



Welcome to Pack 7 of Coral Gables 2026-2027



The following packet is an introduction to the Scouting program in general and to our pack in particular. It details the immediate membership registration and dues requirements and should be kept as a resource throughout the year.

Scouting America
South Florida Council (<https://sfscouting.org>)
Everglades District
CUB SCOUT PACK 7
Pack Code: 0007

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Coral Gables Pack 7 Cub Scouts

Fellow Scouters, Cub Scouts and Scout Parents,

If you are new to Pack 7, welcome to our Pack! If you are a returning parent, welcome back for another year of scouting fun and adventure! The attached package of information will help answer many questions about **Cub Scouting** in general and **Pack 7** in particular. This information will make you an informed **Scout Parent** and help your child make the most of their Cub Scouting experience. I ask that you please take 5 minutes to read this information, even if you are veteran of the Pack. We have included a lot of useful information and I am confident that you will learn something new.

Having each of you read this will also help to avoid confusion and help to reduce many of the questions you might otherwise have.

Earlier in the spring, National Boy Scouts of America announced a fee increase, however, we decided not to increase dues from last year. We know that in this difficult year some of our families may be struggling financial. Please know that we believe no one should be deprived of participating in the scouting experience. We understand that many families may need assistance with fee, dues, supplies etc. A payment plan is available for any family who requests one. You also have the option to utilize our fundraisers as way to pay for your scouting experience with your advance commitment to help plan and participate in those fundraisers. The option is yours and strictly confidential between you and the Committee Chair.

The leadership team will be hosting monthly Committee Meetings. All parents are invited and are welcome to share ideas and discuss any concerns. These meetings will “get everyone on the same page” and make you aware of some potentially important issues facing the pack. I ask that you please make every effort to attend these meetings and thank you in advance for your participation.

Lastly, we have various positions available for volunteers who would like to help shape their child's experience. Shortly, you will be sent a parent talent survey and committee volunteer form. Each position is clearly defined and comes with plenty of guidance and assistance for those just starting, some jobs are big and some are small - **The more people that volunteer means there is less there for any one person to do.**

Please get involved and help all our kids to **Have Fun with a Purpose**. As always, we will **"Do Our Best"** and expect the same from each of you and your Scout.

Let's have **A GREAT YEAR WORKING TOGETHER!**

Yours in Scouting

Adam Yormack
Cubmaster
(303) 919-4231
cubmaster.pack7cg@gmail.com



**1101 South Greenway Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33134
(Inside the Granada Golf Course)**

Parent Check List

- ✓ **Read the entire Welcome Packet** – Be an Informed Scout Parent.
- ✓ **Return the following by September 30th.**
 - Scout Registration Form (New Members)
 - Registration fees either in full or first month's payment
 - Youth Protection Training V2.0 certificate of completion (new members)
 - Completed Medical Form for Scout. Form will be emailed to you.
 - Complete the parent talent survey and volunteer form
 - Install WhatsApp and the Scouting App on your phone

[NOTE: Paypal pack7ofcoralgables@gmail.com](mailto:Paypal pack7ofcoralgables@gmail.com)

- ✓ **Calendar Check** – Put all Pack and Den Activities in your Family Calendar.
- ✓ **Uniform Check**
 - Are all required patches and current ranks sewn on neatly?
 - Does my child have all parts of the Class A and Class B uniform?
 - Does the uniform still fit properly?

Troop 7 – CHARTERED SINCE 1922 by George Merrick

Troop 7 celebrated its 95th anniversary in 2017. We are proud of our deep history of serving the boys of our community. Pack 7 is part of the **Everglades** within the **South Florida Council** of the Boy Scouts of America® and has been continuously chartered since 1975. Our pack unit code for your reference is **0007**. In February of 2019, we chartered Troop 719, the first girl troop in South Florida.

Brief History of George Merrick's Troop 7

Mr. Merrick knew it was important for Coral Gables to have a first-class Scouting program and he set the standard for community support with his donation of land and establishment of the foundation to maintain the property.

