

# ***JOIN SCOUTING NIGHT 2021***

## ***BLACKHAWK AREA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA***

### **JOIN SCOUTING NIGHT DEN ORGANIZATION MEETING GUIDEBOOK AND PRESENTATION**

(FOR CUBMASTERS AND UNIT LEADERS)

This guide and other recruitment information can be found in the membership locker room at [www.blackhawkscouting.org](http://www.blackhawkscouting.org).

# Welcome To the Den Organization Meeting

*The agenda and script found in this Guidebook provide a road map to conduct the Den Organization Meeting.*

**Den Organizational Meetings** should be conducted no later than one week after the Join Scouting Night Meeting. It is at this meeting where dens are formed and Den and Pack leadership are recruited. Before conducting Den Organizational Meetings, current Pack leaders need to assess how many new boys and girls have joined the pack and how many new leaders will be needed.

Materials Needed to Conduct Meeting:

- Adult Applications
- Pens
- Copies of “All Aboard” Game (Page 12)
- Cub Scouts for Flag Ceremony
- Pack Calendars
- Grade Specific Table Signs

Thank you for your efforts. You are making a significant, positive impact on the lives of the young people of Northern IL, Southern WI, and their families.

*Good Luck and Good Scouting!*

*Dan Hawkins, Vice President Membership*

# DEN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

## AGENDA TEMPLATE

1. Before the meeting starts
  - 6:00 p.m. Arrive at location to set up
  - 6:30 p.m. Complete set up of room
2. While Scouts Gather
  - Play “All Aboard” Game (Page 11)
3. Opening
  - 7:00 p.m. Use the “New Year” opening ceremony (Page 4)
4. Organize Dens
  - 7:10 p.m. Use the script provided
5. Closing
  - 7:50 p.m. Recite the Scout Oath
6. After the Meeting
  - 8:00 p.m. Meet with leaders to confirm arrangements/plans for next week’s meetings.

**(Detailed information is located on the following pages.)**

# DEN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

## PROGRAM

### *While the Scouts Gather*

Play “All Aboard!” gathering game

Prepare sheets of paper with the letters

A – L – L – A – B – O – A – R – D – C – U – B – S – C – O – U – T – S

running down the left side of the page. Tell them to mingle and get signatures of people whose name (either first or last) begins with one of the letters. (**A template of this game can be found on page 12 of the den organizational meeting guide**).

**6:55 p.m.** – Ask people to be seated and ask for a show of hands of those who got all letters completed.

Present a small prize or patch to them.

**7:00 p.m.**

**Opening**

Use the “New Year” opening ceremony

CUB SCOUT 1: Another year is starting, so we would like to welcome you and tell you what our purpose is and what we hope to do.

CUB SCOUT 2: Cub Scouts is a group of boys and girls; it helps us grow up strong. It teaches us to do what’s right, and fight against what’s wrong.

CUB SCOUT 3: We’ll go on hikes and field trips to learn of Nature’s Wonders; so we’ll respect the earth when grown, and not make any blunders.

CUB SCOUT 4: We’ll learn the ways that everyone is our sister and brother, and We’ll see what joy there is to have in helping one another.

CUB SCOUT 5: We’ll learn to be good citizens and hopefully we’ll see that laws are made for everyone so everyone can be free.

CUB SCOUT 6: To do this right, we need good leaders – that is very true! And so We need the help of you, and you and you, and YOU!!

Leader: Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recite Pledge.

## Organize Dens

### **7:10 P.M. Follow Script**

- “How does Scouting work?”
- “The Boy Scouts of America creates partnerships with institutions such as schools and churches that provide meeting places and secure volunteer leadership.”
- “These institutions are referred to as “Chartered Partners.” Our Pack is owned by our Chartered Partner, the \_\_\_\_\_.”
- “The Blackhawk Area Council is our local Boy Scout Office and they provide program, literature, training for parents and leaders, volunteer and professional guidance, a major activity schedule, and one of the finest camping facilities in the nation.”
- “The Blackhawk Area Council covers 12 counties in Northern IL, and Southern WI. The Blackhawk Area Council serves over 4,100 youth members in over 200 Cub Scout Packs, Scout BSA Troops, Venture Crews, and Exploring Post.
- “All kids like to earn badges and each grade level has its own rank.”
- Everyone will receive recognition.
- “Kindergartners are called Lions.” (*Show a Lion Adventure Book*).
- “The first graders are Tigers.” (*Show a Tiger Book*).
- “The second graders will work on the Wolf adventures.” (*Show a Wolf Book*).
- “Third graders will work on the Bear adventures.” (*Show a Bear Book*).

