

# Welcome to Webelos!

## What is a Webelos?

Webelos is derived from the phrase “**We Be Loyal Scouts**”. There is no singular or plural of the word, there are just Webelos. Webelos are boys who have completed the third grade or who are 10 years old. Pack 283 begins the Webelos journey during Graduation weekend at Near Wilderness. We complete the journey as they crossover to Boy Scouts in January of their 5<sup>th</sup> grade year.

There are basically 4 key elements to being a Webelos, the Webelos rank, Compass emblem & points, Arrow of Light and Super Achiever. As we progress through Webelos we will hold meetings to explain in detail each portion of this process. **Wherever you see red text this is an area that you will cover in full or partially at home. Some of these items may also be covered at a den meeting, but we would like to see some time spent on these at home with your son.**

## Step one: Webelos Rank Award

This award is basic rank award similar to those of Tiger, Wolf and Bear. The key difference is the process through which this rank is earned. Our goal is to have your boy earn this award by the January Pack Meeting. The list below explains the entire rank award process.

1. **Have an adult member of your family read and sign the Parent Guide in the front of the Webelos Scout Book.**
2. Be an active member of your Webelos den for 3 months.
3. **Know and explain the meaning of the Webelos badge.**
4. **Point out and explain the three parts of the Webelos Scout uniform. Tell when to wear the uniform and when not to wear it.**
5. Earn the **Fitness** and **Citizen** Activity Badges and **one other activity badge** from a different activity badge group.
6. Plan and lead a flag ceremony in your den that includes the U.S. flag.
7. **Show that you know and understand the requirements to be a Boy Scout.**
  - a. Demonstrate the Scout salute, Scout sign, and Scout handshake. Explain when you would use them.
  - b. Explain the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto, and Scout slogan.
  - c. Explain and agree to follow the Outdoor Code.
8. **Faith**

After completing the rest of requirement 8, do these (a, b, and c):

  - a. **Know:** Tell what you have learned about faith.
  - b. **Commit:** Tell how these faith experiences help you live your duty to God. Name one faith practice that you will continue to do in the future.
  - c. **Practice:** After doing these requirements (d or e), tell what you have learned about your beliefs.

And do one of these (d **OR** e):

- d. Earn the religious emblem of your faith\*
- e. Do two of these: (Use the attached worksheet to track this activity)
  - Attend the mosque, church, synagogue, temple, or other religious organization of your choice, talk with your religious leader about your beliefs. Tell your family and your Webelos den leader what you learned.
  - Discuss with your family and Webelos den leader how your religious beliefs fit in with the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and what character-building traits your religious beliefs have in common with the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
  - With your religious leader, discuss and make a plan to do two things you think will help you draw nearer to God. Do these things for a month.
  - For at least a month, pray or meditate reverently each day as taught by your family, and by your church, temple, mosque, synagogue, or religious group.
  - Under the direction of your religious leader, do an act of service for someone else. Talk about your service with your family and Webelos den leader. Tell them how it made you feel.
  - List at least two ways you believe you have lived according to your religious beliefs.

**We would complete the above steps through the following process:**

Outdoorsman Activity badge is completed at Rum River Family Camp, please try to be in attendance.

**Citizen Activity Badge and Belt Loop and Fitness activity Badge is completed over the Fall at home and in special meetings with den leaders, and reviewed/confirmed a Den Meeting.**

**Item 8; The faith section is completed by the Scout and his family at home over the Fall.** We could investigate setting up a program at a local church or two that will take the boys through the God and family book during the summer. If these are set up, you have the choice of completing it either way. The worksheet is attached.

**Items 3, 4, and 7;** The learning about the Webelos emblem and Boy Scout basics, will be covered at special meeting. **This information is in the handbook and should also be reviewed at home.**

Flag ceremonies for each of the boys will be done at different den meetings to ensure the boys are getting ample time and opportunity to understand the process.

