



PACK 289

PARENT HANDBOOK

Revised: August 2026

My Pack Number is: 289

My Council is: Circle Ten Council

My District is: Iron Horse

My Cubmaster is: Justin Fischbeck

E-Mail: justin.fischbeck@pack289.com

My Pack Meeting is on:

Day: Generally Friday evenings — the specific date varies by month (see the 2026–27 Pack Calendar of Events)

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Prosper United Methodist Church – 1801 Lanier Way, Prosper, Texas 75078 (unless another location is listed on the calendar for that date)

My Den is: _____

My Den Leader is: _____

E-Mail: _____

My Den Meeting is on: _____

Day: _____

Location: _____



INTRODUCTION:

Thank you for choosing to invest in your child by becoming members of Cub Scout Pack 289. We are excited to have your family join us for lots of fun and adventure. In this packet, you will find useful information that will help you navigate your first year in Scouting.

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- **Youth Application and Adult Application** — Every youth, who is a Lion or Tiger, must have an Adult Partner included on their Youth Application. Any adult leader, or adult who has more than occasional contact with youth, or 32 or more hours of contact with youth (not including family events, like Pack meetings) is required to be registered with Scouting America. Please let us know if you need or would like an Adult Application.
- **Required Training Information** — Every Registered Adult, adult Lion Partner, and adult Tiger Partner must complete Youth Protection Training (YPT) and CMG Connect training and background checks. This process will take you about a couple of hours each; however, the background checks could take *up to two weeks* in some instances, so please *don't delay!*
- **Fees Information** — this is what your registration fee will cover and what it does not include.
- **Calendar of Events** — Scouting is a year-round program. We understand you won't be able to attend every event, but at least you can plan ahead.
- **Family Talent Survey** — Parental involvement and volunteering is what's going to make this pack successful. How can you volunteer?
- **Contact Information** — you're not alone, we're all in this together! And there are plenty of resources to assist us as well.
- **And so much more!**

BASICS OF CUB SCOUTING

Since its beginning, the Cub Scout program has been a fun and educational experience built on instilling core values in its participants. Cub Scouting focuses on building character, improving physical fitness, teaching practical and survival skills, and developing a spirit of community service.

PURPOSES OF CUB SCOUTING:

The Cub Scouting program has 10 purposes related to the overall mission of Scouting America:

1. Character Development
2. Spiritual Growth
3. Good Citizenship
4. Sportsmanship and Fitness
5. Family Understanding
6. Respectful Relationships
7. Personal Achievement
8. Friendly Service
9. Fun and Adventure
10. Preparation for Scouts BSA

Every Cub Scouting activity should help fulfill one of these purposes. Not everything in Cub Scouting has to be serious – far from it! Silly songs, energetic games, and yummy snacks all have their place in the program.



THE METHODS OF CUB SCOUTING:

To accomplish its purposes and achieve the overall goals of building character, learning citizenship, and developing personal fitness, Cub Scouting uses seven methods:

1. Living the Ideals

Cub Scouting's values are embedded in the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Cub Scout motto, and Cub Scout sign, handshake, and salute. These practices help establish and reinforce the program's values in scouts and the leaders who guide them.

2. Belonging to a Den

The den—a group of children who are about the same age—is the place where Cub Scouting starts. In the den, Cub Scouts develop new skills and interests, they practice sportsmanship and good citizenship, and they learn to do their best.

3. Using Advancement

Recognition is important to youth. The advancement plan provides fun for the scouts, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn awards, and strengthens family relationships through advancement projects.

4. Involving Family and Home

Whether a Cub Scout lives with two parents or one, a foster family, or other relatives, his or her family is an important part of Cub Scouting. Adult family members provide essential leadership and support to youth in the program.

5. Participating in Activities

Cub Scouts participate in an array of activities including: games, projects, skits, stunts, songs, outdoor activities, trips, and service projects. Besides being fun, these activities offer opportunities for growth, achievement, and family involvement.

6. Serving Home and Neighborhood

Cub Scouting focuses on the home and neighborhood. This helps the participants strengthen connections to their local communities, which in turn support their growth and development.

7. Wearing the Uniform

Cub Scout uniforms serve a dual purpose, demonstrating membership in the group (everyone is dressed similarly) and individual achievement (participants wear the badges they've earned). Wearing the uniform to meetings and activities also encourages a professional appearance and a sense of belonging.

