

5/11/16 – Lion Council Webcast Chat Q&A

Do councils need approval to participate in the pilot?

When, where, how?

He said when councils come on board... Do we need to register somewhere?

Scout executives, through multiple communications and channels, have been made aware of the application procedures. If questions exist as to that process, the Scout Executive is encouraged to reach out to her/his Area Director for assistance. For a list of participating councils, please refer to www.scouting.org/lion (scouting dot org slash lion). For specific questions about your council's participation, please contact your Scout Executive.

The Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook says the age requirement is age 5 by September 1. Local schools / state law vary and our state says age 5 by September 30. How do we handle this difference?

Yes, different states have different age requirements for kindergarten. We used the average age from around the nation.

Based on the dialogue generated from the 5/11 Lion webcast, and your feedback over the last several days, we're issuing a clarification on the youth eligible to join the Lion program.

Clarification and updated answer.

To be eligible for the Lion program, a boy must be age 5 by September 30, 2016 or not yet 7 years old.

If the kit is \$9.99 for the 2 books and stickers, can we get just additional books and stickers without leader guides?

No. The youth "Adventure Book", the "Parent and Leader Guidebook", and the adventure stickers are shrink-wrapped as one unit. The Parent and Leader Guidebook contains information for both Lion Guides and adult partners. With the shared leadership concept used in the Lion program, adult partners (mentored by a Lion Guide) will each lead activities. As a result, the youth books, stickers, and accompanying adult partner materials are all needed to deliver a great Lion program.

Will there be instructions provided to Council Registrars on how to properly process new Lion applications?

Yes. Registrar training will be available in June. Notices will be sent out to Scout Executives via their weekly email from the National Service Center.

Is this entire program just to boost National and Council Membership?

The Lion pilot program is meant to reach more boys (and their families)...at a younger age...with the benefits and positive outcomes only Scouting can provide. Today, families are joining activities when their kids are at a very young age. Scouting, with all of its positive outcomes, should have a place in that decision set. With many families, our current 1st grade entry point into Scouting is simply too late.

Wait...can you explain that a little more? It counts for JTE membership, but doesn't count against us?

Please clarify the JTE comment.

So, their membership numbers won't count?

We really do need clarification on the JTE and membership comment. The statement on screen didn't match what was in early release materials. And just didn't make sense.

Boys participating in the Lion pilot program will count toward your market share goals. Because there is no expectation of advancement within that Lion year, nor overnight camping, nor fundraising or community service, Lion participants will not be factored into those JTE measures. It would skew your numbers downward. As a result, the organization made the determination that Lion youth participants will "count" toward market share, but not factor into...negatively impact... your other JTE measures.

When do you anticipate seeing the Build an Adventure materials hitting the hands of vendors?

We're coming close on when we usually order our fall materials to have them in hand in early August. Timing?

When will you approve licences for vendors to print these flyers?

The recruiting assets will be available prior to the National Annual Meeting in late May. They will be posted to the BSA Brand Center as well as on the Lion landing page at www.scouting.org/lion (scouting dot org slash lion). Vendor materials will be released through BSA licensing.

Beautiful camera work sir.

Thank you. Webcasts are a great way to connect with people from across the country and engage in a meaningful dialogue. We are always working to improve how we deliver these events to ensure they are a good investment of your time!

Can we access the slides shown in this webcast?

Can we get a copy of the slides used for presentations at Roundtables?

When will the Power Point be available?

A link to the webcast, along with an accompanying PowerPoint deck, will be sent to Scout Executives on Monday 5/16 as part of their weekly email from the National Service Center. PowerPoint materials for use at Roundtables will be sent to Roundtable Commissioners and others in June.

Do units have to apply to participate in the Lion program? Where / When do we get the applications?

Unit involvement is determined by the local council. Units should contact their local council service center to inquire if the Lion pilot program is available to them.

Sounds like there will be no advancement records to record, right?

No advancement reports required. Correct. As a pilot program, there will be no advancement reports or advancement recording required to award the Lion patch or any of the Lion adventure stickers.

What about other district activities? Pinewood derby etc.

The Lion program is designed as an introduction to Cub Scouting. The key is appropriate expectations. It is unlikely that a kindergarten-age boy will be able to make his own Pinewood Derby car. As such, we suggest you save that fun for the Tiger age and above. A different type of fun, race-themed event at the pack level, though, may indeed be appropriate. Perhaps a special matchbox car race or something similar. A district event, however, may be overwhelming and go deeper than the introductory level. Perhaps best to save those exciting district/council events until the boys are a bit older and can participate in them more fully. Your keen discretion and judgment should guide what you ask Lion dens to become involved in.

When will the training materials be ready?

Is the training video currently available?

The training will be posted to where?

The Lion Guide and Parent Orientation video is available now at www.scouting.org/lion (scouting dot org slash lion).

Can Lions go to family camp if their siblings are going?

Can they camp if they want? Are they allowed to go on things with the rest of the pack?

Can they go to family camp with their pack?

What about at family camp?

If families and their children of all ages are invited to attend a Cub Scout family camping event with a pack, there is no reason to exclude him just because he is a Lion. The Lion den as a group, however, should not be expected or required to attend as part of the Lion program. It is about appropriate expectations and delivering the Lion program as written. It is not an expectation in the Lion program, nor is it written in the adventures, that kindergarten-age boys participate in overnight den camping. Deliver the Lion program as written and have fun!

Tigers can attend Day Camp IF alongside their parent/adult partner, correct?

Correct. Incoming Tiger-age boys (boys entering the 1st grade) can only attend day camp with their Adult Partner. It would not be appropriate for Lion-age boys to attend day camp until the summer they transition into a Tiger den...the summer they become an incoming Tiger.

Have you considered using "Panther Scouts" an animal actually in Kipling's Jungle book?

Although many names were considered, "Lion" was the name chosen for the pilot program for kindergarten-age boys. Panther is a good suggestion, though!

Can they put the patch on their uniform once they reach Tiger?

There is currently not a permanent place for the patch on the Cub Scout uniform. The patch should be treated as a great recognition piece for the hard work of earning the 5 required adventures, but as it represents a pilot program, it should not be worn as part of the official Cub Scouting uniform.

Was there consideration of the cartoon Lion vs. the "real" animals used for Tigers, Wolves, and Bears?

As a pilot program, every aspect will be under review. That includes the Lion image.

When will scout shops get these items up for sale?

Are the Lion polo's available through NAT supply?

The Lion kit and Adult polo are currently available for approved Councils to order. The Lion T-shirt and cap will start shipping in July in time for a Fall Recruiting launch. National Scout Shops supporting approved councils have received their Lion kits and Adult polos. Council distributors in approved councils will need to order their Lion product through Supply Customer Service. Since this is a pilot program, this product is not available on-line.

Did I understand you to say that Kindergarten siblings of current Scouts are not targeted, but only "new" families?

The Lion program should be offered to all eligible youth...not solely siblings of current Scouts. A den containing six to eight boys works best to foster the desired group dynamics. Please recruit and invite more than just the siblings of your current Cub Scouts.

Will a transcript of this be available after this?

Not a transcript, but a recording and an FAQ document.

Tiger dens no longer practice shared leadership?!

They absolutely do. There was an error on that slide. It will be corrected prior to posting the materials.