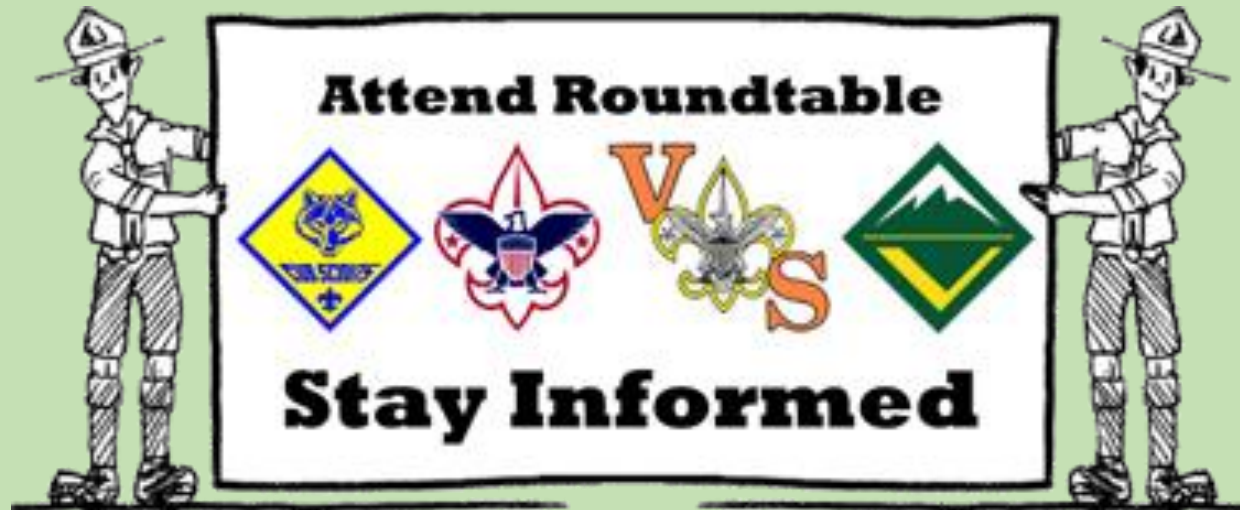


George Mason District Roundtable

January 11, 2024



Pledge



Agenda

- Welcome and Pledge
- Questions about [Read-ahead](#)
- Award(s)
- General Announcements
- Breakout Sessions:
 - Cub Scouts – Program Changes
 - Scouts BSA – OA Elections
- Cracker Barrel/Networking (Optional; NLT 9pm)
- Next Meeting: February 8, 2024 (7:30pm)

Welcome

New to Roundtable?

Please introduce yourself!

Questions/Clarification about Read-ahead?

Award(s)

General Announcements

Current 2023 George Mason Calendar

- February 03, 2024 – [Life to Eagle Seminar](#), Virtual
- February 24, 2024 – [University of Scouting](#), Alexandria, VA
- March 09, 2024 – [GMD Merit Badge Day](#), Fairfax, VA
- April 13, 2024 – GMD Pinewood Derby, Fairfax, VA
- May 27, 2024 – Memorial Day Flags In, Falls Church, VA



STEM

- 02/03/24 - [Akela Chess Classic Cub Scout Tournament](#), MSSC, Bethesda, MD
- 02/10/24 - [Akela Chess Classic Scouts BSA Tournament](#), MSSC, Bethesda, MD
- 03/23/24 – [Maryland Science Center Camp-In](#), Baltimore, MD

- Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky (on PBS) - [link](#)

- Anytime – [DC STEM Trek](#)- Showcases 24 government agencies, private organizations and monuments related to the tenets upon which STEM is based. Two hikes - 10.57 miles, or 4.75 miles

