scout membership growth is in the schools. Boys who would benefit from what we have to offer spend more time there than almost anywhere else. Pack leaders should develop strong relationships with principals, teachers, and parent organizations. This will go a long way, especially in those areas where the local Scouting council or district has limited access. Don't forget to research and include local private schools and "home-school" associations.

#### PTA/PTO Presentations:

- At the beginning of each school year, it is a good idea to schedule a brief presentation to your school's parent-teacher organization.
- Share information about the number of families in your Pack, recent and planned activities, and the benefits of Cub Scouting for both boys and families.
- Distribute Pack Information Sheets and business cards.
- Take a few cans of popcorn to pass around in appreciation for their ongoing support.
- Offer the Pack's assistance and involvement in PTA/PTO events and projects.
- It is extremely helpful if several Pack leaders and parents are active in the PTA/PTO.

# SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECTS

Doing service projects together is one way that Cub Scouts keep their promise "to help other people."

BSA Adopt-a-School is a project designed to begin to proactively address our Community/ School Relationships. Often we are made aware



Scouts making a difference in our schools

of Councils and Districts with significant access issues related to promoting and recruiting youth from within specific school systems. When the proverbial doors are closed, we accept it and try to figure out additional means for youth recruitment, often at considerable expense to the local council.

BSA Adopt-a-School is a process by which we can begin to address the breakdown in relationship between Scouting and the respective school systems we serve. This process is where true community development work can begin. It truly is a win/win situation for both Scouting and our schools.

Here are a few potential project ideas to get us started, but our priority remains to let your school's specific needs determine how we serve.

- Grounds beautification
- Building improvements
- Giving Tree coordinate
- Flag Ceremonies
- Teacher appreciation
- Helpers during festivals
- Book Drive coordinate
- Green effort coordinate
- Literacy program
- Food Drive coordinate
- Clean-up after school events

- See http://adoptaschool.scouting.org/ for ideas and recognition opportunities.
- Register your Pack at www.ocbsa.info/adoptaschool to participate in program.
- Review handout included in recruitment binder.



# FLYER ORDER AND DISTRIBUTION

Here are some suggestions for working with your school. Please keep in mind that a good rapport with principals, their secretaries, and school custodial staff is vital to the success of recruitment event.

#### Order flyers online at www.ocbsa.org/membership

#### Do's

- 1. Make sure a "save the date" flyer goes out with the first information folder that goes home during the first week of school.
- 2. BE PLEASANT. You are Scouting's ambassador for that school!
- 3. Make sure that flyers (presorted, 15–18 boys per classroom—unless you know the class-room size) are delivered to the school at the proper time. Surprise the principal's secretary with a Scouting mug filled with candy, a recruiter patch, or other council-friendly thank-you. Ask for space on the marquee in the front of the school and provide the exact wording you want.
- 4. Add a thank you note for each classroom teacher to their stack of flyers.
- 5. Be sure to order Lion fliers for Kindergartners and Scouts BSA flyers for the sixth grade.
- 6. **FOLLOW UP!** Call the secretary on the day before School Night to be sure that fliers have been distributed.
- Be sure to remind the principal that the Sign-Up for Scouting Night is NEXT WEEK— (Date)
   and that's why these flyers must go home with the boys the week of
   or earlier.

#### Don'ts

- 1. Don't just leave fliers on the secretary's desk. (Presorted flyers should go in teachers' boxes.)
- 2. Don't demand anything. Ask for permission.
- 3. Don't forget to **FOLLOW UP**, to be sure the fliers were passed out—even teachers forget sometimes!

GN UP FOR SCI

Sample Flier Design:

Wednesday, September 10. 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

Takeany Elementary School - Multipurpose Room

For more information contact New Member Coordinator Name

at ### - ### - ####, email address

URL address for online registration Registration fees will be collected



#### Sample Yard Sign/Banner:

Both of these should only have:

Day, Date, Time, Location, and phone number.

