

SPORTS/ ACADEMICS



SPORT AND ACADEMICS INDEX

ACADEMIC AWARDS.....	Page 9
ACADEMIC BELT LOOPS.....	Page 9
ACADEMIC GENERAL INFORMATION.....	Page 9
ACADEMIC LETTER.....	Page 9
ACADEMIC PINS.....	Page 9
ACADEMIC WORD OF WARNING.....	Page 9
CONCEPTS OF THE ACADEMICS PROGRAMS.....	Page 9
CONCEPTS OF THE SPORTS PROGRAM.....	Page 7
SPORTS.....	Page 7
SPORTS AS A RECRUITING TOOL.....	Page 8
SPORTS AWARDS.....	Page 8
SPORTS BELT LOOPS.....	Page 8
SPORTS GENERAL INFORMATION.....	Page 7
SPORTS LETTER.....	Page 8
SPORTS PINS.....	Page 8
YOUTH ATHLETES BILL OF RIGHTS.....	Page 8

SPORTS/ACADEMICS

General Information

In today's busy world, families are often compelled to make many choices regarding how to best spend their time. Often young boys are forced to choose between organized sports (*soccer, basketball, football, etc.*) and Scouting. It is for this reason that the Cub Scouting Division of the Boy Scouts of America developed the CUB SPORTS AND ACADEMICS PROGRAM.

SPORTS AND ACADEMICS PROGRAM allows your Cub Scouts to participate in supplemental program in his pack, in his community or by himself. Cub Scouting emphasizes participation of the family by involving an adult teammate (*preferably a parent, grandparent, uncle, aunt, etc.*) Through the Cub Scout years, the Cub is encouraged to learn and practice good sportsmanship and to always DO HIS BEST. The Academics program helps your Cub Scout to expand their curiosity with "hands on" experiences, such as science projects, art fairs, trips to historical places or reading about adventures in far away places.



Sports

Currently, Cub Scouting has 20 Sports activities (not including BB Gun/Air Rifle):

Team Sports: Badminton, Baseball, Basketball, Bowling, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Table Tennis, Ultimate***, and Volleyball.

Individual Sports: Archery*, Bicycling, Golf, Gymnastics, Fishing, Marbles, Physical Fitness, Skating Skiing**, BB Gun* and Swimming.

(* Archery and BB Gun should be completed through your district or council Day Camp program. ** Downhill or cross country skiing only. Water skiing is NOT included

*** Ultimate is Frisbee, since Frisbee is a registered trademark the name was changed)

Any of these booklets can be purchased at your local Scout Service Center

Concept of the Sports Program

Cub Scout Sports supplements the existing program, but does not replace it. Many of the Sports activities are included in some of the requirements for the Wolf, Bear and Webelos badges. In some cases, a boy playing soccer for a league team, could also play the game with his den and pack and still complete requirements in his handbook.

Emphasis is on the introduction of a sport, on taking part in it, and on "Doing Your Best".



Cub Scout Sports does not emphasize winning. There is a strong emphasis on sportsmanship, which is the athlete's word for standards of conduct. As adult leaders, we also want to encourage "fair play" and safety. After all, a sport can't be any fun, if boys get hurt while playing it.

Every boy registered in Cub Scouting is eligible to participate and be recognized for that participation. There are summer and winter sports, as well as indoor and outdoor sports. Active and less-active sports make this program available to all Cub Scouts. There is encouragement and recognition for all adult participation.

Cub Scout sports are flexible, practical, and simple to manage and operate. A den or pack may decide to participate in two sports per year. Recognition is done in the form of belt loops, pins and letters, which we'll explain later.

SPORTS/ACADEMICS

Sports as a Recruiting tool?

Cub Scouts and their friends will find the sports program of great interest. Many boys are playing soccer or baseball, but how many get a chance to learn marbles, golf, or table tennis. More importantly, how many boys get to go fishing? The fact that there are organized sports clubs in your area, should not keep you from trying a sports program for your pack. Explain to the parents that the Cub Scout Sports program is just one of the many programs offered to the registered Cub Scouts. This may encourage boys to take part in the Scouting program if they know they can earn awards for sports activities.

YOUNG ATHLETES BILL OF RIGHTS

Cub Scout Athletes are all protected by a Bill of Rights. This has been prepared by physical education experts and should be an integral part of your pack's program. For more information, refer to the Cub Scout Sports Leader Guide, No. 2152. Additional information is also included in several of the Sports guides as well as the How To Book.

Sports Awards

BELT LOOPS

A belt loop is awarded to any Cub Scout/Webelos Scout who participates in the sport of his choice, either in a pack tournament, or in a program in his community. This is the first level of award and is presented for participation, knowledge of the sport, and ability to practice or play that sport. The belt loops may be worn on the Official Cub Scout uniform belt only. (they don't fit on the green belt) The three concepts which should be kept in mind when deciding when a boy should receive his belt loop are his introduction to the sport, his taking part in the physical activity of the sport, and doing his best. Winning is not a determining factor, but fun should be a part of the activity that helps him earn his belt loop.

