

Aurora District Webeloree

Purpose:

Aurora District Webeloree is an event organized on the district level, for the purpose of exposing the Webelo level Cub Scouts to the Boy Scout program. It also offers the Cub Scout and their parent the opportunity to review troops in the district and make contact for the opportunity to join their program. It is based on the Camporee type program offered to the Boy Scout Troops.

Webeloree is not a council sponsored event (ie: we do not provide staffing, food service, housing), nor is it a resident overnight camping program (ie: Camp Brinkley Summer Camp).

The following policy is taken from the Guide to Safe Scouting, as listed online and current as of March 3, 2011. <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/HealthandSafety/Resources/Guidetosafescouting.aspx>

Risk Management:

Managing Risk (from the Fieldbook)

The best way to stay safe in the outdoors is to avoid getting into trouble in the first place. That requires planning, training, leadership, good judgment, and accepting responsibility—in short, risk management.

Consideration: *Skill & Maturity Level of all Cubs Attending Webeloree.* The Webeloree program is open to all Cub Scouts in the ages listed below. Noting that there are differences in the skills, maturity and energy level of the scouts, their reaction to large numbers of people attending, the Boy Scout activities and physical risks of the campground, close supervision is dictated.

Consideration: *Number of Youth Attending event.* Webeloree as a program is invited to run their program on the Camporee campus. The Camporee program provides a weekend long program for Boy Scout Troops in the Aurora District and plans for 250 youth, 75 adults, and 40 staff members composed of 30 youth leaders. Considering there will be 375 persons in attendance that are not acquainted with the Cub Scout program, consideration must be taken to manage the risk to the Cub Scouts. Camporee / Webeloree does not provide staff outside of the scheduled Saturday program to monitor or watch Cub Scouts.

Consideration: *Water Risk.* The camping locations for Camporee / Webeloree include water resources, ie: rivers, and lakes. While there are no water activities planned, consideration must be taken to keep the cubscouts supervised and safe near water. The Camporee/Webeloree program does not provide staff trained in Safety Afloat or Safe Swim Defense or Aquatics Safety.

Inconsideration of the above risks, and in concert with the Guide to Safe Scouting, the supervision for the safety of the Cub Scout must be managed by the parent. Therefore, the following shall be the official policy of the Aurora District Camporee / Webeloree program.

Age guidelines for participation in Aurora District Webeloree Program.

Aurora District Policy on Cub Scout / Adult attendance:

Bear Cub Scouts (3rd grade) must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian. No exceptions.

Webelos I Scouts (4th Grade) must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.

Webelos II Scouts (5th Grade) must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.

In special circumstances, with a completed and pre-approved application, a Cub Scout (Webelo I or II only) whose parent or legal guardian is not able to attend an overnight camping trip may participate under the supervision of another **registered** adult member of the BSA who is a parent of a Cub Scout who is also attending. The unit leader and a parent or legal 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 "nonfamily member" youth.

In this special circumstance, the scout attending with a nonfamily member adult may not sleep in the same tent. Two scouts may sleep together, or the scout may sleep with the parent / guardian.

Authorized and accepted by:

Aurora District Camporee Committee:

Aurora District Committee:

Chief Seattle Council:

Following are copied from Website resources for Safe Scouting, Youth Protection and Aquatics safety policies from National Boy Scouts of America.

<http://scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/HealthandSafety.aspx>

Guide to Safe Scouting: Camping: **Age Guidelines**

The Boy Scouts of America has established the following guidelines for its members' participation in camping activities:

- Overnight camping by Tiger Cub, Wolf, and Bear Cub Scout dens as dens is not approved, and certificates of liability insurance will not be provided by the Boy Scouts of America.
- Tiger Cubs may participate in boy-parent excursions, day camps, pack overnights, or council-organized family camping.
- Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts may participate in a resident overnight camping program operating under BSA National Camping School– trained leadership and managed by the council.
- A Webelos Scout may participate in overnight den camping when supervised by an adult. In most cases, the Webelos Scout will be under the supervision of his parent or guardian. It is essential that each Webelos Scout be under the supervision of a parent-approved adult. Joint Webelos den/troop campouts including the parents of the Webelos Scouts are encouraged to strengthen ties between the pack and troop. Den leaders, pack leaders, and parents are expected to accompany the boys on approved trips.
- All Scouts registered in Boy Scout troops are eligible to participate in troop or patrol overnight campouts, camporees, and resident camps.
- Boy Scouts and Varsity Scouts 12 through 17 are eligible to participate in national jamborees. Boy Scouts and Varsity Scouts 13 through 17 are also eligible to participate in world jamborees and high-adventure programs.
- All youth registered in Venturing are eligible to participate in crew, district, council, and national Venturing activities as well as national high-adventure programs and world jamborees.