Remember, new parents do not know what a Pack, Den, Blue & Gold, Pinewood Derby etc. is. Make the message simple to encourage parents and youth to attend your recruitment event. Too much information is to much.



# PATRIOT DAY PROGRAM, SEPTEMBER 11TH

On September 11th Scouts are presented with a great opportunity to participate in school, church or community activities in honor of Patriot Day. Take your Unit to visit some Veterans or send a care Package to our Troops or visit one of many memorial sights in Orange County commemorating September 11, 2001.

If your chartered partner is religious based have your Scouts conduct a moment of silence for those lost on September 11, 2001. If your chartered partner is a school, have your unit conduct the flag ceremony that morning and conduct a moment of silence for those lost on September 11, 2001. Your local

Scout Shop will have a commemorative patch for sale for all Scouts who participate in a Patriot day activity.

#### Simple Indoor Opening Flag Ceremony for Cub Scouts

The leader can be a member of the den (preferred), a Den Chief, or an adult leader.

Leader: "Will the Audience please rise?"

The audience rises

Leader: "Color Guard, POST THE COLORS. SCOUT SALUTE."

Scouts carry the US & Pack or den flags walking double file. (see the diagram on the right for formation). Those in uniform do a hand salute. Everyone else places their hand on their heart.

Leader: "Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance ..."

The audience says the Pledge of Allegiance.

Leader: "TWO."

Everyone stops saluting.

Leader: "Color guard, retreat."

The color guard walks back out double-file to wait at the back of the room.

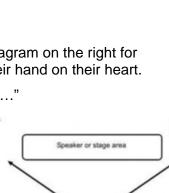
Leader: "Color guard, dismissed."

#### NOTES:

The US flag and other flags (i.e. Pack flag or Den flag) start in the

back of the room. The US flag should be on the right side of the procession and should never be behind the other flags. When they come to the point where the flags must cross, the US flag should cross in front of the other flags.

The US flag should be displayed on its own right, as shown in the diagram.



PACK FLAG

O

AUDIENCE

DEN OR PACK FLAG GOES HERE

Ο

US FLAG CROSSES IN FRONT OF OTHER FLAGS

AUDIENCE



# **IN SCHOOL RALLIES-KID TALKS**

- DATE: To be held during regular school hours before the Sign-Up Night
- **PURPOSE:** To excite and enthuse children to attend the Sign Up Night and to inform kids about what to expect.

#### **PRESENTATION:**

<u>All-youth assembly</u> for first through fifth graders. Keep it between 3 and 5 minutes. Be sure that you can be heard. If assembly-type rally is held, it is better to meet separately with prospective Tiger Cubs (1st grade), Cub Scouts (2nd and 3rd), Webelos Scouts (4th and 5th), and Boy Scouts (6th grade).

<u>Room to room</u>. This type of presentation requires a condensed three- to five-minute talk for each classroom. Usually an option at private schools only.

<u>Lunch time/Recess</u>. Many schools do want to takeaway from education time, but if you ask to talk to the children at lunch you may meet less resistance. Most common option.

**WHO:** Uniformed Scouter(s), preferably a volunteer that is very familiar with the school (and vice-versa) and the specific program(s) offered by the Pack represented at the Sign-Up for Scouting Night.

#### **PRESENTATION HELPS:**

- At first be stern, disciplined, and well-mannered.
- Then gradually become cheerful, enthusiastic, and silly.
- Remember that you are talking to younger children and not adults.
- Keep it short.
- Try to get the boys to participate in your presentation.
- Don't take any questions.

