

Clinton Valley Council

# Boy Scouts of America



## 2009 Recruiting Guide Webelos-to-Scout Transition

A guide for Packs and Troops to transition Webelos into  
Boy Scouting

[www.cvc-bsa.org](http://www.cvc-bsa.org)

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**Note: All information in this booklet can be copied as needed.**

# Overview

An effective Webelos to Scout Transition plan is essential for retaining our current Cub Scouts by moving them into a Boy Scout troop. The transition from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts is where we lose a large percentage of our membership. In 2008, only 30% of our Webelos II moved up into Boy Scouting. That means over [1600 Webelos II dropped out of the Scouting program](#) and did not continue on their involvement in our movement. To have an effective plan, we must address the following issues:

- [Youth, after being in Cub Scouts for up to five years are tired of the program. They do not have an understanding of the Boy Scout program.](#)
  - Show the Webelos to Scout *ScoutParents* video to all Webelos (I and II year) annual during a den meeting or during a troop visit. Print other *ScoutParent* materials from [www.cvc-bsa.org](http://www.cvc-bsa.org) and distribute to each family.
  - Invite the Webelos den to attend at least one troop meeting and one campout during their 5<sup>th</sup> grade year.
  - Have the Webelos II dens between their 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade year take a “field trip” to Lost Lake Scout Reservation for one day during Summer Camp to visit a local troop. Have someone from the troop give them a tour of camp.
  - Conduct “Webelos Talks” within the Webelos dens telling them about the fun and exciting things they get to do within the troop. Share annual Troop program plan of outdoor adventure including monthly campouts, canoe trips, backpacking trips, etc.
  - Assign a Den Chief from a troop to each Webelos den. This Den Chief ideally would serve as the “Troop Guide” once this group moves up into the troop.
  - Have monthly “connecting activities” between the pack and troop. Ideas are available in this guidebook.
- [Webelos Leaders don’t know anything about the Boy Scout program and are not encouraging their boys to move on. They see it as an end to their volunteer involvement in Scouting.](#)
  - Talk to the Webelos Leader early about the Boy Scout program. Invite them to be an Assistant Scoutmaster within the troop for the New Scout Patrol.
  - Encourage the Webelos Leader go through Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training and Outdoor Leader Skills while still in Cub Scouting.
  - Invite the Webelos Leader and den to participate in troop campouts.
  - Have leaders within the troop help the Webelos leader teach the activity pins.
- [More activities competing for time.](#)
  - “Build it and they will come.” A well-planned program filled with outdoor adventure will attract youth. Communicate your troop annual program plan to the Webelos and their parents. Invite them to participate in activities. If they see the fun and adventure firsthand, they will pick our program over someone else’s.
  - Talk to the parents about the “Values of Scouting.” Scouting teaches leadership, problem solving, communication, ethical decision-making, and more. Share the Harris Study “*The Values of Men and Boys in America*” to show Scouting’s importance over sports and other youth activities.
  - Be flexible in attendance requirements. Encourage youth to participate in other programs and know they are always welcome to attend after “X” is completed. Offer a “Saturday” van to troop campouts for those who have Friday night commitments.

- Boy Scouting is not seen as “cool” among their friends.
  - Most youth think camping, canoeing, rock climbing, rappelling, backpacking, swimming, and sports are cool. Communicate your well-planned annual program plan to the Webelos and their parents. Sell the program!
  - Use peer to peer recruiting. If their friends are in the program and they know it, they are more likely to join.
  
- They are not asked.
  - Many times a Webelos and his parents are simply not asked to join a troop. Studies show that a boy has to be asked six times to join before he feels invited.
  - Have your New Scout Patrol “mentor” a Webelos II den. Encourage them to finish their activity pins, invite them to troop campouts, and personally invite them to join the Troop.
  - Have your 2008 crossovers personally call every member from this years Webelos II den to invite them to join the troop. They will still know many of these boys.

# Timeline

## January

- Host Webelos II and their parents at a Boy Scout troop meeting.
- Plan a crossover ceremony for the Blue and Gold banquet.
- Attend a meeting for 1<sup>st</sup> year Webelos to introduce them to Boy Scouting.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Have some Boy Scouts from the troop attend the Pinewood Derby and act as announcers, interviewing winners and "calling" the races. Encourage interaction between the Boy Scouts and all the Cub Scouts.

## February

- Hold the crossover ceremony at the Blue and Gold banquet.
- Form a new Scout patrol.
- Get new Scouts actively involved with the troop through troop activities.
- Recruit parents of new Scouts to become assistant Scoutmasters or troop committee members.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Scoutmaster and several Boy Scouts attend the Pack's Blue & Gold Banquet to welcome the Webelos into their new troop. Form an honor guard for the flag ceremony using a mix of graduating Webelos and Boy Scouts for the honor guard. The Boy Scouts should change out the Webelos' shoulder loops and give them their new neckerchiefs, handbooks, etc. Don't forget those Webelos Leaders, they need new red loops, too!