2024 GM District Merit Badge Day



- March 9th, 2024, at Fairfax Presbyterian Church in Fairfax.
- There are currently 110 Scouts registered today. There are still openings, but they are going fast. Please check out at the Registration site to see what is open:
 - <https://site.corsizio.com/a/5bf2f8e8e6dfc6f1ca7cbd64>
- Still need the Unit's Merit Badge Day Coordinator names and contact details or the Registration reports will be going to the Key 3 of the Units participating. Send info to : gmaisonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com
- Scouts should be utilizing the merit badge books and read requirements and start tackling the "pre-work" now.
- Note: The "pre-work" is not the same as a "prerequisite." The "pre-work" consists of tasks/activities that the Scout is advised to do in advance of the Merit Badge Day. A Scout can still participate in the Merit Badge Day class if he hasn't completed the pre-work but failure to complete the pre-work may mean the Scout leaves the Merit Badge Day with a partial badge. A prerequisite is something that must be done in order to qualify to take the class. The only prerequisite we are aware of for the George Mason Merit Badge Day is that the Scout must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts in a participating unit.
- Feedback to John Drisco at gmaisonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com

Big Rock

- Breakout Sessions –
 - Cubs – Program Changes
 - Scouts BSA – OA Elections



**PROGRAM
UPDATES
2024-25 Program
Year**

**Effective:
June 1, 2024**

Why Change the Cub Program?

- Average Cub tenure is short!
- Parents are influential – keeping parents is key to keeping Cubs
- More effective to retain the Cubs we have than recruit, lose and repeat
- Program quality is one key to retention



1.6

Fun, Simple And Easy For Cubs, Parents and Leaders!

Feedback From
over 23,000
Cub Scout
Leaders and
Parents

95%
Confidence



4 Major areas of focus:



BOBCAT



ADVENTURES



WEBELOS (4TH/5TH GRADE)



AWARDS

Bobcat's New Look

























































Reimagined Adventures

- Simple structure
 - 6 required adventures at each rank
 - 2 elective adventures
- Dens can do more than two electives if they want

6 + 2

2024-2025
 Cub Scout Badges of Rank
Requirements

6 Required Adventures per rank
2 Elective Adventures per rank

 LION Kindergarten	 TIGER 1 st Grade	 WOLF 2 ND Grade	 BEAR 3 RD Grade	 WEBELOS 4 TH Grade	 ARROW OF LIGHT 5 TH Grade
 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership
 MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors	 TIGERS IN THE WILD Outdoors	 PAWS ON THE PATH Outdoors	 BEAR HABITAT Outdoors	 WEBELOS WALKABOUT Outdoors	 OUTDOOR ADVENTURER Outdoors
 FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness	 TIGER BITES Personal Fitness	 RUNNING WITH THE PACK Personal Fitness	 BEAR STRONG Personal Fitness	 STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER Personal Fitness	 PERSONAL FITNESS Personal Fitness
 KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship	 TEAM TIGER Citizenship	 COUNCIL FIRE Citizenship	 PAWS FOR ACTION Citizenship	 MY COMMUNITY Citizenship	 CITIZENSHIP Citizenship
 LION ROAR Personal Safety	 TIGER ROAR Personal Safety	 SAFETY IN NUMBERS Personal Safety	 STANDING TALL Personal Safety	 MY SAFETY Safety/First Aid	 FIRST AID Safety/First Aid
 LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	 TIGER CIRCLES Family/Reverence	 FOOTSTEPS Family/Reverence	 FELLOWSHIP Family/Reverence	 MY FAMILY Family/Reverence	 DUTY TO GOD Family/Reverence
  2 Elective Adventures	  2 Elective Adventures	  2 Elective Adventures	  2 Elective Adventures	  2 Elective Adventures	  2 Elective Adventures

CUB SCOUT ELECTIVE ADVENTURES



Kindergarten
16 Electives



1st Grade
20 Electives



2nd Grade
20 Electives



3rd Grade
20 Electives



4th Grade
20 Electives



5th Grade
16 Electives

Build It Up, Knock It Down
Gizmos and Gadgets
I'll Do It Myself
On Your Mark
Pick My Path
Ready, Set, Grow
Count On Me
Everyday Tech
Go Fish
Let's Camp
On a Roll
Race Time
Time to Swim
World Conservation
Archery
Slingshot