Today, the George Merrick Foundation contributes to the maintenance of his historic Scout property. The City of Coral Gables, civic leaders and concerned citizens, with a long-term vision to enhance the property for the purposes of Scouting while retaining the original rustic nature intended by Merrick.



Soon after Coral Gables' first Scout troop was chartered in 1923, Mr. Merrick deeded land to his George Merrick Foundation Troop 7 Scouts, and his architect, Phineas Paist, designed a special log cabin for the boys to be built in a wooded area on the Granada Greenway.

Since October 1922, George Merrick's Troop 7 of Coral Gables has distinguished itself by providing our youth with a robust combination of wholesome activities designed to build character and the tools to develop leadership skills.

Eight decades after starting in Albert Bartle's garage, more than three thousand Coral Gables boys have benefitted from the lessons that Scouting has to offer, and more than 170 dedicated young men have earned the ultimate rank — 220 Eagles Scout. Troop 7 Scouts have grown up to become governors, mayors, business leaders, decorated war heroes and outstanding citizens in a myriad of occupations. Each can trace the roots of his good character to lessons learned as a Troop 7 Scout and many have returned to share their experiences with the younger boys as adult leaders.

Today's Scouts enjoy the fruits of this fine tradition inspired by George Merrick, parents, troop alumni, civic leaders and concerned citizens of Coral Gables.

Uninterrupted service since 1922, George Merrick's Troop 7 of Coral Gables is now honored as one of the country's oldest and most respected charters in the history of the Scouts.



We enjoy our own Scout House and property and therefore remain non-sectarian. We are fortunate to enjoy great diversity within the Pack and have families of many religious denominations and ethnic backgrounds. We are part of the world brotherhood of Scouting that includes over 17 million members in more than 134 countries worldwide. As part of the worldwide Scouting movement, we share similar aims of character development, citizenship training, appreciation for the outdoors and physical fitness.

Pack 7 Leadership

Cubmaster

Adam Yormack

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cubmaster.pack7cg@gmail.com

Webelos Den Leaders

Carlos Pollo

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Gautam Sadhir

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Santiago Martinez

(786) 853-5560

smarti09@outlook.com

Bear Den Leader

Wolf Den Leader

Santos Goni

(917) 704-5945

santosgoni@outlook.com

Dan Sox

(202) 746-7513

dan.sox@mac.com

Tiger Den Leader

Arrow Den Leader

Michael Borja

(352) 262-3212

michael.v.borja@gmail.com

Pack 7 Committee

Committee Chair **Pennie Freedman**

Treasurer **Teresa Perez**

Secretary **Frances Marine**

Recruiting and Social Media **Rebecca Whitaker**

Executive Officer **Jeffrey Berger**

Committee meetings are held as needed.

All parents are welcome!

Please fill out committee volunteer form if you would like to be on a committee!



WHAT IS CUB SCOUTS ALL ABOUT?

The Cub Scout program emphasizes caring, nurturing relationships between children and their parents, adult leaders and friends. Cub Scouts is about having “**Fun with a Purpose.**” The ten purposes of Cub Scouting are listed below followed by the methods we use to implement these purposes. All Den, Pack, District and Council activities incorporate at least two of the purposes.

1. To influence the development of **Good Character.**
2. To encourage **Spiritual Growth.**
3. To help children develop habits and attitudes of **Good Citizenship.**
4. To encourage **Good Sportsmanship and Fitness** in growing strong in mind and body.
5. To improve **Family Understanding.**
6. Support **Respectful Relationships** by strengthening the ability of kids to get along with and respect other people.
7. To foster a sense of **Personal Achievement** by helping children develop new interests and skills.
8. To show kids how to be helpful through **Friendly Service** and to always do one’s best.
9. To provide **Fun and Adventure** introducing them to new and exciting things to do.
10. To **Prepare Them for Scouts BSA Troop.**

