

Bogue Tutchenna District
Istrouma Area Council
Cub Scout Day Camp 2011

PARENT HANDBOOK
and
VOLUNTEER GUIDEBOOK

Scout Hero

Five days of fun and learning activities:
BB Guns, Archery, Nature, Crafts, Water Activities and
more for all registered Cub Scouts.

Letter to Parents and Pack Leaders:

Welcome to Bogue Tuchen District Cub Scout Day Camp. This guidebook has been prepared to help you feel confident about the Day Camp Program and Staff and to answer many of your questions. The guide does not go into detail of what day to day operations are like. For questions and information pertaining to specifics, please contact Johanna Howell, Camp Director or Laurie Bonura, Program Camp Director.

For those of you who have sent your son to Day Camp before, you will be familiar with much of this information. This guide will serve as a good review. Whether you are new to Day Camp or a camp veteran, please take the time to read the entire guide as it contains answers to many of your questions and concerns.

The volunteer camp staff is composed of a Camp Director, Program Director, Aquatics Director, Shooting Sports Director and a Business Manager. Nino Bonura is the Aquatics Director, Wes Howell is the Shooting Sports Director and Jennifer Mayer is the business manager.

The camp is held with the assistance of volunteers such as yourself. Without the assistance of large numbers of parents, camp would not occur. For example, each den of ten to twelve boys needs two adults to supervise them. Each program activity (such as crafts, archery, or games) needs one or more adults to staff it. Waterfront requires fifteen lifeguard/adults to be staffed. As you can see, we do need your help.

When you volunteer at day Camp, you help provide a great camp experience for the scouts. I know from experience how much the boys enjoy and appreciate your involvement. Oh, did I mention, volunteering at Day Camp is a lot of FUN!

Begin your plans and preparations for a great day camp experience. Our pledge is to make this a most memorable experience for you and your scout.

We look forward to seeing you soon,

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What Is Day Camp?

Cub Scout Day Camp is a week long outdoor experience under the supervision of specially trained volunteers. The Camp Director, the Program Director, Waterfront Director, and Shooting Sports Director have attended the Boy Scouts of America National Camp School and have completed certification standards set forth by the BSA national office. Additionally, the BB Gun and Archery range officers receive Shooting Sports training and certification.

The Istrouma Area Council takes pride in assuring that our Day Camps meet the requirements for national accreditation. The National Standards are established to ensure that every Cub Scout will have a high quality, safe and fun filled Day Camp experience.

Day Camp:

- Provides continuation of the Cub Scout program through the summer and assists the Pack in qualifying for the Summertime Pack Award.
- It assists in the recruiting and inspiration of future Cub Scout Leaders and helps strengthen Den and Pack organization.
- Encourages participation so that Cub Scouts benefit and grow with a good outdoor experience.
- Provides the Scout with an opportunity to begin work towards their next rank in Cub Scouting.

Who Is Day Camp For?

Camp is open to boys who have completed kindergarten through boys in the fifth grade and are registered in the Boy Scouts of America program. If your son is not yet signed up for Cub Scouts, he may join at this time. All youth who attend Day Camp **MUST BE CURRENTLY REGISTERED WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA.**

There is sometimes confusion about the group your son will be in at Day Camp. We do everything possible to keep the boys from the same Pack together unless you request otherwise. The Cubs will not be in mixed rank groups, because our program areas are geared to the different rank levels. For example, Webelos will be working on more advanced projects than Tigers or a Wolf Den.

Those finishing kindergarten will come to Camp as Tiger Cubs and must have an Adult Partner at Camp at all times. Scouts who were Tiger Cubs during the school year will come to Day Camp as Wolf Cubs.

Why Should I Send My Son?

Besides the FUN he will have, each boy will learn from his time here at Camp. He will meet other Cub Scouts and Leaders from around the District. As with any Scouting Program, it will help to instill in him the values and character he will need to become the kind of man you want him to be.

What Will My Son Do at Day Camp?

Day Camp activities start with an opening flag ceremony. Each day concludes with retiring the colors and the presentation of the day's recognition awards. Day Camp car line starts at 8:15 am every morning and concludes at 3:45 pm in the afternoon. Camp is officially closed at 4:00 pm each day.

