

Cub Scout Pack 735

Bonsall, CA
San Diego - Imperial Council, Boy Scouts of America

Family Handbook

Revision 0907



Cub Scout Pack 735 is co-chartered by:
Envirepel, Inc. of Vista and the Fallbrook Moose Lodge 1992

September, 2007

Dear Cub Scout Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to Pack 735. We're so glad you've chosen to enroll or re-enroll your son in our pack. I know that you and he will be so glad you did. We've planned an exciting year and your son will have a great time learning, advancing and having fun.

Pack 735 is part of the Santa Margarita District of the San Diego – Imperial Council, Boy Scouts of America. In addition to our pack, our district includes other Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, and Venture Crews and Ships in the Oceanside, Carlsbad, Vista, Fallbrook, and Rainbow areas. The Council supports all units within the San Diego and Imperial Counties.

The Pack Leaders in Pack 735 seek to provide activities that provide opportunity for physical fitness and educational value. Many of our planned activities can be enjoyed by every member of a Cub Scout's family.

Scouting places significance on Duty to God and Pack 735 is committed to teaching this important responsibility. Pack 735 is open to all boys regardless of their church home.

This booklet will provide an overview of our program. If you have questions or concerns about our program or leaders, please call on one of us or on your son's Den Leader.

Included with this booklet are a number of Information Sheets:

- Parent and Family Talent Survey.
- Class 1 Personal Health and Medical History.
- Blanket Informed Consent.
- Pack 735 Driver Information Sheet
- Current Pack 735 Leader Roster

Please complete these as needed and give them to your son's Den Leader at his next meeting.

Thanks again and Welcome!

In Scouting,

Tony Arand, Pack Executive Committee Chairman
Dirk Thayer, Cubmaster

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Pack 735 Mission

The Committee and Leaders of Cub Scout Pack 735 are committed to providing a quality, year-round program of Cub Scouting activities. Special emphasis is placed on character development, spiritual growth, citizenship, and family.

Cub Scouts are required to memorize the following pledges and motto. We seek to make them real in their lives and hope that you will encourage your son as he strives to do so.

The Cub Scout Promise

I promise to do my best
To do my duty to God and my Country,
To help other people,
And to obey the Law of the Pack.

Law of the Pack

The Cub Scout follows Akela¹.
The Cub Scout helps the Pack go.
The Pack helps the Cub Scout grow.
The Cub Scout gives goodwill.

The Cub Scout Motto: Do Your Best.

Purposes of Cub Scouting

The Boy Scouts of America began Cub Scouting as a program for younger boys more than 75 years ago. The purposes of Cub Scouting state that Parents, Leaders and Organizations work together to achieve the following:

1. Influence the development of character and encourage spiritual growth;
2. Develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship;
3. Encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong in mind and body;
4. Improve understanding within the family;
5. Strengthen the ability to get along with and to respect others;
6. Foster a sense of personal achievement by developing new interests and skills;
7. Show how to be helpful and to do one's best;
8. Provide fun and exciting new things to do;
9. Prepare Cubs to become Boy Scouts.

¹ Akela (pronounced Ah-KAY-la) means "good leader". For example, at home, you are Akela; in Scouts, the Cubmaster, Den Leader, or other leader in charge is Akela; at school, the teacher is Akela.

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Pack Structure

Like every effective organization, Cub Scout packs have a structure. Understanding this structure and how it works will increase your son's enjoyment of the program (and leave the parent far less confused).

Dens

Groups of up to 10 boys meet together weekly as a Den. Each den is led by a Den Leader who may be helped by an Assistant Den Leader. A Boy Scout, known as a Den Chief, may also work with your son's den. Dens in Pack 735 are free to set their own meeting schedule but, typically, most dens gather at their den site for a meeting in the first and second weeks of a month. The third week's den meetings are quite often replaced with afternoon or weekend activities such as a field trip or Tiger Cub "Go-See-It". Dens typically do not meet during the pack meeting week or holiday periods. Naturally, the den's schedule is often adjusted based on activities planned. Your Den Leader will be able to give you your den's specific schedule.

Dens are organized by school grade groups. We have one or more dens for each group of 1st Graders (Tiger Cubs), 2nd Graders (Wolf), 3rd Graders (Bear), 4th Graders (Webelos - 1st yr.) and 5th graders (Webelos - 2nd yr.).

Pack

The pack consists of the dens and their families. pack 735 meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday of the month and, occasionally, at other times for special activities. The pack serves as a "parent" organization to the dens and provides direction, program support, and maintenance of the budget. The pack is led by the Cubmaster. He plans and directs monthly pack meetings and other special activities.

Executive Committee

The pack Executive Committee consists of adult volunteers who are charged with managing the pack and its programs. Parents are encouraged to volunteer to serve on the committee and attend regular meetings. The pack Committee Chairman heads up the committee and is responsible for supervising the pack committee operation. Along with the Cubmaster, he leads the group in planning and organizing the pack program. The Executive Committee is also responsible for maintaining pack funds and planning its budget.