## March

- Plan a troop activity for new Scouts to get them involved with their new troop.
- Follow up with every boy that did not crossover into your troop from pack.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Troop and pack committees should coordinate a service project activities so boys can work as teams and parents of new Scouts can get to know the other parents. Plan a pizza lunch for the whole crowd after the work is done.

## April

- Conduct a summer camp orientation to encourage youth involvement.
- Attend a meeting of Bear Cub Scouts to introduce them to Boy Scouting.
- Attend a meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> year Webelos and pick a date with Den Leader for a field trip to summer camp one day during the week you are at camp.
- Sponsor a troop activity for the new Scouts.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Troop invites Webelos I (4<sup>th</sup> graders) to district Camporee. They can join with the recently crossed-over boys to learn basic Scoutcraft, which will meet Webelos/Arrow of Light requirements for the Webelos and Tenderfoot requirements for new Boy Scouts. If the District Camporee isn't conducive to this, the troop could put on its own Camporee to teach these skills to the younger boys. Invite any boys who still have not crossed over and use this event as an "Invite a Friend" activity. Be sure to let the younger boys help cook and help tend the campfire.

## May

- Work closely with new Scouts and parents during their transition to the Boy Scout troop, ensuring their needs are met and that their move has been natural and fun.
- Work on rank advancement with new Scouts.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Troop organizes a Webelos activity pin fair, setting up booths for several Webelos Activity pins. These booths would be manned by Boy Scouts & both pack and troop leaders who would teach the skills.

## June/July

- Make sure all new Scouts attend summer camp with the troop.
- New Webelos II take a field trip to summer camp for one day the week you are at camp. Someone from the troop gives them a guided tour of camp.

## August

- Get names, addresses, and telephone numbers of second year Webelos. Record the information on the Webelos to Scout tracking form.
- Plan a joint Boy Scout Troop/2<sup>nd</sup> year Webelos Den camping trip for October.
- Select a Den Chief for each Webelos Den.

## September

- Mail a letter of introduction from the Boy Scout troop to second-year Webelos to introduce them to the troop.
- Put second year Webelos on the mailing list to receive the troop newsletter.
- Continue planning the joint camping trip for October.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Boy Scouts assist with Pack School Nights, organizing games for the incoming boys while their parents sign registration forms.

Scoutmaster attends Pack Committee meeting to explain how the Den Chief program works and find out how many dens are interested in securing a Den Chief. This gives the Scoutmaster adequate time to recruit Den Chiefs and send them to Den Chief training.

## October

- Conduct the joint camping trip with Webelos den.
- Webelos Leaders go through Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training and Outdoor Leader Skills.
- Troop orders materials from *ScoutParents* for distribution.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Boy Scout Troop should plan a Webelos campout and invite the first and second year Webelos. Troop could teach skills needed for a variety of Webelos activity pins, particularly ones that need to be done outside. Troop conducts a campfire with skits & songs.

## November

- Attend a Webelos den meeting to teach the Webelos how the Boy Scout troop works. Show *ScoutParents* Webelos to Scout Transition DVD to parents. Troop hands out copies of materials from *ScoutParents*.
- Have Den Chiefs attend Den Chief training.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Boy Scouts attends the pack meeting to show camp video and "talk up" summer camp to the Webelos II. The troop gives the Webelos II families the dates the troop will be attending Summer Camp along with the annual troop program plan. The Scoutmaster should prepare a list of basic Scouting equipment that the brand-new Boy Scouts will be needing, like flashlights, pocketknives, mess kits, sleeping bags, backpacks, etc., so that these items can be Christmas gifts.

## December

- Set a date for Webelos and their parents to visit a Boy Scout Troop meeting in January.
- Send a small holiday gift to each Webelos II.

**Other “connecting” activities:** Troop Membership Chair or Webelos-To-Scout liaison should attend Pack Committee meeting to introduce themselves to Webelos Leaders. From now until February crossover, the Webelos-To-Scout liaison should work closely with the Den Leaders to assure that all boys will be earning the Arrow of Light and to get Boy Scout applications completed. This person should attend a Den Meeting in January to explain Troop operations, answer questions, and establish a good relationship with all Webelos II parents.



[www.ScoutParents.org](http://www.ScoutParents.org)

*ScoutParents* is a new organization within the Boy Scouts of America designed to promote Scouting to the parents of new and existing Scouts. *ScoutParents* tells parents why they should not only get/keep their son in Scouting, but why they should get involved in Scouting as “Scout Parents.” All items listed below can be printed at [www.cvc-bsa.org](http://www.cvc-bsa.org).



**Boy Scout Volunteer Indicator**

This brief questionnaire helps evaluate a parent’s skill level and interest in the many volunteer opportunities available in Scouting.



**ProScouting Brochure**

ProScouting brochures educate and inspire uninformed and former Scouting families (youth/parents/mentors) about the values, benefits, experiences and rewards they receive from participating with enthusiastic commitment in the GREAT Family FUN of Scouting!



**ScoutParents.org/Scouting.org Brochure**

This brochure introduces parents to *ScoutParents.org*, a BSA-approved site designed to educate parents about Scouting and to increase recruitment and retention. It also has links to other helpful official Scouting sites.



