

Cub Scout Meetings

Recommendations for Cub Scout Den and Pack meetings during the time of COVID-19.

Information Covered

Winter Meeting Ideas

Updated themes and activities by month

Updated meeting recommendations & safety protocols

stlbsa.org



Make the most of this winter! And stay safe.

As we adjust to a new Scouting set up, use our guide to help give your pack or den ideas on how to meet during the winter months.

- Ideas on how to safely meet in-person
- Engaging virtual meetings
- Updated safety procedures and protocols
- Month by month planning ideas and themes
- Updated recommended schedule

Greater St. Louis Area Council Safety Protocols for Unit Meetings



For the most up-to-date information regarding unit operational guidance, please visit <https://stlbsa.org/covid-operational-guidance/>. Due to the time period this document covers, restrictions may be different than the general guidelines presented here.

All in-person meetings and activities **must** follow these safety requirements:

- All local and state governments, both where the unit is chartered and where the meeting or activity is to take place must clearly permit the activity in terms of gathering size and ability to maintain proper social distancing. All of their and the Federal CDC guidelines must be followed for all phases of the meeting or activity (such as feeding, housing/tents, swimming etc.). Find updated CDC information [here](#).
- Chartered organizations must approve in- person activities and/or meetings prior to restoring them. Units should also consult with their chartered organization to determine the best path forward for the unit's Scouting programs.
- Parents should be surveyed, and a majority of the parents in the Scouting unit must approve restoring in-person activities.

Additional Safety Precautions:

- Require all adults and youth to wear masks.
- Provide hand-sanitizer and encourage frequent hand-washing.
- Plan activities that do not require close contact or shared materials.
- Ask Scouts to bring their own snacks or meals when applicable.



In-Person Meetings

Please know that the safest place to meet is outdoors.

Where to meet:

Outdoor Options:

- A local park
 - Try to meet near an outdoor pavilion in case of rain
- A scout property
 - Opportunity for overnight camping and council provided activities!
- The parking lot of your chartered organization
 - Make sure to have their permission first

Indoor Options (other than your chartered organization location):

- A scout property
 - Be sure to make a formal reservation as spaces are limited!
- Local library
 - Check the website to see if you need to reserve a room
- Community Center
- Lion's Clubs or other community clubs in the area

Did you know?
The council is waving any fee to meet during the week on a council camp property! Make you reservation today!

Assess your group

Some packs are choosing to meet as a whole pack virtually but have den meetings in person. Having only den meetings in person allow for a natural limit on how many people are gathered together. Dens are likely to be in classrooms or sports together too, so exposure during den meetings is more likely to be with people you are already with. Assess your pack and dens, and figure out if this model works best for you!

**In-Person
Den
Meeting**

**In-Person
Den
Meeting**

**Virtual Pack
Meeting**

Virtual Meetings

Before we explore ideas on how to host virtual meetings, let's review the youth protection requirements of virtual meetings:

- All virtual and in-person meetings must have at least two adults present at all times
- You may not record youth in a virtual meeting unless you have permission from each youth's parent/guardian
 - Do not forget this as many want to record the meetings in case others cannot attend! Ask permission first and for every single meeting!
- Make sure you do not post a link to your meeting on Facebook or other public internet sites
- Make sure there is a security password needed in order to enter the meeting. Be very careful who you share the password with.



Virtual Options:

- First, check with your chartered organization to see if they have access to any unlimited accounts to the options below. Many of the free versions limit your meeting to 45 minutes.
- **Zoom**
 - Options of call in by phone for those without internet access
 - Great safety features and can see many participants at one time
- **Google Classroom & Google Hangout**
 - Google Classroom is a portal to upload videos, documents and pictures, similar to a private group on Facebook. People can comment and post as well.
 - Google Hangouts is similar to Zoom but the free account has unlimited meeting time
- **UberConference**
 - Call in phone option and similar to Zoom

"Carpet Time" for Cub Scouts

It is no surprise that Cub Scouts may have a harder time paying attention on virtual meetings. Carpet Time allows them a chance to talk with their peers and interact.

- Dedicate part of each meeting to give each youth a chance to share something important to them
- Keep the rest of participants muted
- Set a timer for each Scout as some may want to be more verbal
- Possible questions to ask (if scouts don't know what to share):
 - What is something new you want to do in scouting this year?
 - What is your favorite part of being outside?
 - What do you most look forward to doing with Scouts this year?
 - What are three awesome things about yourself?
 - Which is your favorite season and why?

