

A FAMILY INFORMATION GUIDE



PACK 462

Havertown, PA

Chartered by The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch



Why Join Cub Scouting?

- Cub Scouting can assist you in helping your children grow into people with self-confidence, independence, socialization skills, and a genuine concern for others.
- Cub Scouts benefit developmentally from belonging to a small group of peers at their own grade level and a Pack of other scouts who they can learn from while they are young or help lead as they grow.
- As a parent, you want to be assured that the groups that your child joins will teach values consistent with good citizenship, character development, personal fitness, and leadership.



Prepared. For Life.®

The values we seek to instill are found in the Scout Oath and Scout Law:

Scout Oath

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.

Scout Law

A Scout is:
trustworthy,
loyal,
helpful,
friendly,
courteous,
kind,
obedient,
cheerful,
thrifty,
brave,
clean
reverent.



Because it's fun!

We know that kids do not join Cub Scouting for character building. Kids join because it is fun. Your child will learn great lessons, but they will be far too busy having fun to notice.

How Does Cub Scouting Work?

Creating friendships

The Cub Scouting program takes place at two levels:

Your Den: Your child will be a part of a **den**, a small group of Cub Scouts in the same grade level. A den typically meets ONCE per month, although some may meet more often.



The Pack: All dens, from kindergarten through fifth grade, make up a **pack**. This is how kids get to meet older or younger peers. Ideally once per month the pack will come together for group activities like holiday parties, events, and group activities. At Pack Meetings, each den share's their progress and achievements.



Together as a den

Here all the Tigers are singing together at a Pack Meeting / Holiday party.

Together as a pack

Here all of 462, including parents, marches down Darby road as part of Haverford Township day.

Later they will sell pretzels as a fundraiser.



Forge friendships that last

Advancing through the ranks

Cub Scouts have a different handbook at each grade level, with adventures that are age-appropriate for their developmental level. As your child advances through these books by working on adventures, they will earn badges and other recognition that they wear on their uniform.



Kindergarten

First Grade

Second Grade

Third Grade

Fourth Grade

Fifth Grade

Your child is welcome to join Pack 462 at any of these ages/grade levels. If he/she wasn't ready as a Lion, don't let that deter you now. Although most kids start young, the word of mouth spreads as they meet new friends at school and through other activities like sports. Please feel free to recruit friends or join at any age. We especially need older scouts right now. They are a critical influence on younger scouts and can help lead Pack activities.

Transitioning to the Troop

As your child grows in Scouting, your role will change with them, from hands-on involvement to guiding and coaching. After elementary school, most Scouts from Pack 462 shift into Troop 434 where they become even more independent. Activities are led by other Scouts (with help from adult volunteers) and advance in difficulty. Meetings and camping become more frequent. There are additional ranks and merit badges all the way through Eagle Scout and beyond.



What do the adults do?

Parents and family are a part of the fun

In Cub Scouting, you and your family join in on the program with your child, and you will help them along the way. Join in on camping outings, help build Pinewood derby cars, and help make paper rockets. Better yet teach them to do those things themselves.

At Pack 462, parents volunteer to lead individual den meetings or become den leaders or pack committee members to help organize activities. There's no one "coach," we're in it together. In fact, the BSA has a 2-deep leadership policy that requires at least 2 leaders be present with children at all times.



Leaders & volunteers

Here a former Cubmaster runs the Pinewood Derby software, while Den Leaders and parents help organize the annual race .

Make memories with your child that will last a lifetime

Traditional leadership roles and responsibilities

We are fortunate to have a great core of active leaders and parents, but kids grow up and parents move on. We can always use new leaders. Please join the committee. We try to make it as fun as the events themselves.

Cubmaster: Organizes Pack-level events and communications.

Committee Chair: Helps organize committee meetings, etc.

Key 3 delegates: There must always be 3 core leaders for BSA.