## The Jack Dyer-Hurdon Webelos Transition Unit Award

### For outstanding efforts in the Webelos-to-Scout Transition process

The Jack Dyer-Hurdon Unit Award recognizes those units that extend to the Webelos a welcome and exposure to the adventure of Boy Scouting. It is a program to ensure that every opportunity is extended to a Webelos so that he can experience one of the most wholesome and character building opportunities in his formative years.

The award is named in honor of Jack Dyer-Hurdon, a dynamic moving force in Scouting in Oakland and Macomb Counties. Through his vision and energy, thousands of boys were able to experience the fun and adventure of Scouting. His dedication and zeal to see that as many boys as possible should experience Scouting is the foundation of this program.

Those eligible for the award are the Webelos-to-Scout Transition team (consisting of the Scoutmaster, Cubmaster, Webelos Den Leader, Den Chief, liaison leader, and Unit Commissioner). The participating units

(dens and troops) can also earn and wear the award.

The Jack Dyer-Hurdon Unit Award is worn in place of the council strip. The transition team and the units wear the same award except that the transition team award is edged in red as opposed to the unit award, which is edged in silver. The unit awards can be purchased at the council service center by qualifying units.

The award is easy to earn. Most units that have an effective transition process in place will complete the seven requirements whether they participate in the program or not. The commissioner staff stands ready to assist and aid you with the program.

Upon completion of the seven requirements, unit leaders should complete the application form and forward it to their District Commissioner. The application will be processed and the awards presented at an appropriate ceremony. Any questions concerning the award requirements should be directed to the District Commissioner.

Jack Dyer-Hurdon is a dynamic moving force in Scouting in Oakland and Macomb counties. Through his vision and energy, thousands of boys were able to experience the fun of Scouting.

Your troop or den is challenged to earn the **Jack Dyer-Hurdon Webelos Transition Unit Award** and carry on the tradition of bringing Scouting to boys! All Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, Webelos Den Leaders, Den Chiefs, transition liaison leaders, and Unit Commissioners will receive the award after the completion of all of the requirements on the following page.

# Jack Dyer-Hurdon Webelos Transition Unit Award

Pack # \_\_\_\_\_ Troop # \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

To qualify for the Jack Dyer-Hurdon Webelos Transition Unit Award, the Den and Troop must complete the following by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Webelos Leader and Scoutmaster attend Webelos-  
Date Completed to-Scout Transition Training conducted by the District at Roundtable or personal coaching by your Unit Commissioner.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Units establish a pack/troop relationship to transition  
Date Completed Webelos into Boy Scouting.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Troop leadership visits a Webelos Scout den meeting, troop  
Date Completed leader holds a parents meeting with Webelos II parents.  
Webelos visit a troop meeting

\_\_\_\_\_ Den visit date  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Parent meeting date  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Troop visit date

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Troop host den to at least one troop campout.  
Date Completed

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Troop conducts a new parent orientation for all Webelos  
Date Completed leaders and parents and asks them to join as an adult leader.

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Troop participates in the Arrow of Light presentation and  
Date Completed conducts a crossover ceremony into the troop.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ 75% of Webelos transition into Boy Scouting.  
Date Applications Turned into office along with Webelos to Scout Transition tracking form.

**Please return this form to your District Commissioner to receive your Jack Dyer-Hurdon Webelos Transition Unit Award Council Strip.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Commissioner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

We would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ youth and \_\_\_\_\_ adult Jack Dyer-Hurdon Webelos Transition Unit Award Council Strips at a cost of \$2.50 each. Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# Webelos to Scout Transition

## Den Tracking List – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Webelos

Projected Webelos Transition Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pack # \_\_\_\_\_ Webelos Den Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cubmaster \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Scoutmaster \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Address	City	Zip	Phone	DOB	Date of Arrow of Light	Date Joined Troop

# Webelos Den Chief

## Job Description

The Webelos Den Chief is a current Boy Scout who gives leadership to a Webelos den in the pack with which the troop is affiliated. The den chief has the following duties and responsibilities:

- Know the purposes of Cub Scouting and helps the Webelos den achieve those purposes.
- Serves as an activities assistant for the Webelos den.
- Set an example for the Webelos with proper attitude and proper uniforming.
- Be a friend to the Webelos den.
- Help the Webelos den leader lead the weekly den meeting and help the den participate in the monthly pack meeting.
- Meet regularly with the Webelos den leader to review meeting plan.
- Help Webelos earn activity pins by assisting the activity badge counselor(s).
- Teach the denner and Assistant denner leadership skills.
- Attend den chief training.
- Help plan and carry out den outdoor activities including joining programs/meetings with the troop, campouts, field trips, and district camporees.
- Work with Scoutmaster and Cubmaster to plan a crossover ceremony for the den.
- Attend all den meetings and pack meetings.

# Troop Membership Chair

## Job Description

(Can be filled by either an Assistant Scoutmaster or member of the Troop Committee)

### Position Concept

While membership is a shared concern of all adult leaders, the Troop Membership Chair has the responsibility of coordinating these efforts.