Structure of the Cub Scout Program

- Your scout is a member of a Pack that:
 - Is made up of one or more dens.
 - Meets once a month – all Cub Scout families participate.
- The pack meeting is led by a Cubmaster with full group participation.
 - The pack meeting is a climax of the month's Den meetings and activities.
 - Pack meetings have games, skits, stunts, songs, ceremonies, and recognition that the scouts have earned that month.
- The Pack is run by the Pack Committee that is:
 - Made up of volunteer parents who deliver the Cub Scout Program.
 - Meets once a month.
 - Led by a Committee Chairperson.
- The Committee selects leadership, finds meeting places, performs record keeping, manages pack finances, keeps advancement records and shops for badges, maintains pack equipment, and helps train leaders and support Pack Den and Webelos leaders.
- The pack is sponsored by the Chartered Organization.
 - Chartered organizations include schools, religious organizations, service clubs, and other organizations interested in youth development.
 - Chartered organizations approve of the Pack leaders, help to secure meeting places, and ensure the standards and aim of the program are being met.

The Program

All scouts join with their current grade – there is no need to “work his or her way up.” A child can join at any time. All Cub Scouts earn the Bobcat Rank as an introduction to Cub Scouts.

Your child's grade in school will determine their Den (Lions, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos) within your Pack.

- Lions (Kindergarten) – Scouts will work on the Lion requirements with their parents one on one to earn their Lion Badge.
- Tigers (First Grade) – They work on the Tiger Requirements and then earn their Bobcat Badge.
- Wolves (Second Grade) – They work on their Wolf Requirements to earn their Wolf Badge.
- Bears (Third Grade) – They work on their Bear Requirements to earn their Bear Badge.
- Webelos (Fourth Grade) – They work on their Webelos Requirements to earn their Webelos Badge.
- Arrow of Light (Fifth Grade) – They work on their Arrow of Light Requirements to earn their Arrow of Light. It is a transition program between Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA.

Basic Terms

- Pack – The whole group. Packs can be sponsored by a school, church, or other group and usually involves all grades. The Pack meets once per month as a group with their families. This is where awards earned that month are given out and entire families attend.
- Den – A group of 6-8 scouts of the same grade. Dens usually meet two times per month, except for the week of the Pack meeting, to work on badges, crafts, etc.

- Den Leader - The primary leader of your child's den. Program ideas are easily available from Scouting America to make this the best “job” in Scouting. Den Meetings are usually set for the convenience of the Den Leader. Other parent participation is necessary for a quality program. Enjoy your involvement!
- Cubmaster – The Cubmaster leads the Pack and the Pack meetings. He or she works closely with the Committee Chair as a primary source of information for the group and will be able to answer most of your questions.
- Committee Chair – The Committee Chair runs the Pack through holding Committee meetings, planning the yearly program, and being the liaison to the chartered organization by cultivating a good relationship.

- Council – You and your child are joining Circle Ten Council, chartered by Scouting America. A council is a geographic area, divided into districts that provide services to local Packs.
- District – A district is a subdivision of the council and helps deliver service to Packs. Pack 289 is part of the Iron Horse district of Circle Ten Council. You will find several district volunteers working with your Pack's leadership as well as a District Executive, who is a full-time professional Scouter.

CODE OF CONDUCT

“Character Counts” is an important scouting principle. The intent is to provide an arena demonstrating good examples of behavior, discipline, and teamwork all within a context of fun and learning. At all events and meetings, it is expected that Scouts respect their leaders, guest speakers, and other Scouts by listening, following directions, and assisting when asked.

Den and Pack leaders may at times need to verbally remind Scouts of proper behavior. Any disciplinary actions beyond that will involve the parent or guardian of the child. Recurring issues should be brought to the attention of the Cubmaster as necessary.

Dens are encouraged to discuss behavior with their Scouts. Scouts should establish rules for their den. The following is Pack 289's “Code of Conduct.”