- “Fourth and fifth graders will work on their Webelos Badge or Arrow of Light.”  
(*Show a Webelos Book*).
- “The Cubmaster is in charge of the monthly Pack meeting. At the Pack meeting, cub scouts will receive their badges and awards and show off what they have learned or earned during the month.”
- “The Den Leaders meet with a group of 5 to 8 youth each week, bi-weekly, or once a month, where they begin work on their projects and achievements. The Cub Scout motto is “Do Your Best” and when the parent feels the Cub Scout has done their best, he/she passes. When your Scout receives the book, please take the time to read the Parent’s supplement and thumb through it to familiarize yourself with it. Scouts will only get out of Scouting as much as you put into it.”
- “At this time we are going to ask you to sit at the table with the sign related to your child’s grade in school. We want kindergartners sitting together, first graders sitting together, second and third Graders sitting together, and fourth and fifth Graders sitting together. Each den should be no more than 5-8 boys for the boys den and no more than 5-8 girls for the girls den. Position yourselves so that you can see each other. This is important. You are now a Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, or a Webelos Scout Den!!”
- “Ladies and Gentlemen, take a good look around. Isn’t this a fine group? We are a Cub Scout Pack and each group in a circle is a Den. Let’s give ourselves a big hand.
- “In Scouting, we provide you with the rare opportunity to influence the character development of your child’s peer group.
- “Families are the only major source of Scouting Leadership.”
- “Scouting is not in the babysitting business.”
- “Families must help by serving as:  
Cubmaster(s) or Den Leader(s)  
Pack Committee Members  
Pledging cooperation for special projects

- “Each of us has a talent to share. The work and duties to make a Cub Scout program are a lot, but if each of us does our part, it works and your child will benefit. When you signed your child’s application, you were also signing yourself up to help in some way.”
- “Now, many of you are sitting out there right now, thinking of reasons you cannot get involved.”
- “Let me see if any of these apply:
  - Not interested in leading
  - Have no time
  - Don’t know what to do.”
- “Well, let’s take a close look at each of those”
- “You have signed your child up for Scouting, so I know you’re concerned and interested in the program.”
- “Out of 168 hours a week, den meetings only last for one hour, with a few hours of preparation and follow-up work.”
- We provide excellent training for new leaders and written meeting plans and other materials to help you run the Den meetings.”
- “So, now that we’ve discussed and countered all the reasons not to volunteer, let’s talk about what we actually need to run our Cub Scout program.”
- At this time we are going to appoint a Temporary Chairperson for each den. The Temporary Chairperson’s job is to identify who in your group will be the Den Leader, the Assistant Den Leader and at least one Committee Member to represent your den.

**THE TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON YOU APPOINT SHOULD BE A SHARP LOOKING INDIVIDUAL CAPABLE OF PERFORMING THE JOB OF DEN LEADER.**

- “Each Den now has a ‘temporary chairperson’. In a few minutes, it will be the responsibility of the ‘temporary chairperson’ to identify our new leaders.



Remember, you, as parents, are the only source of volunteer manpower we have.”

- “These are the volunteer positions we need to fill tonight.”
- “**Den Leader** – This is a real opportunity to get to know your child and their peer group. If all you do is follow the program outlined in the written Den Meeting Plans, you will have a great meeting. Most importantly, you meet on the day and time of the week that is most convenient to you!”
- “**Assistant Den Leader** – This person will work closely with the Den Leader as a team. The BSA requires that at least two adults are present at all meetings.
- “**Committee Members** – The Pack Committee is the administrative body of the Pack. They determine such things as finance, policy, leadership, transportation, records, outings, as well as helping to plan the Pack Meeting. It is our hope that every parent who is not serving as a Den Leader or Assistant will serve on the pack committee.”
- “Look at your child. If they are 8, 9, or 10, they probably have already spent half their life at home with you.....when they are 18, 19, or 20 the chances are they will be gone to military service, to college, or working somewhere. Now is the time they need you. Now, you, as parents are the most important influence in their lives. I’ve never heard a person say, “I wish I had never gotten involved in Cub Scouting with my child”, but I’ve heard many people say, “I should have taken more time with them when they were young.”
- “At this time I’m going to turn the program over to our ‘Temporary Chairperson’. You need to decide who will serve as Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, and Committee Member for your den. You will also determine when and where your den meetings will take place. For your child’s sake, these decisions must come from your group. While you do this, I am going to have a short meeting with our current leaders out in the hall.”
- “Before I leave, I have a poem I would like to read, and then with the leadership of your ‘Temporary Chairperson’ you are to select your leaders.”

## “A Scout’s Eyes”

"I'd like to be a Cub Scout" their eyes were clear and true  
"I'd like to learn and play and build, like Jim and Jenny do."

"We know how to use a hammer; we can drive a nail if we try...  
We're 8 years old; We're big and strong and hardly ever cry."

I gave them the application and parent participation sheet  
(Their eyes were filled with sunshine as they left on dancing feet.)

Next day my friends were back again, dejected little lads  
"I guess I'll skip the Cub Scouts." (their eyes were dark and sad.)

"The little girl said mom is awfully busy, she has lots of friends, you see,  
She'd never have time for a den, she hardly has time for me."

"Then the little boy said and dad is always working...He's hardly ever there,  
To give them any more to do just wouldn't be quite fair."

They handed me back the papers with the dignity of eight years,  
And smiling bravely left me. (Their eyes were full of tears.)