Treasurer: Tracks the finances and helps with fundraisers

Advancement chair: Moves kids through the ranks, purchases badges

Rechartering chair: Establishes official roster with BSA

Misc. committee members: Volunteer to lead individual events

Den leaders: At least one per grade level to establish schedule and topics of meetings, then delegate leadership to parent volunteers

Parents: Help supervise Scouts and lead 1-2 den meetings per year

What if I wasn't a Scout myself?

For every Eagle Scout who returns to give their kid the experience they enjoyed, there are 10 of us who never did anything like this. You don't need to know how to tie knots for instance. Just talk to the parent of an older scout, reach out to a committee leader, read this pamphlet, or...

Get online training

The BSA offers convenient training for parents who volunteer. As a new parent, you can learn all about Cub Scouting and how quality Scouting programs are built. Log on to [my.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) and create an account to gain access to all available training content. For more information about training at all levels of the program, go to www.scouting.org/training.

Other Worries?

No dangerous adventures required

This is a program designed for kids in elementary school. There will not be mountain climbing, wrestling with bears, rope bridges, white-water rafting, or anything else that you may think is over their heads. Even campfires and whittling will be adult supervised. Feel free opt out of anything that exits your personal parenting comfort zone.

Rest assured with Youth Protection

Child safety 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, the BSA continues to create barriers to abuse beyond what have previously existed in Scouting.

All leaders are required to complete Youth Protection training. All parents are encouraged to take the training. To complete the training online, go to [my.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) and establish an account using the member number you receive when you register for BSA membership. If you take the training online before you obtain a member number, be sure to return to [my.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) and enter your number for training record credit.

4

Background checks

Just like coaching or volunteering at your child's school, we also now require multiple forms of background checks:

- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check
- PA Child Abuse History certification (Dept of Human Services)
- FBI fingerprint clearance for anyone who hasn't lived in PA for 10 years (or a signed affidavit attesting to 10-year residency)

What happens during a Scout Season?

Picture at least 2 events per month.
Usually a den meeting and a pack meeting or special event.

Each **den meeting** has a topic or educational theme that is appropriate to your child's age level. Den leaders can suggest topics based on the rank handbook. Parent volunteers lead Scouts through that month's activities.

2-3 Meetings or Events Per Month

10 Month Calendar (with summer break)

3-4 Optional Campouts/Overnights

A Cub Scout **pack meeting** is made up of all the dens, which meet monthly at the pack meeting, led by the Cubmaster. There are games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of achievements and badges that Cub Scouts earned during that month. This is where families can see the achievements of their Cub Scout.

Other **special events** throughout the year, including:

Pinewood Derby—You can build and race a model car with your child.

Blue and gold banquet—Cub Scouting's annual anniversary celebration—for all pack members and their families— takes place in February.

Camping—Overnight and day camp opportunities introduce your family to the camping

Fundraisers—We take part in Scouting America's annual Popcorn Campaign, our local council's Hike-A-Thon, and one or two other events. This helps keep scouting affordable for families.

Service projects—Packs may participate in food drives, conservation projects, or other community activities.

Field trips and special outings—Events added based on level of interest—such as group outings to sporting events, museums, aquariums, planetariums, police stations, etc.

Visit www.pack462havertown.com/upcoming-events to see the most up-to-date pack calendar.

Spotlight on Camping

All different levels of camping

Even if you're not big on the great outdoors or not geared up for an elaborate adventure, you should still join us for a campout. Outdoor events are usually your choice to stay 1 night or 2 (Fri-Sat) or just come up for a day trip (Saturday). Museum trips are overnights often on Fridays.

Additional costs may apply.

1) Tent Camping at Musser Scout Reservation

October 16-18, we'll camp at camp in tents but have access to the kitchen and pavilion shown here. This camp site grants us access to the BB and archery ranges on site.



2) Aquarium Overnight

November 20-21, we'll explore the aquarium and sleep overnight! Each year, we stay at a different museum, battle ship, rock climbing gym, etc.