#### SAMPLE SCRIPT

- 1. Ask school moderators not to introduce you. Merely have the teacher quiet the group down and introduce you as someone who has something important to say.
- 2. Ask if anyone knows what type of uniform you are wearing. You should get a variety of responses: police officer, park ranger, soldier, Scout.
- 3. Introduce yourself and tell them you are a Cub Scout leader and that you are there to talk to them about becoming a Cub Scout. Create an "alter-ego", i.e. a character the boys will remember. For example, Mountain Man Mike, dressed up in hiking or repelling gear.
- 4. If no video is available, continue with presentation Ask them if anyone knows the kinds of things that Cub Scouts do, and call on someone with a raised hand. Spend some time describing the things that they identify that are a part of the program, but deny the things that are not. For example:



#### **BOY TALKS**—continued

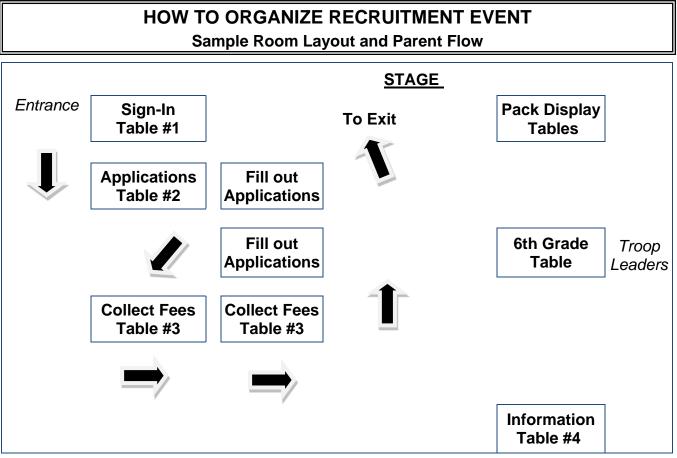
"Who can tell me what kinds of things they think Cub Scouts do?" Call on someone with a raised hand. "They make stuff." "Yes, they do make stuff. When you make stuff that's called a craft, and Cub Scouts do lots of crafts. Who can tell me the one craft that every Cub Scout gets to do each year? I'll give you a hint; it has wheels." Call on a hand. "They make racing cars!" "Yes, that's right; they make pinewood derby race cars (Prop: pinewood block of wood). They take an ordinary block of wood like this. And with their imagination, some basic wood tools, paint, decals, and help from their mom or dad, they turn that block of wood into the world's fastest pinewood derby car and race it down a track that's from here to that wall. (Show them.) Who thinks they would like to try and build one of these? (Prop: completed car) What other things do you think that Cub Scouts do?" Call on someone with a raised hand.

Cub Scouts:

- Are both girls and boys!
- Earn badges
- Go camping, swimming, fishing
- Shoot BB guns, tell stories around campfires, participate in sports
- Perform service projects, such as food drives, clothing drives, trash clean-ups, etc.
- Make crafts—pinewood derby, space derby, rain gutter regatta, holiday gifts, toys
- Explore nature, take hikes to see wild life (deer, raccoon, skunk, chipmunk, turkey), make plant and tree identification, go on zoo trips, bird-watch (raptors: eagles, hawks, owls), identify reptiles (snakes, lizards, frogs)
- Participate in special events, such as parades, Pack trips, and the blue and gold banquet
- Outdoor Events like day camp, scout-o-rama, and family camps
- 5. Mention the incentives your Pack is offering. Show Scout patches and distribute stickers.
- 6. Ask the kids, "Who thinks they would like to be a Cub Scout?" Hopefully every boy will raise his hand.
- 7. Tell them how to join: "If you want to be a Cub Scout and do all these fun things, there's going to be a sign-up on \_\_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_. An adult or parent will need to come with you, so you're going to have to ask your parents if you can be a Cub Scout. Take this flyer home, and wait for them to come home. When they go to turn on the TV, take out your flyer, hold it proudly in front of you (both arms fully extended), and say 'Mom or dad, may I please be a Cub Scout? There was a Cub Scout leader in school today who told us all about Cub Scouts, and I want to be a Cub Scout.'
- 8. Show them creative ways to get the flyer home to their parents (Multifold, place their in socks; put in their school bag or in the refrigerator under the milk, etc.).
- 9. "Your teacher will give you the flyers today. Make sure you say 'please' and 'thank you.' Let's practice how you will ask mom or dad when you get home."
- 10. "See you there ... when?" Have all the kids say "\_\_\_\_\_ night at \_\_\_\_\_!"
- 11. Thank the teachers and principal on your way out.
- 12. Follow up is critical. Remind the boys to call the leader(s) listed on the flyer if they have any questions. Keep a log of names and phone numbers from everyone who calls about the sign up night. Pay special attention to those boys who will not be able to attend the event but can attend the next meeting.

