



Norwalk CT Cub Scouts Pack 97

Parent's Information Packet

September 2019

www.pack97norwalk.com

Pack 97 Meetings

Where We Meet

Cranbury elementary school
Norwalk CT

Pack 97 Meetings 3rd Tuesday of Each Month (sep -may) from 7:00 – 8:00pm

Pack 97 Events
1 Pack Event per Month

Den Meetings
Dens normally meet 1 to 2 times a month
Your Den Leader will contact you regarding the Den Meeting schedule

The Cost

For a full year, BSA dues, insurance, pack fee is approximately \$154.00

Financial Assistance

If you are unable to afford the costs of Scouting you should contact the Committee Chair (page 5) and ask for a financial assistance form. Besides the Pack Treasurer, no one else in the Pack needs to know about your situation and it will be handled in confidence. Do not let the cost of Scouting deter you from joining Scouts - we can help you afford it if you need the help.

Staying Updated

Pack97norwalk.com

You should check the website regularly. We update it often. We also have an extensive library of documents and online forms available for parents to use.

Facebook

We have a private Facebook page where parents can post pictures of pack events "Cub scout pack 97 norwalk"

Contacting You

Please make sure we have your contact information correct. We email notices and reminders on a regular basis via email pack97norwalk@gmail.com. Please notify us if your contact information changes. Notify us if you don't receive any notices in a weeks time, chances are we don't have your information correct.

Contacting the Leaders

Cubmaster	TJ Garbera	203-6676543	TjGarbera @gmail.com
Committee Chair	Sonia Asuncion	203-4340227	valzoniasuncion@gmail.com

Den Leader Wolf den(2nd grade)
Hector Asuncion

Den Leader Bear (3rd grade)
Tj GARBERA

Den Leader webelo 1 (4th grade)
T Josh and Mon Credo

Den Leader Webelos 2 (5th Grade)

OPEN POSITION

Den leader tiger den (1st grade)
Sophie Constandaki

Den leader lion's den(kindergarten)

Open position

Council, District, Pack, & Den

As you learn about Scouting you will hear about Council Events, District Events, Pack Events, and Den Events. Below we give you an overview of what that means and why there is so much fun to choose from when your son or daughter joins Scouts.

Connecticut Yankee Council

The council service located at 60 Wellington Rd, Milford, CT 06461

Powahay District

Council administers the Scouting program through 4 districts. Our Pack is in the Powahay District. The District also provides volunteer support, training, program opportunities, events, fundraising opportunities, and administrative services at a more localized level. We will also attend District Events as a Pack and we will encourage you to attend others individually. District events are still well attended and offer a more localized flavor as they are normally held nearby.

Pack 97

Our Pack serves k -5th Grade students **"boys and girls"** in Norwalk CT .We have a long history of providing the Scouting program to Norwalk CT area. Our Pack draws from the resources provided through the CT yankee council and we also organize our own events which you will learn about later in this packet.

Your Den

You will be assigned a Den based on your son/ Daughters grade in school. The idea is to place the boys/ girls into small groups with friends he might already know. Ideally, dens will have 6 to 8 boys/ girls and will be led by a parent and parent helpers. The Den Leaders will draw from the resources of the Pack, the District and the Council. Dens meet twice a month and focus on completing the program as outlined in the handbooks. Each year you will use a different handbook.

Common Questions

Uniforms

It's OK to attend meetings without a uniform the first couple weeks. The uniforms are normally worn at Pack Meetings, Den Meetings, Fundraisers, and other more formal events. We strive to have new scouts in uniform by the start of school in the fall. If you are joining in the Summer, this gives you plenty of time to seek out the best price.

We have two uniforms. The "Class A" uniform is the more formal of the two. You should purchase a hat, shirt, and a belt. Pack provides neckerchief, slide and book. Check with friends and relatives, as they might have some previously experienced Scout uniforms tucked away in a closet. The "Class B" uniform is a Pack 97 T-shirt that our boys and girls wear to campouts and less formal events. Tshirt \$10 scout \$12 adult parent/leader.

Uniforms can be purchased at the Scout shop located :60 Wellington Rd, Milford, CT 06461

The Pack 97 does ask that parents turn in uniform parts they no longer need. Each year your son will need a different hat and neckerchief because he will advance to the next rank in Scouting. If you turn your old uniforms in it acts as a 'hit or miss' clothes bank for lower income Scout families in our Pack 97. If you are in need of uniform assistance see the Committee Chair or Cubmaster.

Leader Training

All current and new leaders must complete the following as required by Council and by our Pack. In Cub Scouts, all training can be completed online.

To become a leader you must...

