



Pack 4480

New Parent Guide

Welcome! Parents approach scouting in many different ways. Some parents are veterans with older children or were scouts themselves. Others are completely new to Scouting but join on the recommendation of family and friends or simply because of the Cub Scouts' reputation.

Cub Scouting is for boys and girls in Kindergarten through 5th Grade, or ages 6 – 10. New Scouts are placed with their peers into dens of typically 6-8 Scouts.

Kindergarten – Lion
1st Grade – Tiger
2nd Grade – Wolf

3rd Grade – Bear
4th Grade – Webelos
5th Grade – Arrow of Light

****A new scout can begin at any age and does not need to complete the previous rank(s).**

Cub Scouting is best described as **“fun with a purpose.”** through positive interactions, engaging activities, achievements and recognition, and role modeling, Scouts grow in character and confidence. Exploring the outdoors connects the Scout to nature and allows us the opportunity to teach Scouts the skills they need to be safe and helpful in the great outdoors.

As a parent, you want to be assured that the groups that your child joins will teach values consistent with good citizenship, character development, personal fitness, and leadership. The values we seek to instill are found in the scout law. A Scout is:

Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean,
and Reverent.

Our Pack relies on parent volunteers like yourself, for a successful Cub Scout program. We encourage you to volunteer; not only will you help the Pack but you will experience Cub Scouting in a new way with your child.

See the Volunteer Guide for more info.

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Who we are

Pack 4480 is made up of children from Kingston, Plympton, and the surrounding communities. You may be a part of any Pack you choose, you are not required to join a Pack from your town. We have found that the biggest factor in your child having a great time in Cub Scouts is to have friends in the Den and Pack.

The leadership of the pack is made up of parents who are former Scouts, including Eagle Scouts, as well as parents without a Scouting background. We welcome anyone with a willing attitude to help run the pack, many hands makes light work.

The Knights of Columbus #4480 – Kingston is our Chartering Organization. This is the group who sponsors the creation of the Pack and whose support is critical to a successful program. While the Knights of Columbus are a Catholic organization, no particular religious association or belief is a prerequisite to join our Pack. Our Pack does not have a religious component as a central feature of our activities, we take our cues from the BSA in that faith is important but we make no judgment or emphasis on a particular religion or faith.

We are lucky to have an active BSA Scout (formerly called Boy Scout) Troop who is also chartered by the Knights of Columbus. These older Scouts help us with running meetings, activities, and camping. There is always trained adult supervision of the Cub Scouts at all times.

We see ourselves as a **Family Pack**. Siblings and other family are welcome to attend our meetings and events. We have coloring and other crafts available for them to utilize under parent supervision and where appropriate they can join other activities.

Where and when

We meet 6-730pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at the Knights of Columbus (lower level) at 91 South St. Kingston MA 02364. We meet as a Pack and split up into Dens for work on advancements. This model allows siblings to have just one evening to attend for Scouts.

We go camping as a pack a few times a year, typically at Camp Norse in Kingston or Camp Squanto in Plymouth. We also try to do an indoor overnight adventure at a museum or other location. Past overnights have included Battleship Cove, Pawtucket Red Sox, and the Museum of Science in Boston.

Attendance

We know there are many competing interests for the time of you and your child, we're parents too and we feel it as well. While attending all meetings and events is preferable, *we would rather have a Scout attend 50% than none*. If your Scout misses a meeting or event where advancement requirements are worked on or completed, the Pack leadership will make their best efforts to either make-up the requirements at a later meeting or provide you with the information to complete the requirements with your Scout.

Being a new Scouting parent brings a mix of uncertainty and adventure, sharing some perspective can help reduce the uncertainty and increase the adventure!

You're not alone. Scouts must attend each meeting or event with an adult partner (their parent, guardian, or caring adult). It's a great way for families to get to know each other, and you'll quickly find out who else shares your questions – and who has the answers. Additionally, the Cubmaster and other parents are happy to lend advice or answer questions.

