





PACK 204 FAQs 2015-16

Maple Avenue United Methodist Church

63 Maple Avenue, Marietta, Georgia 30064

Scouting is full of many activities to keep your boys active and engaged and has over 100 years of rich history. This FAQ sheet should get you started as well as provide you with some direction for questions it doesn't answer. Just remember that almost everything can be separated into three categories: **having fun, advancing in rank, and staying safe.**

How do I get in contact with the Leaders?	Cubmaster: Deborah Alderman ... 678-665-8168 alderman.deborah@gmail.com Committee Chair: Amy Berris 770-880-4080 mom2smirly@gmail.com General Pack Info: www.cubs.204bsa.com
What does my registration fee cover?	A \$30 payment now is good until November 2015, then \$100 is needed for 2016. Your annual \$100.00 registration pays for several things: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the national registration fee • all patches, pins, and awards for the year • a 1 year subscription to the magazine Boy's Life • some materials used in Den and Pack meetings • popcorn sales in the fall can help cover dues
What will I need to get? How will I get it?  <div data-bbox="285 940 409 1033" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> A Cub Scout Note the smile </div>	Your son will need a Scout Uniform and Handbook. You can buy a new one at the Scout Store located at the Atlanta Area Council (1800 Circle 75 Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30339). They will be glad to point you to all of the items. You can also find a previously owned one from neighbors, online, etc. <u>Minimum Requirements</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirt: Size the shirt so it'll last for 3 years while your son is a Tiger, Wolf, and Bear. • Hat, Neckerchief, and Neckerchief Slide: Get the correct color (see below) • Belt: important for Belt Loop Awards • Patches: Atlanta Council Patch and World Crest Emblem (purple). We have the red Pack Number. • Webelos need to buy the tan uniform shirt and olive pants. Webelos Colors are also needed for the sleeve. • Cub Scout Handbook appropriate for your Scout's level <u>You might also want to get</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform Shorts/Pants are optional for Tiger, Wolf, and Bear. We recommend the Switch Back Pants with zip-off legs. Blue jeans are an acceptable alternative. • What else? The Scout Store has A LOT of stuff. You might get carried away! <p>If your son is a Tiger, try and purchase the uniform a little big so it will last for 3 years. If you were to purchase everything above brand new today, it will cost about \$100.00. BUT, don't let this cost deter you. You don't have to purchase it right away and there are many ways we can help defray the costs. Just ask your Cubmaster or Committee Chair.</p>
Please explain Dens and Packs.	Boys are grouped together in Dens . Dens consist of boys who are all in the same grade. All of the boys in the den work toward the same rank advancement. Each den level has its own color reflected in the hat, neckerchief, and socks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Grade – Tigers, Orange 2nd Grade – Wolves, Yellow 3rd Grade – Bears, Light Blue 4th & 5th Grade – Webelos, Tan/Olive with Plaid All of the dens are grouped into a Pack . <i>In case you were wondering, Cub Scouts are in <u>Packs</u>, Boy Scouts (6th grade+) are <u>Troops</u>, and Venturing (another organization under the BSA umbrella) are called <u>Crews</u>.</i> The same dark blue uniform (except hat, neckerchief, and socks) is worn for the 1 st to 3 rd grades. As Webelos, they'll wear the tan/olive one for 2 years and into Boy Scouts.

<p>What paperwork do I need to fill out?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Application: A one-time form for every scout. • Adult Application: If your son is in the 1st grade (and therefore a Tiger), each parent or guardian fills this out. You're considered an Adult Partner and must accompany your Tigers at all times. We'll explain this more at the New Parent Orientation and the first Den meeting. • Medical Form: Any time the Pack or Den travels, it is required that we have medical forms for <u>every person</u> attending, i.e. all parents, Scouts, siblings, grandparents, etc. It is incredibly easy to fill out on your computer. Download the form, only complete sections "A" and "B," print it, sign it and then save it for future printings. You'll need a <u>new one every year</u>. In the Immunization portion, <u>do not</u> write "current" or "up to date". We have to have the actual dates of the immunizations.
<p>What's the time commitment for Scouting?</p> 	<p>Den Meetings: Each den will meet at Maple Avenue UMC on the 2nd Monday of the month August - May. Additional den meetings will be held in various locations depending on the requirements your Scout will be working on and location availability. On special occasions they will meet at a parent's home or at a place they will tour such as a fire department, museum, etc. Den meetings usually last 1 – 2 hours.</p> <p>Pack Meetings: Once a month, all of the dens will meet together as a Pack. Pack Meetings will be held at Maple Avenue UMC on the 4th Monday of the month August - May. Meetings last 1.5 to 2 hours.</p> <p>Home Time: You'll also need to devote some time each week to helping your Cub Scout complete his various requirements. You'll find that many things can be done in the normal course of family life. Read through the Handbook and you'll get the idea.</p>
<p>Can my son's friend join even if they are not affiliated with Sawyer Road Elementary School or Maple Avenue UMC?</p>	<p>Yes ... yes, yes, yes, yes! Our Pack (as most packs) welcomes all boys from the area. We have children from private schools and home schools. Invite them to join! In fact, if they are the same age, we'll make sure they are in the same den. And if your son is the one who does the inviting and they join, he'll receive the much coveted RECRUITER patch to wear on his uniform.</p>
<p>How can I help? How can I become a leader?</p>	<p>The Pack is <u>completely</u> run by the parents and is a volunteer organization. We expect you to help in some capacity during the year. Unlike some organizations where you drop your child off and watch from the sidelines, Cub Scouting is a family oriented process where we are partnering with you to raise our children with strong character and moral values.</p> <p>There are formal positions such as working on the Committee and one-time positions coordinating an event such as camping, tours, popcorn sales (our major fund raiser), etc. There are positions for the whole Pack or just for your child's den, (Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader). We'll have a full list of opportunities you can help with and will be happy to assign you to something you enjoy doing.</p> <p>It's a lot of fun. You'll be working with a fantastic bunch of folks who have the same goal as you: <i>guiding our children to grow into responsible adults.</i></p>
<p>Is Pack 204 Methodist because they meet at Maple Avenue United Methodist Church?</p>	<p>Not at all. Maple Avenue United Methodist Church is the <u>Chartered Organization</u> for Pack 204. They merely provide a clean, safe facility for the kids to meet. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts are not tied on any level to any particular religion.</p> <p>With that said, Scouting does promote reverence to God. We encourage each child to worship, pray, and act according to their family's faith, whether it be Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, etc.</p>
<p>Is there more I need to know?</p>	<p>Oh my, yes! There's camping, tours, pinewood derby, totems, the purposes of scouting, training, safety, camping (we do that a lot) and a host of other things. But it's too much to put on one sheet.</p>
<p>Where can I get more info?</p>	<p>Besides calling any of us on the front page, please use the miracle of technology, the internet. These are just a few of the many links out there ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pack 204 is part of the Foothills District (Marietta and E Cobb): http://www.foothillsbsa.org • The Foothills District is in the Atlanta Area Council: http://www.atlantabsa.org • The National Website: http://www.scouting.org • More info about Scouting than you thought possible: http://usscouts.org