### Responsibilities

1. Work with current Scouts to assist them in meeting the “Invite a Friend” requirement for First Class Rank. (This is easily accomplished through coordination with a “My Best Friend is a Scout” recruiting effort)
2. Schedule spring and fall recruiting events for your troop using suggestions found in the Boy Scout Recruiting Guide. The spring recruitment is especially effective for fifth graders and as follow-up for any Webelos that did not crossover to the Troop in February.
3. Work with the Webelos dens in your affiliated pack to ensure a high percentage successfully progress to Scouting. Assist the parents of the Webelos in finding an appropriate leadership role in the troop.
4. Recruit and train high quality Den Chiefs for Webelos dens affiliated with your troop.
5. Attend most Committee meetings for both the Pack and the Troop and act as the liaison for the two groups, passing information along so that everybody stays "in the loop." Beginning in November or December, invite the Webelos II Den Leaders to attend the Troop Committee meetings.
6. When planning joint Troop/Pack activities, take care that the Boy Scouts do not feel like they are babysitting. Keep them in an instructional role.
7. Consider recruiting Webelos crossover “Ceremonial Teams.”

# Sample Crossover Ceremony

**Setting:** A bridge is in the center stage. One side of the bridge is represented as the Cub Scout side and the other side as the Boy Scout side. You can use your imagination on how to symbolize each side so it is apparent which side is which. The use of Boy Scouts with candles lighting the path is very impressive. Cubmaster and Scoutmaster are standing on appropriate sides.

**CUBMASTER:** Tonight we mark a great occasion, the graduation of \_\_\_\_\_ Webelos into Boy Scout Troop\_\_\_\_. We are sad to see them leave because they have been a great help to our pack, but we are happy for them because they are going on to the great adventure of Boy Scouting. These Webelos have worked hard for this night and have advanced well. As a symbol of their hard work, each Webelos will be given an arrow. As I call your name, will each Webelos come forward with your parent(s)?

*(Call each boy's name off.)*

**Reader:** The arrow alone gives meaning to each of these Scouts. The wooden shaft gives the arrow strength; just like the strength the Scout Promise gives each boy. The fletching helps guide the arrow on a straight and true path; just like the Scout Law guides the Scout on a straight and true path. The arrowhead points the way to the target; just like Webelos badge and Arrow of Light requirements have pointed the Scout to the ways of Boy Scouting.

Each arrow has these parts, but each arrow is different, it is individual. Each arrow represents his individual trail through Cub Scouting.

*(Give each boy his arrow.)*

It has been a long trail. As you look at the arrow you can look back and see how far you have traveled. Your first trail led you across the Bobcat Ridge, where Akela took you into the Pack as a Bobcat. The yellow mark tells that this boy completed his Bobcat requirements. You may have then climbed the steep Wolf Mountain. The red mark means he has completed the Wolf badge. After that there may be gold and silver marks for the arrow points that you may have earned. After finding your way through Bear Forest, you may have earned your Bear rank. The green mark shows you have gained your Bear achievements, and again you may have earned a gold and silver arrow points. Your trail next may have led you to Webelos Rank...first earning three activity pins shown by three black marks, then your Webelos badge, which is marked in blue. The Arrow of Light trail may have been hard and rugged. You first earned another four activity pins. Then came the highest Cub Scout Achievement, the Arrow of Light, which is signified by the white marking on the arrow. The twelve beads will remind you of the twelve points of the Scout Law. The red and white feathers not only stand for the troops colors, but also for devotion and honor.

Your trail in Scouting does not end in Cub Scouting; it is only the beginning, for all of you have prepared yourself for the crossing over to Boy Scouts.

The bridge before you is a symbol of your crossing from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting. The bridge is a structure carrying a pathway or roadway over a depression. It is a means of connection or transition from one side to another, as this bridge represents how our Pack is connected to our Troop. As I call each boys name, please come stand before your Cubmaster where he will remove your Webelos neckerchief.

*(Cubmaster is calling over to the Scoutmaster.)*

**CUBMASTER**: Hello, Boy Scouts of Troop \_\_\_\_.

**SCOUTMASTER**: Hello, Cub Scouts of Akela. What do you desire?

**CUBMASTER**: We have several Webelos who have prepared themselves for entrance into your Troop.

**SCOUTMASTER**: Bring them and their parents forward to the bridge that joins our Pack and Troop. I will send two of my Scouts over to escort the boys and their parents over the bridge.

*(Boy Scouts cross over to Pack's side and then escort the new Scouts and their parents to the other side.)*

**Webelos Leader** *(Speaking to the Scoutmaster)*: These are your new Scouts, ready for the adventures ahead of them. They are going to call themselves the New Scout Patrol.

**Webelos Leader** *(speaking to the boys)*: As I call each of your names, please come forward to your Scoutmaster, where he will place on you the neckerchief of your new Troop.

*(One at a time, place troop neckerchief on new Scout)*

**SCOUTMASTER**: I'd like to welcome the New Scout Patrol and their families to our Troop.  
*(Lights on)*

**SCOUTMASTER**: Will the Troop please form your patrols/ *(Have SPL lead all Scouts in the Scout Promise)?*

## Unit Visits Program Plans & Ideas

- Program ideas for when the Webelos II Den visits a Troop meeting.

