



Scout Executive's Message Christian J. Long, SE

Here We Go!

Fall roundups are upon us and you have been busy recruiting new boys and their parents into the best youth program in the world. The kids are bright-eyed and excited about the new world of adventure that awaits them. The parents are probably excited for their kids, but also a little apprehensive about what awaits them. Undoubtedly you asked all of your new parents for their help this year. Some of the parents signed up enthusiastically, others had the look of a deer in the headlights. Remember, they are new to this and really have little idea about what will happen next!

The Care and Feeding of the new Cub Scout Leader...

WOOT! You got them signed up, now what? Here is a list of some of the things that you may want to consider as you get your new leaders ready for their responsibilities:

1. Make sure they get registered! This ensures that they are covered by insurance and begin getting vital information through Scouting Magazine.
2. Assign a current leader or past leader to be a mentor and share experiences, act as a resource, and offer encouragement. Remember, NOBODY has come into Cub Scouting knowing exactly what to do!
3. Provide all the necessary support materials to your new leaders – Cub Scout Leader Book, Program Helps, forms, calendars etc.
4. Help the new leader get online and take Fast Start Training! This may be the most important thing you can do.
5. Educate them on all of the upcoming training opportunities and encourage them to attend (maybe even attend with them!): Basic Training, Roundtable, BALOO, and other supplemental training courses.
6. And finally... make sure that they are having fun! You don't want to have to recruit a replacement for them half-way through the year.

Do these things and you will have an abundance of leaders who will do an excellent job. Happy leaders who feel well-supported will stay involved longer, and will actually attract new leaders. Thanks for all you do – you have taken on a very meaningful position in the Boy Scouts of America!

Yours in Scouting,

Christian J. Long

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