



PACK 98-LEXINGTON KY
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



Pack 98 Lexington KY Cub Scouts

Parents and Leader Information Packet

Spring-Fall 2022

<http://pack98lexington.ScoutLander.com>



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Meetings

Where We Meet for Pack Meetings (During Covid19 the place may vary)

PACK 98 meets at Parks and other locations in South Lexington. We also meet at the Scouthouse of Rosemont Baptist Church (our charter) at 599 Mitchell Ave Lexington KY 40503. Some of our activities take place at the Gym of Rosemont Baptist Church.

When the school system opens to outside groups meeting again on site, we will meet again for Pack meetings as in the past at :

Clays Mill Elementary
2319 Clays Mill Rd
Lexington KY 40503

For Den Meetings we meet **at various locations in South Lexington.**

Pack Meetings

Last or 4th Tuesday of the month 6:15pm Starts Gathering Meeting opening starts 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Den Meetings

Dens normally meet 2 times a month on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm. The Pack calendar will have the regular scheduled meetings on it. There may be months in which dens will meet more often.

Lion's Den will meet the 1st Tuesday and 3rd of the month (usually a "go see it"), plus attends the Pack meeting if parents choose to. Awards to Lion's will sometimes occur at Den meetings but may also occur at the Pack meeting. If your scout only wants to attend once a month, they can still complete the program, but some activities may be completed at home.

Den's leaders may add other events to the calendar for their dens. Dens may also choose to meet a member's home, meet also at the Scouthouse on another night, or visit with another unit depending on their adventures.

Pack 98 is a family pack that is co-ed for both boys and girls.

The dens with scouts of each gender will have at least one leader of both genders. This means, they will have registered leaders/adult scouter volunteers of both sexes present during meetings and activities. We practice two adult leadership. When all dens are present at a common den meeting, they will all gather for opening and closing and break out for their den meeting. To make sure we have enough registered leaders that are youth protection trained at all meetings and events. We are always looking for more parents and significant others in our scouts' lives to register and train to be registered leaders or registered adult volunteers.



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Pack 98 practices Safe Scouting and Safe Covid-19 practices:

Our dens have 10 or less scouts and qualify as small groups. If more than one den meets at the same location, they spread out to different areas. We are meeting outside until weather does not permit. Masks are voluntary currently per CDC guidelines. Our pack has families and leaders that are elevated risk for various viral and bacterial infections who may chose masks for various meetings and activities. Please do not bring your scout or family member to an activity if they may have active infection. Scouts, family members, or leaders who start coughing or sneezing repeatedly during an activity may receive a request to wear a mask out of respect for others and to limit the distance of the secretion travel. Activities are planned for social distancing. At Pack meetings, family social distance seating is practice during red zone times. Some pack meetings may be held in drive in mode. Dens and the Pack may also meet virtually when appropriate. All Cub Families are encouraged to participate in the many District, Council, and National virtual/live events and activities.

The Cost to join:

The cost to join scouting varies with the time of year that your join as dues for the current year are prorated but national may increase them during the year. Please email or call the Pack leaders for more information. Pack dues vary each year in amount and when collected. We will work with each family to keep our Pack affordable.

Financial Assistance

If you are unable to afford the costs of the national BSA dues or uniform, you should contact the Committee Chair or Cubmaster and ask for a council financial assistance form. The pack will work with you on the Pack dues. Do not let the cost of Scouting deter you from joining Scouts - we can help you afford it.

Contacting the Key Three Leaders

Current Committee Chair	Anne Weinberger	859-333-0329	ladylockdr@netscape.net
Charter organization Rep	Guy Weinberger	859-229-4402	Cor.rbc.scouting@gmail.com
Pack 98 Cubmaster	Chris Van Meter	859-537-0007	captivanmeter@gmail.com

Communication: The pack uses emaildodo as our group email list to communicate. We also sometime use text messaging or Packmaster email.

Here is How to Join our Pack!



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Families will need to complete Youth and or Leader applications to join. One of the Pack's key three leaders will email a link to the Packs online national application to Parents email through my.scouting website. To create the link, the leaders need to enter a parent name, email, and phone# at a minimum. Transfer or previously registered scouts or multiple unit Pack leader applications may be done by paper application. There is also a Family Talent Survey, medical forms, and photo release. Fees due to national and council are due at time of joining.

Reminder: All names on the applications need to match what is currently in Scoutnet/legal name/ birth certificate etc. for all adult and youth scouts. Example if you or your scouts' legal name for school, birth certificate, background checks, or is in national's Scoutnet database, as Michael Poole, then you need to use that name on the new/transfer application, instead of Mike Poole. If the legal name on the birth certificate is William Todd Smith, then it needs to be on the application instead of Todd Smith.

