

WORKING WITH A DEN CHIEF

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COMING UP ...

- Den Chief Objectives (as stated in the Den Chief Pledge)
- Den Chief Responsibilities
- Purposes of Cub Scouting (a reminder to both Den Leaders and Den Chiefs)

Den Chief Pledge

I promise to help the Scouts of my den to the best of my ability; to encourage, guide, and protect them in all den and pack activities; and to show them by my example what Boy Scouts of America stands for.

I will strive to be prompt and dependable, and to cooperate with the leaders in carrying out the den program.

As each member becomes eligible to move along the Cub Scouting trail, I will encourage them and do all in my power to interest them in someday becoming a Scout in a troop.

Scout Oath and Scout Law

The Cub Scout Motto- Do Your Best

The Meaning of Webelos- We'll be Loyal Scouts

Den Chief Responsibilities

- Help the den leader with den meetings.
- Help lead activities, games and ceremonies.
- Help the members learn to be leaders.
- Set a good example as a role model.
- Encourage Cub Scouts and Webelos to move on to the next Scouting level.



Den Chief Role: Help Scouts Achieve Purposes of Cub Scouting

- Character development – learning to be a worthy person.
- Spiritual growth – coming to understand your relationship with God.
- Good citizenship – obeying the law and helping out in the community.
- Sportsmanship and fitness – playing fair and taking care of your body.
- Family understanding – all families are different, knowing how yours works is very important.
- Respectful relationships – every single human being deserves respect.
- Personal achievement – trying your best at all times is one way to make it to your goals.
- Friendly service – help others at all times with a smile.
- Fun and adventure – good times are what make life exciting.
- Preparation for Scouts BSA – help den members understand why it is great to be in a Scouts BSA Troop

SOME THOUGHTS IN CHOOSING A DEN CHIEF

- **THE TRAP AWAITING US ALL WITH DEN CHIEFS:**

- The Scout will drop down to the level of the Den and be a hindrance rather than a help

- **SO:**

- Look for maturity in the candidate
- Make the rank of First Class a requirement for Den Chief

ON THE NEXT FEW PAGES ...

**DETAILS ABOUT DEN CHIEF
RESPONSIBILITIES**

DEN CHIEF RESPONSIBILITIES (1)

ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT

LEADING GAMES

LEADING STUNTS AND SKITS

LEADING SONGS

LEADING SPORTS

SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE

ATTITUDES – GOOD OR BAD, THEY ARE INFECTIOUS

UNIFORMING – IF YOU WEAR IT, SO WILL THEY

TRUE FOR BOTH DEN CHIEFS AND DEN LEADERS

DEN CHIEF RESPONSIBILITIES (2)

- **HELP LEAD DEN MEETINGS**

- HELP THE CUB SCOUTS ADVANCE
- HELP THEM MAKE THINGS
- LEAD ACTIVITIES
- HELP THEM GET READY FOR THEIR PART IN THE PACK MEETINGS

DEN CHIEF RESPONSIBILITIES (3)

- **HELP THE DEN AT THE PACK MEETING-**
 - HELP GET THE CUB SCOUTS AND THEIR FAMILIES SEATED IN THEIR ASSIGNED PLACES
 - HELP YOUR DEN DO WHATEVER IT WAS ASKED TO DO FOR THE MEETING SUCH AS-
 - PUTTING ON A SKIT
 - CONDUCTING THE OPENING OR CLOSING CEREMONY
 - LEADING A SONG
 - JUST BEING READY TO HELP IN ANY WAY
 - AND KEEPING AN EYE ON YOUR CUB SCOUTS TO SEE THAT THEY BEHAVE

DEN CHIEF RESPONSIBILITIES (4)

BE A FRIEND TO THE CUB SCOUTS IN YOUR DEN –

BEING A FRIEND TO YOUNGER CHILDREN TAKES SOME SPECIAL SKILLS, BUT PAYS OFF WITH A BOND LIKE NO OTHER.

IT IS AKIN TO HERO WORSHIP AND IS EXTREMELY SATISFYING.

MEET WITH ADULT LEADERS – TWO-WAY STREET

LETS THE DEN CHIEF KNOW WHAT THE LEADERS NEED AND EXPECT

GIVES THE DEN CHIEF AN OPPORTUNITY TO INTERACT WITH ADULTS ON AN ALMOST EQUAL LEVEL

A Den Chief is NOT ...

- The Primary Planner of the Den Meeting
- In Charge of Correcting Behavior
- A Substitute for an Adult Leader

Adult Leaders Whom Den Chiefs Work With

- At The Pack
 - Den Leader – primary contact
 - Cubmaster (occasionally)
 - Pack Committee Chair (rarely)
- At Your Troop
 - Scoutmaster (needs to approve your appointment as a Den Chief)
 - Troop-Designated Liaison with Pack
 - may be an Assistant Scoutmaster or a Troop Committee Member (e.g., Advancement Chair, Membership Chair)
 - Den Chief Coordinator (possibly the same person)

You and Your Den Chief

Here is what we teach Den Chiefs about their specific role-

What You and the Den Leader Determine What It Will Be

This means that before (at least “days”) each meeting, Den Leaders have discussed with their Den Chiefs exactly what they will be doing, teaching, or leading at the next meeting.

Such communication is especially important prior to the first meeting of the year, so that Den Chiefs have actually met with their Den Leaders, and they know exactly what they'll be doing.

Finally, understand that Den Chiefs may be using their service to meet the *Position of Responsibility* requirement for their next Scouts BSA rank. Please try to provide opportunities for them to take and discharge such responsibility.

You and Your Den Chief (Finances)

All items that a Den Chief needs or expenses that he or she incurs need to be purchased or reimbursed by the Pack.

These include-

- The Cub Scout Handbook used by the Den
- Any event admission and transportation costs (e.g., bus, train) when accompanying the Den or Pack as their Den Chief
 - Note that for Council or District events, such as Cub Scout Camporees, it may be possible, upon request, that the organizers will treat a Den Chief as “event staff,” in which case, the admission fee will be waived
- Any supplies or materials needed for games, crafts, or meeting room setup (e.g., American flag)

ABOUT TROOP CONTACTS ...

Make sure that the Den Chief's Troop has in fact named the person who is the liaison with your Pack.

You'll need to have somebody in his or her Troop whom you can contact for anything from

- (1) expressing praise for the Den Chief and
- (2) coordinating your Webelos and Arrow of Light Den activities and crossover with the Troop, to
- (3) questions, issues, or concerns about the Den Chief.

GOOD DEN CHIEFS ARE
INVALUABLE
CHOOSE THEM WELL