

PACK 31

ACADEMICS AND SPORTS PROGRAM OVERVIEW FOR PARENTS

To encourage physical fitness and the exploration of a variety of sports, Cub Scouts may earn awards for participation in the following SPORTS: Badminton, Baseball, Basketball, Bicycling, Bowling, Fishing, Flag Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Ice Skating, Marbles, Physical Fitness, Roller Skating, Snow ski and board sports, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Ultimate (Frisbee), Volleyball.

Cubs may also participate in a variety of ACADEMIC activities including: Art, Astronomy, Chess, Citizenship, Collecting, Communicating, Computers, Geography, Geology, Heritages, Language and Culture, Map and Compass, Mathematics, Music, Science, Weather, Wildlife Conservation.

There are two levels of awards the boys may earn. These are belt loops, which are awarded for learning the basics about a given subject, and pins, which are awarded for more in-depth study of a subject. Belt loops are worn on the blue cub scout belt. Pins are not worn on the uniform per BSA requirements. However, they may be placed on a varsity "C" letter (available from the Scout Shop), worn on a patch vest, placed on a patch blanket, etc.

Your den leader has a copy of the requirements for each of the academics and sports subjects listed above. If your son is interested in earning a belt loop or pin in a particular subject, please ask your den leader for the requirements form for that subject. If you have internet access, these forms are also available on the pack web site under the individual subject requirement descriptions – look for the Academics and Sports link on the menu, then select the subject. There is a link at the top of the page entitled "Requirements Signoff Sheet" – click this and you can print the sheet yourself.

Once you have the form, work on the requirements with your son. There is a section next to each requirement that you will initial as your son completes it. When all of the requirements are complete, sign the "Akela" section at the bottom of the form, and take the completed form to your den leader. Your den leader will sign it and turn it into the pack so that your son's award can be purchased. Your son will be presented with his award at the next pack meeting.

You are also reminded to check with your son's teacher(s) at school for any of the items listed above. He might be doing basketball in PE at school – have him take the Basketball sheet in and have the teacher sign off on it. Remember - a boy's teacher is also Akela and can sign off on his loops and pins earned.

LIMITS: Each boy may earn only ONE belt loop and ONE pin for each sport/academic with Pack 31. If he chooses to earn the loop or pin a second time, and wishes to have a second belt loop or pin, then you the parent must pay for the cost of the additional award. If you opt to do this, you must provide the cost of the award to your den leader when you turn in the completed form for the award. Note that to earn a belt loop or pin a second time, your son must do different activities from the first time he earned the award. This is to encourage your son to learn new things and to prevent kids from earning the same award multiple times just to fill up their belt.

Current Cost of Awards (January 2007):

Belt Loop	- \$1.47
Pin	- \$1.25