

Spanish Springs Pack 443

New Member Information

Thank you for your interest in Cub Scout Pack 443. We hope this information sheet will answer some of your questions about our Pack and about joining Cub Scouts. If you find that you still have questions, please feel free to contact:

Cubmaster

Jason Wolfe

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You can also visit us online at <http://www.spanishspringspack443.com>

Joining Cub Scouts and Pack 443

You must first register your Scout with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). The registration form is available at a Cub Scout Join Night, from the Scout office, from a Pack representative, or on the Nevada Area Council web site at <http://www.scouters.org>. The completed and signed form must be turned in to Pack 443 along with registration fees made out to "Pack 443". The annual BSA registration fee is \$24. For an additional \$12 your Scout can get a subscription to *Boys' Life* magazine (<http://www.boyslife.org>). Fees are pro-rated based on when you join. Your Scout will then be assigned to a den and given a meeting schedule.

Meeting Schedules

Scouts attend both Den and Pack meetings each month. A "Den" is a small group of boys in the same grade and at the same rank. The "Pack" is made up of all of the Dens put together. Den meetings are for the Scout and his Akela (this is a parent, grandparent, or other responsible adult). The entire family is welcome to attend Pack meetings and special Pack events. Our current meeting schedule is as follows:

Meeting Type	Days/Dates	Location	Time
Pack meetings	3 rd Thursday of month	Spanish Springs ES multi-purpose room	7:00 pm
Tiger Den	Various Monday	Spanish Springs ES	6:30 pm
Wolf Den	Various Wednesday	Spanish Springs ES	6:30 pm
Bear Den	Various Wednesday	Spanish Springs ES	6:30 pm
Webelos 1 (Night Furies)	Fridays	Spanish Springs ES	5:00 pm
Webelos 2 (King Cobras)	Every other Tuesday	Den Leaders home	6:30 pm

Attendance/Behavior Code

It is our goal for your son to have a successful experience in Cub Scouts. In order for Scouts to advance with their peers and feel a part of the Den and Pack communities, attendance at meetings and events is vital. In the event you must miss a meeting, we ask that you notify your leader, so he or she may plan around your absence. If you miss more than 3 consecutive events without any communication with our organization, you risk being deleted from our membership.

At least one parent or designated adult is required to attend all events and meetings with your Scout. It is Boy Scouts of America policy for Tiger Cubs to participate in all Cub Scout functions with their adult partner. We ask that all children be supervised at all times. In order to make our events safe and pleasant, disruptive behavior may result in being asked to leave the event. Serious repeat offenses may result in being asked to leave our Pack.

Communication

Our Pack utilizes e-mail as our primary means of communication. Of course, if a family does not have access to e-mail, we will contact you by phone or text. Our Pack web site address is <http://www.spanishspringspack443.com>. The site is completely secure and open only to invited, registered members of our Pack. There is a small "public" area that non-registered visitors can see if they wish to contact us for more information.

Uniforms and Supplies

New Scouts must purchase a uniform from the Scout store. The store is located at 500 Double Eagle Court in Reno and their number is 787-1111. Call before visiting to check their hours. Our Pack follows what we call a “from the belt up” uniform. That means that we ask for all uniform components worn from the belt up to be purchased. Here are the basics for each boy:

- Handbook for new Scout's rank (adults, please read this thoroughly)
- Scout uniform shirt (Blue for Tigers, Bears and Wolves, tan for Webelos). We suggest buying the shirt large enough to last a few years... 1st/2nd/3rd grade for blue shirt, 4th grade up through Boy Scouts (middle school) for the tan shirt.
- Neckerchief and neckerchief slide
- Blue Scout belt (Webelos may wear the green belt, but belt loops will not fit on it)
- Scout cap (these are different for each rank)
- Webelos only need the blue shoulder loops and Webelos Colors
- Applicable Pack and den insignia:
 - Pack 443 numerals
 - Den numeral patch
 - World Crest patch
 - Nevada Area Council patch

Scout uniforms are worn to all den and pack meetings. Either the uniform or a Pack t-shirt is worn for outings. Pack t-shirts are available from the Pack at a low cost. Leaders will let you know in advance what your Scout should wear on an outing.