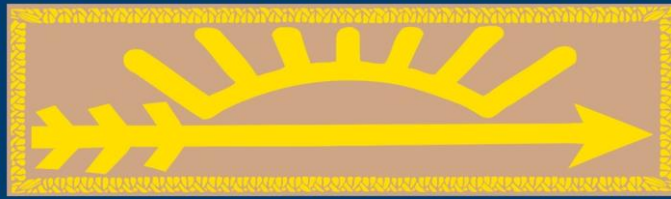
Curiosity, etc.
Floats and Boats
Good Knights
Rolling Tigers
Safe and Smart
Sky Is the Limit
Stories in Shapes
Tiger Tag
Tiger-iffic!
Designed by Tiger
Fish On
Let's Camp
Race Time
Summertime Fun
Tech All Around
Tigers in the Water
World Conservation
Archery
BB Guns
Slingshot

Adventures in Coins
Air of the Wolf
Code of the Wolf
Cubs Who Care
Digging in the Past
Finding Your Way
Germs Alive!
Paws of Skill
Spirit of the Water
A Wolf Goes Fishing
Computing Wolves
Let's Camp
Paws for Water
Pedal with the Pack
Race Time
Summertime Fun
World Conservation
Archery
BB Guns

A Bear Goes Fishing
Baloo the Builder
Critter Care
Forensics
Marble Madness
Roaring Laughter
Salmon Run
Super Science
Bears Afloat
Bears on Bikes
Balancing Bears
Let's Camp
Race Time
Summertime Fun
Top Chef Tech
Whittling
World Conservation
Archery
BB Guns
Slingshot

Aquanaut
Art Explosion
Aware and Care
Build It
Earth Rocks!
Catch the Big One
Let's Camp
Math on the Trail
Modular Design
Paddle Onward
Pedal Away
Race Time
Chef's Knife
Summertime Fun
Tech on the Trail
World Conservation
Yoyo
Archery
BB Guns
Slingshot

Engineer
Into the Wild
Into the Woods
Cycling
Estimations
Fishing
High Tech Outdoors
Knife Safety
Paddle Craft
Race Time
Summertime Fun
Swimming
World Conservation
Archery
BB Guns
Slingshot



Arrow of Light to Scouts BSA



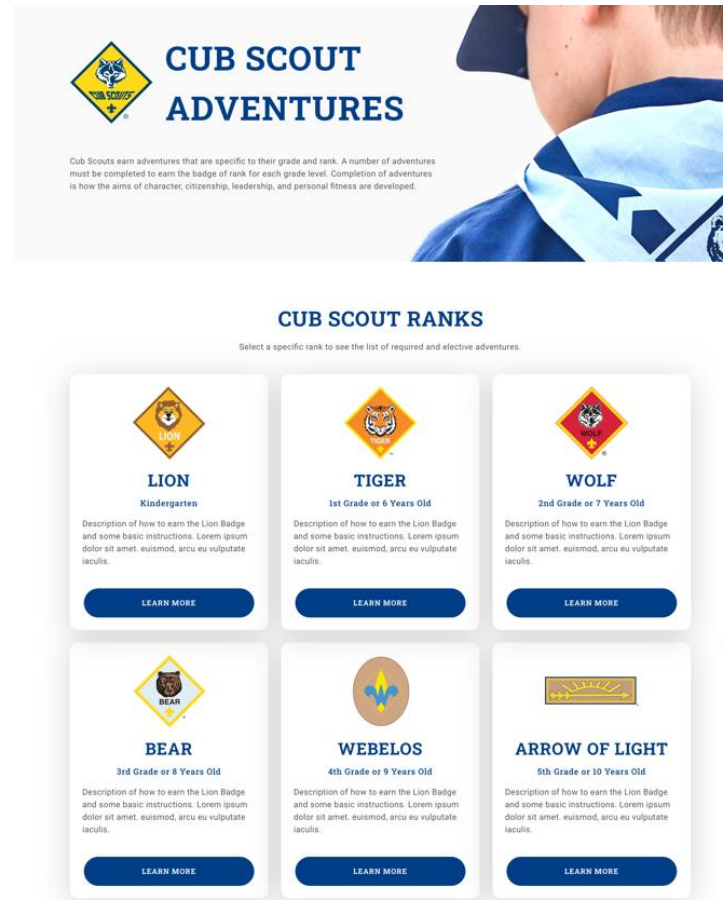
- Webelos and Arrow of Light are separate ranks
- Changes to AOL were in collaboration with the National Scouts BSA Committee
- The Arrow of Light rank is designed to prepare for Scouts BSA
- Scouts BSA units need to “be prepared” for earlier Cub contacts.

