

# Pack 28 Bead and Flag Token Program

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Pack 28 uses pony-bead necklaces and den flag tokens to encourage boys to do their best in the areas of punctuality, uniforms, popcorn sales, pack meeting and event participation and Scout Spirit. This document explains how the bead and token programs work.

The collectible bead necklace will consist of a piece of vinyl lace or leather strip and pony beads in various colors. Each boy will be issued a bear claw necklace at his first pack meeting. Beads will be awarded for participation in pack activities and as special recognition of good turns and other actions. Boys will not be permitted to add their own beads or any other items to this necklace.

## **Pack Meeting Uniform Beads**

At every pack meeting there will be a uniform inspection. These inspections will take place between 6:05 PM and 6:25 PM. Inspections will be performed by the assigned den with two adults (ideally the Assistant Den Leader and one parent or by the Den Chief, if the den has one). The responsibility for performing inspections will be rotated among the dens.

A special table will be set up with a drape identifying it as the uniform inspection station. Boys will be responsible for going to the station for inspection and/or to check-in for the pack meeting. The inspection station will shut down promptly at 6:25. The purpose of this is to encourage promptness and to allow the formal meeting to begin on time.

Boys will queue up at the inspection station in an orderly manner. The inspectors will evaluate each boy's uniform using a standard form. The form will use the following scale, adjusted for the boy's rank and type of uniform:

### Tigers\*

1. Orange Tiger Cub T-shirt or sweatshirt
2. Tiger Cub belt totem
3. Tiger Cub Scout belt (Cub Scout belt with Tiger belt buckle)
4. Neat and orderly pants or shorts (no cut-offs and no holes)
5. Closed toe shoes and socks (no sandals)
6. Adult partner in orange Tiger T-shirt or sweatshirt or adult scout leader uniform

### Wolves and Bears

1. Official Wolf or Bear neckerchief with a slide
2. Blue Cub Scout uniform shirt, long or short sleeve
3. Cub Scout belt
4. Cub Scout pants, long or short, or neat and orderly royal blue pants or shorts - no jeans
5. Closed toe shoes (no sandals) and Cub Scout socks or dark blue dress socks
6. Red patch vest

### Webelos (Blue Uniform)

1. Webelos Scout neckerchief with a slide
2. Blue Cub Scout uniform shirt, long or short sleeve
3. Cub Scout belt

\* Tigers may chose to wear the above described blue uniform with the orange Tiger neckerchief

4. Cub Scout pants, long or short, or neat and orderly royal blue pants or shorts - no jeans
5. Closed toe shoes (no sandals) and Cub Scout socks or dark blue dress socks
6. Red patch vest

Webelos (Tan Uniform)

1. Webelos Scout neckerchief with a slide
2. Tan Boy Scout uniform shirt, long or short sleeve
3. Blue Cub Scout belt or olive green Boy Scout belt
4. Boy Scout pants, long or short or neat and orderly olive green pants or shorts
5. Closed toe shoes (no sandals) and Boy Scout socks or olive green socks
6. Red patch vest

For each point on the form, the boy will receive either a blank or a check. No criticism of any sort will be offered from the inspectors. If a boy scores 5 check boxes he will receive a blue bead for his necklace. If a boy receives all 6 check boxes he will also receive a yellow bead. Uniform hats are not part of this evaluation. In fact, if the inspection is inside a building a hat is not appropriate as it is not appropriate for young gentlemen to wear hats inside. It must also be noted that shirt tails must be tucked into the pants in order to pass inspection and receive any beads.

The uniform inspectors will use a check sheet noting which scouts are attending the pack meeting, which scouts earned a blue bead and which scouts earned both a blue bead and a yellow bead. The check sheet will be given to the Assistant Cubmaster at the start of the pack meeting so that he can determine which dens qualify for the pack meeting flag token for that month. The den flag token program is intended to encourage full participation by dens in the monthly pack meeting and other pack events.

Den Flag Tokens

The flag token program will recognize those dens that fully participate in the pack meetings and other pack events and display appropriate Cub Scout behavior. To receive a flag token for a pack meeting, the den must do the following:

- **Set up and present a den table at the pack meeting.** The den table should display items that show the things that the den did that month. It can include crafts that the boys made at den meetings, pictures from den meetings or den outings, the den advancement chart, or anything else that the den thinks will interest the boys and families from other dens – especially the boys of lower rank (we want the boys to get excited about the things they will get to do when they advance in rank the next year – this should help retention of the boys throughout the whole program). One of the boys from the den will give a very short oral presentation at the table during the gathering period before the pack meeting or at the prescribed period during the meeting. The presentation should be prepared by the Den Leader or other adult prior to the pack meeting but should be presented by one of the boys to give the boys experience with speaking in front of a group. Ideally, this task should be rotated so that each boy will have the opportunity to make the presentation during the course of the year. Presentations should be brief, no more than 1 to 2 minutes.

