

Rowan District  
Central North Carolina Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
www.rowandistrictbsa.com



## Webelos Frequently Asked Questions

*Where a reference can be found in a printed guide, it has been placed in parentheses at the end of the answers.  
A legend for reference acronyms is found at the end of this guide.*

Q. Are Webelos Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts?

A. Webelos Scouting is the senior level program in Cub Scouting. It is meant to help transition the boys from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting. Webelos are still under the direction of the Cubmaster. They are allowed to wear the khaki and olive colors of the Boy Scouts, but wear Cub Scout insignia on the uniform. Webelos Scouting has more outdoor activities than in the other parts of Cub Scouting but less than Boy Scouting. See the Guide to Safe Scouting and "Planning the Webelos Overnight Campout" in the Cub Scouting Leader Book for a little information on what is part of the Webelos outdoor experience. (WSB)

Q. When do the Scouts change to the khaki and olive uniform?

A. Families choose when they wish to change to khaki. Many families purchase the khaki uniform when the blue one is either out grown or damaged. Don't buy the Boy Scouting (olive) belt; see the next question and answer. (WSB, CSLB-Webelos Scouting Uniform)

Q. How do I get the belt loops on the Boy Scouting (olive) belt?

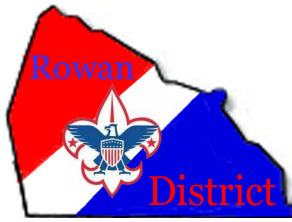
A. The belt loops do not fit on the Boy Scouting (olive) belt. Webelos Scouts can wear their blue Cub Scout belt, so that the belt loops will fit. (CSLB-Webelos Scouting Uniform)

Q. Do we call our group of Webelos a Patrol or Den?

A. Webelos Dens are usually called Dens; however the boys may obtain Patrol insignia patches from the Scout Shop that replaces the Den number on the uniform. Show the boys the Scout Catalog and let them pick a badge from there. Den names are sacred to the boys, so let them choose it themselves. This will also help teach them the democratic skills they will need when they get into Boy Scouts. The name should be 'theirs' and it is encouraged to allow the boys to be creative. Webelos Dens also have a Den yell and a Den flag. The Den flag should be brought to each Den meeting, Pack meeting, and other relevant Den activity. Den flags are created by the boys.

Q. Do we wear the activity pins on the hat or on the Webelos "Colors" shoulder ribbons?

A. The activity badges (yes, they are pins, but they are called badges) the boys earn are patterned after Merit Badges in Boy Scouts. The Den should decide if they wish to wear them on their hats or on a set of ribbons called the Webelos Colors. The colors are worn on the arm, just below, and touching, the American flag. In either case, they probably should only be worn at Pack meetings since they tend to get caught on things and lost. (IG)



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Q. The leader's guide said that I need to help build a relationship with a Scout Troop. When and how do I do this?

A. Work with your Cubmaster or Unit Commissioner on this. All Scout Troops normally have an Assistant Scoutmaster assigned to Pack - Troop relations. Make your initial contact during the first year. Webelos can participate in a number of Troop activities. The Troops can also help you accomplish some of your Webelos requirements. (CSLB, WTST)

Q. Does the Webelos Den Leader teach the boys about the activity badges?

A. Yes and no. It is highly discouraged to have the Webelos Den Leader do all the teaching. In Boy Scouting (which we are trying to introduce) the boys go to Merit Badge Counselors who assist the boys in achieving their badges. It is encouraged that you get the Den parents to act as Activity Badge Counselors to help the Webelos through their activity badge requirements. However *you* sign the boys off. Parents no longer sign boys off indicating that they have completed requirements. (WSB, CSLB-Planning the Webelos Den Meeting)

Q. Do we follow the Pack's Cub Scouting monthly theme?

A. No, you will be busy enough trying to cover one activity badge a month. Make sure the Webelos know what the monthly theme is, but unless you are putting on a skit, don't spend a lot of time on it. Nearly everything the Den does is focused on one of the 20 activity badges, the Webelos badge, or the Arrow of Light. The few exceptions are when the Webelos take part in such Pack events as the Pinewood derby and the Blue and Gold dinner. (CSLB-Planning the Webelos Den Meeting, CSWSPH).

Q. Is there a certain order we should follow in covering the activity badges?

A. Some activity badges are designed to challenge fourth graders and others fifth graders. Refer to the Cub Scouting & Webelos Scouting Program Helps for a suggested calendar. If you follow this calendar you will be synchronized with articles in Boys Life magazine and presentations held at the District Roundtables. Note that if you follow the suggested calendar, the boys should be ready to receive their Webelos Badge around February of their first year, and bridge to Boy Scouts in February or March of their second year. (CSWSPH).

Q. Should we try to achieve all twenty activity badges?

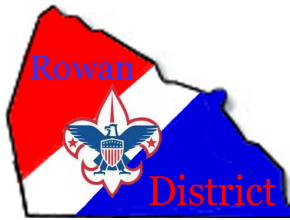
A. The program is not designed for the boys to normally earn all twenty activity badges. The reason for the twenty badges is so that there will be enough to keep the very active boy from getting bored. Remember, activity badges are not the reason for Webelos Scouting. Lord Baden-Powell (the founder of Scouting) said that awards and badges should be like a tan, something you achieve effortlessly, while having fun in the outdoors.

Q. If the Scouts will bridge in March, why do the program guides show a two year program?

A. The activity badge program is designed for 24 months to accommodate those who need the entire time. However, if the program is followed, a Webelos Scouting will earn the proper number and type of badges to qualify for the Arrow of Light by February. (CSWSPH)

Q. Can the Scouts continue to earn activity badges after they bridge into Boy Scouts?

A. No, activity badges are for Cub Scouts. As Boy Scouts, they will earn Merit Badges



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Q. When can the Webelos use the Boy Scout salute, handshake and oath?

A. In the process of earning their Webelos Badge, the Scouts learn the Boy Scouting salute, handshake and oath. At your discretion, they can start to use these instead of the Cub Scout equivalents

Q. Where can I get more information?

A. Go to Roundtable. At Roundtable you will meet Webelos Leaders and Scoutmasters who will help you establish a fun and adventurous program. Also get trained. Not only will you obtain formal information, but you will also network with other Webelos Leaders who will act as resources. If you have already attended Cub Leader Specific, attend Webelos Overnight training.

More information can also be found in:

- Webelos Scout Book (WSB) (33235),
- Guide to Safe Scouting (GSS) (10212),
- Cub Scout Leader Book (CSLB) (33220),
- Boy Scout Handbook (BSH) (33229),
- Cub Scout & Webelos Scout Program Helps (CSWSPH),
- Webelos to Scout Transition (WTST) (33870), and the
- Insignia Guide (IG) (33064)