Dav

Time



Above is a sample layout of a typical recruitment event setting. Be sure all tables are clearly marked with table tents. As families enter the room, ask them to sign the attendance roster, and direct them to the application table.

Only use Table #4 for parents who want information before joining. Direct parents back to Table #3 when ready to join.

Once parents have paid their fees at Table #3, remind them about the Parent Orientation Meeting and then they can exit. See sample agenda for additional details.

# ENTHUSIASTIC PRESENTATION

The best success in recruiting boys and parents is when the New Member Coordinator provides a fast-paced entertaining presentation.

Ways to make the evening fun are:

- Use songs (action), and audience participation games, skits, and stunts.
- Use patriotic ceremonies.
- Try to fit in recruitment videos where possible.
- Fill the room with displays and posters, i.e. Pinewood Derby cars, den projects, and pictures of den and Pack activities.
- Provide background music during the preopening period.

# **PRE-OPENING ACTIVITIES**

The meeting can be killed quickly with uncontrolled running, shouting and horseplay.

Use the following suggestions to control an assembled group:

- Cub Scout Crossword puzzles
- Simple Crafts paper airplanes; Popsicle Frisbees
- Quiet Games Kim's games, bean bag toss
- Lead group singing
- Be sure parents and kids stay seated together

Prizes are not necessary, but could add an incentive to playing the games.

# **RECRUITMENT EVENT CHECK LIST** (New Member Coordinator)

#### **BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME:**

- Prepare your pre-opening activity
- Wear Scout uniform/Scout Polo
- \_\_\_\_ Review agenda and practice your presentation
- Check Recruitment Bag for enough materials
- \_\_\_\_ Take a pocket calculator
- \_\_\_\_\_ Take 20-30 pens
- \_\_\_\_ Take some change, both bills and coins
- \_\_\_\_ Take masking tape
- Sample Name Tag \_\_\_\_ Take copies of Pack Calendar and Org Chart for distribution

#### WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE SCHOOL

- \_\_\_\_\_ Organize your materials and set up room properly
- \_\_\_\_ Check with team members (including Pack leadership) on their part of the program
- \_\_\_\_ Distribute Name Tags to Pack leadership
- Assist Pack and Troop Unit Leaders with their displays
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organize pre-opening activity
- \_\_\_\_\_ Keep boys and parents in assigned room



Ask Me About Scouting

Your Name

Pack Position

#### THE GENERAL PRESENTATION

- \_\_\_\_ Begin promptly
- \_\_\_\_ Introduce yourself and welcome everyone on behalf of the Orange County Council, BSA
- \_\_\_\_\_ Introduce other team members and Pack leadership
- \_\_\_\_\_ Follow Recruitment Agenda carefully
- Use Parent Orientation Guide

Be sure to turn in all applications, fees, attendance rosters, and report envelopes at your District Report Meeting location.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. Do not talk too much.

Date.

2. Make sure parents know

3. Use a Webelos or Boy

4. Keep the sign up night

simple and have Fun!

Scout at Table #1

about the Parent Orientation

# **RECRUITMENT AGENDA**

(Conducted by New Member Coordinator)

#### **30 MINUTES BEFORE THE MEETING**

- 1. Setup Pack displays and arrange room.
- 2. Be prepared with pre-opening activity to keep boys and parents involved.
- 3. Use den chiefs or adult leaders to keep boys and parents in assigned room and out of the halls.

# **PROGRAM AGENDA**

Parent's time is precious, as is the time of your volunteers. This format moves parents through the registration process quickly. After Table #3 the sign up night is complete. An e-copy of the agenda is available at www.ocbsa.org/membership.

