

**SCOUTS-L**

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**CUBMASTER**

**Date:** Thu, 6 Feb 1997 09:54:33 CST  
**Reply-To:** Barry C Runnels <Barry\_C\_Runnels@MMACMAIL.JCCBI.GOV>  
**Sender:** Scouts-L Youth Group List <Scouts-L@tcu.edu>  
**From:** Barry C Runnels <Barry\_C\_Runnels@MMACMAIL.JCCBI.GOV>  
**Subject:** How about: Make Scouting Fun  
**To:** Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
**Status:** RO  
**X-Status:**

> This is my first year as CM. If anyone has any words of wisdom or  
> resources you found particularly useful in your experience, I would  
> appreciate it. I am looking for particular items that people have  
> found that work well. I think we would all benefit from sharing as I have  
> already have, many times over.

Oh Mark, you have entered the land of Milk and Honey. Cub Mastering was a wonderful time in my life.

You have the right idea. Try to use new ceremonies at each meeting so the Scouts and parents look forward to them. Try to break up long awards ceremonies with skits, songs or cheers to keep the Scouts interest. I love skits. I would always have at least three. In our Pack the 2nd year Webelos have a skit for every meeting. They get very good it and only need 10 minutes to practice. And what a character builder.

Try to make every Scout special. I loved giving awards because it gave me a chance to shake hands or put my hands on his shoulder and give uplifting words about the young man in front of his parents and friends. Many kids today don't get any touching and few words of encouragement.

Remember that Pack meetings are a very small part of your job. Give a lot of your attention to the Den leaders. Make sure they are excited about their job. Call and talk to them a lot and give them time to vent if the need it. When they have problems, help them. Go to bat for them. Brag about them, You have the best leaders so let people know. The leaders need to know they have someone to count on and your it. When you have motivated leaders then you will have excited Scouts and parents.

**Remember each age group is different. Their programs should all be different and appropriate for their maturity level. Very important for Tigers and Webelos. Use your Webelos, they love responsibility and to show off.**

**Guard your program. You will find many adults design activities for their convenience and forgot about the Scouts. The program is for the Scouts. Make sure every activity is fun. All of them, even activities like Scouting for Food. Last year we worked with another Pack at Scouting for Food and their leaders asked us how we get such a good turnout. We made it fun. After every activity, ask and find out was it fun, what will I change to make it more fun, more meaningful and better and more fun and more fun and more fun. (By the way this works for Troops as well)**

**Remember there may be better Packs but your Pack 1344 is the best. Make**

**your program personal for the boys. Create traditions. Come up with Pack cheers. Make your Pack the best for these guys. We started the "Mighty" Pack 339 several years ago when it was on its knees ready to die. Now we are "Mighty" in every way.**

**Work as a TEAM. SHARE the load. Don't burn out. Train your leaders. Try to have as many assistants as possible. I had four CC's but each one was an assistant CC before so transition was painless.**

**Follow your heart. Be proud but not arrogant. Be humble, take little credit but GIVE a lot. Be the boys best friend but firm when needed. These guys understand respect.**

**And remember the Cub Master's Motto:" You can't be every boys best friend, but you can try."**

**I envy you Mark, your in a good place in your life. Good Luck.**

**Some days are better than others, but I love this Scouting Stuff.**

**Barry Runnels  
"Mighty" Pack 339**

**Edmond OK**