



**PANTHER DISTRICT CUB
SCOUT DAY CAMP
PARENT/LEADER GUIDE
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA COUNCIL**

**June 26-30, 2023
De LaSalle Academy
6401 Techster Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966**

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Welcome and Introduction

Welcome friends to Panther District's 2023 Cub Scout Day Camp! Thank you for registering your Scout to be a part of this year's program. Your Scout will have a fun, rewarding, and growing experience; and so, will you if you decide to join our team of fantastic leaders and volunteers. We created this guide to help you and your Scout plan and prepare for this year's program, understand what to expect at camp, and understand what is expected of you and all the other campers during your time with us.

Objectives and Philosophy of Cub Scout Day Camp

Teaching our campers Scouting values in a safe and exciting outdoor environment. We focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for each other, the outdoors, and for Scouting.

Goals

The goals of the Panther District Cub Scout Day Camp Program are to provide an exciting and adventurous outdoor opportunity for our Cub Scouts to experience personal growth, meet new friends, enhance their understanding of and appreciation of the outdoors, learn new skills, and embrace the ideals and values of the Scouting experience, (all while having an exorbitant amount of fun!)

Behavioral Outcomes While at Camp

Scouts will be able to demonstrate living the Scout Oath and Scout Law in a camp setting with other members of their den for an entire week, with the positive influence of other Scouts and leaders. Following the day camp experience, each Scout should be able to articulate to their parents and friends at least one new experience or apply a new skill for each program or activity that they attempted during camp.

Scouting BSA Mission Statement

The mission of the Scouting BSA 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.

The Scout Oath and Law

The 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.

The Scout Law

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



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND LEADERS

Registration and Fees

Registering your Scout for day camp and paying the fees is done on the Southwest Florida Council's website at <http://www.swflcouncilbsa.org> under the "Calendar/Event Registration" tab. Find the day camp dates for Panther District on the calendar and click the link to begin the process.

This year's camp dates are **June 26-30, 2023**. When registering your Scout, remember they will be attending day camp at the next higher rank/grade level than they were the previous year. For example: current Lions would attend as Tigers, current Tigers would attend as Wolves, etc. Incoming Lions may not attend day camp. A Scout is not completely registered for day camp until all fees are paid. This year the fee is \$100 for all Cub Scouts.

A discount of \$25 is offered for the Scout of an adult who volunteers to be on the day camp staff for all **five** days.

The Southwest Florida Council Cancellation Policy: Once registration fees have been paid, for an individual who becomes ill or otherwise be unable to attend the event, as the event has already incurred expenses related to the activity such as program supplies, ins., food, patches, etc., event fees are non-refundable & non-transferrable. An exception will be made **ONLY** if a request is received in writing or email (not phone). The request must and submitted to the Southwest Florida Council Office no less than 72 hours before the date of the event. In most cases, only a partial refund can be made. **Refunds for inclement weather will be made only if the event is cancelled.** No refunds will be given on the Event Processing Fee.

Early Check-In Option

We will have two (2) sessions for submitting required BSA Health Forms (Parts A & B), alternate adult pick-up designation forms (who do you authorize to sign your child out from day camp), permission forms, and pay any unpaid fees. At those sessions, we will confirm Den assignments, issue camp t-shirts (a mandatory requirement to wear at camp each day), assign car line pick up tags, and answer any further questions you may have.

Early check-in schedule is as follows:

Thursday, June 22, 2023

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

At Southwest Florida Council

1801 Boy Scout Drive, Fort Myers Florida 33907

Saturday, June 24, 2023

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

At Southwest Florida Council

1801 Boy Scout Drive, Fort Myers Florida 33907

Attending early check-in is encouraged and aids in avoiding long lines and delays on the first day of camp. Families that do not complete early check-in will be required on that first day to park and take their Scout to the Admin Area for Registration, Health Screening, receive Day Camp T-shirt, and car pick-up tags.