Pack 735's Chartering Organizations

Every Cub Scout pack must have a sponsor or chartering organization. Pack 735 is co-sponsored by Envirepel, Inc. and the Fallbrook Moose Lodge 1992. All pack leaders are approved by the chartering organization. Both Envirepel and Moose Lodge 1992 have been generous sponsors since the pack was reorganized in December of 2006 and have provided excellent leadership for our pack.

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Membership Notes

Boys age 6 years (1st Grade) to 10 years are eligible to join Pack 735. Boys work toward a specific rank during each year in the pack.

First grade boys are Tiger Cubs. Second grade boys work toward their Wolf Rank. Third grade boys work toward their Bear Rank. Fourth grade boys are Webelos and work on their Webelos rank. Fifth grade boys are second year Webelos and work on Cub Scouting's highest award, the Arrow of Light and prepare to move on to Boy Scouting.

Pack 735 tends to draw most of its members and does all of its active recruiting from the two elementary schools in the Bonsall area. However, regardless of location or school, all boys are welcome to join and participate in pack programs.

Advancement

As indicated above, Cub Scout rank is tightly geared to the school grade the scout is in. During a pack meeting in the summer, all boys will advance to the next rank together by taking part in a special advancement ceremony. If a boy has not completed the activities and requirements for his current rank prior to the advancement ceremony, he will still take part in the ceremony and advance but will not receive the badge for his current rank.

Registration

Registration for membership in Pack 735 is \$100.00 per calendar year for each boy (\$35.00 for new registrations received after Den Graduation for the year). Registered leaders and active committee members receive a \$25.00 discount. The registration fee pays for registration with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), unit insurance, an annual subscription to Boys Life, a copy of the appropriate handbook, rank advancement items, and helps to pay for the awards and the supplies for each boy. This "once a year fee" avoids the hassles of weekly dues. Boys must fully complete a BSA registration form. Parents are also asked to complete an adult registration form to provide some additional information needed by the pack. (Note: Fees may be adjusted as required.)

Scholarships

Should fees or any costs become a problem for your family, please contact the Cubmaster or the Pack Committee Chairman. Scholarships are often available and all requests will remain confidential.

Adult and Family Participation

Scouting is a family activity! A parent, grandparent, or other "adult partner" must accompany a Tiger Cub to all meetings and activities. For Wolf, Bear, and Webelos scouts, it is very strongly encouraged that an adult partner accompanies the scout. Den meetings are a place for the scouts and their adult partners to work and have fun together. We do understand that an adult partner may need to occasionally bring siblings to the den meeting but we ask that this be kept to a minimum. Pack meetings, on the other hand, are always open to the entire extended family. The more, the merrier!

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Volunteers

Parent volunteers are always needed. Registration and training are provided by the pack for those who are interested in helping. If you'd like to help in any capacity, please contact the Pack Committee Chairman, Cubmaster or your son's Den Leader. All types of help are needed - driving for trips, assisting in Den Leader absence, organizing an activity, etc. Remember that Cub Scout packs don't exist without volunteer leadership and please do your part when asked. Any fees required by the BSA for adult leaders / volunteers are paid by the pack.

Uniforms

An essential component of Cub Scouting is the uniform. Cubs are made to feel a part of the group and have a place to display their awards when they wear their uniforms. Being a scout is something to be proud of and wearing the uniform displays that pride to the community! We strive to have 100% of our boys uniformed and we encourage the wearing of the scout uniform to all scouting events for all scouts and leaders.

For the Cubs, all that is needed is the blue shirt (with appropriate patches), the blue web belt, and the neckerchief and hat that go with the boy's rank. The socks are optional and they can wear blue jeans or any dark pair of pants or shorts ("official" pants are available but not necessary). Any good pair of comfortable shoes completes the outfit. Webelos Scouts have the option of wearing the blue Cub Scout uniform or the khaki Boy Scout uniform (see your Den Leader or Cubmaster for details of the Webelos uniform). A new Cub Scout uniform including the items above will run approximately \$60.00. The khaki Webelos uniform will run about \$75.00. Your Den Leader can answer any questions that you may have.

A note about the uniform insignia: Most patches as purchased from the BSA have a shiny backing that causes many to mistake them for the iron-on variety. BSA patches are **not** iron-on. If you don't like the idea of sewing on all the patches, there is a wonderful product called Badge Magic that makes attaching insignia to the uniforms quick and easy. Badge Magic can be purchased where uniforms are sold.

New uniforms can be purchased at:

- Our council's Scout Shop, 1207 Upas St., San Diego, (619) 294-3807
- Be Ready, Inc., 602 Garrison, Oceanside, (760) 966-3600
- Rancho Army Navy Supply, 27999 Jefferson Ave, Temecula, (951) 676-0057
- Online at: <http://www.scoutstuff.org>.