Sample Winter Den/Pack Schedule

January:

- Theme: Courteous
- Virtual pack meeting
- 2 in-person den meetings

February

- Theme: Kind
- Virtual pack meeting
- 2 in-person den meetings

March

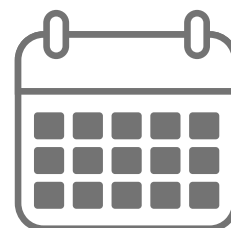
- Theme: Obedient
- In-person outdoor pack meeting
- 2-3 in-person den meetings
- Optional outdoor fun activity

April

- Theme: Cheerful
- In-person outdoor pack meeting
- 2-3 in-person den meetings
- Optional outdoor fun activity

In-Person Activity Ideas:

- Go on a local hike
- Fishing derby
- Pinewood derby in a parking lot
- Blue and Gold campfire (utilize an outdoor camp fire ring at a scout property!)
- Backyard flag retirement ceremony (assign dens to arrive at different times to keep the groups separate if needed!)
- Scavenger hunt at a local park



Idea Corner: Drive-By Advancement Ceremony/Pack Mtg.

Wondering how to recognize your scouts' accomplishments? Get creative with a drive-by ceremony!

- Meet at a central location with a large parking lot
- Have families line up with their cars
 - You could even give them different times of when to arrive
- Have Cubmaster and 1-2 other leaders handout advancements and congratulate Cubs (wear your masks!)
- Have music playing and balloons - have fun with this!
 - Make a playlist and have cubs submit song requests!
- Encourage Cub families to decorate their cars if they want



Cub Scout Themes & Activities

That can be done outdoors/indoors and socially distant

Get into theme! Here are activities and games to help with these themes.

January's Theme: Courteous

- Manners Charades: have parents and/or scouts act out various manners and have scouts call them out!
- Write a thank you note: have scouts learn the importance of thank you notes, have them write notes to teachers, the cubmaster, server at a restaurant
- Take Home Activity: Have a Cub Scout reach out to a grandparent or parent and ask how they can help around the house

February's Theme: Kind

- Kind Notes: Have scouts write kind words about each other on note cards (one per scout), collect them all and separate the cards by scout, and hand them out!
- Bring Out Their Smile: Have scouts create something (a card, a poster, gift bag, craft) for their mailman and set it out for them!
- Take Home Activity: Have scouts do a good turn every day for 1 week and have them report back

March's Theme: Obedient

- Simon Says: Have scouts play Simon Says, have scouts listen to a leader and do the things they say to do (dance around, touch the ground, jump, etc.)
- Skit Time: Have scouts create a skit featuring someone being obedient. They can show obedience in home or school. Get creative!
- Take Home Activity: Have each Cub Scout do three things around their house without being asked

April's Theme: Cheerful

- Show Some Positivity: Play a game like capture the flag, or red light/green light and/or sing a song. At the end of the game and song, award the scouts that showed the most positivity and cheerfulness!
- Do a service project: Have scouts do a service project where you are meeting (picking up trash, painting, gardening, etc.). Explain the importance of cheerful service and give shout outs to the scouts being the most cheerful during service!
- Take Home Activity: Have scouts record a fun and cheerful video to send to their den. Have them do a skit or tell their favorite joke!

Cub Scout Advancements & Activities

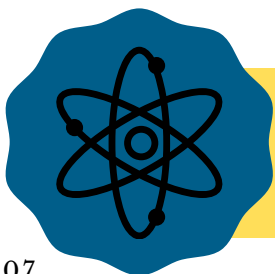
That can be done outdoors/indoors and socially distant

Below are activities and advancements that can be done either outdoors or indoors and socially distant when you are meeting. The best places to do these meetings are at local parks, a scout property, or the parking lot or field of your chartered organization. Or a large spacious indoor meeting location.