Council, District, Pack, & Den

As you learn about Scouting, you will hear about Council Events, District Events, Pack Events, and Den Events. Below we give you an overview of what that means and why there is so much fun to choose from when your family joins Cub Scouts.

Blue Grass Council

The Blue Grass Council has a long, rich history with Scouting in Kentucky. As early as 1908, the first Kentucky Scout troop (and one of the first troops in the nation) was chartered in Frankfort as an extension of Britain's Scout Association. When the Boy Scouts of America was formed on February 8, 1910, the Frankfort troop was given the distinction of being called Kentucky's Troop 1. To serve the growing number of Scout troops in Kentucky, the BSA officially chartered the Lexington Council in 1917. The council's name was changed to the Blue Grass Council in 1928. Currently, the Blue Grass Council proudly serves Scouts in 55 counties throughout central and eastern Kentucky. The council has events that all units may participate in and some for each program such as Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturing etc.

Palisades District

Council administers the Scouting program through 8 districts. Our Pack is in the Palisades District. The District also provides volunteer support, training, program opportunities, events, fundraising opportunities, and administrative services at a more localized level. We will also attend District Events as a Pack and we will encourage you to attend others individually. District events offer a more localized flavor as they are nearby in Fayette, Madison, Jessamine, or Garrard Counties. Council Events are mostly held at Camp McKee.

Pack 98



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Our Pack serves Kindergarten -5th Grade students in Fayette and nearby counties. We have a long history of providing the Scouting program to Lexington and surrounding counties. Our Pack draws from the resources provided through the Palisades District and the Blue Grass Council. We also organize our own events, which you will learn about later in this packet.

The Key 3 Pack Leaders are the Charter Organization Rep, Troop Committee Chair, and Cubmaster. Our Key 3 leaders contact information is in a previous section. Please contact them with any questions or concerns.

Your Den

Your scout will be assigned a Den based on your child's grade in school and age per current BSA guidelines. The idea is to place the scouts into small groups with friends he/she might already know. Ideally, dens will have 6 to 8 scouts and will be led by a parent/significant adult and helpers. The Den Leaders will draw from the resources of the Pack, the District, and the Council. Dens meet approx. twice a month and focus on completing the program adventures as outlined in the handbooks. Each year you will use a different handbook. Our Den's meet at the same time and day as the others. Therefore, if your leader cannot make a regular scheduled meeting, it will not be cancelled, another leader will fill in, and for group activities, another den may join the fun. However, dens may meet at times by themselves and go on Den only adventures.

PACKMASTER

Our pack is a family pack that uses Packmaster Web 2.0 for advancements, our roster, and activity planning. This allows our pack to have ownership of our data including history of past membership and start working with scout families before they official join national or are added by council to the national database.

Leaders have access to all scouts in case they are working with multiple dens at a given activity.

Parents are given a sign on to Packmaster when they official join national or upon request. Parents given access to Packmaster and are urged to update information on them and their scout as appropriate. Parents may also mark completion of rank requirements in this database to be approved by the leader Packmaster has a phone app as well as being available for computer desktops. Some functions such as updating information may only be available through a computer/website sign on and not the app. Sign on information will arrive as an email from Troopmaster. (Troopmaster Software is Packmasters parent company.)
<https://pmweb.troopmaster.com/Login/PickSite> select state KY and Pack 98.

The advancement chair uses Internet Advancement 2.0/Scoutbook to report to national and the council the awards, ranks, and activities of our pack and scouts. We cannot officially award rank



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and awards at the Pack meeting until they are reported. Scouts not on our packs official National charter/roster cannot receive awards until they join, and their membership is posted. It is the Cubmaster and Committee Chairs responsibility to make sure that service hours are noted in Internet Advancement 2.0 for Pack JTE credit.

Uniforms

It is OK to attend meetings without a uniform the first couple of weeks. The uniforms are worn at Pack Meetings, Den Meetings, Fundraisers, and other more formal events.

We have two uniforms. The “Class A/dress” uniform is the more formal of the two. You should purchase a hat, shirt, neckerchief, slide, and a belt. Check with friends and relatives, as they might have previously experienced Scout uniforms tucked away in a closet. The Pack has used uniforms available (see Cubmaster) the “Class B/field” uniform is a Pack T-shirt that our scouts wear to campouts and less formal events. The Lion’s program uniform is a Lion’s T Shirt available at the National Scout shop. The Tigers through Bears wear the Blue uniform shirt and pants/skorts/shorts. The Webelo and AOL scouts wear the Tan shirts and olive pants/shorts that the Scouting USA scouts wear. The Scout Shop also will sew the emblems and patches on the shirts for an additional fee.

The Pack does ask that parents turn in uniform parts they no longer need. Each year your child will need a different hat and neckerchief because he will advance to the next rank in Scouting. If you turn your old uniforms in it acts as a ‘clothes bank for lower income Scout families in our Pack. If your scout requires uniform assistance, see the Committee Chair or Cubmaster.

