



## *I joined pack 544...I'm new, what do I do???*

### **1. What do I do first?**

First of all, WELCOME! We want you to know you can RELAX you're here because you think Scouting will be fun (it is) you and your Scout(s) are in good hands! Pack 544 has been around since 1984 we are a well-established Pack with lots of good leaders. We are focused on having fun, while doing it safely. The leaders are all 'fully trained' in their positions including Youth Protection Training (YPT) which you'll hear more about that (and other trainings) as you get involved in scouting!

### **2. Where do I go for info?**

Make sure you have the "[Pack Annual Calendar](#)", the "[Pack info brochure](#)" and the "[Pack info flyer](#)". On those three things you'll find a lot of great info. On the back of the Calendar, for example, you'll find a lot of great info on commonly used terms, kind of a 'scout glossary.' Also make sure you sign up to get the weekly emails.

### **3. What about uniforms?**

Scouts in Kindergarten, First, Second and Third grade wear the blue shirts. The fourth and fifth graders wear the tan shirts. There are a few patches that the parents have to provide. 'Rank' patches are provided by the pack when earned.

### **4. Who will my Scout(s) be working with?**

Scouts are organized in 'Dens'; small groups of kids (usually no more than 10) that are categorized by grades. There is info in the Pack brochure on who the Den leaders are.

### **5. What about Dues?**

Like any other group, Scouts runs off of dues. The 'dues' help pay for national, state and local operations. The dues for Pack 544 for 2022-2023 are \$125.00 per scout. There is also a one-time \$25.00 new member fee. If you joined Pack 544 at a "Join Scouting Night" (JSN), at a school, you paid \$24.00, and the Pack paid a \$25.00 'new member fee.' We are also paying the \$25 for any other new members too. If you joined at a JSN; all of money went right to Council and none of that money goes to Pack544. Out of the annual dues we collect, about half goes to National and Council. The pack only gets about 60.00 per scout a year. Out of that we run the majority of our operations, pay for advancements, pay for some trips and activities and some uniform items. The \$60.00 Pack 544 gets is not a lot for all that. **Also consider 'dues' that you pay for sports and other clubs, last a few weeks.** **Scouting and pack 544 is a year-round activity.** Pack leadership will work with you to make sure you pay the right pro-rated amount to be current with Council and the Pack. If you are experiencing a financial hardship or need extended time to pay; talk to the CubMaster...we never want finances to stand in the way of your scouting adventure!

### **6. Who can I ask if (when) I have more questions?**

Your Den Leader is a great source of info. They are your 'first line' of info.' The Pack also has a CubMaster, Assistant CubMaster, and Committee Chair all here to help and answer questions, any way we can!

### **7. I think I may want to help out...**

GREAT. Almost all scouting activities are run by volunteers! Scouts in Kindergarten and First Grade must have a 'Adult partner' with them. In the other age groups, we can use volunteers too! There is training available, and we can help get you started, ask the CubMaster for details. We can use Den Leaders and people on the Pack Committee. We also can use help if you have a hobby, skill or job that would be good to teach a particular scout lesson on. SOME examples include, Coin Collecting, Photography, Carpentry, Medical Professions, fishing, and MANY MANY more. Ask us and we'll find a way to get you connected to volunteer!

### **8. Where can I get info online?**

Cub Scout Info, from 'National office'	Pack 544's Website	Heart of Virginia Council	Battlefield District
			

### **Closing thoughts...**

Don't worry about 'getting it all right, all at once.' Scouting is a journey and don't let the Advancements, Uniforms, Rank, etc. 'overwhelm you.' We as a Pack are all here to help!