Activity	Description	Run By	Time
<b>Pre-Opening</b> 10 Minutes	Hand out copies of your troop's annual program plan, introduce Webelos to troop members, exchange e-mail addresses, highlight past troop activities.	Senior Patrol Leader, Den Chief	6:55-7:05
<b>Opening</b> 5 Minutes	Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath, Scout Law	Senior Patrol Leader	7:05-7:10
<b>Skills Instruction</b> 25 Minutes	Skills instruction round-robin. 1. Let the boys try lighting a cotton ball on fire using a hot spark kit. 2. Allow the boys to set up a tent. 3. Have boys build a stretcher and have a stretcher relay by first putting a splint on the "victims" leg.	Select Boys within the Troop	7:10-7:35
<b>Patrol Meetings</b> 15 Minutes	Show summer camp promotion video to Webelos. Talk about what the Webelos can expect from Summer Camp.	Senior Patrol Leader, Den Chief	7:35-7:50
<b>Inter-Patrol Activity</b> 10 Minutes	Select a game out of " <i>Troop Program Resources</i> ."	Senior Patrol Leader	7:50-8:00
<b>Closing</b> 5 Minutes	SPL thanks Webelos for attending meeting, leads closing Flag Ceremony.	Senior Patrol Leader	8:00-8:05
<b>After the meeting</b>	Scoutmaster thanks Webelos for attending.	Scoutmaster	

- Program ideas for when the Troop visits a Den meeting.
  - Help the Webelos Den Leader teach requirements of the activity pin for the month.
  - Bring a *Power Point* slide show or pictures of the fun and adventure your troop does throughout the year (5 minutes max).
  - Show the Lost Lake Summer Camp promotion video.
- Program ideas for joint Webelos Den/Troop Campout. (Athletics Theme in troop program features)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Run By</b>
<b>Friday</b> evening	Load gear at meeting location, leave for campsite. Plan only light meal en route. (Make sure Webleos and parents have enough gear).	Senior Patrol Leader
	Arrive at campsite, unload equipment, set up patrol sites. Stow gear and set up camp. (Have Troop Guide and Assistant Scoutmaster help Webelos and their parents set up their patrol site.)	Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader
<b>Saturday</b> 6:30 a.m.	Cooks and assistants arise and prepare breakfast. (Cooks should be working on First and Second Class requirements). The older boy patrol also makes breakfast for Webelos and their parents.	Cooks & assistants
7:00 a.m.	Everyone else rises. Take care of personal hygiene, air tents, and hang out sleeping bags.	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast	
8:00 a.m.	Clean up	Cooks
	Patrols set up gear for morning activities, clean up patrol site	
8:30–11:30 a.m.	Conduct athletic skills events (See page 27-28 in <i>Troop Program Features Volume # 1</i> ). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Frisbee Golf</li> <li>2. Obstacle Course</li> <li>3. Volleyball</li> <li>4. Softball</li> <li>5. Bicycle Race</li> <li>6. Patrol Dash</li> <li>7. Bike Relay</li> <li>8. Erect a Tent</li> <li>9. Kim's Game</li> </ol>	SPL
11:30 a.m.	Sack Lunch	
Noon	Continue Events	
4:30 p.m.	Start Dinner preparation	Cooks
5:30 p.m.	Meal	
6:00 p.m.	Clean up	Cooks
8:00 p.m.	Campfire	Senior Patrol Leader
9:00 p.m.	Cracker barrel	
10:00 p.m.	Lights out	
<b>Sunday</b> 6:30 a.m.	Cooks and assistants arise and prepare breakfast. (Cooks should be working on First and Second Class requirements).	Cooks
7:00 a.m.	Everyone else rises. Take care of personal hygiene, air tents, and hang out sleeping bags.	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast	
8:00 a.m.	Clean up	Cooks
8:30 a.m.	Worship service	
9:30 a.m.	Break camp	
Special equipment needed	Cameras, pens, troop camping equipment, athletic gear needed for events	

## Sample Letter of Introduction from Boy Scout Troop to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Webleos (to be mailed in September)

(Name)

(Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(Date)

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am the Senior Patrol Leader for Troop \_\_\_\_\_. Over the next few months, you will be transitioning from the Cub Scout program into the Boy Scout program. This is an exciting time, many fun adventures are ahead.

As a troop we go camping once per month. This year we are planning to *(use this paragraph to briefly describe your annual program plan. Tell the Webleos what you are doing: canoeing, climbing and rappelling, backpacking, fishing, etc.)*

Our troop meets weekly *(time/date/location)*. At these meetings, we have skills instruction time where we work on advancements. Our goal is that you would reach 1<sup>st</sup> class within a year of joining our troop. We also have time for your patrol to get together to plan for upcoming campouts and time for inter-patrol activities.

This summer, we are planning to attend Lost Lake Scout Reservation on *date*. Activities at this camp include canoeing, rowing, swimming, nature programs, sports programs, .22 rifle shooting, archery shooting, and much more.