Volunteers and Training

Cub Scout Packs are run entirely by volunteers – parents and other involved family members lead all of our dens and put on all of our events. By its nature, a Pack is constantly losing volunteers when their boys move up to Boy Scouts, so we always need new people to get involved. The BSA provides excellent resources and training online for free or in-person for very low cost, and the pack will reimburse any parent interested in getting trained. All registered volunteers are *required* to at least take Youth Protection Training. All parents are encouraged to take this course as well. Our #1 goal is safety for all Scouts, and this valuable course takes less than 1 hour to complete. You can access the online course at <http://myscouting.org>.

Fundraising

Our Pack holds one fundraiser a year – selling Trail's End popcorn in the fall. We pride ourselves on providing a quality program for all Scouts every year. It costs the Pack about \$225 per Scout for one year of awards and Pack events/activities. Scouts who sell \$650 of popcorn during our fundraiser cover their next year's charter/registration fees and their Pack dues. Prizes and rewards are also given to the top-selling Scouts. **All Scouts are encouraged to participate in order to earn their way through Scouting**, and we strive to make our fundraiser safe, fun, and easy to do. You can learn more about Trail's End by visiting their web site at <http://www.trails-end.com>.

Den Dues

Most Dens collect some form of meeting dues, typically \$2-3 per meeting. The den dues help the Den leader defray the cost of materials and supplies for the Den meetings. Your Den leaders do not get any financial support from the BSA organization or the Pack for Den meeting activities. Costs include things such as leather and woodworking supplies, craft supplies, fees for special outings (museum visits, etc.), special patches or rewards (beyond what is presented at the Pack meetings) and other activity supplies.

Pack Dues

Pack Dues is \$225 a year. This pays for all pack events, awards, and charter/registration fees. Pack Dues is due at the end of November for the coming year. Monthly payment arrangements can be made, if needed. If you are chartering after our annual fundraiser no Pack Dues will be due for the year.

If your Scout participated in our annual fundraiser their Pack Dues can be waived completely if they have raised \$650 or more in popcorn sales. If they raised less than \$650 the Pack Dues will be reduced based on how much they have raised in popcorn sales. A Webelos 2 Scout will be re-chartered and receive up to 25% of their fundraised amount to go towards their Troop Dues.

So, What Will My Boy DO In Cub Scouts???

A boy in a Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear or Webelos Scout den might:

- Learn how to play a new sport
- Take a hike on a nature trail, learning about native plants and animals
- Catch his first fish
- Learn how to handle different kinds of emergencies, including basic first aid skills
- Build a birdhouse and watch as birds make it their home and raise their babies in it
- Discover ways to keep himself healthy and strong through proper eating and exercise
- Volunteer around our community to help make it a cleaner and better place for us all
- Learn about the history of the American flag, how to properly care for it, how to perform a flag ceremony, and how to retire a flag when it is too worn out to be used any more
- Go camping with other Cub Scouts and their families
- Learn how to make fun and tasty “Cub Cooking” meals over a campfire
- Tie all kinds of cool knots that each have a special purpose
- Design and build his own Pinewood Derby race car and race against his friends for cool trophies
- Participate in service projects to enrich the lives of others in our community
- Learn how to start a campfire using flint and steel (Webelos only)
- Search for interesting rocks and minerals and learn about how they were formed
- Share jokes, songs, skits and stories with his friends around a campfire while cooking s’mores
- Celebrate his achievements with friends and earn fun patches, belt loops and pins
- Visit fun and interesting places like the train museum, the planetarium, the local TV news station, the fire department, the seismology lab at UNR, the county courthouse, the Sparks Heritage Museum, the Nevada State Museum, or the indoor rock climbing place
- Learn how to properly handle a pocket knife and practice basic whittling skills (Wolf and older)
- Shoot a BB gun or a bow and arrow at day camp or Cub Scout resident camp
- Perform in the annual Pack Talent Show
- Learn about nature, science, art, music, nutrition, citizenship, games, keeping himself safe, Native American crafts, sports, and many, many other things – all in a fun, interactive and hands-on way with a bunch of great friends!

Pack 443 Agreement

I, _____ parent of
_____ agree to this packet and understand
that the Pack is run by parent volunteers.

I understand that I am responsible for getting my scout to all den meetings and pack meetings.

I agree to help with the Pack by getting involved by either volunteering for an open position or helping with three or more Pack events each year.

I understand that my scout needs to participate in the annual popcorn fundraiser. I also understand that my scout needs to raise \$650 in popcorn sales to have the pack dues waived for the coming year and that dues will be determined by a sliding scale on how much my scout raised.

If my child does not meet the sale goal requirement to have the pack dues waived completely I will pay the remaining balance due in November of each year or set up payment arrangements.

Signature

Print Name

Date