Pack 289 Cub Scout Code of Conduct

1. I will follow the Law of the Pack and the Cub Scout Promise to ‘do my best.’
2. I will be kind and respectful to others.
3. I will keep my hands and feet to myself.
4. I will listen when others are talking and not be disruptive.
5. I will follow instructions and wait my turn.
6. I will respect the property of others.
7. I will be honest and tell the truth.
8. I will always try to be on time.
9. I will wear my Cub Scout uniform with pride.
10. I will not throw any item at others unless it is part of an organized activity.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Your child's success and learning within the Cub Scouting program is directly proportional to your involvement in their program. The local Scout program is solely run by volunteers and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. We ask that each Scout has an adult volunteer for at least one opportunity throughout the year.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

COMMITTEE POSITIONS (ONE YEAR COMMITMENT)	
CUBMASTER Leader of the pack. Everything that the Cubmaster does is aimed at helping the individual scout.	ASSISTANT CUBMASTER Assist the Cubmaster as needed. Be ready to fill in for the Cubmaster, if necessary.
CUB SCOUT DEN LEADER Cub scout den leaders work directly with Cub Scouts and their guardians to execute the Cub Scouting program in the den.	PACK COMMITTEE CHAIR The pack committee chair leads the pack committee and thus is responsible for the administration, oversight, and support of the pack program.
TREASURER The treasurer ensures accurate financial records are kept, collects dues, and maintains balances of scouts' individual funding accounts.	SECRETARY The secretary ensures proper records are kept within the pack.
NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR This position organizes our recruiting and is the welcoming face that helps new families get acquainted with Scouting.	ADVANCEMENT CHAIR The advancement chair makes sure advancements are recorded in Scoutbook and prepares awards for Pack meetings.
WEBMASTER This position helps keep the pack informed using our website and Scoutbook to communicate with everyone.	PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR This person maintains the pack's social media pages and publishes the monthly pack newsletter.
OUTDOOR ACTIVITY CHAIR This position helps the scouts develop a love for the outdoors by organizing and leading monthly hikes and other outdoor activities like the fishing derby.	COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR This position maintains the pack's connection to the community by arranging scout nights and community service projects, as well as heading the committee.
FUNDRAISING CHAIR The fundraising chair coordinates the pack fundraisers throughout the year.	POPCORN KERNEL This position organizes our annual fundraiser, selling popcorn.
FAMILY CAMPING COORDINATOR This position leads the planning for our camping trips and leads the Campout Committee.	PINEWOOD DERBY COMMITTEE CHAIR This person organizes our annual Pinewood Derby and leads the committee.
BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET CHAIR This person organizes our annual Blue and Gold Banquet and heads the committee.	SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR This person organizes our special events, such as NASA or high-adventure trips.
RELIGIOUS EMBLEM COORDINATOR This person works with Den Leaders to make resources for religious emblems and awards available, and keeps the pack informed of Recognition of Faith events.	VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR Maintains a list of all pack volunteers and ensures all volunteers have completed the required trainings.
QUARTERMASTER The quartermaster maintains an asset inventory list of all pack	SPECIAL AWARDS CHAIRMAN This person is responsible for tracking and submitting the

equipment, ensures storage location, and conducts an annual asset inventory.	necessary paperwork for special pack awards, such as the National Summertime Award.
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COMMITTEES (CALLED INTO SERVICE WHENEVER THE ACTIVITY IS IN SESSION)	
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE Aids the Outdoor Activity Chair in whatever they may need.	COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE Works together with the chair to maintain a scout presence in our community.
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE Assists the chair in organizing and running fundraisers throughout the year.	FAMILY CAMPING COMMITTEE Works with the Family Camping Chair to organize and run the family campouts.
PINEWOOD DERBY COMMITTEE Works with the chair to set up and run the derby once a year.	BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET COMMITTEE Organizes and runs the Blue and Gold Banquet. Typically made up of the parents of scouts graduating into Scouts BSA.

REQUIRED VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Scouting America offers convenient training for everyone—parents, leaders, and youth members. As a new parent, you can learn all about Cub Scouting and the wonderful year-round adventure your Scout is about to experience. Log onto my.scouting.org, create a “My Scouting” account and get started.

YOUTH PROTECTION

Child abuse is a serious problem in our society, and unfortunately, it can occur anywhere, even in Scouting. Youth safety is of paramount importance to Scouting. For that reason, Scouting America continues to create barriers to abuse beyond what have previously existed in Scouting.

Scouting America places the greatest importance on providing the most secure environment possible for its youth members. To maintain such an environment, Scouting America has developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies, and provides parents and leaders with numerous online and print resources for the Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, and Venturing programs.