3) Winter Lock-In

January 30-31, we'll stay overnight at Temple Lutheran Church. We'll play games, watch a movie in the sanctuary with popcorn, and sleep around the building. A "Lock-in" is simply a term for a church sleepover. No one will actually be locked into the building.

4) Bunkhouse Camping at Fort Akela, Camp Garrison

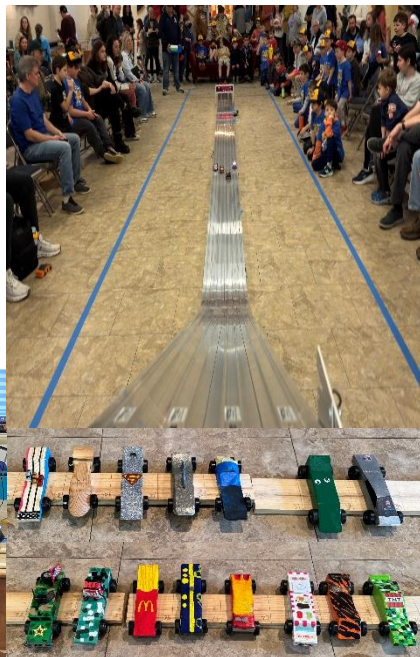
April 16-18, we'll camp in bunks and have organized activities for the scouts. There will be gaga ball, roof ball (always a favorite), and the ranges will be available.



Other Annual Highlights

The Pinewood Derby

This one definitely needs some help from the parents. Kids get a block of wood and create a dream car. Saw it, sand it, paint it, add some weights, then they get to race it vs. their friends. Watch out for the 5 oz. weight limit though. Top 3 each year win a prize while others win for most creative, funniest, etc.



The Blue & Gold Party

This is the annual celebration of cub scouts that takes place in February. At this event, our 5th graders will “cross over” to a scout troop where they can begin their journey towards Eagle Scout.



Optional Bonus Events

Scout Night at the Ballpark

Phillies, Flyers, BlueRocks. Some local team. The pack gets a block of tickets and hopefully gets to walk around the outfield or go out on the ice, or sleep on the field! Then they cheer on the home team in loud shrilly screams. They also beg you for food and souvenirs. A lot.



Den-level Field Trips

To truly get the most out of Scouts, Den Leaders should help organize extra educational events in the community. In the past, Dens have toured the police station, learned about the justice system at the municipal court, and toured QVC to learn about communications and television production.



Council-organized Activities or Day Camps

Some Scouts are having so much fun they want to add extras on beyond our pack-organized events. We will share information about events like FallFest but they fill up fast so take the initiative and sign up your child and their friends for whatever sounds cool.

How Much Does Scouting Cost?

Pack 462 strives to keep the program affordable and fulfilling.

The new base cost is \$150 per Scout.

There are need-based financial assistance programs available at the pack level. Please ask Tim, Patrick, and Mike about this and they'd be happy to help.

Please register through the National website then send local dues to the Pack.

[My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org)
[Registration](#)

Annual Dues

{	\$85	Registration—direct to National BSA
	\$65	Local costs: Venmo @Pack462

Dues are \$65 if paid before October 1.
\$90 if paid later.

New scouts will not be penalized for joining later—they'll pay \$65.



~\$50	Uniform @ Scout Store
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Optional Pack Events

- Campouts & Overnights
- Special Outings

See next page for what you can expect to receive from the pack.

Where does the money go?

Projected Income		
Source	Description	Budget %
Annual Pack Dues	Scout dues minus neckerchief returns, sibling discounts	~\$5K (50%)
Fundraising	\$10,000 Gross Popcorn Goal, Two Community Events	~\$5K (50%)
Projected Expenses		
Registration & administration	Adult Leader Registration, Website, Insurance	15%
Advancement & Uniforms	Patches, Hats, Neckerchiefs, Class B Shirts	35%
Core Pack Events	Blue and Gold, Pinewood Derby, Pack Meetings, Camping Trips Den Meeting Materials	35%
Additional Pack and Den Activities	Den Meetings, Shooting Sports, Pack/Den Outings	15%
	Total Expenses	~\$10K

Additional event costs: You should also expect to incur additional costs for many of the favorite activities. Each is optional but encouraged to get the full experience. The memories are worth it. We just don't build them into initial costs because you may or not be able to attend each event. Here are some estimated costs from previous years:

- **Fall camping:** \$50 per household
- **Aquarium Overnight:** \$80 per person.
- **Spring camping:** \$50 per household

See next page for what you can expect to receive from the pack.

