

2007 Cub Scout Camping Guidelines (revised 1/10/07)

This document is intended to clarify commonly asked questions on National standards for Cub Scout Outdoor Activities, as well as to provide information specific to the Three Fires Council. Please refer to *Cub Scout Outdoor Program Guidelines for 2007* (#13-631D) for further detail. Also please refer to *The Guide for Safe Scouting* (#34416-2006 printing, red cover) for details on policies and allowed activities.

Six (6) Types of Camping Experiences Available to Cub Scouts

(Please see Cub SCOUT Outdoor Program Guidelines for definitions)

District/Council Run Camps

- * Cub Scout Day Camp
- * Council-Organized Family Camp
- * Cub Scout/Webelos Scout Resident Camp
- * Webelos-Ree

Local Pack Run Outings

- * Pack Overnights (BALOO Requires)
- * Webelos Den Overnight Camping (OLS Webelos required)

For Council/District run camps the council/district will provide the trained leadership and for Pack run outings the Pack must provide the leadership with appropriate training.

Adult Ratios for District/Council Run Camps

Tiger Cubs *must always have their adult partner with them for all activities!*

Cub Scout Day Camp: A minimum of 2 adult leaders per group, *plus* at least 1 additional adult for every five boys above ten. These are minimum standards for Day Camp *only*; a higher adult to youth ratio is desirable.

Cub Scout/Webelos Scout Resident Camp or Webelos-Ree: The Three Fires Council recommended ratio for Resident Camp/Webelos-ree is one adult per Cub Scout or Webelos Scout. The maximum allowed ratio is 1 adult per 3 Cub Scouts/Webelos Scouts, and each boy needs to be responsible to a specific adult. a Two deep leadership is still required.

Council Organized Family Camp: “In most cases, the Cub Scout/Webelos Scout will be under the supervision of a parent or guardian. In all cases, each Scout is responsible to a specific adult.” **b** It is recommended by TFC that the adult/youth ratio not exceed 1 adult for 4 youth.

It is recommended that written permission from the parent/guardian not attending names who is responsible for their son.

CUB SCOUT SHOOTING SPORTS IN CUB SCOUT CAMPS

“BB gun day camp, resident camp, district/council run activity or council –managed family camping programs.... BB gun shooting and archery are not permitted as den and pack activities.” **c** *It is the Three Fires Council policy that BB gun and archery activities can only be run at district events if those events are run under National Family Camp Standards by properly certified adults.*

Required Permits

(Please see the Three Fires Council tour permit policy sheet for details.)

Local Tour Permit: For outings under 500 miles. The name of the trained BALOO leader for pack campouts or trained WEBELOS leader for Webelos overnights must be listed on the tour permit. *Apply 2 weeks or more* before your outing. If a Webelos Den is camping as a guest of a Boy Scout Troop, both groups must file a separate Tour Permit

National Tour permits: Trips Over 500 miles or out of the country. Apply at least 4 weeks before event.

Permits for use of Three Fire Council camps are available at the Norris Service Center, through our Program Secretary.

NOTE: *Most local Forest Preserves require an approved Tour Permit. It is also a good idea to have proof of BALOO training or Webelos Leader (OLS-W) training on your person. Many local parks also require their own permits, please check with them in advance for their requirements.*

Guidelines for Pack Run Camping Trips

“It is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America that trips and outings may never be led by only one leader. Two registered adult leaders or one registered adult leader and a parent of a participant, one of who must be 21 years of age or older, are required for all trips and outings.” d (the 2nd leader must be 18 or older).

It is the spirit and intent of the National Camping guidelines and Three Fires Council guidelines that all Cub Scout unit run camping is intended to be a one on one parent/guardian and child experience!

Anything other than 1 to 1 camping at the Pack level should be handled as an exception only, following the guidelines listed below. It is strongly recommended that all adults be trained in youth protection standards.

Webelos Den Overnight Camping Adult Ratios

“In most cases, the Webelos Scout will be under the supervision of his parent. If a parent or guardian cannot attend, arrangements must be made by the boy’s family for one of the other parents or other adult relative or friend to be a substitute at the campout. It is essential that each Webelos Scout is under the supervision of an adult and that every adult has a share of the responsibility for the campout.” e

The council strongly recommends that this be done with the written permission from the parent or guardian.

Webelos dens are encouraged to participate in joint overnight campouts with a Boy Scout troop; however, a parent or guardian of each Webelos Scout **must** still attend. f

Pack Overnight Camping Adult Ratios

“In most cases, each youth member will be under the supervision of a parent or guardian. “In all cases, each youth participant is responsible to a specific adult.” g **Tiger Cubs must have an adult partner there.** Cub Scouts should attend with a parent or guardian. It is the Three Fires Council policy that if siblings or other youth family members attend, the adult/youth ratio must not exceed 1 adult for 4 youth per family.

Leadership Training Requirements for Pack Run Outings

Pack Overnights: “Adults giving leadership to a pack overnights **must** complete *Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation* (BALOO) (No. 34162A) **and be present on campouts.** BALOO trains participants to properly understand the importance of program intent, youth protection guidelines, health and safety, site selection, age-appropriate activities, and sufficient adult participation.” h

Webelos Den Overnight Camping: “Webelos Scout overnights introduce the boy and his parent to the basics of the Boy Scout camping program. These events are conducted under the leadership of a Webelos Den Leader who is trained in Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders (OLS-W).” i BALOO training is **not** needed or sufficient for Webelos Den Overnights! If the Webelos Den is camping as the guest of a Boy Scout Troop (and does not have a OLS-W trained leader), the Troop may provide the trained leader (Outdoor Leader Skills –OLS) this persons name must be put on the Packs tour permit application as well as the host Troops number.

District /Council run programs will be led by an onsite Family Camp Director (selected/approved by the Three Fires Council) that has been trained by the certified council family camp administrator.

Pack Overnights (BALOO) and Webelos Den Overnight – Council Approved Sites

Pack overnights only must be done at a council approved site (see current listing TFC approved sites). Webelos Dens should use these council approved sites, unless they are camping as guests of a Boy Scout Troop of a leader Trained in Outdoor Skills (OLS).

References

- a = *Three Fire Council 2007 Cub Scout Summer Camp Leaders/Coordinator’s Guide.*
- b & i = *CUB SCOUT OUTDOOR PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR 2007* (#13-631D – 2006 printing) – pages 3-5.
- c & d = *CUB SCOUT LEADER BOOK* (# 33221C-2005 printing) page 33-3.
- e = *CUB SCOUT WEBELOS LEADER GUIDE* ((#33853C – 2005 printing) page-17
- f = *CUB SCOUT LEADER BOOK* (# 33221B-2001 printing) page 21-9.
- g & h = *CUB SCOUT OUTDOOR PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR 2007* (#13-631D – 2006 printing) – pages 4-5.