The methods used to implement the purposes of Cub Scouting are:

- ✓ Home and Neighborhood Centered.
- ✓ Parental and Family Involvement.
- ✓ Advancement Plan.
- ✓ The Den.
- ✓ The Ideals of Cub Scouting.
- ✓ The Uniform
- ✓ Activities



CUB SCOUT RANKS – A BRIEF OVERVIEW

For those who are new to Scouting as well as those who need a quick refresher, the different levels of the Cub Scout experience are:

Bobcats – All new Cub Scouts between Tiger and Webelos rank regardless of when they join the program must first earn the rank of Bobcat. They must learn and be able to repeat by memory eight fundamentals of Cub Scouting including The Cub Scout Motto, Law of the Pack and Cub Scout Promise.

Lion Cub – Kindergarten Cub Scouts - A less structured, beginning introduction to Cub Scouting. All activities are conducted with an adult partner. Lions meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month; however, Lions are included in all special pack activities and campouts.

Tiger – First grade Cub Scouts – Like Lion Cub, activities are conducted with an adult partner.

Wolf - Second grade Cub Scouts.

Bear - Third grade Cub Scouts.

Webelos I – Fourth grade Cub Scouts.

Webelos II – Fifth grade Cub Scouts.

Arrow of Light – The highest rank a Cub Scout can achieve. A high level of dedication is needed to fulfill the requirements for this honor. Cub Scouts who have earned AOL will cross-over to a Scouts BSA Troop in February of fifth grade: Troop 7 for boys or Troop 719 for girls.

There are Scout Handbooks for each rank (Lion Cub, Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos). The handbooks contain information about the various achievements and activities for each rank. Each Cub Scout should have his/her own handbook. Each parent is encouraged to familiarize themselves with the handbook. Please review the first section in each Cub Scout rank's handbook that deals with Youth Protection.

SCOUT UNIFORMS

The Boy Scouts of America® always **WAS, IS** and **FOREVER WILL BE** a Uniformed Body. There are many reasons for this policy. We will continue to expect that every Scout wear their full uniform at meetings and functions as designated. Keep in mind that when you wear the uniform you represent not only yourself but all Scouts that came before you and all Scouts that will come after you. Please make sure shirts are tucked, neckerchiefs are worn properly and that uniforms are kept neat and tidy. It is also important to make sure to update rank advancement patches on a timely basis and make sure all patches and pins are properly sewn and displayed. For detailed instruction please refer to the Uniform and Insignia Code on-line.



LION CUBS

Lion Cub Cap
Blue Lion Cub T-Shirt
Lion Cub Neckerchief (they make their slide)
Blue Shorts, pants or skirt



TIGER SCOUTS

Tiger Cub Cap
Blue Cub Scout Shirt*
Official Cub Scout Neckerchief (Orange for Tiger)
Cub Scout neckerchief slide
Blue Cub Scout belt and Tiger or Cub Scout buckle
Blue Cub Scout pants, shorts, or skirt
Brown or Black Shoes or Boots



WOLF SCOUTS

Wolf Scout Cap
Blue Cub Scout Shirt*
Official Wolf Scout Neckerchief (Yellow for Wolves)
Wolf Scout Neckerchief Slide
Blue Cub Scout Belt and Cub Scout Buckle
Blue Cub Scout pants, shorts, or skirt
Brown or Black Shoes or Boots



BEAR SCOUTS

Bear Scout Cap
Blue Cub Scout Shirt*
Official Bear Scout Neckerchief (Light Blue for Bears)
Bear Scout Neckerchief Slide
Blue Cub Scout Belt and Cub Scout Buckle
Blue Cub Scout pants, shorts, or skirt
Brown or Black Shoes or Boot



Rank Patch Placement on Blue Cub Scout Uniform.
If your scout is missing a rank patch, leave that space empty.



