# 2026

# PARENT INFORMATION MEETING





This guidebook is designed to help Cub Scout unit leaders conduct an effective parent information meeting.

## Purpose of the Meeting

This guidebook is designed to help Cub Scout unit leaders conduct an effective parent information meeting. The meeting introduces families to the Cub Scout program, sets expectations, highlights volunteer opportunities, explains fundraising, and builds a sense of community. The goal is to inform and engage parents while encouraging their active participation in the pack.

## Tips for a Successful Meeting

**Preparation**:

- Reserve a meeting space (e.g., school cafeteria, community center).
- Set up a sign-in sheet to collect parent contact information.
- Prepare visuals (e.g., slides, posters) to show pack activities or uniforms.
- Prepare an activity for the Scouts to participate in while leadership is talking with parents. The Las Vegas Area Council will provide slime materials and instructions if requested.
    - Work with your District Executive or nearby Troop to arrange for coverage/supervision of the Scouts.

**Engagement**:

- Use photos or videos from past events to showcase the fun.
- Involve Scouts to demonstrate a cheer or short activity.
- Keep the tone positive and welcoming to ease parent concerns.

**Safety**:

- Briefly mention Youth Protection Training and safety policies to reassure parents.
- Explain that all volunteers are background-checked and trained.

**Follow-Up**:

- Send a thank-you email with key info and next steps.
- Reach out to parents who expressed interest in volunteering.




Supplies are provided by the Las Vegas Area Council. Check out supplies through your District Executive. The Slime Activity Instruction Binder has all the information that will be needed in order to run a fun slime activity for your Scouts along with some of the Bobcat Adventure requirements.

- Supplies and Preparation Steps
- The Cub Scout Sign
- The Cub Scout Salute
- The Cub Scout Handshake
- The Cub Scout Motto
- Complete Steps for Slime Making
- Additional Activities (if needed)

## Meeting Agenda (60 minutes) * See Talking Points

**Welcome and Introductions (5-10 minutes)**

- Greet families and introduce the leadership team.
- Briefly explain the purpose of the meeting and the Cub Scout program.

**Overview of Cub Scouting (10-15 minutes)**

- Explain the mission and values of Cub Scouting.
- Outline the structure of the pack and dens.
- Highlight the benefits for Scouts (e.g., character development, leadership, outdoor skills).

**Expectations for Scouts and Families (10-15 minutes)**

- Discuss participation, behavior, and uniform expectations.
- Explain the role of parents in supporting their Scout's journey.

**Volunteer Opportunities (10-15 minutes)**

- Outline key volunteer roles (e.g., den leader, committee member, event coordinator).
- Emphasize the importance of parent involvement and how to sign up.

**Fundraising and Costs (10-15 minutes)**

- Explain pack dues, what they cover, and payment options.
- Describe fundraising activities (e.g., popcorn sales, camp cards) and their importance.
- Discuss additional costs (e.g., uniforms, events, camping, etc.)

**Calendar and Activities (10 minutes)**

- Share the annual pack calendar and highlight key events (e.g., campouts, Expo, Pinewood Derby, Summer Day Camp).
- Explain how activities are planned and communicated.

**Questions and Open Discussion (5-10 minutes)**

- Address parent questions and concerns.
- Provide contact information for follow-up.

**Closing and Next Steps (5 minutes)**

- Thank families for attending and encourage participation.
- Distribute handouts (e.g., contact lists, volunteer forms, calendar).
- Announce the next meeting or event.

## Key Talking Points

1. Welcome and Introductions
    - **Tone**: Warm, enthusiastic, and inclusive.
    - **Key Points**:
        - Welcome families and thank them for joining the Cub Scout community.
        - Introduce leaders (e.g., Cubmaster, Committee Chair, Den Leaders) with brief roles.
        - Share a short, personal story about why you're involved in Cub Scouting to build connection.
            - Example: "I became Cubmaster because I saw how much fun my child had learning new skills and making friends."