SPORTS PINS

A boy can earn a sports pin by accumulating points for exercise and practice in his sport. He is awarded one point for every 30 minutes he spends in practice or conditioning with a daily limit of 5 possible points. For most sports, if he earns 60 points within a three month period (90 days), he can then be presented a Sports Pin imprinted with the symbol of his sport. Just remember, 30 -60- 90...30 minutes per point, 60 points over 90 days. NOTE: There are a few sports which require one point for every 15 minutes of training, practice or play, for a total of 75 points accumulated over 90 day period. This mostly applies for sports like Basketball. Be sure a check individual Sports manuals before starting.

SPORTS LETTER

For this award, the Cub Scout/Webelos Scout MUST have an adult teammate. The teammate must also earn a Sports pin in any sport of his choice.



For the adult's part, their requirements are more strenuous than the boy's. Adults earn one point for every hour of practice (except for basketball, which is one point for every 30 minutes). Adults must earn 60 points (75 for basketball) within the same 90 day period. For the Cub and his adult partner, no more than 5 points may be tallied in one day. This usually means that the Cub would get credit for only one hour and 15 minutes of exercise in a single day and the adult teammate would get credit for only 2 hours and 30 minutes of conditioning in a single day.

These awards should be awarded at a pack ceremony where both the Cub Scout/Webelos Scout and the adult teammate can be awarded their sports pin. The Cub Scout can also be awarded his Sports letter, which can be worn on his "brag vest", patch shirt or warm-up coat. The Sports pins and letter cannot be worn on his uniform as it is not official insignia. There are 21 sports pins available

SPORTS/ACADEMICS

Academics

General Information

In response to some concerns that too many boys are solely interested in sports, but can do art, music, reading, or science, the Cub Scouting Division has designed the ACADEMICS PROGRAM. This program is designed to help young boys become interested in discovery. Treasures abound in books, in art projects, music, or in the vastness of science. Academics program will expand a young boy's mind in a positive and creative manner.

Concepts of the Academics Programs

The Academics programs are designed in a similar manner as the Sports program, as far as earning belt loops, academic pins, and academic letter; however, each of these programs strive to introduce young boys to new and exciting things which can help them in their school work. All academics programs are based on "scholarship", which many young boys consider to be a STUFFY and UNFUN word. But isn't scholarship another way of having adventures. Learning how to read, expressing oneself through art, music, and writing, or unlocking the secrets of nature can all be just as much fun as climbing a mountain or sailing the ocean.

A WORD OF WARNING

Don't make the academic program too challenging for the boys. Second grade Cub Scouts may not have a full grasp of reading, like fourth or fifth grade Webelos should have. If the project is too challenging, scale it back to a level that boys can learn but still have fun. Likewise, don't make Webelos Scouts so easy that you lose the boys attention and interest. Most of the Science Academic program has been geared away from nuclear physics. The Science book available at your local service center lists many projects that limit the use of industrial chemicals and high powered electricity. Special care should be exercised when your little 'Albert Einstein' wants to test the Theory of Relativity. Instead, try directing him towards the projects listed in the Science guide, or consult your science teacher at school.

Above all, keep the main event simple and fun!

Academic Awards

BELT LOOPS

Belt loops are awarded for participation in the Academic event. Most of the Academic program books have a section which lists the criteria for awarding belt loops. Academic belt loops can be worn on the Official Cub Scout belt, but they won't fit the Boy Scout green belt. The main idea with these belt loops is an introduction and work in the Academic subject. Notice, there is no mention about winning or proficiency. The main feature is that the Cub Scout DOES HIS BEST.

ACADEMIC PINS

Academic pins are awarded after completing a total of points and activities that are listed in each Academic program book. In most cases, the Cubs spend about 30 minutes practicing, training or performing the particular subject for one point. The Cub records a total of 60 points over a 90 day period to be eligible for the Academic pin. No more than 5 points can be earned in one day.

ACADEMIC LETTER

Letters can be awarded to Cub Scouts, if they have an adult partner teammate who has earned an Academic pin. The teammate does not have to earn an Academic pin in the same program as the Cub Scout. However, it would be more fun the boy if he and his adult partner were learning together. Academic letter and pins cannot be worn on the official uniform, but can be worn on the Cubs "brag vest", also known as a patch vest.

Most of all don't forget that many of the activities shown in the Sports and Academic Program also qualify the Cub Scouts for parts of achievement in their handbook. When planning these supplemental programs, be sure to inform den leaders and parents of the completed achievement area.