What will I receive from the pack?

Class B Uniform: This T-shirt is provided for new scouts and adult leaders when they join Pack 462. Valued at \$15. You get one each year as part of your dues. It should be worn to any informal events or activities in which your Class A uniform could get dirty or damaged.



Neckerchiefs & Slides

Starting this year, neckerchiefs will be property of the pack. Your scout will receive a neckerchief at some of our more formal or public-facing events. They'll hand it back at the end of the event. This will ensure that scouts wear their neckerchiefs, and it will keep us from purchasing new neckerchiefs each year. After all, a scout it thrifty.



Badges and rank cards

When Scouts achieve a new rank, they will be awarded new badges at the end of the year. Each rank badge will be added to their Class A uniform. Additional badges are occasionally earned for participation in individual events.

Hats

We now have a Pack 462 baseball cap featuring the blue & gold colors of Cub Scouts in general that scouts would wear throughout their years in the pack instead of receiving a new one each year.



What is not included?

Class A uniforms: Both scouts and adult leaders should purchase an official uniform from the Valley Forge Scout Shop with accompanying emblems and starter patches (Cradle of Liberty Council, purple fleur de lis). We recommend getting a “pre-sewn” uniform. It’s worth the upcharge. Ideally to be worn with blue or khaki shorts. The cost may vary. Expect to spend at least \$55 for youth and adults. Uniforms may also be purchased at your local Scout shop in King of Prussia.

Scouts and adult leaders are entitled to a **Uniform Allowance** to offset the cost of a Class A. When you purchase a Class A uniform, text your receipt to Mike Wilson (215-527-4094) and Tim Johansen (516-592-0412) and you’ll be sent a reimbursement via Venmo.



Blue uniform worn by Lions through Webelos (from K – 4)



Tan uniform worn by Arrows of Light (5th grade) and Adults

Uniform Pants are optional, but they do look sharp...

You Do Not Need to Purchase:

Our pack provides **“462” Unit Patches**.

Our pack will lend out **neckerchiefs**.

We wear pack hats, not **rank-specific hats**.

You will not need a **handbook**.

Please consider passing along used Class A uniforms to the Pack for collection and distribution to future scouts who would prefer not to incur this cost.

Pack Policies

1. Fundraising is ESSENTIAL

A primary goal of scouting is that it is fun, educational, and rewarding. As you can see from previous sections, the costs can add up. Therefore, to keep dues as low as possible, scouts engage in community events and fundraising to cover the costs of scouting as much as possible. It is a Pack priority to reduce and eliminate misc. costs to the scout and parent for Pack-wide meetings and activities.

Pack 462 utilizes two main types of annual fundraising:

- a) Sales of Snack Products throughout the year (now Trail's End Popcorn)
- We typically sell to family and friends and at local storefronts.
 - Storefront shifts can be claimed through the Trail's End App.



*Text APP to 62771
to get a link to download.
Then, create an account.
Council: Cradle of Liberty Council
District: Constellation
Unit Code: 78YZE*

- b) Direct Sales of food and Soda/Water at:
- Fall: Haverford Township Day on Darby Road (early October)
 - Spring Heritage Festival on Karakung Road (early June)
 - If necessary



What we expect: Participation!

We need scouts (and parents) to man the tables. Not only do we need to fill all the timeslots with volunteers, but it's also a fun learning experience for your child. They get to learn to be salespeople and make change and serve others. We'll make it possible to work around soccer, baseball, birthday parties, etc.