The activities are simple. Activities are age-appropriate and non-demanding, meaning they are generally simple and easy to plan. The Pack leadership will help with planning. Even if the activities don't work out as intended, your child will be happy to see their friends and be with you. A large part of the program is communicated through role modeling, following the customs, and learning respectful behavior. Sometimes the kids are captivated, and sometimes they're too wound up to listen. It's ok, and it all works out.

Soon, it will be your Pack. It doesn't take long to attain "veteran" status, and the people in positions of responsibility as den leaders and committee members now will be mostly gone in 2-3 years. The pack will need many of you to make the pack go. Most jobs have a short learning curve. All that's needed is a willing attitude.

One of you will be the Den Leader. This is the first challenge every new den will face. Without a den leader, there can be no den. When a lion or tiger den is composed of all new parents, the last thing anyone wants to do is volunteer for a new and unfamiliar job with the potential to impact the development of the Scouts. Sometimes a game of chicken ensues. A den leader's primary requirement is motivation and positive attitude. The Boy Scouts of America will provide the training, experience, and materials needed to make you successful.

It really could be you!

How much does Scouting cost?

National Youth registration fee	\$85	National and council fees are paid on a rolling basis, renewed on the anniversary of joining. Pack dues run Sept to Aug (program year).
Mayflower Council registration fee	\$68	
Pack Dues	\$100	
Scout Life Magazine (OPTIONAL)	\$15	

Each registered Adult Leader receives waived pack dues for their scout and a free Pack T-shirt.

No scout is turned away due to an inability to pay

The Pack has options for payment plans and a limited number of scholarships available to cover all fees and dues. Please speak to the Cubmaster or Treasurer if your family has a need. All information is kept confidential.

Additional costs

Other activities in which we participate may have costs or fees associated with them. These may include museum overnights, outdoor adventures, or sporting events. Our camping events typically have a \$10 per person cost to cover meals.

Uniforms

Cub Scouts have two types of uniforms. The Class A button down shirt is the most recognizable aspect of Cub Scouting. This shirt is where the Cub Scout displays their ranks and achievements. **Tigers, Wolves, and Bears** wear the dark blue shirt. **Webelos** wear the dark blue or tan shirt. **Lions** wear their own T-shirt. The Class B shirt is any scouting T-shirt. The Pack provides a Class B shirt to each scout. Scout belts are sized to hold the belt loops earned by the Scouts as they move through the Lion, Tiger, Wolf, and Bear ranks.

Class A Uniform shirt	\$33
Required Patches	\$14
Belt	\$15



Ask the Cubmaster about ordering as part of the pack to save shipping costs.

Uniforms and patches are available from scoutshop.org or local scout shop in Milton. The Pack has a few gently worn uniform shirts available.

All scouts are asked to donate their outgrown uniform shirts to the Pack when possible.

Pack 4480 encourages, but does not require, Scouts to wear either a class A or B shirt to all events and meetings.

Required Patches:



Council Patch



Pack numbers "4480"



Den number (assigned)

Patch placement information can be found on our website,
<https://www.pack4480.org/cub-scout-uniform>

Training

The BSA offers convenient training for parents who volunteer. As a new parent, you can learn all about Cub Scouting and how quality Scouting programs are built. Log onto my.Scouting.org to gain access to all available training content.

Youth Protection

Child abuse is a serious problem in our society, and unfortunately, it can occur anywhere, even in Scouting. Youth safety is of paramount importance to Scouting. For that reason, the BSA continues to create barriers to abuse beyond what have previously existed in Scouting.

The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on providing the most secure environment possible for its youth members. To maintain such an environment, the BSA has developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides parents and leaders with multiple online and print resources for all Scouting programs.

All leaders are required to complete Youth Protection training, this training must be renewed every two years. All parents are encouraged to take the training. To complete the training online, go to my.Scouting.org and establish an account using the member number you receive when you register for BSA membership. If you take the training online before you obtain a member number, be sure to return to my.Scouting.org and enter your number for training record credit.

Each of our leaders is CORI checked and trained.