



Cub Scout Pack 1776

San Ramon • California



This year, the National and Council fees increased. Learn here why, where the fees go and why we think our Cub Scout Pack is still a great deal.

Why is our Pack such a great deal?

Cub Scouts runs year around. While our formal pack meetings take place August – May, Cub Scouts continues into the summer with Day Camp and pack outings, such as hikes and other fun events. This year, recognizing that the majority of our scouts were housebound and had little opportunity to see their friends given the COVID pandemic, our Pack conducted virtual pack meetings in June and July. Several dens also continued with meetings during the summer.

Given Scouting typically runs all year, we think you get more for your dollar when compared to seasonal sports. For instance:

- **Local Baseball: \$255 or \$355**, price dependent on age group.
 - Typical regular season: January - May
- **Local Soccer: \$288 or \$338** early sign up, price dependent on age group.
 - Typical season: August - November

Don't get us wrong, most of us have our children in local sports and other activities besides scouts. But we think Pack 1776 is truly a bargain in light of what we do, the kids having fun and fact that they learn many important life skills. Most of all, Cub Scouts gives you the opportunity to spend time with your child before they become teenagers! Some of you may have gotten a glimpse of this during Remote Learning this past Spring!

While you may not think you are "sports" coach material, you will do well in Scouts. Parents do things alongside their children and bond with them, regardless of the level of involvement. Watch them have fun on hikes and outdoor programs. Go on den and pack hikes with your child. Assist them in crafts – try some yourself. See them learn important life skills such as knot tying, first aid, using a knife, citizenship in terms of being respectful in groups and with others. Help them build a Pinewood Derby Car! Have them look up to you with pride as a uniformed leader.

What Pack activities will we be doing in light of COVID-19?

Pack 1776 hasn't slowed down due to COVID-19. While it did reduce our ability to meet in person, we quickly shifted to virtual pack and den meetings via Zoom where we played games, learned new things, performed songs & skits, and even did crafts using materials delivered by the pack. We've heard from our parents and scouts alike that they had fun. While our kids were able to see their friends during School Google Meets sessions with their teachers while school was in session, this opportunity was dramatically reduced for many during the summer. The pack's virtual den and pack meetings gave the kids a chance to see and socialize with their friends.

While our pack will continue to hold virtual pack meetings until it is safer to meet in person, indoors, we also plan to conduct social distanced/time-slotted outdoor events. This includes Rocket Day, hikes in local parks, a Bike Hike down the Iron Horse Trail, Halloween Trunk or Treat, Hoot Owl program and perhaps a “raingutter regatta.” While we hope the rollout of a vaccine may allow us to conduct our famous Pinewood Derby inside the Coyote Creek MPR come January 2021, we are already making back up plans to hold it outdoors, with scouts and it being simulcasted on Zoom. Given dens are smaller, the leader and parents may elect to conduct socially distanced meetings in person.

Continuing on with Virtual Pack Meetings allows parents and their Scout to participate in Cub Scouting even if they are not comfortable attending these socially distanced outdoor events. Pack Meetings will host speakers, crafts, games, our NOVA Stem program, and other fun things.

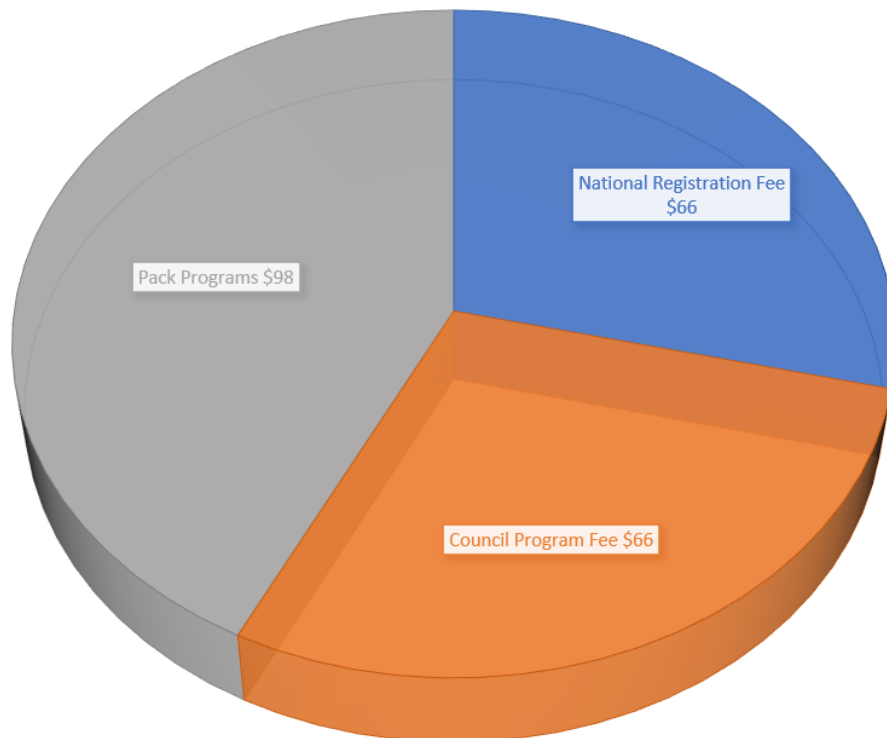
Does an hour off sound good to you?