The daily program contains a well balanced variety of activities. These include strenuous activities, time for rest, quiet times, times for noise and motion, learning new skills and making new friends. The program includes the following:

Waterfront Activities (water slides, canoes, swimming, rope swing, and zip lines)

Shooting Sports (BB gun, Archery, and Slingshots)

Special Webelos activities

Nature

Crafts

Advancement at Camp

While at Camp, the boys will complete some of the requirements and electives in their handbooks. Most ranks will earn or work toward earning the Cub Scout Sports Belt Loops or Webelos pins. We do not award the belt loops or pins at Camp. We will notify the Pack Leaders of each Cub Scout's accomplishments while at Camp. The Camp Director and Program Director, with the help of the Den Chaperone/Den Leader, will keep a record sheet for each boy and record the daily advancements, electives, or activity badges he completes. At the end of camp, these advancement records will be sent to the Scout's Pack Leader. The information on what the Scout has completed at Camp can then be transferred to the boy's handbook by the Den Leader.

When and Where is Day Camp Held?

The first week of Day Camp begins June 6 and runs through June 10. The second week begins June 13 and runs through June 17. Week 1 can set up their Den tent Saturday, June 4 after the rest of camp has been set up and must have their tent and equipment removed by noon Saturday, June 11. Week 2 can set up their tent after noon on Saturday, June 11. Tent locations are by a first come basis. Day Camp is held at Five Lakes Campground near Bush, Louisiana. Directions can be found on the Day Camp Website (daycamp.btbsa.org).

What Is The Cost of Day Camp?

Registration for Scouts ranked Wolf through Webelos II is \$80 if received by the registration deadline. Gatorbites are \$30 and Tigers are \$40. We are limited to the number of Scouts (and siblings) we can have each week.

In order to provide a quality program, we have limited the number of traveling Dens to twenty-four with ten to twelve Scouts in each Den. Be sure and get your registration in early. No registrations will be accepted after the end of late registration. Current dates for registration and late registration can be found on the Day Camp Website (daycamp.btbsa.org). Checks should be made to your Pack and the Packs will turn in one check to Day Camp.

Refund Policy

REFUNDS ARE ONLY HANDLED THROUGH THE DAY CAMP COORDINATOR AND THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE. Refunds are based on the prior expenditures at the time of request. Every effort will be made to accommodate a move from one week to the other depending on availability.

How to Register

First of all, let your Den or Pack Leaders know that you are interested in attending. The next step is to fill in the **Registration and Health History Forms**. These two forms must be completed before your son can attend Camp on Monday.

Return these registration forms along with the Day Camp Fee to your Pack Camp Coordinator.

Please direct all questions concerning Day Camp to your Pack's Day Camp Coordinator or to any of the Camp Staff.

Camp Staff

Johanna Howell
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Dorothy Garcia
BT District Executive
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Todd Connor
Field Director for Service Area II
Professional Advisor

What To Wear and What To Bring

Cub Scouts

- Day Camp T-Shirt
- Swim Trunks
- Closed Toe Shoes (Socks should be worn with shoes unless they are Crocs or similar shoes)
- Swim Shoes (Crocs are not swim shoes)
- Towel
- Waterproof Sunscreen-non aerosol
- Non-Perishable Lunch
- Cup with String or Hook for water and hat
- 5 gallon bucket with lid
- Eyeglass case if necessary

Boy Scout and Junior Volunteers

- Day Camp T-Shirt (2+ days)
- Name Tag and Arm Band (<2 days, get at check-in)
- Swim Trunks or Shorts (Male)
- One Piece Swimsuit or Shorts and appropriate t-shirt (Female)
- Closed Toe Shoes
- Socks
- Swim Shoes
- Towel
- Waterproof Sunscreen
- Non-Perishable Lunch
- Cup with String or Hook for water
- 5 gallon bucket with lid

Gatorbites

- Day Camp T-Shirt
- Swim Trunks (boys)
- One Piece Swimsuit w/shorts (girls)
- Closed Toe Shoes
- Socks
- Swim Shoes
- Towel
- Waterproof Sunscreen- non aerosol
- Non-Perishable Lunch
- Cup with String or Hook for water

Adult Volunteers

- Day Camp T-Shirt (2+ days)
- Name Tag and Arm Band (<2 days, get at check-in)
- Swim Trunks or Shorts (Male)
- One Piece Swimsuit or Shorts and appropriate t-shirt (Female)
- Closed Toe Shoes
- Socks
- Swim Shoes
- Towel
- Waterproof Sunscreen- non aerosol
- Non-Perishable Lunch
- Cup with String or Hook for water
- hat

Please put sunscreen on everyone who will be at camp before arriving at camp in the morning. Remind the boys and gators that they should put additional sunscreen on at lunchtime.

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!!!!