- Fill out an Adult Application
- Go to myscouting.org and create an account
 - take Youth Protection training - (certificate must be turned in with Application)
 - Take "This is Scouting" Training
 - Take "Leader Specific" Training
- Contact the Pack Trainer about courses taken
- Complete Pack Specific Training
 - Pack Specific Training will teach you how we communicate as a Pack and allow you to use the tools we have available to all of our leaders.

Activities

The goal of Scouting is “Fun with a Purpose”. Our leaders try their best to incorporate this goal into everything we do with the Scouts. Below we list some of the ways we go about accomplishing a quality program for the boys in our Pack. Our Goal is to have one event, organized for the entire Pack, once a month.

Pack 97 Meetings

Each month all of our boys and girls (grades k-5) get together to celebrate their achievements. Your Scout is awarded patches, badges, belt loops, pins, etc. Scouting is all about recognizing the boys and girls and your entire family is invited to celebrate with them. We normally share snacks and drinks and the meetings are programmed to last one hour. Our Pack meetings are normally held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. No Pack meetings June, July, and August.

Memorial Day Parade

We normally march in the parade every year.

Pinewood Derby

In January we get our race on! This is always a winner for the boys and girls, some say the parents had a little fun along the way.

Blue and Gold Banquet

This is an annual event to celebrate the birthday of Scouting. Pack families are invited to a sit-down meal and our boys and girls scouts get entertained with a fun program of awards and activities.

Pack Sleepovers

During the colder months we invite the Pack to one or two Sleepovers a year. Plenty of games and activities and a movie to cap off the night.

Outdoor Camping

We have several opportunities to camp out as a Pack when the weather gets warmer. We offer one or two camp outs as a Pack.

Resident Camp

We encourage all of our Scouts to attend cub parent week summer camp at cranbury park norwalk ct.

Parents Role in Scouts

Parents are the important part of an exceptional Scouting program. As a parent, you are considered "Akela" by your scout and other scouts. Akela is a symbol of wisdom, authority, and leadership. Examples of Akela include the Cubmaster, the Den Leader, teachers, and YOU--the main leader your boy/girl looks to for guidance.

As your son/daughter progresses through the ranks of scouting your role and influence on him achieving goals should decrease accordingly. For example, your presence is expected at all Den Meetings and most outings if your son is a 1st grade Tiger Cub (you are an Adult Partner) and your role decreases when he moves to a 2nd Grade Wolf Cub. Your role decreases more as he advances to a 3rd Grade Bear Cub and through the Webelos rank. Each year your Scout will become more responsible for his advancement in the program and each year our parents find more time to assist all the kids in the Pack.

Parents are also members of the Pack Committee. The Pack Committee plans the programming for all the activities of the Pack at the monthly parent meetings. The committee also enables, equips, and trains the leaders and parent volunteers. Your role in this committee can be passive but hopefully, as your son's/daughter's demands on your time decrease, your role in the Pack Committee will increase.

We ask that you identify your strengths and find ways to apply them towards the program. Your role is certainly up to you but we all hope you find a good place in our Pack to apply those skills and enhance the program to new heights. Feel free to speak with any of the current leaders about where you can help.

Cost Of Scouting

You will find a "Cost of Scouting Worksheet" on the last page of this packet. Below, we explain the different sections of that worksheet.

Membership Dues - Boy Scouts of America

1. This is the national organization dues. It is prorated, so the cost depends on the time of year you join Scouting.
2. If you join Scouting after September, you are asked to pay dues for the remainder of the current year and the dues for next year. From that point forward you will be billed in October of each year.

Boys Life Magazine

1. We highly encourage all Scouts to subscribe to Boys Life Magazine. Many of our Scouts look forward to it and it is well worth the cost of the Subscription.
2. Boys life is prorated in the same manner as the Membership Dues

Local Pack Dues

1. Pack dues cover the administrative costs to run the Pack for a program year. This allows us to use our fundraiser proceeds on activities for the boys.

Class "A" Uniforms (purchased individually)

1. This is the formal Scout uniform. Your Scout will need a shirt, hat, neckerchief, slide, and belt. This uniform is worn at formal functions like parades, pack meetings, some of the den meetings, and during fundraisers.

Class "B" T-Shirt

1. This is our camping T-shirt. It is less formal than the Scout Uniform and can be worn at less formal functions like sleepovers, campouts, hiking trips, and as announced. We will be taking orders at our next meeting. The shirts are only \$10 for kids, \$12 for adults.

97 Uniform Patch

1. You can buy the Red Pack Numbers separately (for the Class "A" Uniform). Scout store in Milford ct

Scout Handbook

1. Your Scout will need a new handbook for each year. Handbooks can be purchased at the Scout Store, online, or contact the Committee Chair for help. Books are included with membership dues in October.