

Cub Scout Advancement

A Guide for Pack Advancement Chairs

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Boy Scouts of America

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Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **What is the definition of Advancement?**
- **What are the Cub Scout ranks?**
- **What are my responsibilities as Pack Advancement Chair?**
- **What specifically do I do as Pack Advancement Chair?**
- **What should I know about Advancement reporting?**
- **What about ceremonies and instant recognition?**
- **In summary, Advancement...**
- **Resources**
- **Q&A**

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Introductions

MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL CUB SCOUT ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE:

Chair: Cheryl Moreira, cmoreira100@yahoo.com

District Cub Scout Advancement Chairs:

- **Francis Oquendo, Pocono, numero1scout@gmail.com**
- **Becky Johnson, Forks of the Delaware, ebjohn7304@yahoo.com**
- **Michael Philipp, South Mountain, michaelphilipp9193@gmail.com**
- **Saadia Ackerson, Trexler, saadialin@gmail.com**
- **Heather Werley, North Valley, royheather@ptd.net**
- **Janet Jungermann, Anthracite, janet.jungermann@yahoo.com**

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What is the Definition of Advancement?

- **Advancement is the process by which youth members of the BSA progress from rank to rank.**
- **Advancement is a method, not an end in itself.**
- **Advancement is based on experiential learning.**
- **Personal growth is the primary goal.**

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What are the Cub Scout Ranks?

- **Lion** - Kindergarten or 6 years old
- **Bobcat** - First rank earned no matter what age a youth joins (except Lions)
- **Tiger** - First grade or 7 years old
- **Wolf** - Second grade or 8 years old
- **Bear** - Third grade or 9 years old
- **Webeles** - Fourth grade or 10 years old
- **Arrow of Light** - Fifth grade

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What are my Responsibilities as Pack Advancement Chair?

- Educate parents and Pack leadership
- Promote advancement tools
- Report and record advancements
- Ensure timely recognition

With the goal of ensuring Cub Scouts advance in rank annually by school year's end and are recognized in a meaningful ceremony.

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What specifically do I do as Pack Advancement Chair?

- **Keep track of Advancements in your Pack monthly**
 - Ask Den Leaders
 - Enter into Scoutbook
 - Include ranks, belt loops, pins, awards
- **Enter advancement information into the Council's Advancement tracking program monthly**
 - Scoutbook is preferred
 - Internet Advancement is available if not using Scoutbook
 - Advancement Report form No. 34403 if necessary

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What specifically do I do as Pack Advancement Chair?

(Continued)

- **Print Advancement report from Scoutbook each month**
 - 1 copy for Minsi Trails Council's Scout Shop (can print, sign, scan then email)
 - 1 copy for Pack (optional)
 - 1 signature required: yours
- **Generate list of what needs to be purchased**
 - "Purchase Order" page from Scoutbook
 - Rank pocket certificates for instant recognition
 - Can email order to Scout Shop to fill your order
- **Go to Scout Shop to purchase, or delegate to a leader or parent.**
- **Give items to Den Leaders at or before the next Pack meeting**

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What other duties do I have?

- **Use Scoutbook to track Advancements**
- **Ensure Pack roster is updated**
- **Scout Shop Account:**
 - Receipts to Pack Treasurer
 - Account balance
 - Signature approval form
- **Log Pack service hours**
- **Track JTE progress**
- **Help with advancement ceremonies and encourage instant recognition**
- **Attend Pack Committee meetings**

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What else should I know about Advancements?

- **Den meetings designed for all youth to advance**
- **Approval of Advancements**
 - For Lion through Bear, Den Leader or Akela signs, and then Den Leader approves.
 - For Webelos and AOL, Den Leader signs and approves.
- **Advancement performance is centered on its motto: “Do Your Best”**

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What should I know about Advancement Reporting?

- **BSA's electronic advancement reporting program is Scoutbook. Scoutbook and Internet Advancement use same database.**
- **Report advancement monthly to Council**
- **For JTE, report all advancements in each calendar year before Dec. 31 for online or Dec. 20 for paper.**
- **This is the youth's permanent record (AOL)**
- **Advancement and retention are linked**

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What about Ceremonies & Instant Recognition?

- **When an advancement is completed, congratulate the youth immediately and publicly.**
 - Present at Den or Pack meetings
 - Present pocket certificates immediately, followed by the patch/pin/belt loop/award at the next Pack meeting, or vice versa
 - Youth advance at different rates
 - If a youth doesn't earn a rank, they still progress to the next rank
- **Make recognition a key part of every Pack meeting.**
- **Make every ceremony special and meaningful.**

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In Summary, Advancement ...

- Encourages Cub Scouts to “do their best” while learning new skills and exploring new subject areas
- Provides a tangible reward for hard work
- Helps build confidence
- Facilitates a Cub Scout’s personal growth
- Provides a method to fulfill the mission and aims of Scouting

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Resources

- **www.scouting.org:**
 - <https://www.scouting.org/programs/boy-scouts/advancement-and-awards/resources/>
 - Guide to Advancement 2019 No. 33088
 - Advancement News: advancement.team@scouting.org
 - Advancement Report form No. 34403
 - Cub Scout Den & Pack Ceremonies No. 33212
 - Cub Scout Leader Book
 - Den Leader Guide for each rank
 - Pack Meeting Guide
- **www.minsitrails.org**
- **District Roundtables**
- **University of Scouting**

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Q&A and Open Discussion

- Questions?
- Clarifications?

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