We are looking forward to having you as part of our troop. To aid in this transition, we would like to invite you, your parents, and your entire den to a campout on October *(date)*. Our theme is Athletics and will play softball, volleyball, Frisbee golf, and have a bicycle race. Food and tents will be provided. All you will need to bring is personal gear (clothes, toiletries, sleeping bag/blankets) and your bicycle. We will be meeting at *location* at *time*. Please let your Webleos Leader know by *(date)* if you are able to attend.

Sincerely,

(Your Name)

Senior Patrol Leader Troop \_\_\_\_\_

## Sample Letter of Introduction from Boy Scout Troop to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Webleos Parents (to be mailed in September)

(Name)

(Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(Date)

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am the Scoutmaster for Troop \_\_\_\_\_. In February, your son will be able to crossover into our troop. Much fun and adventure awaits him after he “crosses the bridge” into our troop.

You should encourage your son to continue his Scouting journey for the following reasons:

1. Scouting Builds Character – A Scout is “Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.”
2. Scouts are more likely than non-Scouts to value education, the environment and put the needs of others before themselves (According to a poll taken by Harris Interactive).
3. Scouting teaches leadership skills, problem solving skills, communications skills, and team building skills.
4. Scouting opens the door to possible lifelong career and hobby interests. With over 100 merit badges ranging over many different topics, many Scouts explore opportunities that they ordinarily would not have.
5. Scouting teaches youth to “Be Prepared”. Whether it’s for emergencies (1<sup>st</sup> aid, emergency preparedness), life skills (personal management, family life, communication), taking charge and leading others.
6. Scouting builds confidence. Scouting puts youth in charge of situations and allows them to overcome obstacles and challenges.

Scouting accomplishes these things through a fun-filled program in an outdoor education classroom. We go camping as a troop once per month. This year we are planning to *(use this paragraph to briefly describe your annual program plan. Tell the Webleos what you are doing: canoeing, climbing and rappelling, backpacking, fishing, etc.)*

Our troop meets weekly *(time/date/location)*. At these meetings, we have skills instruction time when we work on advancements. Our goal is that your son would reach 1<sup>st</sup> class within a year of joining our troop. We also have time for your son’s patrol to get together to plan for upcoming campouts and time for inter-patrol activities.

We hope you and your son will join us on this exciting adventure!

Sincerely

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scoutmaster, Troop \_\_\_\_\_

## Top Ten - Things to Look For in a Troop

1. **Fun** – It's got to be fun! Most of the activities within the troop have to be understood by the Scout as a fun, friendly, pleasurable, and rewarding experience. If a troop is too strict and regimented the Scout will lose interest.
2. **Program** – this is key to a well-run troop. The program has to be planned out by the troop committee with input from the Scouts. This should be done annually and tied to a budget. The program needs to include all the elements of Scouting, weekly troop meetings, monthly outings/events, weekend campouts, and yearly summer camps. The activities have to be new, exciting, and fresh to keep the Scouts interested.
3. **Adult Leadership** – All troops should have “Trained” adult leadership. Trained leaders are crucial to any well-run troop. The training provides the leader with the knowledge to understand the aims and methods of the Scouting program. The training presents a wealth of advice and resources to run a successful program. When you visit a troop, look for the trained patch on the leader's uniform.
4. **Youth Leadership** – The Scouting program is designed to have the youth elected and appointed into leadership roles. A troop should have periodic elections to fill those positions. In addition, the troop should provide leadership training for those roles. The troop should conduct Junior Leadership Training (JLT) and/or send Scouts to council JLT training. Look for the trained patch on the youth leader's uniform.
5. **Boy-Run Troop** – the whole philosophy of Scouting is for the Scouts to run the troop. The adult leaders are there to provide guidance, counsel, and support. The weekly meetings, troop campouts, and troop activities should be planned and executed by the Scouts and the junior leaders. The troop should encourage and strive to have its junior leaders run the troop. When observing a troop in action, see if the Scouts are running the program or the adults.
6. **Patrol Method** – A troop should divide its Scouts into patrols of not more than 8. These patrols act like a team within the troop. They will elect a patrol leader and have periodic meetings either at the troop meetings or at a separate time and place. The troop should provide competitive activities at meetings and outings for the patrols to work as a team. This allows them to demonstrate their Scouting skills and plan for camping events or district camp-o-rees. The troop should also have functioning monthly Patrol Leaders Council, which plans the troop activities.
7. **Meetings** – Weekly troop meetings are pretty much the norm in Scouting. The troop should have a calendar for the year with the dates established for regular meetings.
8. **Uniform** – the field uniform is an important part of Scouting and should be required in troop functions, like: ceremonies, religious activities, troop dinners, and district & council events. An activity uniform, which usually consists of a scouting T-shirt and Scout shorts or pants, is commonly used for troop/patrol meetings, day activities, and weeklong camps. Troops may define or require uniforms in different variations, but should have some defined requirements and periodic inspections.
9. **District & Council Involvement** - A troop should have representatives attending monthly district roundtable meetings. The district and council provide a wealth of experience and knowledge to help the troop run a great program. They are a wonderful resource for information on training, activities, advancement, planning, and ideas.
10. **Recruiting** - A troop needs to bring in new Scouts. New Scouts provide the older Scouts with opportunities to mentor and teach them what Scouting is all about. It helps them build leadership and character. The best source for new Scouts is from the Cub Scouts Webelos program. A troop should have established a working relationship with local Cub Scout pack(s) to help bridge graduating Webelos to Boy Scouts.