WEBELOS SCOUTS

Tan (khaki) Boy Scout shirt* with blue shoulder loops
 WEBELOS Cap
 Plaid WEBELOS neckerchief and Webelos neckerchief slide
 Olive green Boy Scout belt**
 Olive green Boy Scout pants, shorts or skort
 Brown or Black Shoes or Boots

*Short sleeve shirts are recommended because they can be worn year-round.

**Please note the Cub Scout belt loops earned in lower ranks will not fit on the green Boy Scout belt.

All Scout uniforms should have the appropriate current rank achievements, activity segments and other specific designations. See your Cub Scout's handbook for correct placement. **No patches should be sewn or placed on the back of uniform shirts.** Instead, temporary patch holders may be worn on the right pocket flap or a special patch vest or jacket may be worn.





SCOUTS SUPPLIES – WHERE TO BUY THEM

Cub and Boy Scout uniforms, adult leader uniforms, uniform segments and a variety of Scouting materials may be purchased at any of the following locations:

MIAMI SCOUT SHOP and SOUTH FLORIDA COUNCIL OFFICE

Class A uniforms can be purchased at 37 Degrees North in Miami Lakes.
6832 Main Street, Miami Lakes, FL 33014

Phone Number: (305) 822-6287, Fax: (305) 823-8176
miamiscoutshop@scouting.org *protected email*

Open 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Closed for Lunch, Open -1 p.m.-6 p.m.

Closed Sundays

BSA Official Online Retail Store

www.scoutshop.org

****New this year we will also be starting a uniform exchange. We have a few blue uniform shirts, pants and shorts that may be purchased for a small donation. Additionally, if you have uniforms top, bottoms and/or belts that you no longer wish to keep, you may donate them to the exchange.**



PARENT INVOLVEMENT: THE KEY TO YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS

One of the most critical elements of a successful Scouting experience are good Scout Parents. It is proven that children whose parents actively support their activities in Scouting and that get involved perform better. You can make a **HUGE** difference in your child's Scouting experience when you:

GUIDE YOUR CUB SCOUT: Help them to understand and accomplish the achievements required for each rank. Show interest in and appreciation for their accomplishments and the new things they are learning.

PLEASE BE SURE YOUR CUB SCOUT GETS TO EACH DEN AND PACK MEETING ON TIME: Teach your child to call their Den leader if he will be absent or late for Den meetings or cannot attend the Pack meeting.

SUPPORT YOUR DEN LEADER: Take the initiative to ask how you can *Help the Pack Go*, during the Year.

HELP YOUR PACK GO – In order to successfully carry out the wide variety of activities throughout the year, we need help from **EVERY** Pack family. **WE ASK THAT AN ADULT FROM EACH FAMILY WHO IS NOT ALREADY SERVING IN THE ROLE OF A DEN LEADER OR OTHER PACK LEADERSHIP ROLE VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH AT LEAST ONE PACK ACTIVITY DURING THE YEAR.**

If you can help with more than one activity, that would be great! If you want to volunteer for a specific committee or activity such as camping, planning special outings, fundraisers, pinewood derby, advancement, or many other opportunities, contact our Cubmaster, Ruben.

WE WELCOME ALL WHO WANT TO GET INVOLVED!

Pack Meetings (under normal circumstances)

Pack meetings are every Wednesday (please check calendar) and **will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. and end no later than 7:30 p.m.** Lions will meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 unless otherwise noted. Opening ceremony and important announcements are done at the beginning of the Pack meeting so it is important to be on time. Please check the Pack calendar for Pack meeting dates and locations. We follow the Miami-Dade County School Calendar and make every effort to accommodate Private school schedules as well as major religious holidays. **If Miami-Dade Public Schools are canceled due to vacation, holiday, or weather emergencies Scouts will be canceled as well. If there is an exception (Holidays only) you will be notified.** The Pack 7 meetings are for all Cub Scouts of every rank. The Pack schedule is a separate attachment. Occasionally times and dates may change so please make sure to check with your den leader or Cub Master directly.