What NOT To Bring

- Swim goggles
- Open toed shoes
- Aerosol sprays of any kind
- Knives of any kind
- Pets / Animals
- Walkie-Talkies or Two-way Radios
- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- BAD ATTITUDES!
- Non-essential / Non-camp items

Electronic devices
(Gameboys, Radios, CD Players, etc)
Toys and Trading Cards

NOTHING YOU CAN'T LOSE OR LIVE WITHOUT

Things get broken at camp, please don't bring anything really valuable.

Medications

Scouts and Junior Volunteers will not carry any medication with them (Den Leaders will carry all emergency use medications like asthma inhalers and epi-pins - and these should be noted on the medical form and name tag). All medications should be checked in at the medical tent. Cheryl Lopez will be our nurse on site for both weeks.

Uniforms In Camp

Everyone at camp must be wearing the Day Camp "Activity Uniform", which consists of the official 2011 Day Camp T-Shirt; closed-toed shoes; shorts, swim suit or pants; a "cup on a string"; and a name tag (Scouts, Gatorbites and Junior Volunteers).

Adults who are only volunteering one day and do not receive a T-Shirt must get a wrist band and name tag when they check in at headquarters.

Check In / Check Out

Cub Scouts will be checked in every morning by their Den Leaders. Den attendance sheets are due at headquarters by the beginning of first session (8:40). Gatorbites will be checked in by the Gatorbite Coordinator. Everyone else at camp must check in at Headquarters. Anyone leaving early must check out at Headquarters. Youth participants will only be released early to people listed on their Registration Form at Headquarters. Please notify Den Leader and HQ at check-in if a child will be checked out early.

How To Get There and Where To Park

Transportation to and from the camp location is the parent's responsibility. Directions can be found on the Day Camp Website (daycamp.btbsa.org). Parking is extremely limited at the campground; if you are volunteering for the day try to carpool with others in your den or pack. Almost all the dens have cubs from the same pack in them - contact other parents in your pack for carpooling opportunities. Waterfront volunteers can park in the back of the campground, but must get to Five Lakes **before 8:00AM**.

If you are volunteering for the day, we recommend that you get to the camp no later than 8:00AM.

Do not park immediately behind the bathrooms (there is a septic tank there).

Do not park in the field in front of headquarters.

Do not park past the cones / barricades along Den Row and by Gatorbites.

Do not park in the gravel road across the street from camp.

Do not park in the grass driveway near the house across the street from camp.

Parents Dropping Off Cubs (Car Line)

Car line opens at 8:15. Staff and Den Leaders are not ready to receive cubs until camp starts, so **DO NOT DROP OFF SCOUTS BEFORE 8:15**. If you are dropping off a cub and not staying at camp, he should go to his den area if he has pre-registered on swim test day. Dens will be labeled by number or letter along the main road into camp.

Parents must remain with cubs who have not made a name tag or gotten their t-shirt before camp until this has been done and the child is with their camp den leader. Cubs that have not swim tested prior to camp will test during their regular waterfront time on Monday and will receive their t-shirt on Monday when first checking in.

GATOR BITES SHOULD NOT BE DROPPED OFF IN CARPOOL LINE.

GATOR BITES SHOULD ONLY BE AT CAMP WITH A PARENT OR GUARDIAN VOLUNTEER WHO IS WORKING AT CAMP THAT DAY.

Volunteer Check-In

If you are volunteering, check in at the headquarters area to look up your volunteer assignment and check off your name on the volunteer list. If you are assigned to gator bites, head over to that area as soon as you can. They will need the most help in the morning registering children for the day's activities. Go to the area listing next to the alphabetic listing and initial your name so that we know you are at camp and in your assigned area. If you don't see your name on the list, check with one of the volunteers at headquarters. We have plenty for you to do.

If you are volunteering at camp that day and have a gator bite to register, go to the gator bite area and sign in your child before you head to your assigned area. Please be patient, especially on the first day of camp when we are just working the kinks out. You will need to sign your child in and out every day at camp. Remember that our primary job is to keep your children safe.

Car Line Pickup

Carpool cars line up down the access road to the camp and move through the horseshoe in front of headquarters. Tell the first adult volunteer in the carpool line who you are picking up. There are three carpool stations; "1" is the closest to the carpool exit, "2" is in the middle and "3" is closest the carpool entrance. The carpool volunteer will call your child's or children's names and ask that they go to station 1, 2 or 3. Watch for your child at that station.

ALL DRIVERS: Watch out for kids and adults at the end of the day. We are trying to dismiss over 200 boys, 50 Gatorbites, and 125 volunteers every day. Please drive carefully!!