What you can earn: Cubsidies!

We plan to reward Scouts who take fundraising seriously. As you and your scout sell popcorn and participate in other fundraising events, we will credit your "Cubsidy" account with 50% of the profits to subsidize other costs. This can help your family to cover the cost of camping trips and other outings.

2. LEADER TRAINING & CHILD SAFETY CLEARANCES

Pack 462 requires all adult leaders and volunteers to be registered and complete role-specific web-based training including at least the Youth Protection Training. Completion of registration and youth leadership training requires a series of background checks. The Pack Committee supports adult leaders and volunteers as much as possible through the Youth Protection Training process, but it is not optional. Furthermore, a key Youth Protection Training rule is dual leadership, meaning any den or pack activities must have at least two registered and youth-protection-trained adults. This enables us to ensure no adult is never left alone with a single child.



3. LESS PRESSURE. MORE FUN.

All Scouting events are optional. There is no obligation to attend everything. Make Scouts fit your schedule around your child's other commitments. Ideally a Scout should try to attend a majority of den meetings to rank up, but Cub Scouts requirements are lenient, it's about having fun not filling out a checklist. Later in the Scout troop, specific requirements will have to be met for each advancement. But even at that level, Scouts can participate for the fun. They don't have to pursue rank advancement.

4. ANYONE CAN BE A SCOUT.

Any girls (or transgender or non-binary children) interested in joining Pack 462 are welcome.

Although we currently have a majority of male scouts, we have adopted the Family Den Pilot program, which means scouts of other genders would not need to be in an exclusive den or unit. They would participate along with children of their own grade level. If at some point, we have enough female scouts who would prefer to create their own den, that is also welcomed.



You Are Not Alone!

Your **den** is in a **pack** that belongs to an organization chartered with Scouting America to operate a Cub Scout pack. The chartered organization approves leadership, helps secure a meeting place, and makes sure that the pack works within the guidelines and policies of their organization as well as those of the Scouting America.

Many volunteers and scouting professionals are interested in the success of your pack. A special volunteer assigned to help your pack is called a **commissioner**. The commissioner helps the pack provide a successful and high-quality program. The commissioner is also the communication link between your pack and the local council.

There are professional staff at your council service center who can help or will get you in touch with someone who can. Local Council Locator: www.scouting.org/LocalCouncilLocator.aspx

My child is in Pack 462, which meets at Llanerch Presbyterian Church at 7pm on the 2nd or 3rd Thursday of each month).

My child is in Den _____, which meets at _____ (location) at _____ (time) on _____ (day of week).

Our pack's chartered organization is Llanerch Presbyterian Church

Our local council name is Cradle of Liberty

Phone No. (610) 688-6900. Website <https://colbsa.org>

Contact Information

Last Updated August 2026

Our Leaders	Name	Phone No.	Email
Committee Chair:	Tim Johansen	516-592-0412	PastorTBJ@gmail.com
Cubmaster:	Patrick Hutton	610-283-1329	JackGarrett@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Mike Wilson	215-527-4094	Michael.Wilson8585@gmail.com

Chartered Organization Representative:

Dr. Kate Moore/Hiebert kmmoore@sas.upenn.edu

Den Leaders:

Lions (Kindergarten):	Jenn Onopa	JenniferAOnopa@gmail.com
Tigers (1 st Grade):	Michael Wilson	Michael.Wilson8585@gmail.com
Wolves (2nd Grade):	Currently looking for a den leader	
Bears (3rd Grade):	Tim Johansen	PastorTBJ@gmail.com
Webelos (4 th Grade):	Patrick Hutton	pfmhutton@gmail.com
Arrow of Light (5 th):	Julia Phillips	julia.haus.phillips@gmail.com

Troop 434 leadership (6th grade through 18 years):

Committee Chair:	Anthony St. Joseph	215-680-6427	saint461@gmail.com
Scoutmaster:	Gardner Landon		gardnerlandon@gmail.com