2. Overview of Cub Scouting
    - **Mission**: "Cub Scouting is a fun, family-oriented program that helps youth develop character, leadership, and life skills through exciting activities and adventures."
    - **Structure**:
        - Explain ranks (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light) and how Scouts progress.
        - Describe the pack (all Scouts) and dens (smaller groups by age/grade).
    - **Benefits**:
        - Builds confidence, teamwork, and respect.
        - Offers hands-on learning (e.g., outdoor skills, STEM activities).
        - Creates lasting memories through shared experiences.

3. Expectations for Scouts and Families
    - **Scout Expectations**:
        - Attend meetings and events regularly.
            - Units should allow flexible participation and emphasize participation at a pace that suites the families availability. Scouts can work on Adventures and complete requirements at home with parental support.
        - Follow the Scout Oath and Law (provide a handout or explain briefly).
        - Wear the appropriate uniform (explain what's required vs. optional).

    - **Parent Expectations**:
        - Support your Scout's participation (e.g., help with advancement, attend events).
        - Communicate with leaders about absences or concerns.
        - Participate in pack activities and volunteer when possible.

4. Volunteer Opportunities
   - **Why Volunteer?**:
     - The pack relies on parent volunteers to function.
     - Volunteering strengthens the program and creates a better experience for Scouts. Scouts love to see their parents involved!

   - **Key Roles**:
     - **Den Leader**: Leads a small group of Scouts in activities and advancement.
     - **Assistant Den Leader**: Supports the den leader.
     - **Committee Member**: Helps with planning, finances, or events.
     - **Event Coordinator**: Organizes specific activities (e.g., Pinewood Derby, campouts).

   - **How to Get Involved**:
     - Complete an adult application and youth protection training (my. Scouting.org).
     - Complete online training for the role you will be serving in. (my. Scouting.org)
     - Sign up for specific tasks at the meeting (e.g., bring snacks, help with an event).

5. Fundraising and Costs
   - **Pack Dues**:
     - Explain to families pack dues and what it covers.
       - Covers supplies, awards, and some activity costs.
       - Offer payment plans or financial assistance if available.

   - **Fundraising**:
     - Common activities: Popcorn sales, camp cards, or pack fundraisers.
     - Funds support pack activities, equipment, and scholarships.
     - Explain participation expectations (e.g., each Scout sells a minimum amount).

   - **Additional Costs**:
     - Uniforms: ~$50-$100 (based on pack expectations).
     - Camping gear: Optional, but list recommended items (e.g., sleeping bag, water bottle).
     - Event fees: Some activities may have small additional costs.

6. Calendar and Activities
   - **Annual Calendar**:
     - Share a printed or digital calendar with key dates (e.g., monthly pack meetings, campouts, service projects). Highlight exciting events like Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Banquet, or summer Day Camp.

   - **Communication**:
     - Use tools like email, a pack website, or apps (e.g., Scoutbook, GroupMe) to share updates.
     - Encourage parents to check communications regularly.

   - **Sample Activities**:
     - Den meetings: Weekly or biweekly, focused on rank advancement.
     - Pack events: Monthly, bringing all Scouts together for fun and recognition.
     - Outdoor adventures: Camping, hiking, or field trips.

7. Questions and Open Discussion
   - **Tips for Q&A**:
     - Anticipate common questions (e.g., time commitment, safety, costs).
     - Be transparent about challenges (e.g., need for volunteers).
     - If you don't know an answer, promise to follow up and provide contact info.

   - **Engage Families**:
     - Ask parents to share what they're excited about or any skills they can contribute (e.g., woodworking, first aid).

8. Closing and Next Steps
   - **Wrap-Up**:
     - Thank families for their time and enthusiasm.
     - Reinforce that Cub Scouting is a family activity, and their involvement makes it special.

   - **Handouts**:
     - Contact list for leaders.
     - Volunteer sign-up sheet.
     - Pack calendar and welcome packet.
     - Adult and/or Youth application forms (if not already completed).