Reimagined Awards

OLD NAME	Sunset		NEW NAME	
Outdoor Activity Award			Let's Camp	
World Conservation Award			Champions for Nature	
Summertime Pack Award			Summertime Fun	
Whittling Chip			Whittling	

Reimagined Leader Resources

- Online Leader “pages” – Desktop, mobile or printable
- Cards tell leaders at a glance about level of effort, supplies, etc.
- Activity card makes planning easier
- Giving a card to another adult makes delegation easier too



Requirement 1

Have your adult partner or den leader demonstrate your understanding of

Choose one of the following:

Lion - Kindergarten

Den Flag

Indoors 1 3 4

Making a den flag builds a sense of team and is a great way to show your den pride throughout the year...

[See Details](#)

Simpler Delivery Leads to Positive Leader Experience!

How will we get out the word to Cub leaders and others?

- National #CubChatLive podcasts used to deliver 1 hour session on each topic, along with some Q&A sessions
- [Program Updates at scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/)
- University of Scouting Period #1

Unique Situations or Exceptions? – Do Your Best



CUB SCOUT PROGRAM UPDATES ROLLOUT

NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Cub Chat Live! 11-10-23 General Announcement	Cub Chat Live! 12-1-23 Rank Advancements and Bobcat	Cub Chat Live! 1-12-24 New and Improved Adventures	Cub Chat Live! 2-2-24 Webelos and Arrow of Light	Cub Chat Live! 3-1-24 Handbooks and Leader Resources	Cub Chat Live! 4-5-24 Den and Pack Meetings	Cub Chat Live! 5-10-24 Top 10 Most Common Questions	Cub Chat Live! 6-7-24 Safety Integration

Council Programs

Resources for councils and districts to plan for programs for the summer of 2024

Presenters Trained

December 18
Team of experts trained and available to present to local councils and districts.

Commissioners

Resources for Commissioners

Prime Time Episodes of Cub Chat Live!

January 16th @ 7 p.m. Central

January 23rd @ 7 p.m. Central

January 30th @ 7 p.m. Central

Scouts BSA

Resources for Scouts BSA Leaders

Scout Shops

Spring of 2024
New Cub Scout Handbooks
New Cub Scout Adventures
Loops and Pins

Training

Position Specific Training Updated

Updated Cub Scout Roundtable Videos

On-line Tools

Scoutbook Updated

Online Reports Updated



Promote Cub Chat Live!



Resources

- Program Announcement: https://bit.ly/CS_June2024_announce
- Program FAQ: <https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-faq-11-16-23/>
- Cub Chat Live: <https://bit.ly/CubChatLive>



Questions?