# **AS FAMILIES ARRIVE**

I. Table #1 – Welcome

Assigned to:\_

New Member Coordinator or Youth

- Greet families and have a parent sign attendance form.
- Pass out Parent's Guide, *Boys' Life* Mini-mag, Pack Calendar, Bobcat Book, and Lion Placemat for Kindergarteners.
- Direct family to Table #2.
- For any Scout Troop age boys, sign-in on separate attendance sheet and direct them to Troop table.
- II. Table #2 Application Distribution

Assigned to:\_\_\_\_\_

Cubmaster

- Place on table the sample completed application poster.
- Hand parent both a youth and adult application, and a Registration Checkout Form. Instruct parents on how to complete paper apps or go online to register and pay.
- Have parents complete forms at a separate table and take them to Table #3 to turn in apps and check out.
- If parents are not ready to sign up and want more information, direct them to Table #4 where a Pack leader can help answer questions.
- III. Table #3 Registration Fee Collection Assigned to:

Committee Chairperson

- Verify applications are completed correctly.
- Complete Registration Checkout Form and collect appropriate fees. Parent keeps copy of checkout form as receipt.
- If parents are unable to pay tonight, collect applications and have parents bring fees to the parent orientation meeting.
- Thank family for signing up and remind them of the parent orientation date.
- Sign up is complete and family can exit.

IV. Table #4 – Information

Assigned to:\_\_\_\_\_ Den Leader

- Provide brief overview of program. Refer to Parent Orientation Guide.
- If ready to sign up, ask parent to complete paper applications or go online to register.
- Direct back to Table #3 to complete registration and checkout.

# **RECRUITMENT AGENDA (continued)**

#### **AFTER THE MEETING**

- □ Be sure the room is cleaned and arranged the way it was before the Pack arrived.
- □ Get signatures for Adult Applications (if possible, have the Charter Organization Representative, Pack Committee Chairman and Institution Head at the meeting to get their signatures immediately).
- □ Complete Registration Report form.
- Enclose Youth and Adult Applications, and all Attendance sheets in an envelope. (Be sure to keep Pack copies of all forms.)
- □ Enclose One (1) Check made out to BSA from the Pack for all Youth and Adult Applications, Insurance and *Boys' Life* fees.
- □ Take envelope to District Report Meeting location, Council Service Center or give to District Executive.
- Assign personnel to follow-up with families that did not join with phone calls and contact from families who could not make the recruitment event.
- □ Add new families to Pack email list.
- □ Follow up with all new leaders to verify if they have completed the Parent Talent Survey and their online training courses.

#### FOR 6TH GRADERS

A Scout Troop should be present, but if this is not possible, please follow these steps:

- 1. Have parents sign-in on a separate attendance sheet
- 2. Give them a Youth Application
- 3. Use a School/Unit Directory provided in the Recruitment Bag
- 4. Give name and telephone number of Scoutmaster in the local area
- 5. Turn in attendance form with Pack information at the end of the evening

# WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF...

**You run out of applications** – Go ahead and collect fees and use the attendance sheet as proof of registration. Collect application at next meeting.

**The school locked** – Find the custodian. If not available, hold the meeting in the parking lot or at least have everyone sign the attendance sheet and reschedule a follow up meeting. Contact the school next day.

A kid shows up without a parent – have child sign in with their name, grade and phone number. Let them stay for the games and then have them take an application home with the number of the unit membership chair written on application.

**Parents did not bring money with them** – collect completed applications and then have parents pay at next meeting.

**Parents do not want to pay full fees now** – at a minimum collect the registration and insurance fee for this year. *Boy's' Life* and next year fees are optional at this time.

**Only a one or two families show up** – collect application and fees, schedule their next meeting and then contact the school to see if flyers went home. If not, reschedule and order more flyers.

# PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING

**Purpose:** The Cub Scout program can be overwhelming for new parents. Trying to navigate literature, websites, learning new leaders, becoming a leader, finding the answer to "what do I need to do for my son," can be a daunting task. For years, Packs have left it to parents to "figure it out."

The Parent Orientation meeting is critical in setting the tone for family involvement, engaging parents in leadership roles, and painting the picture of what Scouting can do to help families thrive. A key to successful Packs is setting expectations for parents and providing a focused introduction to Scouting. All new parents must attend an orientation BEFORE their son starts meeting with their den.

#### Instructions:

- 1. Set a date at least one week following a recruitment event. Plan multiple dates throughout the year as new families are recruited.
- 2. At the sign-up night, list the date on the Registration Checkout Form and get a firm commitment that they will attend. Let them know that their Scout should also attend.
- 3. After the recruitment event, regardless if a family registered, invite them to the orientation. Use the sign-up attendance roster. Ask parents to bring their Parent Guide, personal calendar, and checkbook for any fees due. Email and a follow up phone call are required to ensure attendance.
- 4. Have your recruitment kit at the orientation to sign up new families. Also be sure to have the Pack's copies of the Registration Checkout Form.
- 5. Prepare handouts to pass out during the gathering time: Pack calendar, organization chart, Pack guidelines (if Pack has them), fundraising information i.e. popcorn sales cards, and Pack budget. Samples of these forms are on www.ocbsa.org/membership.
- 6. Prepare parent recruiting techniques. Methods are taught at the Parent Involvement Workshop. See Council Calendar for dates.
- 7. Set up tables by grade (Den). Use table cards provided in the recruitment kit.
- 8. While gathering, collect applications and fees dues.
- 9. Follow agenda to involve and engage families. Set expectations that are clear and concise.

#### **Tips For Success:**

- Do Not recruit leaders at the Sign-up night. Parents will be more engaged at the orientation.
- □ Review Volunteer Recruiting Ideas on page 32.
- □ Host a fun event—potluck, picnic, meet at a park.
- □ Have families do a hands on activity to get started.
- □ Host activities for kids. See Youth Agenda for ideas.
- Engage parents by asking them to bring an item to the meeting. Parents want to feel part of the program.
- □ Involve your local Troop and Commissioner.

#### YOUTH AGENDA

- Gather Scouts in activity area/room.
- Have each youth introduce themselves.
- Play a game.
- Do a simple craft.
- Teach the Cub Scout promise (to be said at the closing ceremony).
- Sing a Cub Scout song.
- If time allows, play another game.
- End with a short story.
- Quietly enter main room for closing.

# PARENT ORIENTATION AGENDA

#### Gathering Ι.

Assigned to: Den Leaders

Ask Parents/Scouts to sit at tables by grade.

- 1. Lion / Tiger Tables Have a pack leader meet with parents and begin recruiting new Den Leaders.
- 2. Wolf / Bear / Webelos Tables have Den Leaders explain their individual programs, handbooks, meeting schedule etc.
- Collect fees due and any paperwork needed.

II. Welcome and Introductions

- 5 Minutes
- 1. Welcome new Parents/Scouts and introduce Pack volunteers. Start with an opening ceremony.
- 2. When introducing leaders, briefly let parents know what your position is and what you do.
- 3. Excuse Scouts with a Den Leader outside or to another room to do a separate activity i.e. practice Bobcat requirements, play games etc.

#### III. Pack Information

Assigned to:

Assigned to:

Assigned to:

New Member Coordinator

**Committee Chairperson** 

**Committee Chairperson** 

- 5 Minutes
- 1. Complete Pack contact information in Parent Orientation Guide.
- 2. Discuss Pack calendar and den meeting information Highlight the Pack family activities for the school year and time, date and location of Pack meetings. Ask parents to add pack calendar to their personal calendar. Discuss Pack Uniforms - what do you expect the Cubs to wear .
- 3. Does anyone have any questions about the Parent Orientation Guide?

