

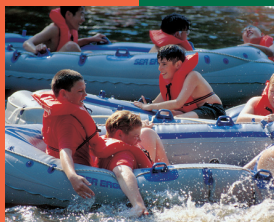
# Varsity Scouting

**P**URPOSE: Varsity Scouting is a program for young men who are at least 14 years of age but not yet 18. It provides options for young men who are looking for rugged high adventure or challenging sporting activities and still want to be a part of a Scouting program that offers the advancement and values of the Boy Scouts of America.

**PROGRAM:** Varsity Scouting has five fields of emphasis. A youth member, called a program manager, is responsible for each of the five fields of emphasis and works with an adult member called a program adviser from the team committee to coordinate each phase of the program. The five fields of emphasis are

- **Advancement.** Varsity Scouts use the same advancement program as Boy Scouts. They can also receive the recognitions offered through such programs as the Fifty-Miler Award; Mile Swim, BSA; etc.
- **High Adventure/Sports.** This program field of emphasis includes high adventure and sports and is supported by 27 program features.
- **Personal Development.** Varsity Scouting promotes growth through spirituality, leadership abilities, citizenship, social and cultural attributes, and physical fitness.
- **Service.** The emphasis is on service, until it becomes a constant ingredient in one's daily experience. Projects are conceived, planned, managed, and carried out by individual Varsity Scouts and/or the Varsity Scout team.
- **Special Programs and Events.** Varsity Scouts take an active part in special programs and events on district, council, regional, and national levels.

**METHODS:** Varsity Scouts are members of a Varsity Scout team. It is led by a youth Varsity Scout team captain and an adult leader called a Varsity Scout Coach. The Coach is supported by an adult committee made up of parents and members of the chartered organization. The team may be divided into squads, and each squad elects a youth squad leader.



# Venturing

**V**enturing is a youth-development program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age. It is

- Designed to help meet the needs, wants, and problems of this young adult generation.
- A novel program that includes emphasis on outdoor, high-adventure activities while providing members with community service, fitness, and social activities under the guidance of experienced adults.
- A great way for young men and women to learn leadership and problem-solving skills that will help them mature into confident, successful adults.

**PURPOSE:** Venturing is an effective coed young-adult program designed to improve character, citizenship, and fitness through positive experiences and activities that prepare them to become responsible and caring adults.

**PROGRAM:** Venturing is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and adult Advisors serving as resources and mentors. The resulting program is filled with exciting and meaningful activities that help youth pursue their special interests; to grow; to develop personal, social, and leadership skills; and to become good citizens.

**METHODS:** Venturing has been carefully designed to achieve the aims of the Boy Scouts of America and meet the needs of young adults. Included in the methods of Venturing are

- **Leadership.** Opportunities to apply proven leadership skills are provided to the Venturers.
- **Group Activities** are interdependent group experiences in which success is dependent on the cooperation of all.
- **Adult Association.** Working closely with adult Advisors and other adult leaders, the youth officers lead the crew. The adults serve in a "shadow" leader capacity.



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- **Recognition** comes through the Venturing advancement program and through the acknowledgement of a youth's competence and ability by peers and adults.
- **The Ideals.** Venturers are expected to know and live by the Venturing Oath and Code. They promise to be faithful in their religious duties, treasure their American heritage, to help others, and to seek truth and fairness.
- **High Adventure.** Venturing's emphasis on high adventure helps provide team-building opportunities, new meaningful experiences, practical leadership application, and lifelong memories to young adults.
- **Teaching Others.** All of the Venturing awards require Venturers to teach what they have learned to others. In so doing, they strengthen their knowledge, gain confidence, and acquire skills that can benefit them for the rest of their lives.

## Organizing a Unit

- The club's board of directors is informed about Scouting.
- The club's board agrees on the desirability of organizing a Scouting unit.
- A chartered organization representative is appointed by the club's executive director.
- The chartered organization representative appoints an organizing committee of local parents and other interested adults.
- The organizing committee identifies and recruits unit leaders and committee members.
- The leaders are trained in program planning (Fast Start training).
- The program is planned for at least the first six months.
- Youth are registered.
- Unit meetings begin.
- Unit is installed and the charter is presented at a formal ceremony held at a meeting of the club's board of directors.



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# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA AND SCOUTING

WORKING TOGETHER FOR AMERICA'S YOUTH



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OF AMERICA

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS—THE POSITIVE PLACE FOR KIDS

# A Unique Partnership

Our future lies with our children, and oftentimes the challenges and problems they face seem insurmountable.

Today, more than ever before, young people need the guidance and mentoring of quality adult role models. By chartering a Scouting unit, a Boys & Girls Club can provide a positive developmental program for the youth of their community. Boys & Girls Clubs and Scouting work to bring together people of all races, religious faiths, and political beliefs in a friendly, impartial atmosphere. Becoming a chartering organization can result only in a win-win situation for a Boys & Girls Club.