Arrival

Camp opens to Scouts at 8:30 AM. Parents will be directed to designated drop of area where your Scout will be escorted to their dens.

PLEASE, DO NOT DROP YOUR SCOUT OFF AND LEAVE IF YOU DO NOT SEE A CAMP STAFFER TO WELCOME AND ESCORT THEM TO THEIR DEN AREA.

Camper Responsibilities

- Sit in assigned Den area
- Stay with the Den Leader
- Ask permission to use the restroom and use the Buddy System

Departure

Parents will follow this drop-off procedure when picking up your Scout at the end of the day. You must have your pick-up tag displayed so staff can communicate to the Dens and have your Scout ready. If you forget your pick-up tag, park in the designated parking area, and bring a state ID to the Admin Area to pick up your child.

Parents must pick up your Scout on time each day out of respect for the many volunteers who need to get home to their families as well. *This simple requirement is so important to ensure the safety and security of all of our Scouts*

Early Sign-Out

If a parent/guardian must sign a student out early from day camp, they must come to the Admin Area with a photo ID. Do not go to the Den tables or try to find your Scout on your own at camp. The Scout will not be called from their Den until a parent is present. The adult signing out a Scout must also appear on the Scout's permission form. Scouts will not be permitted to leave camp except with approved adult supervision. Unless an emergency arises, Scouts will not be dismissed from camp between 4:00-4:30PM. Signing Scouts out of camp early to avoid the parent pickup line is not a valid excuse for early dismissal.

Visitors

Anyone who is not registered as a Leader or Volunteer is considered a "Visitor" and must check-in at the Camp Directors office at the Admin Area to receive a pass permitting you to be on property. As an extra security measure, only use the designated entrance to the facility.

Early and After Camp Program

Early drop off and after camp program are available for a fee of \$20 for the week. You may drop off any time after 8:00AM and pick up no later than 5:30PM but you must preregister online. Please make sure that you sign your Scout in and out with a staff member.

Absences

Please call the camp if your child will not be in camp that day. Camp staff will call the parents of any absent campers to confirm the absence and avoid the possibility of a child lost between the parking lot and den tables. Absences should be phoned to: **239-317-9304**

Health Care at Day Camp

The camp has a Health Officer at camp at all times. The camp Health Officer dispenses any medications your Scout requires during camp, provided it is in the original packaging with the label and your child's health record that specifies the need. **Please highlight medications, severe allergies, or other medical conditions to camp staff when you turn-in the health forms at check-in.** Parents must bring enough medications for the

week to the health officer on the first day of camp. Excess medications will be returned on Friday. If your child requires an inhaler or epi-pen, discuss this with the Health Officer and Den leader. The Health Officer also treats injuries and illnesses at camp, determines if further medical treatment or an early return home is needed, and calls parents if necessary.

Campers with Special Needs

We strive to make accommodations for campers with special needs in physical, mental, or emotional requirements. Day camp leaders will coordinate with parents and caregivers to understand the limitations and needs of campers, place them in a suitable den, and provide alternative activities, or treatment as needed. If appropriate, Den Leaders will be made aware of the special needs and confirm their ability to support them. The most common example of a special need is a child who must report to the Health Lodge at a certain time each day for medication or awareness of extreme allergies and the use of inhalers or epi-pens. Other examples include accommodating wheelchairs, sight or hearing impairments, or mental or emotional conditions that may require a different way of interacting with the child to facilitate their enjoyment and learning.

