



## PACK 345 PARENT HANDBOOK

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## CUBMASTER WELCOME

Welcome to Pack 345! Pack 345 is a Boy Scouts of America (BSA) chartered Cub Scout Pack in Spring Hill, Tennessee. We exist to carry out the mission and vision of BSA through a strong and high quality cub scouting program for families with boys and girls in grades K-5.

In order to accomplish this, we implement a scouting program that is fun and incorporates all aspects of the Scout Law: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

We also welcome and encourage family support and participation as we guide our children along the Cub Scout trail.

I trust that, in the upcoming scouting year, you will find something for everyone in our program! We are glad you have chosen Pack 345 to share the scouting journey with you and your family.

Yours in Scouting, Matt Durlin

## OVERVIEW OF SCOUTING

### *Boy Scouts of America*

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness.

For over a century, the BSA has helped build future leaders of this country by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. The Boy Scouts of America believes – and, through over a century of experience, knows – that helping youth is key to building a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society.

The mission of Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

### **SCOUT OATH**

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

### **SCOUT LAW**

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent

Some fun facts about past alumni from BSA....

- 181 NASA astronauts were involved in Scouting
- 36.4 percent of the United States Military Academy (West Point) cadets were involved in Scouting as youth
- 191 members of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress participated in Scouting as a youth and/or adult leader
- 18 current U.S. governors participated in Scouting as a youth and/or adult volunteer

## **MIDDLE TENNESSEE COUNCIL**

BSA is divided regionally in order to provide the most support from professional and volunteer personnel at the local level. Each unit (pack or troop) is part of a district, and each district is part of a council.

<https://www.mtcbsa.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MTCBSA/>

## **NATCHEZ TRACE DISTRICT**

<https://www.mtcbsa.org/Districts/Natchez-Trace>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/natchezbsa/?ref=share>

## **PACK 345 ONLINE RESOURCES**

In addition to council resources, Pack 345 provides an up-to-date calendar, contact information, den pages, upcoming council events and more, at our website: [www.pack345springhill.com](http://www.pack345springhill.com).

We also have a private Facebook group for members-only, where photos and reminders about upcoming events are shared. Ask the Cubmaster or your den leader about being invited to this group.

## **PACK 345 CONTACT INFORMATION**

For contact information regarding Cubmasters, Den Leaders, and Committee Members, please visit the link below.

<https://pack345springhill.com/pack-345-contacts/>

## PACK 345 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Pack Meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM. Den Meetings will be held on the second and third Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 PM, unless we have another event planned. Committee Meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. All meetings are held at First Baptist Church on Main Street.

All event information can be found by visiting our website:

<https://pack345springhill.com/calendar-of-events/>

## BSA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

[http://www.scouting.org/Home/HealthandSafety/Guidelines\\_Policies.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Home/HealthandSafety/Guidelines_Policies.aspx)

## PACK 345 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### ***Uniform guideline***

If Class A event – Class A should be worn consistently at Pack Meetings, Den Meetings and Special events.



If Class B event, Class B pack t-shirt should be worn. We offer once per year to order these t-shirts.

### ***Gently Used Uniform Exchange***

This program is intended to help offset the cost that is incurred when purchasing new uniforms (hats, shirts, neckerchiefs, etc). If you do not have a need for any part of the uniform, please bring the gently used uniform to donate to our exchange. Similarly, if you are looking for a uniform, please inquire with our Used Uniform Coordinator prior to visiting the scout store.

## ***Costs and dues***

The pack [program budget](#) is available for viewing under the Forms page of our website.

The annual program budget is designed to cover the cost of the primary portion of the scouting program.

In addition to helping with fundraisers to help offset these budgeted costs, families are responsible for the following costs:

- Annual BSA Membership fee: \$72 (collected in September for all registered scouts)
- Annual Council Insurance fee: \$2 (collected at the same time as BSA Membership fee)
- Scout Life Magazine: \$12
- Volunteer membership fees: \$14
- Uniform costs (Class B shirts can be ordered from Pack 345, Class A uniforms can be purchased from the scout store)
- Scout handbooks (can be purchased at the scout store)
- Pack/Den outings and camping – each family must pay for outings on or before the announced deadlines for each outing. Cost details and sign-up deadlines will be announced as events get closer.
- In addition to these costs, each scout is asked to help with the annual Popcorn fundraiser. See “Fundraisers” section for more.

## ***Refund Policy***

Pack 345 has a strict **no refund** policy on all money paid to the pack – this includes but is not limited to dues, fundraising, a la carte events, donations, etc. It is at the discretion of Pack 345 leadership to waive this policy on a case by case basis, pending Committee approval.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### ***Barriers to Bullying and Abuse***

Each rank requires that parents take some time to review the “Parent’s Guide” to Protect Youth from Child Abuse. As an organization, Boy Scouts of America has implemented a wide array of safety guidelines that, when followed properly, help to keep our children and youth as safe as possible.

However, it is important that we create a culture in our homes of awareness and openness about various situations that could arise and help our children to understand: they have a safe place at home and among leaders at scouts to come and talk if there is a problem, their concerns are important, and that we will do everything as parents and leaders to address situations swiftly and properly as they arise.

Please take time to review the following materials and, with your child, review the Parent’s Guide.

[Parent’s Guide to Youth Protection and Preventing Child Abuse](#)

[Scouting Barriers to Abuse: Guidelines to be followed](#)

### ***Health Forms***

Each scout must have a completed [health form](#) each year, which is available at each pack and den meeting through September.

### ***Youth Protection***

All trained leaders are required to take [Youth Protection Training](#) each year and parents are required to take this effective August 1, 2021.

## **FUNDRAISERS**

### ***Popcorn Sale***

The popcorn fundraiser is our primary means of funding our program for the entire year. We ask each scout and family to participate in the fundraiser.

Additional information about this will be provided at the kickoff picnic in August.

### ***Camp Cards***

Each Spring, scouts have an opportunity to “earn their own way” to summer camp by selling \$5 discount cards.

These cards are very easy to sell and pay for themselves.

For every card sold, the scout gets \$2.50 and Middle Tennessee Council receives \$2.50.

The customer purchasing the card gets a discount card and coupons good at various stores and restaurants in the area. This card is good for the entire calendar year.

More details about how this fundraiser works will be provided when the sale launches in the spring (typically around March).

### ***Additional Fundraisers***

Occasionally in order to meet our budget requirements to fund our program, we require additional fundraisers. These will be Middle Tennessee Council-approved and announced ahead of time with plenty of opportunity for families to help out.

## **FORMS**

### ***Youth Registration Form***

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/524-406A.pdf>

### ***Volunteer/Adult Registration Form***

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/524-501.pdf>

### ***Health Forms***

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/healthandsafety/ahmr.aspx>

### ***Class B Uniform Order Form***

The Class B uniform order form will be published on the [Forms page](#) of our website each fall when it is available.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

Scoutbook (advancement tracking and more): <https://scoutbook.com/>

Scoutbook Training for Parents:

<https://help.scoutbook.scouting.org/knowledge-base/scoutbook-tutorial-for-parents/>

Training Resources from BSA: <https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/>