



The Dulaney District Cub Advancement Committee News

5 March 2015

1. Cub Scout Advancement: New Methods, New Materials:

The new adventure-based Cub Scout program will soon be here! Youth handbooks and *Den Leader Guides* will be available for purchase in Scout shops and online starting **May 1**, and **the new program begins June 1**.

The basic unit of advancement in the new materials is an “adventure.” The name was deliberately chosen to emphasize the nature of the advancement process and the delivery of the program as active, fun-filled, and boy-centered. There are more than 80 adventures awaiting the current and future generations of Cub Scouts: fun adventures designed to provide what a boy wants and needs. They cover a wide range of topics that encourage growth in fields such as duty to God, STEM, personal fitness and sports, and opportunities in the outdoors.

Seven adventures are required for advancement at each rank from Tiger through Arrow of Light. As these are completed, Cub Scouts are recognized with an award specific to the each adventure. The chart below shows how the seven required adventures break down between those that are elective, and those that must be earned.

| Rank | Required Adventures | Elective Adventures | Adventure Recognition Device |
|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tiger | 6 | 1 | Adventure Loops |
| Wolf | 6 | 1 | Adventure Loops |
| Bear | 6 | 1 | Adventure Loops |
| Webelos | 5 | 2 | Adventure Pins |
| Arrow of Light | 4 | 3 | Adventure |

There are 19 adventures available for boys earning the Tiger, Wolf, and Bear ranks. Each takes approximately one month to earn, so boys will be recognized regularly for their advancement. Multi-colored belt loops are used to represent required adventures and monochrome loops represent elective adventures. The new program provides more than enough material for an entire year of fun, energetic, and Cub Scout-centered adventure.



Boys earning Webelos and Arrow of Light ranks are recognized with adventure pins that may be worn on the Webelos colors or on the front of the Webelos cap. Different shapes—diamonds for required Webelos adventures,

arrowheads for required Arrow of Light adventures, and ovals for electives—add interest and help the boys chart their progress.

For a closer look at the background of the program changes, as well as brief descriptions, rationales, and requirements, visit www.scouting.org/programupdates.

2. Transition to Cub Scout Adventure Program:

Transition to the new program will be a simple matter. At the end of the current program year, which for most dens is the close of the school year, boys will begin using the new materials. For example, a boy who earns his Tiger rank in the current program will begin using the new Wolf requirements on **June 1, 2015**.

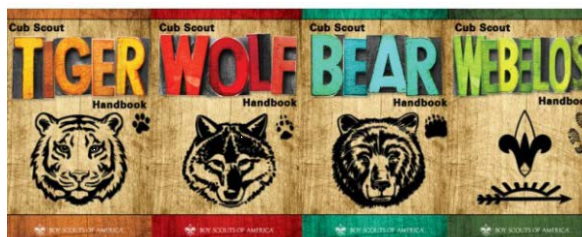
Boys who earn their Webelos rank prior to June 1, 2015 will have two options to earn the Arrow of Light rank:

- Continue to use the current program materials and complete the requirements for the Arrow of Light as described in their current handbook. If desired, they also may also earn any of the new required or elective Webelos and Arrow of Light adventures *in addition* to the current offering of activity badges.
- Elect to use the new adventure program to earn the Arrow of Light rank. They must earn the four required adventures, but there are some options for the three elective adventures: They may use any activity badges that were not used to fulfill the Webelos badge requirements, or they may choose from any of the remaining adventures available—including those required for the Webelos rank.

3. Additional Transition Support:

In addition to the new program materials such as the youth handbooks and comprehensive den leader guides, there are a number of transition support resources and opportunities available to leaders:

- The BSA Program Updates website, www.scouting.org/programupdates, has updates and links to program and transition resources. A new addition is the ability to register at this website to receive email updates regarding program changes.
- Your monthly roundtable should offer additional helpful hints for getting ready for the new adventures. Supplemental roundtable helps are available at the Program Updates website.
- The revised Fast Start and Position-Specific training will be released along with a "what's new" training that targets existing trained leaders.
- Webcasts that were recorded on January 17 have been posted at www.scouting.org/programupdates. The content was geared to Cubmasters and den leaders with another video devoted to Cub Scouting in the LDS Church, but anyone with an interest in learning about the new Cub Scouting program will benefit.
- For those who would like a more in-depth exploration of the materials, four Philmont Training Center Conference sessions entitled "Leading the Cub Scout Adventure" will be offered this summer. Register at www.philmonttrainingcenter.org for one of the following weeks: June 21-27; July 12-18; July 26-August 1; or August 2-8.
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4. **Special Necessities: Two Planning Forms Now Available Online:**

The National Disabilities Awareness Committee has developed two forms to assist in serving Scouts who have disabilities:

Request for Registration Beyond the Age of Eligibility, No. 512-935

www.scouting.org/filestore/doc/512-935.doc

Youth members with severe physical disabilities or youth and adults with developmental or cognitive challenges may be able to “register beyond the age of eligibility” in the BSA. This allows them to work through the advancement program at a pace appropriate to their needs. The steps to do this are relatively easy and outlined in Topic 10.1.0.0 in *Guide to Advancement*.

A collaboration of parents, Scout leaders, and qualified health professionals can complete the information that must be submitted to the local council for approval. This team should have a good understanding of the Scout’s abilities and disabilities, and how these will affect his ability to complete requirements for advancement.

Once approval is granted, the Scout executive or a designee sends a letter to the Scout’s parent or guardian and the unit leader or committee chair. A copy of the letter is retained in the unit’s registration file for as long as the Scout remains registered.

Individual Scout Advancement Plan, No. 512-936

www.scouting.org/filestore/doc/512-936.doc

An Individual Scout Advancement Plan is similar to individual education plans, used in schools to establish a student’s special education eligibility. The Scouting plan is specific to each Scout and is prepared in a cooperative effort with parents, Scout leaders, and a health care professional. The objective is to chart a course through the advancement program that helps a Cub Scout, Scout, Venturer, or Sea Scout who has disabilities, to achieve as much as any limitations will allow. The form may also be useful in facilitating applications for alternative requirements and merit badges as outlined in Topic 10.2.2.0 of *Guide to Advancement*.

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