Lions:



- Required advancements:
 - Fun on the Run: 1, 4
 - Animal Kingdom: 4
 - Mountain Lion: 3
- Electives:
 - Pick My Path: 3 (need to be creative choosing games and very explicit on rules to maintain social distance)
 - On Your Mark: 1, 2 (need to be creative choosing games and very explicit on rules to maintain social distance)
 - Build It Up, Knock It Down: 3
 - Ready, Set Grow: 1, 3



Looking for STEM Novas and how to do them outdoors and socially distant? Check out our resource here: <https://tinyurl.com/y33nfty6>

Cub Scout Advancements

That can be done outdoors/indoors and socially distant

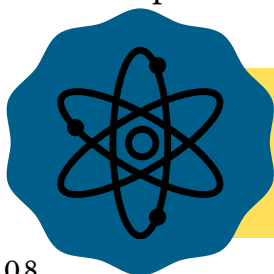


Tigers:

- Required advancements:
 - Games Tigers Play: 1, 3 (need to be creative choosing games and very explicit on rules to maintain social distance)
 - My Tiger Jungle: 1, 2, 3
 - Team Tiger: 4
 - Tigers in the Wild: 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
- Electives:
 - Rolling Tigers: 5
 - Sky is the Limit: 1, 2
 - Tiger Tag: 2, 3, 4 (need to be creative choosing games and very explicit on rules to maintain social distance)

Wolves:

- Required advancements:
 - Call of the Wild: 1B, 5, 6
 - Council Fire: 2
 - Howling at the Moon: 3, 4
 - Paws on the Path: 5
 - Running with the Pack: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (need to be very explicit on rules to maintain social distance)
- Electives:
 - Air of the Wolf: 1, 2A, 2C, 2D
 - Code of the Wolf: 2A, 4A (Flashlight Morse Code)
 - Digging in the Past: 3A
 - Finding Your Way: 3, 4
 - Germs Alive!: 2, 3
 - Grow Something: 3
 - Motor Away: 1, 2
 - Paws of Skill: 2, 5 (need to be very explicit on rules to maintain social distance)
 - Spirit of the Water: 5



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Cub Scout Advancements

That can be done outdoors/indoors and socially distant



Bears:

- Required advancements:
 - Baloo the Builder: 3, 4
 - Bear Claws: 1, 2, 3
 - Bear Necessities: 1B, 4, 5, 6
 - Fur, Feathers, and Ferns: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
 - Paws for Action: 4A
- Electives:
 - A Bear Goes Fishing: 3, 4
 - Make it Move: 1, 2, 3
 - Roaring Laughter: 6
 - Salmon Run: 2

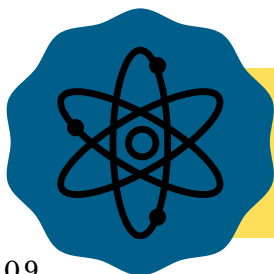
Webelos:

- Required advancements:
 - Cast Iron Chef: 3
 - Stronger, Faster, Higher: 1, 2, 5
 - Webelos Walkabout: 1, 3, 4, 5
- Electives:
 - Art Explosion: 3A, 3D
 - Castaway: 1B, 1C, 2C, 2D
 - Earth Rocks: 2, 3A, 3B, 3C
 - Into the Wild: 1, 3, 5, 7, 8
 - Into the Woods: 1, 2, 3



Arrow of Light:

- Required advancements:
 - Outdoor Adventurer: Option B- 1, 2, 4
- Electives:
 - Art Explosion: 3A, 3D
 - Castaway: 1B, 1C, 2C, 2D
 - Earth Rocks: 2, 3A, 3B, 3C
 - Into the Wild: 1, 3, 5, 7, 8
 - Into the Woods: 1, 2, 3



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Essential Resources

Below are essential resources to host meetings, activities and Scouting events:

Be on the *lookout* - another meeting guide will be published this Spring 2021 to help you plan your meetings Spring-Summer

Pack Meeting Plans:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/pack-meeting-resources/pack-meeting-plans/>

National Den Leader Meeting Tips & Tricks:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/den-meeting-resources/den-leader-tips-tricks-video-series/>

- Videos for *EVERY* adventure for each rank
 - Send these to your families as you work on the adventures!
- Rank overviews
- Scoutbook Hacks

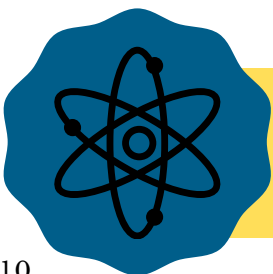
ScoutShare - Remote Scouting Resources

<http://scoutshare.org/>

- Resources and ideas to help your Scout Unit provide a superior program

Scoutbook for Den Leaders

- Login to leader.scouting.org with your MyScouting ID and password to get a free PDF version of the Den Leader Guide for the rank you lead (must be an assigned den leader in Scoutbook)



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