

What's New ... BALOO

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)

Overview

Cub Scout packs are permitted to conduct a pack campout (overnight) activity, as long as the activity is conducted at a council-approved location and is under the direction of a leader in the pack trained to do so. The new training course to prepare these leaders is called Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO, for short).

The target participant for BALOO training is a new Cub Scout leader with a desire to plan and carry out an entry-level camping experience for the pack. Successful completion of this training will result in an increased level of confidence and a willingness to plan an age-appropriate pack overnighter.

The goal of the pack overnight activity is to provide a successful pack event that is

- Age appropriate
- Based on the purposes of Cub Scouting
- Successful in whetting the appetite of the Cub Scout, his parents, and the leaders to want to do more in the outdoors
- A fun time with family and friends

The *Cub Scout Leader Book* has more information and background on this outdoor activity area. BALOO training is the first step in the BSA outdoor training program, and **does not replace any existing training**, nor should it be merged with any other training. For this program to be implemented successfully, BALOO must retain a clear spot as the entry-level, introductory outdoor training of the BSA. This training is not intended as an overnight experience, but rather a preparation of the Cub Scout leader interested in learning about pack overnight camping activities.

BALOO Learning Objectives

By completing this training course the participants will:

1. Understand the focus of the Cub Scout level of the BSA outdoor program.
2. Acquire the skills and confidence necessary to plan and carry out a successful Cub Scout-level overnight activity.
3. Increase their knowledge of the resources available from the BSA for carrying out this activity.

Target Participant

The BALOO target participant is a parent who is not already part of a pack leadership team. This position should be similar to the person in charge of the pinewood derby, blue and gold banquet, or other special pack activity. He or she may not have already attended Cub Scout Leader Basic Training or Youth Protection, but should be encouraged to do so before or soon after BALOO training.