If a well-meaning leader brings along a child who does not meet these age guidelines, disservice is done to the unit because of distractions often caused by younger children. A disservice is also done to the child, who is not trained to participate in such an activity and who, as a nonmember of the group, may be ignored by the older campers.

Family Camping

Family camping is an outdoor experience, other than resident camping, that involves Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, or Venturing program elements in overnight settings with two or more family members, including at least one BSA member of that family. Parents are responsible for the supervision of their children, and Youth Protection guidelines apply.

Recreational Family

Camping Recreational family camping occurs when Scouting families camp as a family unit outside of an organized program. It is a non-structured camping experience, but is conducted within a Scouting framework on local council-owned or -managed property. Local councils may have family camping grounds available for rent at reasonable rates. Other resources may include equipment, information, and training.

Guide to Safe Scouting: Camping:

Cub Scout Overnight Opportunities

Cub Scouts may experience overnight activities in venues other than accredited resident camping. There are two categories of Cub Scout overnights.

Council-Organized Family Camp

Council-organized family camps are overnight events involving more than one pack. The local council provides all of the elements of the outdoor experience, such as staffing, food service, housing, and program. These are often referred to as parent/pal or adventure weekends. Council-organized family camps should be conducted by trained leaders at sites approved by the local council. **Each youth member will be under the supervision of a parent or legal guardian.**

In special circumstances, a Cub Scout whose parent or legal guardian is not able to attend an overnight camping trip may participate under the supervision of another registered adult member of the BSA who is a parent of a Cub Scout who is also attending. The unit leader and a parent or legal 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 "nonfamily member" youth.

Guide to Safe Scouting: Aquatics:**

Summer Aquatics Safety:

Aquatics Leadership Training Programs

Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training programs are available online at scouting.org and may be offered locally by instructors approved by the council aquatics committee or other council authority.

Aquatics Supervision: Swimming and Water Rescue and **Aquatics Supervision: Paddle Craft Safety** cover skills needed to meet Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat policies applied at the unit level. These training courses are provided locally by qualified instructors who are authorized by the local council.

BSA Lifeguard provides professional-level training for lifeguards at unit or summer camp swimming activities and is provided locally by qualified instructors who are authorized by the local council.

Cub Scout Aquatics Supervisor training prepares adults for leadership at Cub Scout day and resident camps where basic swimming is conducted. Cub Scout Aquatics Supervisor training is offered at a National Camping School conducted by the regions or by a BSA Aquatics Instructor with region approval.

Responsibilities of Supervisory Personnel

Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat govern BSA swimming and boating activities. Both specify that the activities are supervised by a mature and conscientious adult age 21 or older who

- Understands and knowingly accepts responsibility for the well-being and safety of youth members in his or her care
- Is experienced in the particular activity
- Is confident in his or her ability to respond appropriately in an emergency
- Is trained and committed to the nine points of BSA Safety Afloat and/or the eight points of Safe Swim Defense.

Youth Protection: Barriers to Abuse Within Scouting

The BSA has adopted the following policies to provide additional security for our members. These policies are primarily for the protection of our youth members; however, they also serve to protect our adult leaders from false accusations of abuse.

- **Two-deep leadership.** Two registered adult leaders or one registered leader and a parent of a participant, or other adult, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings. The chartered organization is responsible for ensuring that sufficient leadership is provided for all activities.
- **No one-on-one contact.** One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a Scoutmaster's conference, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and youths.
- **Respect of privacy.** Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes and taking showers at camp, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults must protect their own privacy in similar situations.
- **Cameras, imaging, and digital devices.** While most campers and leaders use cameras and other imaging devices responsibly, it has become very easy to invade the privacy of individuals. It is inappropriate to use any device capable of recording or transmitting visual images in shower houses, restrooms, or other areas where privacy is expected by participants.
- **Separate accommodations.** When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian. Councils are strongly encouraged to have separate shower and latrine facilities for females. When separate facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers.
- **Proper preparation for high-adventure activities.** Activities with elements of risk should never be undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures.
- **No secret organizations.** The Boy Scouts of America does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program. All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents and leaders.
- **Appropriate attire.** Proper clothing for activities is required. For example, skinny-dipping is not appropriate as part of Scouting.
- **Constructive discipline.** Discipline used in Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.
- **Hazing prohibited.** Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.
- **Junior leader training and supervision.** Adult leaders must monitor and guide the leadership techniques used by junior leaders and ensure that BSA policies are followed.
- **Member responsibilities.** All members of the Boy Scouts of America are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law. Physical violence, hazing, bullying, theft, verbal insults, drugs, and alcohol have no place in the Scouting program and may result in the revocation of a Scout's membership in the unit.