Most our Virtual Pack Meetings this year will be held from 6:30 pm to 7:30 p.m. We may go a half hour longer if the program that night warrants it. While we’d love for you to be beside your child during the Pack Meeting, we won’t hold it against you if you decide to take that time to head to the other side of the house for some peace and quiet!

What’s included in the price?

The registration fee we charge can be split into three components:

WHERE DOES THE FEE GO?



1. National Membership Fee: \$66

This fee is charged by the Boy Scouts of America and helps to pay for the cost of essential services, including program resources, national liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, youth protection, online registration, Scoutbook, and national initiatives. Neither the Pack nor our Council directly receives money from this fee.

2. Council Program Fee: \$66

[Learn more about this fee here.](#)

Our pack belongs to the Golden Gate Council, which in turn [operates day and five overnight camps](#), provides:

- **Volunteer and staff training**
- **Insurance coverage** to protect volunteers, chartered organizations, staff members and properties
- **Support staff** for registration, publications, and other program support
- **Camp promotion** for Cub Scout day camps, Boy Scout summer camps, high-adventure bases and more
- **Camp rangers** to keep the council camps up-to-date and ready for Scouts and families
- **Camp equipment**, like tents, cooking equipment, camp vehicles, building repairs, canoes, equipment replacement and repair, and general upkeep of council camps
- **Recognitions for leaders** who complete training, volunteer for special projects and help in many Scouting roles
- **Professional staff** to work with volunteers to organize new units, manage fundraising programs, conduct training, assist membership recruitment, provide counsel, and direct support for district, camps, and programs
- **Administrative needs** including postage, computers, and links to the National BSA computer system, copy machines, folding machines, and a printing shop
- **Service centers** to provide additional support to volunteers
- **Audio-visual supplies** used in training, at camps and in volunteer meetings
- **Postage** to mail materials to leaders, parents, and youth members
- **A council website** to keep you informed
- **Reference publications** and resources, including program planning kits and to camping cookbooks

- **Camp scholarships**, uniforms, and registration fees for disadvantaged young people

Believe it or not, despite the Council providing us the most in terms of tangible support and operating our camps, it receives nothing from the National Membership Fee that Boy Scouts of American charges. Overnight scout camps are the main income stream for the Council, supplemented with money generated by Friends of Scouting and Popcorn fundraisers. The COVID pandemic has dramatically reduced their revenue streams, thus they elected to charge a \$66 fee of their own.

3. Pack Registration Fee: \$98

The pack charges a registration fee to fund its own program activities. None of our leaders are paid. We are all volunteers. Money from the Pack Registration Fee goes to pay for items such as:

- **Awards & Patches** (rank awards, adventure awards, hiking awards, NOVA awards, Pinewood Derby trophies & ribbons, Halloween party medals, commemorative patches)
- **Class B T-Shirt** for each paid scout and registered leader/chairperson
- **Pinewood Derby car** for each paid scout
- **Craft / pack meeting activity supplies**
- **Blue & Gold dinner**
- **Halloween Party**
- **MPR rental fees**
- **Website, SmugMug, Zoom and other computer related/hosting fees**
- **Adult leader registration** (National and Council now charge \$84 per leader)
- **Pack Equipment**
- **Subsidies to certain overnight events and hikes**
- **Subsidies for food and drink at certain pack events.**
- **Boys Life Magazine**

4. Other fees.

Boy Scouts of America now charges a one-time \$25 fee for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts. There is no joining fee for participants previously registered in any BSA program, those transferring from one program to another, council-paid memberships, or adult volunteers. **This \$25 fee is included in the Pack's \$275 new scout fee.** The Pack's new scout fee also covers the

national registration fee for the year that the scout is joining the pack and the upcoming scouting year.

New scouts also need to purchase their own uniforms. While handbooks are available online, we also recommend they obtain their own hard copy.

A small fee may be charged for participation in special programs or camps.