Youth Protection training is required for all Scouting America registered volunteers.

New leaders are required to take Youth Protection training before submitting an application for registration. The certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time the application is made and before volunteer service with youth begins.

We encourage all parents to take the Youth Protection training.

To find out more about the Youth Protection policies of Scouting America and how to help Scouting keep your family safe, see the Parent's Guide in any of the Cub Scouting or Scouts BSA handbooks, or go to www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx.

YOUTH

Cost: New Scout — \$260 /year

- \$175 due to pack in September
- \$85 paid directly online to Scouting America at registration

Included in Fees:	• Registration of the Scout with Scouting America • Pack and Circle Ten Council Registration • Scouting America & Council activity insurance • Advancements: Patches, pins, belt loops, awards, & other awards earned • Pack Activity Materials: Scout Camping, Pinewood Derby, Fishing Derby, and more
Not Included in Fees:	• Official Cub Scout Uniform • Patches for Unit identification • Cub Scout Camp(s) Registration • Activity Fees charged by a venue, Scouting America event, or other related service provider when outside of a regularly scheduled Pack or Den meeting

Financial assistance is available through Circle Ten Council for families who need help with registration costs — contact the Cubmaster or Committee Chair for details.

ADULT

Cost:	\$65 / Year per adult volunteer (Scouting America)
Included in Fees:	• Registration of the Scout leader with Scouting America • Circle Ten Council Registration • Scouting America & Council activity insurance • Cub Scout Youth Protection Training • Position Specific Training (Adult Leaders) — Online (Online Learning, Digital Planning Resources & Examples, Leader Guide for Rank)
Not Included in Fees:	• Official Cub Scout Uniform & Patches for Unit identification • Pack T-Shirt • Fees Charged for Training events or Live Scan • Activity Fees charged by a venue, Scouting America event, or other related service provider when outside of a regularly scheduled Pack or Den meeting

UNIFORMS



Scout Shop — <https://www.myscoutshop.org/>

5600 US Hwy 75, Fairview, TX 75069

Phone: (972) 359-9992

STAY CONNECTED

Communication is key to keeping parents informed. We have a few tools to make this happen:

- **WhatsApp Group Chat** — You will receive an invite when you provide your phone number
- **Pack Email** — kelseydbarnes@gmail.com
- **Facebook** — <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1CfKCVjQDR/>
- **Scoutbook** — <https://scoutbook.scouting.org> | We encourage Den Leaders to utilize this for planning.
- **Website** — <https://www.pack289.com/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

You're not alone — we're all in this together, and there are plenty of resources to assist us. Here's a quick reference of who to contact and where to find us:

Cubmaster	Justin Fischbeck
Committee Chair	Kelsey Barnes
New Member Coordinator	registration@pack289.com
Pack Email	kelsey.barnes@pack289.com; kelseybarnes@gmail.com
Pack Website	https://www.pack289.com/
Pack Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1CfKCVjQDR/
Scoutbook	https://scoutbook.scouting.org
Council	Circle Ten Council — https://c10bsa.org
District	Iron Horse District
Local Scout Shop	5600 US Hwy 75, Fairview, TX 75069 — (972) 359-9992

FAMILY TALENT SURVEY

Every family has skills, connections, or interests that can help our Pack thrive — whether that's photography, cooking, outdoor skills, graphic design, or simply an extra set of hands at events. Please complete our Family Talent Survey (link to be shared separately) so den and pack leaders know how you'd like to be involved this year. In the meantime, see the Volunteer Opportunities table earlier in this handbook for a full list of committee roles.

REQUIRED FORMS

SCOUTING AMERICA MEDICAL FORMS, PARTS A AND B

Scouting America requires that, for any and all Scouting activities, including in-person and virtual events, all participants complete Part A and Part B (both pages). 'All participants' includes parents, guardians, siblings, youth, staff, and unit leaders, including those participating in Pack 289. A copy of each participant's medical insurance card is to be attached to their forms.

- Current Fillable Forms:
https://www.pack289.com/_files/ugd/fe7f0_aa7e1ba3aa074bb3aa1a8d24737eb93a.pdf
- Please bring a completed Med Form to all Overnight Activities.

PACK 289 — 2026–27 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates subject to change — for the most current information, please see Scoutbook and subscribe to the pack calendar.