   - **Next Steps**:
     - Announce the first den or pack meeting.
     - Encourage parents to reach out with questions.
     - Invite families to stay for refreshments and informal chats.



# Sample Handout for Parents

Below is a sample one-page handout to distribute at the meeting.

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**Welcome to [Pack Number] Cub Scouts!**

**About Cub Scouting**
Cub Scouting is a fun, family-oriented program for youth in grades K-5. Our pack helps Scouts grow in character, leadership, and citizenship through exciting activities like camping, crafts, and community service.

**Key Contacts**

- Cubmaster: [Name], [Email], [Phone]
- Committee Chair: [Name], [Email], [Phone]
- Den Leaders: [List names and contact info by den]

**What to Expect**

- **Meetings**: Den meetings (weekly/biweekly) and pack meetings (monthly).
- **Activities**: Pinewood Derby, campouts, service projects, and more!
- **Uniform**: Required for pack meetings; ask about our uniform exchange.
- **Costs**: Dues (~$[amount]), fundraising (e.g., popcorn sales, camp cards), and optional gear.

**Get Involved**

- Volunteer as a den leader, committee member, or event helper.
- Sign up today or contact [Cubmaster Name] to learn more.
- All volunteers complete Youth Protection Training and a background check.

**Upcoming Events**

- [Date]: First pack meeting
- [Date]: Fall campout (Expo)
- [Date]: Pinewood Derby

*See our full calendar for details!*

**Questions?**
Reach out to [Cubmaster Name] at [Email] or visit [Pack Website/Social Media].

**Adult Recruiting Script**

Hello, my name is _____, and I have the best job in the world. My job is to work with these amazing leaders, your Scouts, and to join them at their activities and events. I'm here tonight to reinforce everything you've already heard. We're all here—you, me, the leaders—because we want the very best for those Scouts in there.

(Hold up a yardstick with markings at 7 inches and 18 inches)

If your child is 7 years old today, you have a short window to make a lasting impact before they turn 18. (Point to the distance between the 7-inch mark and the 18-inch mark.) As I look around the room, I'd guess the average age of the boys and girls here is about seven. We all know how time seems to speed up as we get older. Think about how fast these past seven years have flown by. We often say, "How fast they grow up!" or "Where did the time go?" Your child is seven today, and the next eleven years will pass just as quickly. Before you know it, they'll be 18—heading to college, moving out, or maybe joining the military. That gives you just eleven short years to shape the kind of young person your son or daughter will become. By being here tonight, your child is simply asking you to spend an average of two hours a week helping them have a fun, meaningful experience in Scouting. Is that too much for a seven-year-old to ask?

Now, let's talk about what makes a pack work. A Cub Scout pack is run by adults like you. We start with a committee chair. This pack has a fantastic committee chair, _____. Next, we have the Cubmaster, and you've met our Cubmaster, _____. Now, take a deep breath and think, "Great, they've got those roles covered—they're not going to ask me to do that." But let's talk about what else a pack needs. We need _____. Look at the other parents around you. Here's something to consider: I've never heard a parent say, "I wish I hadn't gotten involved in Cub Scouting with my son or daughter." But I've heard many say, "I wish I'd spent more time with my kids when they were young." Which parent will you be?

Now that you've heard about the impact you can have on your child's life through Scouting, let's make it happen. If you're ready to step up and help our Cub Scout pack—at any level, whether it's leading a den, helping with an event, or supporting behind the scenes—please see one of our leaders tonight. We're here to answer your questions and find the perfect role for you. It doesn't take much time, and no experience is needed—just a desire to make a difference for your son or daughter and their friends.

Don't let this moment pass. Your child is counting on you, and we'll support you every step of the way. Look for our committee chair, _____, or our Cubmaster, _____, before you leave tonight. They'll walk you through the simple sign-up process and help you get started. Let's work together to give these Scouts the adventure they deserve.