- **Display the den flag at the pack meeting.** Having and displaying a den flag helps to build den unity. Tokens will hang from the den flag staff so displaying the flag is an opportunity to display the tokens that were previously earned.
- **Have at least 50% attendance and pass uniform inspection.** At least 50% of the boys in the den must attend the pack meeting and all members of the den attending the pack meeting must arrive on time and go through and pass uniform inspection (score at least 5 checks). Occasionally there will be conflicts with other events, such as sports activities, that prevent a boy from arriving on time and in the proper uniform. Boys (or parents) should notify the Den Leader prior to the pack meeting when they anticipate such a conflict. Boys that notify their Den Leader prior to the pack meeting will be exempt from the uniform requirement. Den Leaders should notify the uniform inspectors of any exemptions at the beginning of the inspection period. This exemption should be used only when absolutely necessary and should not be used routinely to avoid this requirement of the program. Boys that are exempt from uniform inspection should still check in at the uniform inspection station so that their attendance is noted to help ensure that the den will achieve the attendance requirement.
- **Complete their pack meeting assignment(s).** Each month every den is assigned one or two tasks to perform at the pack meeting. Tasks that are assigned each month include, room setup, greeting and gathering games, flag ceremony and opening prayer, opening ceremony, entertainment (skits, songs and/or games), closing ceremony, and breakdown & clean-up. The den simply must perform their assignment(s) at the pack meeting to complete this requirement. The den will not be judged on their performance; the boys simply need to do their best to complete their assignment(s).
- **Display appropriate Cub Scout behavior.** Cub Scouts are expected to be kind and respectful; therefore, we should expect our scouts to behave this way at all times, especially at pack meetings. Acting respectfully includes listening to speakers without interrupting, cheerfully participating in pack meeting activities, applauding the accomplishments of their fellow scouts, and not being disruptive during the meeting.

Occasionally there will be den flag tokens for achieving other pack goals, such as popcorn sales. The pack Committee will establish popcorn sales goals per boy based on the pack budget. The den sales goal will be equal to the number of boys in the den multiplied by the goal per boy. Meeting total den sales is all that will be required for the den to earn the popcorn den flag token.

One or two special tokens may be available for each of the pack's special activities, such as Scouting for Food or Christmas Caroling at Dominion Village. One token will be awarded to the den with the most participation at the event, typically defined by percentage of boys participating. Only one special token will be awarded for most events; however, the Cubmaster may also award special tokens for other criteria that will be announced prior to the event. Multiple tokens may also be given in case of ties between dens

The flag token program is a competition between the dens in that the den earning the most flag tokens will be treated to a party or other special activity at the end of the year. Such a competition would not be of any interest to second year Webelos dens since they will advance

into the Boy Scouts in the middle of the year. Therefore, there will be a mid-year reward as well, such as a pizza party, for the den having the most tokens following the January pack meeting

### **Other Beads**

During some pack meetings there may be a Cubmaster's Quiz. The questions on the quiz will be general questions related to the month's theme and/or about the current month's issue of Boys Life (Cub Scout Edition). These questions will be asked orally by the Cubmaster. The prize for answering a question correctly, after being properly selected by the Cubmaster, will be a brass bead. There will be no other way to get brass beads but the Cubmaster's Quiz.

Colored beads other than blue and yellow or shaped beads may be used throughout the year as recognition of all the boys who participated in a pack activity, such as Scouting for Food, or Pinewood Derby, etc. These beads will usually be handed out at the event. To the extent possible, a different bead will be used for each activity.

A gathering activity will be conducted prior to each pack meeting. This activity is intended to keep the boys occupied while the leaders are finalizing their plans for the pack meeting. The activity will typically be related to the theme of the month and the activities that were done that month. Ideally, the activity will require the boys to visit each den table for an answer or clue or to collect an item for a scavenger hunt. This will help ensure that each boy visits the den tables and spends a moment looking at the things that the other dens did that month. Scouts completing their gathering activity before the start of the pack meeting will receive a red bead for their necklace.

White beads will be presented at pack meetings to recognize boys for good turns performed during the month. Leaders and parents are encouraged to notify the Cubmaster prior to the pack meeting of any good turns performed by their den or son(s). A good turn is a selfless act performed by a scout to help out another person or family. This does not include acts that are expected of the child as a member of his family, such as doing chores around the house or making his weekly tithe to the church.

A special bead in the shape of a car or other vehicle will awarded to those boys that help the pack "go" by recruiting a boy into scouting or doing something that helps to give the pack positive exposure in the community.

### **Wearing the Bead Necklace**

The collectible bead necklace should be worn by Pack 28 boys to all pack meetings and pack events where dress uniforms are being worn. The necklaces may also be worn to den meetings at the discretion of the Den Leader. All bead collections carry over from year to year. That is, a boy may add to his necklace continuously while he is a member of the pack rather than starting a new necklace each year he is in Cub Scouts.

***For 2007-2008, every member of Pack 28 will be issued a new arrowhead necklace to collect beads earned this year. Bear claw necklaces from previous years may also be worn but all beads earned this year and only the beads earned this year can be worn on the arrowhead necklace.***