Leader Training

All current and new leaders must complete the following as required by National, Council and or by our Pack. In Cub Scouts, most leader training for Youth protection and Specific position training can be completed online. The District does offer in person training through the year. Baloo training is an in-person training offered by the District /Council at various times. It now requires an overnight campout and all volunteers taking the training must be registered adults. To become a new leader/registered adult you must.

- Fill out an Adult Application
- Meet with the Charter Organization Rep and Committee Chair so they can get to know you before you apply. They must approve your leader application and vet you for the charter organization.
- Go to myscouting.org and create an account
 - take Youth Protection training - (certificate must be turned in with Application)
 - Take “Leader Specific” Training
- Contact the Pack Trainer or Committee Chair about courses taken so they know what your qualifications are for various Pack positions.
- Baloo training- The pack needs as many leaders as possible to have this training so the



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pack can conduct its own camping program within BSA guidelines.

PACK FINANCES AND DONATIONS:

Under a charter from the Council and National BSA Pack 98 is owned by Rosemont Baptist Church and is not its own 5013 C for IRS tax deduction purposes. Any donations to Pack 98 are donations to Rosemont Baptist Church designated to Pack 98. Any large financial donations to the Pack that require an Official IRS receipt should be given to Rosemont Baptist Church with Pack 98 as the designated recipient. Donations designated for a specific individual's fees etc. such as membership or camp fees are not deductible under IRS guidelines. Leaders need to consult their tax advisor on deductible mileage, uniform, and other expenses. The church has a tax-exempt form on file at Gordon Food Service that we can use. The church does not give them to the pack to use routinely. See Guy or Anne for more information.

Per BSA fundraising guidelines: Only the Bluegrass Council, Palisades District and National BSA organizations are allowed to solicit donations from businesses. Our Pack is also not eligible for matching funds or donations from businesses that contribute to Rosemont Baptist on a matching or % of businesses basis. Rosemont participates with Kroger, Walmart, Amazon.smile, and City BBQ.

Our Pack annually sells popcorn as part of the Council Popcorn sale that gives a % to the Pack. This participation qualifies our pack for Free Rank. Other fundraisers, if approved by the council may include a yard sale, selling candy bars etc. All Pack fundraisers require the submission of a Unit Fund Raising form to the Council and must be an approved fundraiser under BSA fund raising guidelines that prohibits raffles, gambling, and other types of fundraising.

LEAVE NO TRACE: We practice leave no trace and pick up after ourselves at all the places we meet so to the point that it looks like we did not meet there. This includes removing trash, washing tables, taking home all materials, and sweeping the floor if applicable. Leave no trace includes not picking plant life, or sawing tree limbs for firewood, practicing catch and release fishing etc.

Activities: The goal of Scouting is "Fun with a Purpose." Our leaders try their best to incorporate this goal into everything we do with the Scouts. Below we list some of the ways we go about accomplishing a quality program for the scouts in our Pack. Our Goal is to have one event, organized for the entire Pack, once a month.

Pack Meetings: Each month our Scouts (grades K-5) get together at a meeting to celebrate their achievements. Pack meetings are optional for Lion Scouts per BSA, but they may have awards presented at a pack meeting. Your Scout is awarded patches, badges, belt loops, pins, etc.



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at this event paid for by Pack 98. Scouting is all about recognizing the scouts. Your entire family is invited to celebrate with them. Our Pack meetings are held the last Tuesday /4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Gathering activities start at 6:15 pm. No Pack meetings are held in June and July, but summertime activities take place. Some months pack meetings may be on the 5th Tuesday, and we do work around holiday and school vacation weeks.

Fall and Spring District Cub Campouts or Day activities: The district tries to hold a family overnight camp each Spring and/or Fall. Since Covid has limited the facilities willing to host a district overnight campout, district day events are also part of the fun being planned. New scouts will love the activities including BB Gun Shooting and Archery. Bring a tent (when applicable) and join in the fun. During Covid 19 if a live campout is not available due to Covid level or available site issues. There may be a virtual campout featuring family backyard camping etc. at the District, Council, or National level. Day events are held at the District and Council levels. District and Council events are the only ones allowed to offer BB gun and Archery target shooting opportunities.

Pinewood Derby: In February, we get our race on! This is always a winner for the scouts, and some say the parents had fun along the way too.

Blue and Gold Celebration: This is an annual event to celebrate the birthday of Scouting. Pack families are invited, and our Scouts get entertained with a fun program of awards and activities. Our pack loves holding this event at Champs.

Outdoor Camping: We offer one or two camp outs as a Pack depending on the weather and leaders' schedules. The Council Also has opportunities for Family Cub Scout Camping during the year at Camp McKee. Our pack also participates in District Camping events when available. Pack families that do not have their own tent or other gear should contact the Cubmaster or Committee Chair. Our charter has some gear in the Scouthouse that may be checked out and borrowed to be returned in good condition.

