

Introduction to Cub Scout Camping

The Grand Canyon Council, BSA, (GCC) is dedicated to ensuring that our Cub Scout program continue to provide safe and exciting learning experiences for Cub Scouts, families and leaders.

Packs can participate in many outdoor experiences including overnight camping. The Pack's camping plans must follow Youth Protection Guidelines and the [Guide to Safe Scouting | Boy Scouts of America](#). Plans should be approved by the unit committee.

Failure to follow BSA guidelines could result in the loss of future camping privileges and put your unit and leadership at risk since BSA liability and accident insurance coverage may not be available uncompliant activities.

Cub Scout Camping Requirements

- Annual Health and Medical Form for each participant - Parts A, B1 and B2.
- An Adult Leader Baloo trained.
- An Adult Leader trained in Hazardous Weather.

Cub Scout Family Camping Coordinated by the Unit

Here are some helpful tips for Cub Scout Family Camping.

- 1) Parents or guardians are responsible for supervision of their Cub Scouts and children.
- 2) Cub Scout pack unit coordinated camping is limited to no more than two consecutive nights.
- 3) Cub Scout youth should attend the camping event with their parent(s)/guardian(s).
 - a) Lions and Tigers must have their adult partner present to camp overnight.
 - b) For all other ranks, Cub Scouts whose parent or guardian cannot attend a unit overnight camping trip may participate under the supervision of another registered adult member of the BSA, a parent of a Cub Scout who is also attending. The unit leader and a parent or guardian must agree to the arrangement, and all Youth Protection policies apply. At no time may another adult accept responsibility for more than one additional "non-family member" youth.
- 4) Cub Scout/Youth Tenting
 - a) Cub Scout youth may tent with a parent or guardian as outlined in Scouting's Barriers to Abuse.
 - b) When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian. Youth without a parent/legal guardian present must tent with other youth.
 - c) Youth who are not siblings and are sharing a tent must be of the same gender and no more than 2 years apart in age.
- 5) Adult Leader Tenting (No Youth)
 - a) Separate tents are required for male and female leaders.
 - b) Married couples may share a tent.
- 6) Tent camping is to be conducted in fair weather conditions only — where the temperature is consistently above freezing (32 degrees Fahrenheit) day and night.
- 7) Cub Scout camping is limited to the council's [designated locations](#) with appropriate facilities that includes drinking water from an approved source. Approved sites include the council-owned properties – Heard Scout Pueblo, R-C Scout Ranch, Camp Geronimo and Camp Raymond. It also includes council-approved developed sites such as national parks, state, county, and regional parks; or council-approved privately owned campgrounds that include drinking water from an approved source.

The Grand Canyon Council is always looking for new camping opportunities for its Packs. If your site is not listed on the approved camping location list, then the [Pack Overnight Campout Site Appraisal Form](#) must be completed at least two weeks prior to the camping trip by a BALOO trained adult and submitted to gcc.program@scouting.org for approval.

- 8) Organized activities should be planned for Cub Scouts. In some cases, non-members (siblings) may participate if the event is structured accordingly to accommodate them. Activities must be [age- and rank-appropriate](#) for all participants.
- 9) Where separate toilet facilities are not provided for men and women, separate times for male and female use of outdoor pit toilet (latrine) facilities should be scheduled or posted, or “in use” signs and procedures should be practiced. This practice must be followed whether or not the Pack is supplying the facilities.
- 10) Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training and policies must be followed at all times during any water related activities. Refer to the “Age Appropriate Guidelines to Scouting” document, in the Guide to Safe Scouting.
- 11) Range and Target Activities, including archery, slingshot, and BB gun, are not allowed at unit activities.
- 12) A Pack may not host an overnighter with only one participating den. If your entire Pack consists of only one den, please contact the council program team for guidance on how to proceed.
- 13) The only dens that may organize and participate in overnight camping events is Webelos and Arrow of Light Dens.
- 14) Multi-unit (i.e. units with different chartered partners) events require council approval. Cub Scout and Scouts BSA unit are not allowed to coordinate events. Link to [Multi-Unit Camping Approval Process](#)

Cub Scout Cabin Camping

In addition to the guidelines listed above, all the following points apply when Cub Scout camping is conducted in cabins:

1. There are no temperature limitations when cabin camping— temperature limitations only apply for tent camping however, forecasted weather conditions must still be observed.
2. Cabin camping privacy is required as stated in Youth Protection Guidelines as well as these specific guidelines for GCC-owned properties:
 - a) Male and female adults require completely separate sleeping facilities, separated by a permanent wall and door.
 - b) Adult leaders may sleep in the same cabin room with Scouts of the same gender if there are 2 or more adults and 4 or more youth, all of the same gender in the same cabin room. Adults and youth of different gender may not share a room unless it is a single family occupying that room.

Webelos and Arrow of Light Den Coordinated Campouts

Only Webelos and Arrow of Light dens may conduct den coordinated campouts. In addition to the guidelines and requirements listed above, the following points apply:

1. Each Cub Scout should attend with their parent(s) or guardian(s). A Webelos or Arrow of Light Scout whose parent or guardian cannot attend a den overnight camping trip may participate

under the supervision of at least two registered leaders. The leaders and a parent or guardian must agree to the arrangement, and all Youth Protection policies apply.

2. It is recommended that the Webelos/AOL Scouts be under the supervision of a parent or guardian; the council will accept a ratio of up to 4 Scouts to 1 adult.
3. Siblings are not allowed to attend (unless they are registered in the Webelos/Arrow of Light den(s) participating).

Arrow of Light (AOL) Den Camping with a Troop

The Arrow of Light journey and rank is an important step for preparing our Arrow of Light Scout's transition into a Scouts BSA Troop.

- An AOL Scout may visit any Troop with their parent(s).
- AOL Den may camp with a troop. This experience provides them with the opportunity to participate in a troop's campout or other outdoor activity and to use the patrol method.

As with all Scouting activities, this participation must follow the policies of BSA as outlined in the Guide to Safe Scouting. Here are a few helpful tips:

1. Camping with a Troop is for Arrow of Light (AOL) scouts only. Webelos may not participate in any program with a Troop
2. AOL scouts do not have to camp overnight to earn the "Outdoor Adventurer" AOL required adventure.
3. Only an AOL Den can camp with a troop overnight, but they must follow Cub Scout Camping guidelines. The AOL Den must camp separately from the troop and with their own Den's appropriate trained leadership.
4. If an AOL Den and Troop have a different charter partner, they must obtain permission from the Council in order to camp overnight. If the event has more than two chartered partners involved, it must meet NCAP STC guidelines. Link to [Multi-Unit Camping Approval Process](#)

Arrow of Light (AOL) Camping at a Scouts BSA Camporee

AOL Scout may attend a Council sponsored short term camping event such as a Camporee with his or her Den. The Scout must be accompanied by their parent and/or guardian.