#### IV. Parent Engagement

15 Minutes

- 1. Review Parent Volunteers pages in the Parent Orientation Guide.
- 2. Show and discuss the Pack organization chart.
- 3. Discuss vacant positions and ask for volunteers: use methods taught in the Council's Parent Involvement Workshop to recruit parents.
- 4. Ask each parent to complete the online Parent Talent Survey, link is in Parent Guide.
- 5. Thank parents for getting into the game with their child.

#### V. Pack Budget

10 Minutes

- 1. Distribute Pack budget.
- 2. Go over income sources: describe Pack fundraisers designed to reduce out-of-pocket program costs, i.e. Adventure Card and Popcorn Sales. Discuss Pack dues and payment schedule.
- Describe expenses and the goal of providing a quality/fun experience for all members.
- 4. Share how the Council provides support to the Pack and that Scouting operating costs are paid for by family donations to Friends of Scouting.
- (If Scouts were doing separate activity, have them return)

#### V. Closing

5 Minutes

Assigned to:

Cubmaster

- 1. Welcome all new Scouts/Parents to the Pack.
- 2. End with a patriotic or meaningful closing.
- 3. Remind parents of next meeting and to complete the Talent Survey and online training courses.
- 4. Adjourn

Assigned to:

Cubmaster

#### **VOLUNTEER RECRUITING IDEAS**

Every Cub Scout Pack needs volunteers to make the program happen. Below are some ideas and hints to help you recruit adult volunteers into your Pack.

- 1. Recruit volunteers before Sign-Up for Scouting Night
  - The most successful Packs review their leadership needs and recruit new leaders before the Sign-Up for Scouting Night even happens!
- 2. Consider this example: The den leader for your Wolf den moved out of town this summer. Which do you think would be the better option:
  - Wait until Sign-Up for Scouting Night and hope that a parent with a second grade son shows up and (despite having no knowledge about Scouting) volunteers to be a den leader. – OR –
  - Call last years den leader and ask if he/she could suggest which one of the parents in the den would be a good den leader, then recruit that person to fill the vacancy before the join night.
- 3. Use the online talent survey results to find out parent skills. Every parent is being encouraged to complete the online talent survey.
- 4. Pack leaders should attend the **Council Parent Involvement Workshop** to discover new techniques and ideas on ways to recruit, engage, and empower parent volunteers.

#### Why Do Adults Hesitate to Volunteer?

They don't know anything about Scouting.	They lack knowledge about Scouting. Let them know it is easy to learn and you will help them. Explain that many printed resources are available and training will make it much easier for them.
They are too busy.	Aren't we all? Be realistic about time commitments, and find a job for them that will fit their schedule. If the adult can't commit to weekly meetings and being a den leader, could they do a once a year job like organizing the pinewood derby? The key here is to have many different jobs available in the Pack.
They don't know what is expected.	Give them a position description and explain what resources are available to help them meet the expectations.
They are overwhelmed	Sometimes volunteers can be overbearing and share too much information too fast. Limit information at the sign-up event and share key information at the Pack Orientation meeting.

Invite parents to get in the Scouting game, and not watch from the sidelines. They only have a few years with their child growing up so let's make the most of it.

#### **FOLLOW UP RECRUITMENT EVENTS**

Each Pack should hold 3 recruitment events in the fall. The first of those recruitment events should be Sign-Up for Scouting Night that takes place the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th week of school (generally 1 week after the school's Back to School Night (open house). Follow up recruitment events or activities should happen year-round, but especially in the 1st months of School – late September and October. Some suggestions for these follow-up recruitment efforts include:

- 1. Send a follow-up set of flyers home inviting youth to join your next Pack meeting. Peer to Peer recruiting create invitations that your current Cub Scouts can hand to their non-Scouting friends at school to invite them to a special activity. It could be a costume party for Halloween, a Pack picnic, a fishing derby, or Cub Family Campout. Event should be fun and exciting for new youth. At the event, invite them to join the Pack.
- 2. "After Sports" recruiting. After a season ends (soccer, football, basketball, etc.) have Cub Scouts that play those sports invite their teammates to join Cub Scouting with them.
- 3. Encourage Scouts to **invite non-Scouting friends** along to Pack field trips and activities (trips to the Zoo, Museum, Baseball Game, etc.)
- Pizza or Skating Party Encourage Scouts to "Invite a Friend" to join Scouting. Only Scouts that bring a friend get to participate.
- 5. **Hand out invitations** to join Cub Scouting at School holiday parties (Halloween, Christmas, or Valentine's Day). This could be done by Scouts giving friends a bookmark, postcard, or printed invitation with the next meeting date on it.
- 6. Direct mail. Obtain a school roster from your schools. Processes vary per school district check with your local school for details on how to do this. Send a personal invitation in the mail and follow up with a phone call 2-3 days later with a personal invitation. If rosters are not available, look through school yearbook to gather names of boys, personalize invitations and have hand delivered by Cub Scouts next day at school.
- 7. Give information about joining Scouting to churches in your area. Ask to speak to boys during Sunday School, hand

# **EVENT IDEAS**

- Bike Rodeo
- Chess Tournament
- Craft Fair
- Critter Race
- Field Sports
- Fishing Derby
- Kite Derby
- Olympic Day
- S'mores Party
- Rocket Academy
- Treasure Hunt

out flyers to parents with boys after church, put an announcement in church bulletin. This works best with charter partners of Scouting programs.

8. **Hold a special recruitment event**. Additional information on each event can be found on the National website or by clicking the following link: www.scouting.org/membership.

# **CHARTERED ORGANIZATION NIGHT FOR SCOUTING**



#### **PURPOSE:**

Scouting provides an excellent opportunity for chartered organization to attract new members. Through the Scouting program, the current membership strengthens, congregations grow, and participation increases in the chartered organization.

Many of chartered organizations, especially religious institutions, have youth and families available that should be invited to join Scouting. Too often, these boys are invited to a Sign-Up for Scouting program for other units that serve other chartered organizations, or in light of the growing home-school population, never receive an invitation. The Chartered Organization Night for Scouting will help these families get a head start to "their" pack or troop.

#### THE PLAN:

Prior to scheduling A Sign-Up for Scouting Night at a school, designate a night for chartered organizations to invite prospective Scouts and parents from among their membership to join Scouting. This meeting should be held at the chartered organization's location.

Secure permission and support, through the Chartered Organization Representative, regarding meeting date, place and distribution of materials.

Deliver promotional materials to chartered organization scout-aged members and families, and to other members of the organization. Be sure to include announcements in bulletins.

Visit Sunday School classrooms or special youth meetings of the organization. Use the In School Rally outline on page 23 for your presentation.

Follow the Sign-Up for Scouting presentation outline.

Be sure to cover these points:

- 1. Tell about Scouting's opportunities for this organization, and inform attendees how they may participate.
- 2. Describe how Scouting meets the mission of this institution. Benefits to youth, families and the organization.
- 3. Use the Parent Orientation Guide.
- 4. Show where meetings will be held. Tour facility if possible.
- 5. Ask that the head of the organization to be present to give words of encouragement and support.
- 6. Turn-in monies and applications to the District Executive at the Council Office the next day.



#### FOR MORE ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT:

#### **Council Service Center**

William Lyon Homes Center for Scouting 1211 E Dyer Road Santa Ana, CA 92705 714-546-4990

Santa Ana Scout Shop 1211 E Dyer Road Santa Ana, CA 92705 714-979-4554

**Anaheim Scout Shop** 1501 N. Raymond, Suite O Anaheim, CA 92801 714-774-3270

#### Laguna Hills Scout Shop 25292 Macintyre, Suite P Laguna Hills, CA 92653 949-639-0320

**Council Website** www.ocbsa.org

#### **Membership Resources**

www.scouting.org/membership www.BeAScouting.org www.ocbsa.org/membership



*Orange County Council*  $\blacklozenge$ 



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