What to Bring to Camp

Wear:

- Camp T-shirt (mandatory every day)
- Socks and comfortable, closed-toe shoes (no sandals, crocs™ or flip flops)
- Bug Spray (parent-applied; volunteers may not apply bug spray to your child)
- Sunscreen (parent-applied; volunteers may not apply bug spray to your child)

Bring:

- A wide-mouthed water bottle or canteen
- Lunch
- A small backpack or bag for carrying their stuff and take-home projects.
- Hat to protect from the sun
- Medications (in original packaging to be turned in to the Camp Health Officer)
- Inhalers, epi-pens or other emergency medical equipment (discuss w/ Health Officer & Den Leader)
- Money for trading post
- Small personal bottle of hand sanitizer
- Raincoat or poncho

What Not to Bring to Camp

- Pocket knives or any weapons (real or toy)
- Electronic devices, including games, phones, music players, or laser pointers
- Gum
- Tobacco/Vaping materials
- Matches, lighters, or other flammables
- Toys from home

Rules and Policies at Camp

- The Buddy System is mandatory
- Fun is also mandatory
- Campers must respect each other, their leaders, camp facilities, and nature.
- Stay with your den.
- The Scout Oath and Scout Law guide us in our behavior.

Discipline

Campers who have difficulty following the rules, leaders' instructions, and/or corrective actions, may be sent to the Camp Director for some time out of the fun. Continued misbehavior may require parental involvement or dismissal from camp.

Important Rules and Policies for Adult Participants and Parents

Please pick up only your child and/or make written arrangements with the camp staff to designate someone else to pick up your child. Two deep leadership applies to all adults interacting with youth at day camp. There will be no smoking at camp; the designated smoking area is located off camp property. We welcome parents to visit camp and see how their Scout is doing, but please first check in with the camp staff at the Camp Office to receive a guest pass to be on property.

Theme and Activities

Our theme this year is: "Off to the Races." Activities, presentations, and events encompass the sporting and unity of teamwork. Opening Ceremony begins at 9:00AM daily, after which the Dens rotate through a series of activity areas spread across the property. At midday, all campers will have a lunch period at their Den table and participate in the guest activity. After lunch all campers will rotate through another rotation of activities. A closing ceremony concludes camp each day. The program of activities is essentially the same each day, but specific games, crafts and activities vary day to day.

Early Care	8:00 – 8:30	Cafeteria
Check-In	8:30 – 8:50	Admin Area
Opening Ceremony	9:00	Cafeteria
Den Program - Morning	9:15 – 12:00	Program Areas
Lunch & Guest Activity	12:15 – 1:15	Cafeteria
Den Program - Afternoon	1:30 – 4:00	Program Areas
Closing Ceremony	4:15 – 4:30	Cafeteria
Dismissal	4:30 – 5:00	Admin Area
After Care	4:30 – 5:30	Cafeteria

Day Camp Staff

Our Day Camp staff is comprised completely of volunteers who have generously donated their time and energy to help make a great experience for the Cub Scouts. Key staff members have worked for nine months or more to plan, organize, train, order, purchase, assemble, test and, otherwise create a safe and exciting program of activities. Other staff members have volunteered to spend the entire week at camp, mostly as Den Leaders to help the campers have fun by keeping them safe, engaged, challenged, and on schedule. All our staff are important and valued members of the team who deserve the gratitude and respect of campers and parents.

Dens and Den Leaders

The fundamental element of all of Cub Scouting is the den. At our Day Camp, we organize our Scouts into Dens of the same age group and gender (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and Arrow of Light). Adult volunteers act as Den Leaders to ensure campers' safety, security, and fun by accounting for all Den members as they are signed in by their parents/designated adult. Den Leaders help the Scouts understand the events and activities of camp, help them have fun at each activity area, and particularly in-between activities.

Advancement

While advancement is not the only purpose of day camp, we do offer opportunities for Scouts to earn awards and recognition that aid their progression through the Cub Scout ranks and enhance their enjoyment of the Scouting program. At the end of camp, the staff will provide a letter to parents and unit leaders describing the adventures entirely or partially completed.

Contact Information

Camp email: pantherbsadaycamp@gmail.com

Camp Director Panther District: Michele Harris; 239-317-9304

Camp Program Director Panther District: Shannon McMahon; pssrprogdirector@gmail.com

Panther District, District Executive: Jennifer Hitchcock; 239-990-6807