Do you see your own child's eyes as other people may?  
How they look when you're "too busy" or "just haven't time today"?

A child is such a special gift...why won't you realize  
It only takes a little time to put sunshine in their eyes.

You say, "I'll start tomorrow" but tomorrow is far away,  
They are a child for such a short time, so won't you start today?

*(Leave the room and take all current pack leaders with you. DO NOT allow any leaders to stand around and answer questions. If they do, THE PARENT'S WILL NOT get their job done because they feel they can lean on you. Leave for a few minutes, get a drink of water, keep an eye on the exit, and go back in once it appears they have completed their task.)*

*(As leadership is secured, call for attention, introduce the three leaders of each den, and ask everyone to give them a big hand.)*

*(In the event a den cannot find leadership, say this,*

- “I realize you are having difficulty, perhaps all of you work, have small children, or your spouse works shift work. I cannot solve your problem. Perhaps all of you will have to be assistants – see what you can work out and I’ll check back in a few minutes.”

**(Only as a last resort place these youth in other dens. No den should be larger than 8 boys or girls.)**

- “Youth Protection Training is **REQUIRED** for all leaders. You must complete youth protection training and submit a copy of your certificate, along with your adult application, with appropriate signatures to the council office. You may complete an online Youth Protection course by going to [www.my.scouting.org](http://www.my.scouting.org) Use the **Google Chrome browser to complete the training.**
- “Basic Training is also available. Parents and leaders will definitely want to take advantage of the training we have to offer. Our next Cub Scout Leader Training will take place on \_\_\_\_\_. If you want to get a head start, you may also go online and complete the basic training at [www.my.scouting.org](http://www.my.scouting.org).”
- “Roundtable is a great opportunity for monthly training. Every Roundtable provides training on next month’s program theme and provides resources for making your program successful.”
- “Now that our leaders are secured, it’s time to fill out and turn in your applications. Your registration fee is paid by our pack.
- “The yearly adult fees for Scouting are \$42.00 for registration. We follow the Boy Scouts of America budget plan.

- “After you have filled out your application, take it and give it to \_\_\_\_\_ for review and to obtain other appropriate signatures.
- “Parents, please make sure that you have exchanged contact information with your new Den Leader and that you have written down the date, time, and location of your next Den Meeting.”
- “After we are adjourned I would like to ask our new leaders to stay for a brief meeting for just a few minutes.
- “Congratulations everyone! At this time I would like to call upon Den #\_\_\_\_\_ to help conduct our closing ceremony. Our closing tonight will be the “Scout Oath.”

**Closing**

Say the “Scout Oath” in repeat after me fashion

On my honor I will do my best  
 To do my duty to God and my country  
 and to obey the Scout Law;  
 To help other people at all times;  
 To keep myself physically strong,  
 mentally awake, and morally straight.

*(Adjourn the meeting and meet with new leaders. The information that you need to provide the new leaders is listed below. Please make sure that the new leaders know that they **MUST** complete the online Youth Protection Training and provide verification of same. The certificate must be submitted with adult application.)*

**After the Meeting**

*Meet briefly with new leaders to collect:*

- Adult Application (check applications to make sure they are complete and the background authorization form is signed).

Review and give them copies of:

- Their new Den rosters
- Pack calendar for the coming year
- Roundtable Information
- Parent and Leader Training Information

# **“ALL ABOARD!!”**

**See how many signatures of people can you get whose name (either first or last) begins with one of these letters?**

**A** \_\_\_\_\_  
**L** \_\_\_\_\_  
**L** \_\_\_\_\_

**A** \_\_\_\_\_  
**B** \_\_\_\_\_  
**O** \_\_\_\_\_  
**A** \_\_\_\_\_  
**R** \_\_\_\_\_  
**D** \_\_\_\_\_

**C** \_\_\_\_\_  
**U** \_\_\_\_\_  
**B** \_\_\_\_\_

**S** \_\_\_\_\_  
**C** \_\_\_\_\_  
**O** \_\_\_\_\_  
**U** \_\_\_\_\_  
**T** \_\_\_\_\_  
**S** \_\_\_\_\_

## THE NEW YEAR OPENING CEREMONY

### CUB SCOUT #1

Another year is starting, so we would like to welcome you and tell you what our purpose is and what we hope to do.

---

### CUB SCOUT #2

Cub Scouts is a group of boys and girls; it helps us grow up strong. It teaches us to do what's right, and fight against what's wrong.

---

### CUB SCOUT #3

We'll go on hikes and field trips to learn of nature's wonders; so we'll respect the Earth when grown, and not make any blunders.

---

### CUB SCOUT #4

We'll learn the ways that everyone is our sister or our brother, and we'll see what joy there is to have in helping one another.

---

### CUB SCOUT #5

We'll learn to be good citizens and hopefully we'll see that laws are made for everyone so everyone can be free.

---

### CUB SCOUT #6

To do this right, we need good leaders – that is very true! And so we need the help of you, and you, and you, and you!!

---

### ALL

Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.