Who May Attend Camp

Scout Siblings

The Camp "Gatorbite" program provides a Day Camp experience for young children of Staff members, Den Leaders and Parent Volunteers. In order for a child to attend as a Gatorbite, a parent **MUST** be in Camp each day they attend. "Gatorbites", who are not registered scouts, are separated into groups by age. (We do not provide day care for Scout siblings.) In addition, each attendee must be toilet trained (no diapers, pull-ups or swim diapers allowed).

Tiger Cubs

Our camp has an exciting program for Tiger Cubs to introduce them to the fun of both Cub Scout Day Camp and Scouting. Each Tiger **MUST** have a parent on site and be in Camp each day they attend.

Boy Scouts and Junior Volunteers

Boy Scouts and other siblings who are at least 14 years of age are invited to volunteer as a Junior Volunteer. Service hours can be recorded and a letter providing proof of service given at the end of Camp. If an adult attends camp on Staff, a Den Leader or Adult Volunteer for the week, siblings between the ages of 11 and 14 years may also assist as a Junior Volunteer. This is sometimes difficult for new Boy Scouts who have always attended camp as a Cub Scout, so please be sure your child understands that as a volunteer they will be expected to help and not participate in the activities.

When applying for a Junior Volunteer position, please indicate your preference of stations. Although the Camp Staff tries to assign volunteers based on preference, need takes precedence so you may be placed somewhere besides your preferred station. Please note that Archery, BB Guns and all the Waterfront areas require Volunteers to be at least 14 years old and attend special training.

Gatorettes

Older female Gatorbites will be placed in a "Gatorette" den. These dens will have craft activities more suited to older girls and will also have a chance to travel to some of the scout stations.

Training for Camp

Each Den Leader and Parent Volunteer is expected to attend a short training session to learn the ropes. Training for all positions will be held on Saturday, May 14 at St. Timothy's from 8:30am - 12pm.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Water / Dehydration Policy

Drink water at every station; remember that you do not feel thirsty until you are already dehydrated. Den Leaders: you will have yellow and blue beads in your bag. As you remember from training, these beads are to help keep track of who is drinking and staying hydrated. Every time the camper drinks at a new station he receives a blue bead on his necklace and every time he uses the restroom he will receive a yellow bead.

Medical

Any medical problem, no matter how minor, should be sent to the nurse for evaluation. This includes cuts, scrapes, bites, stings, headaches, "just not feeling good", etc.

Any campers who are scheduled to take medication should be sent to the nurse's station at the appropriate times. Remember to send the cubs who need meds with a buddy.

Special Needs

All special needs campers are welcome to attend camp. Cub Scout Day Camp is a wonderful experience and we want it to be available to all cub scouts. However, the Camp Staff is all volunteer and, in all likelihood, does not have the training necessary to handle special needs campers. **Any child with special needs who attends camp must be accompanied by a parent or a *qualified* person to take care of them while they are at camp. Please notify the Camp Director if this fits your situation.**

Buddy System

Cubs should always travel with a buddy. Cubs should always wear their nametags. They can take the nametags off when they go swimming, but should put them back on as soon as they move to another area.

Suspicious Individuals

Do not confront anyone who you think may not belong at camp, just keep an eye on them and report their presence to the Camp Director. Day Camp is held on private property and someone who looks like they may not belong could be there for other reasons. The Camp Director knows who should and should not be on site and will handle the situation appropriately.

Discipline Policy

We are blessed with a beautiful property, great volunteers and a terrific Day Camp program. However, Day Camp out in the woods can be hot, tiring and stressful for anyone. The Den Leaders and Area Staff are responsible for your child's safety and well being every day. This is why they will send children whose behavior compromises safety in any way, or whose behavior is disruptive to the group, to headquarters.

Discipline is meant as a corrective, not punitive measure. Corporal punishment has no place in our program and will not be tolerated. Abuse of staff (including willful refusal to obey) will also not be tolerated and campers who will not follow instructions will be sent home and may be barred from attendance for the remainder of camp.

Our disciplinary system has three levels:

1. Den Leader
2. Camp Director
3. District Executive

Most difficulties will be handled at the den level. The principles to follow in discipline are:

- Be fair
- Be consistent
- Treat each boy as an individual
- Set limits, explain them, and stick to them
- Take action quickly

If a boy refuses to accept the den rules, he will be referred to the Camp Director. The Camp Director will discuss the situation with the boy and offer him the opportunity to decide whether he is willing to accept the rules -- this opportunity may last for an extended period.

If the boy continues to refuse to accept Camp and Den rules, his parents may be asked to come and get him.

If, after consulting with his parents, the Camp Director and the District Executive believe it is in the best interest of the boy and the Camp, the parents will be requested to keep their son at home for the remainder of the Camp.