Contact:

Matt Burns, NCAC Advancement:

[2024 Cub Program Update Questions](#)

All changes go into effect on June 1, 2024

Time for Cracker Barrell

- *Minutes and slides available on the [GMD web site](#) (District Resources, Roundtable). Password is “GMDRT”*
- *Next meeting – February 8, 2024, at Thoreau MS*

Backup Slides

Merit Badges

- The online Merit Badge Counselor [registration](#) works for all Scouters who do not already hold another District position.
- New Merit Badge Counselors must complete online merit badge counselor training, in addition to YPT. Be sure the counselor uses his/her legal name – no nicknames.
- Merit Badge Counselors, or the unit Dean/Leader, also need to scan and send Margee the Merit Badge application form listing the badges the counselor is applying to teach and providing a justification of his/her qualifications.
- Youth Protection Training is the essential first step. Don't hit "send" on the application without it!
- Contact Margee if you have questions at GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com.

Did you know:

- The National Council does not limit the number of merit badges a youth may earn from one counselor, though a **unit leader is permitted to do so**, as long as the same limit applies to all Scouts in the unit. Ideally, Scouts should work with a variety of adults. (GTA 7.0.0.3)
- Partial Merit Badges have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. (GTA 7.0.3.3)
- Due to the BSA policies related to Youth Protection and two-deep leadership, a merit badge counselor must have another adult present during all merit badge counseling sessions. However, the parent or legal guardian of the Scout may serve as the second adult. **This parent or legal guardian does not have to be a registered leader.**
- If the requirements for a merit badge differ between the merit badge pamphlet and the current edition of Scouts BSA Requirements, the requirements in the Scouts BSA Requirements book supersede all others.



Training (<https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/training/>)

Back Country Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS)

03/23/24 & 04/27/24-04/28/24

10/05/24 & 11/02/24-11/03/24

Climbing Level 1 Instructor

April 20-21 at [Great Falls Park](#), 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](#)

April 27-28 at [Carderock Rec Area](#), 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](#)

June 15-16 at [Great Falls Park](#), 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](#)

Sept 7-8 at [Great Falls Park](#), 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](#)

Sept 21-22 at [Sugarloaf Mountain](#), 8:15 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](#)

Mental Health First Aid <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/ereg/Registration.aspx?groupID=47>

NYLT

[24-1: 01/12/24 -01/15/24 & 01/27/24-01/28/24](#)

24.2: 06/16/24-06/21/24

24.3: 06/23/24-06/28/24

24.4: 07/28/24-08/02/24

24.5: 07/28/24-08/02/24

Registration will open in the Fall and will be announced via email and on Facebook

Trainer's Edge

09/10/24

12/07/24

Wilderness First Aid (N02) <https://scoutingevent.com/082-WFASpring2024>

01/27/24 0 01/28/24 – Camp Snyder

02/24/24 – 02/25/24 – Camp Snyder

03/23/24 – 03/24/24 – Camp Snyder

04/27/24 – 04/28/24 – Camp Snyder

Wood Badge (A90) <https://www.ncacbsa.org/wood-badge/>

04/12/24 – 04/14/24 & 05/04/24 – 05/05/24

10/14/24 – 10/15/24 & 10/05/24 – 10/06/24



GM High Adventure



Jan 2024

- Members of the High Adventure Committee are available to assist units in planning and training for their upcoming high adventure trips – Contact [Brian Heath](#) for more information
- Important notes for this month
 - Registration dates for 2025 trips
 - NORTHERN TIER & OPIK: Reservations open Jan 18, 2024
 - SEA BASE: Reservations open Jan 18, 2024
 - SUMMIT: Reservations open Jan 18, 2024
 - Philmont: Lottery registration has closed, but treks are still available
 - 2024 National High Adventure Base Scholarships
 - NORTHERN TIER: Submit by Jan 31st, 2024. Go [here](#) for the application.
 - PHILMONT: Up to \$400. Submit by Feb 1st, 2024. Go [here](#) for the application.
 - SUMMIT: Submit by Mar 31st, 2024. Go [here](#) for the application.
 - SEA BASE: The deadline has already passed
 - Most BSA High Adventure bases still have availability for summer 2024 trips – See the URL below for more information
 - <https://www.scouting.org/outdooradventures/open4adventure/>
- NCAC-Organized High Adventure Trips - 2024
 - Lenhok'sin – James River Canoeing Trek - July 7-13, 2024
 - Crew of 6-12 - \$475 per participant – 6 slots remaining
 - Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-75664>
 - For more information, e-mail highadventure@ncacbsa.org
 - Wind River Range, WY: 06/22 to 06/30/24
 - Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-77027>
 - Booking up fast! - \$1,430 per participant – 2 slots remaining
 - Mandatory Practice/Training for Everyone
 - HAC Philmont Training Sessions
- NCAC-sponsored trips for Philmont, Northern Tier & Sea Base are already full