Pack meetings are not a drop-off activity. A parent or guardian must attend the Pack meeting with his or her child. Parents participate in Pack meeting activities, so you need to be there. Keep in mind that this is a time for your child to receive recognitions. They will be proud to show you what they are working on and you should use this time as an opportunity to encourage them to continue to work hard. If necessary, siblings may attend the Pack meeting but only as long as you are there to provide guidance and they do not interfere with the night's program. Siblings should not attend Den meetings. It is also important to note that Pack Meetings are about the youth. It is not a social opportunity for the Parents to catch up with one another. Please be respectful of the meetings intent. This includes not using cell phone or texting during the meeting.

Safe Scouting

Guide to Safe Scouting FOR UNIT ACTIVITIES



A Unit Leader's Guide for
Current Policies and Procedures

As part of the Boy Scouts of America®, we adhere to the official **Guide to Safe Scouting** (available online) regulations that provide direction in maintaining a safe Scouting experience for a broad range of scouting activities. The guideline that has the most noticeable impact on the Cub Scout level is that of **TWO DEEP LEADERSHIP**. Youth protection guidelines require that all group activities involving Cub Scouts maintain the presence of at least two adult leaders. Please be prepared to say “YES” when your Cub Scout's Den leader asks your assistance in helping to serve as a second leader.

It is also **MANDATORY** that every Scout Parent take the Safe Guarding Youth training offered on-line at <https://my.scouting.org> even if you are not an official adult member of the pack. Simply register as a guest and proceed at your leisure. The program will take you no more than 75 minutes to complete.

PACK REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee for the 2026-27 Scout year is \$200 per Scout. This fee helps pay for each Cub Scout's awards, recognition items (pins, patches, etc.), National B.S.A. registration, insurance, a subscription to Scout Life, and a variety of miscellaneous costs that are associated with Pack activities. BSA is also charging an additional \$25 for brand new youth members. We also ask for \$150 per family for the maintenance of our Scout house. At least one parent in each family must register with BSA. The cost is \$75 for one adult. For existing families with one Scout and one parent the cost is \$450 (~\$34/month). For a brand new Scout with one parent the cost is \$450 (~\$37/month). The registration fee may be paid in one payment or we will set up a payment plan for you. We prefer PayPal pack7ofcoralgables@gmail.com but will take other forms of payment as well.

FUND-RAISING

Our Pack budget is supplemented by our annual fundraiser sales. The Pack needs the support of **all our Cub Scouts and their Parents** to make these fundraisers a financial success. We will have several fundraisers throughout the year. There are no door-to-door sales. More information will be made available by our chairperson. We need every family's support to make the sale a success.

CAMPING WITH PACK 7

Camping and other outdoor experiences are an important part of a quality Scouting program. These experiences help Cub Scouts develop an appreciation of the outdoors while developing the Scoutcraft skills required of each rank. A small fee is required for each person participating in the campout to cover the cost of the campsite and food/drinks.

All Pack camping requires parental supervision because Cub Scouting is a family-centered program. We have planned several outings this program year (please see calendar) and hope that you will participate. These events help our Scouts earn various awards and definitely live up to the goal of being FUN WITH A PURPOSE!

While not required we ask that each family be outfitted with basic camping supplies. We do have some supplies, such as tents, that can be borrowed, however, having your own gear will make your camping experience much more enjoyable. The Pack leadership is available to make recommendations for stores, brands, etc., for the following items:

- Tent and tarp for underneath (most families have a 6-10 person tent)
- Air mattress, cot, or sleeping bag and associated bedding
- A mess kit for each camper
- A camp chair for each camper
- A reusable water bottle for each camper
- Insect repellent and sunscreen
- Rain ponchos
- Youth fishing pole for when fishing is available
- Flash lights and/or head lamps
- Camp fan
- Any other item you may need to be comfortable