Used (or "experienced") uniform components **may** be available free of charge from our pack exchange or obtained at a discount at North County Uniform Exchange in Carlsbad. Please ask your Den Leader concerning the pack exchange or contact Carol Greene at 760-729-3226 for more information on the NC Uniform Exchange. Additionally, "scholarships" for uniforms are available and all requests will remain confidential.

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Pack Program Highlights

Pack 735 plans a very busy calendar year. Although we don't expect every boy to attend every function, we encourage him to be as active as he (and his parents) wants to be. Pack outings and special events will always be led by two or more leaders and parent volunteers. Permission slips will be sent home for outings and special events. Boys without signed permission slips will not be allowed to attend the activity. We'll do our best to help you remember but please make every effort to help us. Leaving a boy behind due to a missing permission slip is something we and the boys hate to have happen. Some activities will require a minimal participation fee which will be noted on the permission slip.

Program Calendar

The Pack Calendar is the current calendar of events for Pack 735 for the 2007-2008 year. We realize that boys and families have different needs and we've attempted to plan a program that meets as many needs as possible. As mentioned, it is not expected that each boy will attend each and every event. Please note that dates are subject to change as we get closer to events. Announcements of special events and calendar updates will come home with the boys from den or pack meetings or via e-mail. (If you have supplied an e-mail address, please check it regularly.) If you have suggestions for our program, please let a Leader know. Our major calendar planning is done in the summer and you are welcome to attend our planning session.

Pack Meetings

Monthly pack meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday evening of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the Bonsall Community Center (31505 Old River Road, Bonsall). Occasionally a special event will replace the pack meeting and may be held at a different time, day, and location. We attempt to keep these meetings to one hour in length but they will sometimes run over during special events. The meeting gives the boys a chance to demonstrate the skills they have learned and receive the awards they've earned. The entire family is always welcome and encouraged to attend.

Blue & Gold Banquet

Pack 735 and Cub Scout packs all over the USA celebrate Scouting's birthday each February. Many packs host a Blue & Gold Banquet each year. Our banquet is held during the February pack meeting. Families are asked to bring a covered dish. The pack provides the main dish and the boys make the decorations. Mark this special date on your calendar and make plans to attend!

Fundraising

A few times each year the boys of Pack 735 participate in fundraising activities. The main fundraiser is in the fall when we sell Trails End Gourmet Popcorn. Prizes are awarded to top sellers and top selling dens. We also raise money by participating in the San Diego – Imperial Council's Scout Fair in the spring. We can sell sponsorships for a pack booth and

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sell tickets for the fair. There may also be an occasional fundraiser to raise money for a specific event or program. Money raised from these activities goes to defray pack program expenses. All boys are encouraged to participate but parents may choose otherwise. We always want to respect the wishes of the parents without making the boy feel badly for not participating. Please don't hesitate to let us know what you want.

Scouting for Food

At least once during the year, our boys will help local food banks by distributing door hangers within our area on a Saturday morning. These hangers instruct our neighbors on how they can participate and help local food pantries by filling a grocery bag with canned goods and placing it outside their doors. We collect the filled bags the following Saturday which are then donated to a local food pantry charity.

Special Programs

The pack plans a variety of other special programs that assist the boys in advancing and provide an opportunity for a good time. These events may be hikes, tours, or service projects. Other family members are often invited to attend (check with your Den Leaders).

Religious Emblems Program

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, many religious groups have developed religious emblems programs. The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform. The various religious groups administer their programs. Pack 735 encourages participation in these programs by the whole family when available at your religious organization. Check with your religious leaders to see if they sponsor a program. More information can be found at <http://www.praypub.org> or through your Cub Scout leader.

Council and District Activities

Several events are scheduled by the local council (San Diego - Imperial) and our District (Santa Margarita - serving the northwest area of San Diego County). Pack 735 participates in the Council's Scout Fair in early spring. Fun with Son, Cub Family Weekends, and Cub Day Camps are sponsored by the District and Council. Some of these events may be held at the Council's Mataguay Scout Reservation near Warner Springs or at Camp Balboa in San Diego. More information and registration forms will be sent to you as they become available.

Summer Activities

Pack 735 does not close down during the summer. Special activities and weekly meetings are planned and boys are encouraged to remain active. Picnics, swimming, outdoor games and other activities have been held in the past and will be planned again.

Pack 735 makes every effort to send boys to the Council sponsored Cub Scout and Webelos Resident Camps held during the summer. Extra parent involvement is needed. We will begin promoting these events late in the spring as the dates become firm.

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Parent Responsibilities

When joining Pack 735, each parent or adult family member agrees to support their son in the following ways:

1. See that he has the proper uniform and handbook;
2. Assist him in attending weekly Den meeting and monthly pack meetings;
3. Work with him to complete achievements for his rank award;
4. Return information forms and permission slips as asked;
5. Support his Den Leader as a resource person or substitute as asked;
6. Agree to serve in some leadership capacity as called upon;
7. Provide input to the Den Leader or pack leadership with regard to pack or den programming.