Den meetings are set separately by each Den Leader. Committee meetings are open to all parents who want to get more involved in pack planning.

Date	Event	Location
July 2026		
Jul 11 (Sat)	Fishing Derby — 9:00–11:00 AM	Lake Connemara
Jul 30 (Thu)	Committee Meeting — 7:00–9:00 PM (open to all parents)	Virtual
August 2026		
Aug 2 (Sun)	Pack Hike (date tentative)	
Aug 5 (Wed)	Committee Meeting (open to all parents)	
TBD	Meet the Teacher Night	Light Farms & Johnson Elementary
Aug 28 (Fri)	Join Night / New Parent Meeting & Pack Meeting #1 — 6:00 PM	Prosper United Methodist Church
September 2026		
Sep 12 (Sat)	Popcorn Sale Kickoff	Light Farms & Mustang Lakes neighborhoods
Sep 13 (Sun)	Bike Rodeo — 2:00 PM	Frontier Park
Sep 18 (Fri)	Pack Meeting #2: Bobcat Games & S'mores — 6:00 PM	Irwin Park
TBD	New Parent / “Scouting 101” Info Session	
October 2026		
Oct 2 (Fri)	Pack Meeting #3: Bobcat Ceremony & Cards for Troops — 6:00 PM	Prosper United Methodist Church
Oct 4 (Sun)	Popcorn Sale (second date, optional)	
Oct 7 (Wed)	Committee Meeting (open to all parents)	
Oct 14 (Wed)	Camping 101 Webinar — 8:00 PM	Virtual
Oct 18 (Sat)	Community Service Day & Pack Hike	Constellation Park
November 2026		
Nov 1 (Sun)	Pack Hike (optional)	
Nov 4 (Wed)	Committee Meeting (open to all parents)	
Nov 6–8 (Fri–Sun)	Fall Family Campout — this is the November Pack Meeting	Camp Wisdom
Nov 21 (Sat)	Community Service Event (tentative)	
Nov 29 (Sun)	Pack Hike (optional)	
December 2026		

Dec 4 (Fri)	Pack Meeting #4: Caroling Rehearsal — 6:00 PM	Prosper United Methodist Church
Dec 12 or 13	Singing for Seniors (tentative)	Location TBD
Dec 18 (Fri)	Holiday Lights Hike / Caroling (evening)	
Dec 19 (Sat)	Wreaths Across America (optional, morning)	
January 2027		
Jan 6 (Wed)	Committee Meeting (open to all parents)	
Jan 8 (Fri)	Pack Meeting #5: Pinewood Derby Preview — 6:00 PM	Prosper United Methodist Church
Jan 10 (Sun)	Pinewood Derby Build Day #1 — 3:00 PM	
Jan 16–18 (Sat–Mon)	NASA High Adventure Trip (optional, additional cost)	
Jan 21 (Wed)	Pinewood Derby Build Day #2 — 6:00–8:00 PM	
February 2027		
Feb 3 (Wed)	Committee Meeting (open to all parents)	
Feb 5 (Fri)	Pinewood Derby Check-In	
Feb 6 (Sat)	Pinewood Derby Race	
Feb 7 (Sun)	Pack Hike (optional)	
Feb 20 (Fri)	Blue and Gold Banquet — 6:00 PM	
Feb 22 (Sun)	Scout Sunday / Arrow of Light Crossover Ceremony	Irwin Park
March 2027		
Mar 3 (Wed)	Committee Meeting (open to all parents)	
Mar 5 (Fri)	Pack Meeting #6 — 6:00 PM	Prosper United Methodist Church
Mar 7, 14, 21, 28 (Sat)	Mini Hike Series (optional; none Mar 15–19 for spring break)	
April 2027		
Apr 7 (Wed)	Committee Meeting (open to all parents)	
Apr 2 or 9 (Fri)	Pack Meeting #7 — 6:00 PM (date to be confirmed)	
Apr 11 (Sat)	Community Service Event (date to be confirmed)	
Apr 23–25 (Thu–Sat)	Spring Family Campout	Camp Trevor Rees-Jones, Athens, TX
May 2027		

May 7 (Fri)	Crossover / End-of-Year Celebration (BBQ potluck) — 6:00 PM	Frontier Park (tentative)
TBD	Pack Hike / Meeting #8 (optional, ongoing monthly hikes)	