



Northern Lights District Commissioner Bulletin



Cub Scout Den Leader Training

- A Call to Arms -

Cub Scouting is an adult lead program delivered primarily at the Den level. Den Leaders have the largest single impact on the quality of the overall Cub Scouting experience. A trained Den Leader is the greatest adult asset a Pack can have.

Over the last 10 years, our Cub Scout program retention rate has dropped 10%. One of the leading causes of this decline has been identified as the impact untrained leaders have on the overall Cub Scout program.

According to our District's Journey to Excellence Training report we have a serious issue that affects the quality of Cub Scouting across the board. Our May training statistics show we have 105 registered Den Leaders. Of that number, only 43 have completed all the training necessary for their position! Ladies and gentlemen that's only a 41% success rate. Our Cub Scout families – boys and parents alike - are depending on their boy's leaders to be proficient in their role as Den Leaders. Collectively, we as leaders are not meeting their expectations.

All Cub Leader training is available online at www.MyScouting.org. Den leaders are required to be current in Youth Protection Training (required every two years), and to complete the Den Leader specific training related to their assigned program year. Each program year has required training and needs to be updated annually. Both of these courses take about 20 minutes each to complete.

Our Council Commissioner has set a goal of having every Den Leader trained in their position before their first den meeting. This should be the objective of every adult charged with a Cub Scout Den. Please invest 40 minutes of your time to bolster the success of the youth entrusted to you. Greatest thing you can do for your Cub Scouts is to be trained as their leader.

Set the example for your Scouts by being the example. Trained leaders, at all levels, have the greatest positive impact on youth retention.

Every Scout deserves – and every Parent expects – a Trained Leader.

Let's not let them down!