# Values of Men and Boys in America

Louis Harris and Associates have conducted a number of scientific surveys commissioned by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. The findings show how the Scouting program helps aid in positive youth development. Sharing this information with Webelos II parents will help them see the importance of keeping their children in the Scouting program.

- Boy Scouts with five or more years tenure are more likely than non-Scouts to:
  - Assume a leadership role in clubs or school organizations.
  - Put the needs of others before themselves.
  - Make the most honest, not the easiest, decisions.
  - Value education and the environment.
- Boy Scouts with five or more years tenure are more likely than non-Scouts to have greater future achievement:
  - They are more likely to graduate High School – 98% vs. 83%.
  - They are more likely to graduate College – 40% vs. 16%.
  - They are more likely to earn annual household incomes of \$50,000+ - 33% vs. 17%.
- The Boy Scout program teaches strong personal values and character. Parents cited the following reasons for wanting their sons in the program:
  - To learn moral values – 94%.
  - To learn self-reliance – 95%.
  - To become involved in community service – 90%.
- The Boy Scout program gives a Scout a positive sense of self worth and usefulness.
  - 50% of Scouts indicate setting personal goals of each meeting.
  - 51% of Scouts note that they have to rely on themselves to accomplish goals at the meeting.
  - 78% agree, “Being a Scout makes me feel more confident in myself.”
- The Boy Scout program provides/enhances a caring and nurturing relationship with parents, other adults, and peers. At a typical troop meeting:
  - 58% are encouraged to do their best by a leader/adult.
  - 48% receive verbal encouragement from other Scouts.
  - 65% work together, receiving help from other Scouts.
- The Scouting program enhances a boy’s desire to learn. At a typical meeting:
  - 41% of Scouts teach another Scout.
  - 39% of Scouts learn from another Scout.
  - 53% learn new things.
- Scouting is a productive/creative use of time. Boy Scouts agree that:
  - Scouting has taught me skills I wouldn’t have learned anywhere else – 88%.
  - Scouting will help me get a good job – 85%.
  - Scouting will help me get into college – 83%.
- The Boy Scout program teaches social adeptness. During a typical troop meeting, Scouts:
  - Learn to be a team player – 51%.
  - Democratic decision making – 43%.
  - Planning activities – 41%.
  - Taking responsibility for needed supplies/equipment – 31%.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

## Akela Award Worksheet

<b>A: Cub Scout Requirements:</b>	<u>Certified By:</u>	<u>Date</u>
As a registered Webelos Scout:		
1. Earn three (3) additional activity pins beyond Arrow of Light requirements (11 total).		
2. Attend a Boy Scout Court of Honor.		
3. Three (3) hours of service in the home:		

- Parent/guardian agreement
- Separate service from other projects
- Service time not applied to other projects
- Webelos Leader approval

**Section A** should be certified by the Webelos Leader. Upon completion, the Webelos Leader should forward this worksheet to the Scoutmaster of the troop joined by the Webelos Scout.

<b>B: Boy Scout Requirements:</b>	<u>Certified By:</u>	<u>Date</u>
As a registered Boy Scout		
4. Be active in your patrol and troop for six (6) months.		
5. Within six (6) months of registration, <u>attend three (3) outdoor activities.</u>		
6. Within six (6) months from time of registration, <u>earn the Tenderfoot rank.</u>		

**Section B** should be completed by the Scoutmaster. Upon completion, the Scoutmaster or assign Unit Leader should turn in this completed form to the Council Service Center.

**Troop Representative:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Troop #** \_\_\_\_\_  
**District:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



Item	TP #	Fee	# of Patches	Total Fee
Akela Patch	103	\$ 2.00		

### Akela Award

The Akela Award is a program of the Clinton Valley Council to assist Webelos Scouts in becoming Boy Scouts. It is an optional program and is not required for any rank advancement. It is to be used at the discretion of the Unit Leader to help a Webelos Scout stay in the Scouting program.

### Requirements:

1. As a Webelos Scout, earn three activity badges in addition to those earned for the Arrow of Light (for 11 activity badges).
2. As a Webelos Scout, attend one Boy Scout Court of Honor.
3. As a Webelos Scout, do three hours of cumulative service in the home. Parents and boy agree on projects before started. Service projects cannot be applied to any other awards or recognition, nor can any other service projects be applied to the Akela Award when used for other awards or recognitions. Webelos Leaders must approve service projects.
4. As a Boy Scout, be active in your troop & patrol for 6 months.
5. As a Boy Scout, within 6 months from the time of registration, attend 3 outdoor activities with your Boy Scout troop.
6. As a Boy Scout, within 6 months from time of registration, earn the Tenderfoot rank.