GM High Adventure



Jan 2024 (cont)

- High Adventure Preparation Training - Open to all NCAC Scouts & adults that are participating in HA trips in the next few years
 - Philmont 2024 Sessions: I – passed; II – 01/07/24; IIIa – 03/24/24; IIIb – 04/06/24
 - Philmont Advisor Hikes: 8:00am, Sat 3/09 & Sun 3/17/24, 8:00am Catoctin Mt Park, Thurmont, MD
 - Northern Tier: Sat, 04/06/24 (in-person); Sat, 04/20/24 (virtual)
 - Sea Base Session: TBD
- Other Training
 - [BCOLS](https://scoutingevent.com/082-79025-191979): Maryland session, Spring 2024: 03/02/24 (classroom), 04/27 & 28 (overnight), <https://scoutingevent.com/082-79025-191979>
 - Paddle Craft Safety Training Sessions (2024): May 18-19, June 1-2, August 24-25, September 7-8
- Council Plans for More Big High Adventure Trips
 - Backpacking in Wyoming – Summer of 2024
 - Climbing Trip to Zion National Park – Planning Underway
 - Looking for more ideas and volunteers to plan the trips
- National High Adventure Base Quick Links
 - Philmont: <https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/register/>
 - Northern Tier: <https://www.ntier.org/provisional-scout-connections/>
 - Sea Base: <https://www.bsaseabase.org/scouts/scout-connections/>
 - Summit: <https://www.summitbsa.org/registration/scoutconnections/>
- Other High Adventure Bases
 - Adirondack High Adventure Area: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/hLgsVbk7Suju6cuDzQQJaEn4>
 - Maine High Adventure Area: <https://www.mainehighadventure.org/>
 - Montana Outdoor High Adventure Base: <https://montanabsa.org/camps/high-adventure/>
- Other useful links for high adventure information and opportunities
 - NCAC High Adventure website - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/high-adventure/>
 - List of units with available slots in their upcoming high adventure trips - <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/xWpkdrKHKAA9pCzwmHMNdbWb>

Shooting Sports

- Requests for Shooting Events – Lead Time!
 - 50+ scouts - 6mos
 - Less than 50 scouts - 3mos
- Shooting on private land:
 - Requirements
 - Permissions/protocols
- Shooting Sports [web page](#)
- Shooting Sports Instructor Classes:
 - [Rifle/Shotgun - 02/24/24, 04/27/24, 07/20/24, 08/24/24](#)
 - [Archery – 02/24/24, 03/18/24](#)



Order of the Arrow

- Mary Neuse has accepted the Scoutmaster position at T1978G. Brian Fleck will be the new Chapter Advisor.
- 2024 Dues can be paid online: <https://wipit470.org/dues.html>
- The Amangamek-Wipit Lodge will be sending a contingent to the one-and-only National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) next summer and we want you to join us! Registration is now open! Follow the directions below to register for the one and only 2024 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Here are the steps to register for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!
 - Step 1: [Click the registration link here!](#)
 - Step 2: Fill out all information for the registration form.
 - Step 3: Congrats! You have reserved your spot for the 2024 NOAC! Look out for other emails in regard to both national registration AND further payments you may need to make! Can't wait to see you there!!
 - If you have any questions regarding the National Order of the Arrow Conference email noac2024@wipit470.org

* Registrations open online <https://wipit470.org/index.html> under “Events”