Specifically, the BSA endeavors to develop American citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on the Scout Oath and Law; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give leadership to American society.

The Boy Scouts of America isn't just talking about having more Scout units in Boys & Girls Clubs. By working together, so much more can be accomplished. Scouting was designed to be a resource program for community organizations to use in serving youth.

## Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the Boy Scouts of America

- Share a similar mission and objectives.
- Build better youth and future leaders for the community and the nation.
- Can make more effective use of their shared resources.

## Advantages for Boys & Girls Clubs Are Many

- Scouting provides additional mentoring opportunities for club members.
- Scouting offers additional program opportunities to attract youth to Boys & Girls Clubs.
- Scouting has age-appropriate programs for boys and young men and women.
- Scouting offers ready-made programs to augment the work of Keystone Clubs, Torch Clubs, TEENSupreme Centers, and the many other quality programs and activities of the Boys & Girls Clubs.
- Scout units have an obligation for service to their chartering organization.
- Scouting provides a time-tested, high-quality developmental youth program with continuous identification with the Boys & Girls Clubs.
- Scouting offers the use of its program and support facilities, as well as the experience of trained volunteer and professional staff.
- Scouting offers additional challenges and personal growth opportunities through its advancement program.
- Involvement with Scouting provides greater public awareness of the objectives and mission of Boys & Girls Clubs.



## Advantages for Scouting Are Also Numerous

- Boys & Girls Clubs serve youth who may not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, or Venturing.
- Boys & Girls Clubs offer a meeting place for packs, troops, teams, and crews.
- Boys & Girls Clubs can often provide supplementary facilities to Scouting such as a swimming pool, gymnasium, or crafts room.
- Boys & Girls Clubs can provide professional guidance and support to Scouts working on merit badges or other achievements.
- Boys & Girls Clubs offer a wide variety of program activities for boys and young men and women.

# Cub Scouting

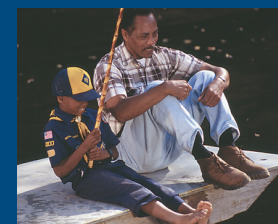
Cub Scouting has distinct, age-appropriate program levels. Tiger Cubs is a one-year program for first-grade (or 7-year-old) boys and their adult partners. The Cub Scout program is for boys who are in the second through fifth grades (or 8, 9, and 10 years old). It is

- Home centered and family building.
- Filled with fun, action, and adventure to help build fitness, character, and good citizenship traits in boys through family emphasis.
- A boy's first experience in growing up as a member of a group.

**PURPOSE:** The Boy Scouts of America created Cub Scouting in 1930 to help advance the character development and spiritual growth of young boys. This central mission of Cub Scouting might be even more important to boys growing up in the 21st century than it was for the early Cub Scouts more than 70 years ago.

**PROGRAM:** Local Cub Scouting activities involve parents, adult leaders, and friends of Cub Scouts in home-centered programs that teach life skills, habits, values, and attitudes consistent with the interests of their faith and community. Millions of boys and their families participate in Cub Scouting, the largest of the three Boy Scouts of America membership divisions.

**METHODS:** Cub Scouting encourages each boy to strive for his personal best, a lesson that will help him achieve success as he enters Boy Scouting—and throughout his adult life. Cub Scout activities encourage character development, physical coordination, family unity, and enthusiasm for learning. Cub Scouting helps boys develop a sense of teamwork, achievement, self-confidence, and respect for others. Learning to master new skills helps the Cub Scout realize his own abilities and discover that his can-do attitude is the first sign of success in any endeavor. In fact, that's the Cub Scout motto: **DO YOUR BEST.**



# Boy Scouting

Boy Scouting is for boys who are at least 10½ years old and have completed the fifth grade or are 11 through 17 years old. It is

- Filled with troop and patrol activities designed to help build personal skills, teamwork, and leadership.
- An action-packed way to teach leadership, service, and respect for others.
- Adventure and fun outdoor experiences under the guidance of adult leaders.
- A program that provides plenty of opportunity for individual growth at a boy's own pace.

**PURPOSE:** Boy Scouting encourages boys to develop physical, mental, and emotional fitness and to adopt and live by meaningful personal standards as a cornerstone for success in life. These values include the basic principles found in the Scout Oath and Law.

**PROGRAM:** Boy Scouts learn to develop personal strengths by example and through hands-on experience. Activities include fitness and leadership training, wilderness adventures, and merit badge incentives for boys mastering hobby and career skills. Scouting encourages boys to expand and test their personal initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.

**METHODS:** Boy Scouts learn some of life's more serious lessons while having fun. Boys learn about important values, such as helping yourself by helping others, and honoring the basic rights of others. Boy Scouting's active learning experiences include hiking, camping, and other outdoor expeditions; competitive individual and team sports activities; and community or religious service projects. Many Boy Scouts first practice basic leadership, self-government, and citizenship skills during regular troop meetings and campouts.