# Questions and hopefully some answers

## **What is an activity Badge?**

A Webelos activity badge is a multi step process that explores a particular area of study. These activities are divided into 5 groups, Physical Skills, Mental Skills, Community, Technology, and Outdoor. There is a total of 20 Activity Badges that can be earned. Many of these badges may also be the career or hobby of a parent in the den. This is a great opportunity for you to help out with a den activity and teach the boys something about what you do every day. Please see the volunteer signup sheet for available opportunities.

## **Do we wear the blue or khaki shirt?**

Your Scout may wear either his current blue shirt or a new khaki shirt for as long as he likes throughout the Webelos journey. The khaki shirt he wears as a Webelos will be the same shirt he wears as a Boy Scout. Although not required most boys eventually switch to the Khaki shirt sometime during the Webelos journey. We expect that most boys will switch once they earn the Webelos rank. Confidential scholarships are available for uniforms and any other scouting expense you may have.

## **Will our Den Meetings be different?**

Our current format of a once a month den meeting tied to the Pack meetings will most likely change. Webelos will take more time and effort to ensure we are delivering the program properly. We may have two meetings a month or one longer meeting per month. We may offer the same meeting at two different times each month. This will be decided soon. A schedule of our den events will be forthcoming and we will do our best to make sure Scouting continues to fit within all of your boys other activities. If you have a scheduling preference or concerns please let us know as soon as possible.

## **Who approves our scouts' achievements?**

Past ranks allowed a Scouts achievement to be approved by either the parent (Akela) or the Den Leader. Webelos is no different; however we will review the portions done at home with the Scout. This is not done to "test" the Scout but to make sure he fully understands the material and is confident in his knowledge. It is important to make sure our Webelos are ready for Boy Scouts and having your leader check your knowledge is a key component of Boy Scouts(Scoutmaster Conference).

**What will happen at summer camp?**

Summer Camp will have an opportunity for your Scout to participate in higher level activities than in past years. There will be specific Activity Badges earned at camp and even an opportunity for a special campout, "Webelos Outpost". The outpost is an extra day of camp where you and your boy actually hike out into the woods, set up camp, cook your dinner, sleep in the tent, make breakfast, and hike back. This activity is an extra cost and occurs on the Sunday and Monday of the camp weekend. There are also special Webelos Activity days that can be attended in addition to camp. These are one day, no overnight, activity days that are set up to achieve specific activity badges. These are a great way to supplement the summer camp experience. There is camp information attached, and sign up lists are at the information table.

**What if my scout has already earned a current month's activity badge?**

Over the course of the program, it is likely that most scouts' will have earned an activity badge at camp or a Webelos activity day before we have a chance to present it ourselves. Your scout will not earn the badge again, but may do different portions of the activity badge requirements the second time around. Also it never hurts to have certain items reinforced and better understood. So although his attendance may not be required to earn the badge, he should still attend the meeting to hopefully strengthen his knowledge of the subject.

We will be meeting with you again in September to discuss the next phase of the Webelos Journey. Stay tuned for the date, time and place. Thank you for attending this meeting and we hope you and your son enjoy the Webelos Journey!

**Notes:**

**Webelos Religious Requirements Worksheet**

<b>Complete this paper with a parent</b>	
<b>For each point of the Scout Law, write something that your religious beliefs teach:</b>	
Trustworthy:	
Loyal:	
Helpful:	
Friendly:	
Courteous:	
Kind:	
Obedient:	
Cheerful:	
Thrifty:	
Brave:	
Clean:	
Reverent:	
<b>Write how your religious beliefs fit in with the Scout Oath:</b>	
On my honor I will do my best	
To do my duty to God and my country	
and to obey the Scout Law;	
To help other people at all times;	
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight	
<b>List at least two ways you believe you have lived according to your religious beliefs:</b>	
1.	
2.	
<b>List two things you did for a month that helped you draw nearer to God:</b>	
1.	
2.	
<b>Describe the act of service you did for someone else and how it made you feel:</b>	