Rosemont Baptist Church (Charter Organization) Pack families may attend the church's children's activities (Harvest Fair, Nerf Wars, VBS, Sunday School etc.) and are always welcome at the church services. Once a year the pack attends as a unit for Scout Sunday, which is when Rosemont recognizes its Scouting units. Rosemont sponsors four scouting Pack 98, Troop 98B, Troop 98G, and Crew 98. Many families have scouts in multiple units and parents serve multiple roles in various units. The church provides the Scouthouse at 599 Mitchell Ave for the chartered units use. The church helps financially when a major item on the house such as the siding needs replaced. However, the units are responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the house with Troop 98B having the most responsibility, due its original arrangement with the church. All units assist with the house upkeep with labor, financially, and materials as needed. The Pack through the COR may request use of Rosemont Baptist's Gym, Yates Hall, and Sanctuary. The church does require a member of the church to be present and



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take responsibility for the facility during events and this usually is the COR and/or committee chair (if a Rosemont member).

Friends of Scouting(FOS): Annually, our Pack has a FOS presentation, and each family receives an opportunity to contribute to the Council/District Friend of Scouting fund. These funds help support the Scouting program in the Bluegrass Council. All funds stay in the Bluegrass Council. Contributions support financial aid for membership and uniform to scout families, supports Camp McKee, camperships for Scout Camp, etc. Donations are accepted at Council fund raising events, online at the Council website, by card filled out at unit FOS presentation etc. Please designate Pack 98 to be given credit for the donation somewhere on card or in the notes of the online donation. Our Pack has benefited from this fund, and it has helped our scouts participate in the Scouting program that could not otherwise afford to. A FOS presentation is required for the unit to receive free rank.

Parents and Significant Others Role in Scouts

Parents and a scout's significant other adult are the important part of an exceptional Scouting program. As a parent, your scout and other scouts consider you "Akela." Akela is a symbol of wisdom, authority, and leadership. Examples of Akela include the Cubmaster, the Den Leader, teachers, and YOU--the main leader your scout looks to for guidance.

As your child progresses through the ranks of scouting your role, and influence on him/her achieving goals should decrease accordingly. For example, your presence is expected at all Den Meetings and most outings if your child is a 1st grade Tiger Cub or Kindergarten Lion (you are an Adult Partner) and your role decreases when he moves to a 2nd Grade Wolf Cub. Your role decreases more as they advance to a 3rd Grade Bear Cub and through the Webelos rank. Each year your Scout will become more responsible for their advancement in the program and each year our parents find more time to assist all the kids in the Pack.

During our meetings and outings, all Parents are to look out for the Safety of All of the Scouts in the Pack. **Pack 98** meets in parks and other public places and need to practice the buddy system and other safe scouting procedures in all locations. When meeting at the Scouthouse, all cub scouts are not to go near the storage racks on that side of the house. We have had scouts try to climb the boat storage area, which is not safe. The upstairs rooms in the Scouthouse should not be used as a play area as it also stores the workshop tools needed for Pack crafts and Troop merit badges, some of whom need to be used with adult supervision. **When there are scouts upstairs there should be two adults with them.** The outside door covering the basement stairs is not a slide and should not be walked, climbed, or scooted down. Parents will be financially responsible for the damages their scout creates to church and other owner's property. When attending activities inside the church, please go directly to the room or area where event is being held and watch your scout and family members, so they do not roam the premises. There are areas of the church that are not child proofed, so please do not roam into areas that are not used for our



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activities.

The Pack is also responsible for cleaning and taking out garbage after our meetings at the Scouthouse and when using other church facilities. We also need to put away our gear following weekend gatherings before other units meet etc. Parents need to allow time after the meetings or events for their scout to help with clean up or putting away gear.

Parents are welcome at meetings of the Pack Committee. The Pack Committee is responsible for the Pack 98's overall program, finances, gear, and it supplies and supports all pack activities. Oversight, planning, and implementation strategies for the total pack program is discussed at the monthly pack unit committee meetings. In our pack, the leaders of the unit all contribute and participate at the committee meetings. Parents are welcome to attend and formally join the committee. The committee enables, equips, and trains the leaders and parent volunteers. Every pack is required to maintain their charter to have several registered adults trained in how a pack committee functions to be the official members of the committee. These are the official voting members of the committee. Pack committee training is available online at my.Scouting.org. Every family should have an adult participating by attending the unit committee meetings and providing support for the pack.

We ask that you identify your strengths and find ways to apply them towards the Pack program. Your role is certainly up to you, but we all hope you find a good place in our Pack to apply those skills and enhance the Pack program. Feel free to speak with any of the current leaders about where you can help.

SCOUT ME IN AND COME JOIN THE FUN!