## As a Webelos Scout:

1. Each Webelos Leader maintains an Akela Award worksheet for Webelos Scouts who have earned their Webelos rank. All signing is done by the appropriate leaders on this worksheet.
2. As a Webelos Scout, requirements 1 and 2 are signed by the Webelos Leader; requirement 3 is signed by the Webelos Leader upon approval from the parent(s) or guardian(s).
3. The Webelos Leader certifies that the Webelos Scout has completed all the requirements for the Webelos portion of the Akela Award. This is done on the worksheet.
4. At all times, the Webelos Leader is in possession of the Akela Award worksheet and upon completion of a requirement, certifies its completion.
5. The Webelos Leader develops a program to assist the Webelos Scout in earning the award. Program can be developed on a den basis.
6. At all times, it must be understood that the Akela Award is a voluntary award and is not required for any other Scouting awards. It is strictly an optional award.



## As a Boy Scout:

1. When a Webelos Scout joins a Boy Scout troop, his Webelos Leader sends his Akela Award worksheet to the troop Scoutmaster.
2. The Akela Award requirements for a Scout are designed to be a natural part of Boy Scouting. The requirements are not designed to be activities over and above regular Scouting programs. Upon completion, all requirements are certified by the Scoutmaster.
3. Scoutmaster, Scouters, and parents should at all times offer directions and encouragement in earning the Akela Award as there is a six-month time limit while a Boy Scout.
4. At all times, it must be understood that the Akela Award is optional and is not required for any other advancement. The Boy Scouting portions of the requirements are almost automatic and should create no real problem for implementation.



## General Implementation:

1. Once the worksheet has been completed, it should be turned into the Council Service Center by a registered troop representative. Upon receipt of the certification, the troop is authorized to purchase the award.
2. The presentation of the award should be made at the Scout's troop Court of Honor. The Scout's Webelos Leader and Cubmaster should be invited to attend the presentation.
3. The Akela Award can only be worn centered on the right pocket of the Boy Scout uniform. The award is a temporary patch.

## Aims and Methods of Scouting

### Aims of Scouting

1. Character education
2. Citizenship training
3. Fitness (physical, mental, moral)



### Methods of Scouting

1. Scouting Ideals- Scout oath and law
2. Patrols—Group of 6-8 boys working together toward a common goal.
3. Outdoors—Camping, hiking, canoeing, rock climbing, swimming, and much more
4. Advancement—Rank advancement and merit badges
5. Adult Association—Adult leaders
6. Personal Growth—Sense of fulfillment.
7. Leadership Development—Youth run program
8. Uniform—Visible association with program

## Clinton Valley Council Boy Scouts of America

For further questions concern, please contact:

Clinton Valley Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
cvc-bsa.org

1100 County Center Drive W  
Waterford, MI 48328

248-338-0035

### Macomb District

Serving the Armada, Richmond, Anchor Bay, New Haven, Chippewa Valley, L'Anse Creuse, Mt. Clemens, Clintondale, and Frasier School Districts

### Ojibwa District

Serving the Utica, Rochester, Avondale, Romeo, and Warren Consolidated School Districts

### Ottawa District

Serving the Bloomfield, West Bloomfield, Farmington, Walled Lake, Novi, Northville, Huron Valley, and South Lyon School District

### Pontiac-Manito District

Serving Brandon, Clarkson, Holly, Lake Orion, Oxford, and Waterford School District

### Scoutreach

Serving the Pontiac School District



Clinton Valley Council  
Boy Scouts of America



## A Guide for Parents and Leaders

248-338-0035

[www.cvc-bsa.org](http://www.cvc-bsa.org)



## Boy Scouting—The next step into your outdoor adventure

A Boy Scout Troop is made up of several patrols, each having 6-8 boys. Youth choose their own patrol leader to lead their group. This patrol leader is given direction from an assistant Scoutmaster.



Unlike Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts work on rank advancements at their own pace. In most cases, Scouts reach the rank of First Class within their first year. After that, Scouts choose from over 100 merit badges that interest them on their "Trail to Eagle." To obtain the rank of Eagle, the highest rank in Scouting, Scouts must earn 21 merit badges.

Boy Scouts go camping once each month. Skills learned at weekly troop meetings will help prepare them for these outings.

Many high adventure programs are also available for youth as they mature into the Scouting program including backpacking in New Mexico and canoeing the boundary waters of the US and Canada. Local high adventure activities include rock climbing, rappelling, horse back riding, sailing, kayaking, wilderness survival, and more!

The adventure of Scouting is only beginning.

### Transition From Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts

Every pack should have a troop into which your Webelos Den transitions. Between now and February when you crossover into Boy Scouts, your den should be in regular contact with your troop to make the transition as smooth as possible. This includes:

- Joint pack/troop campout in October
- Troop meeting visits
- Boy Scouts teach activity pins within weekly den meetings
- Troop comes to a den meeting to talk about Boy Scout summer camp



- Assign someone who will become the assistant Scoutmaster advising the "New Boy" patrol and ensure training prior to the crossover in February.

- Plan a meaningful ceremony for boys to "cross the bridge"

from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting.

- Have fun!

### Benefits of Scouting

Boy Scouts with five or more years tenure are more likely than non-Scouts to:

- Assume a leadership role in clubs or school organizations
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- Value education and the environment

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