



Webelos to Boy Scout Transition Happening Now

One of Scouting's greatest challenges is to make the next level of Scouting readily available for a young man once he meets the joining requirements.

A Smooth Passage

The passage from Cub Scout Pack to Boy Scout troop should be smooth, with no time lost in between. By the time Webelos Scouts are ready to cross over, they and their families should be familiar and comfortable with the youth and adult leaders of the Troop, their role in the Troop and Troop activities, and feel excited about beginning this new adventure. The Webelos Scout's graduation ceremony should clearly signify his transition to a new level of Scouting, and could include the presentation of his Arrow of Light Award, a *Boy Scout Handbook*, and a Troop neckerchief.

The First Rank

A Webelos Scout who has earned the Arrow of Light Award has now completed all the requirements for the Scout badge and may join a Boy Scout Troop.

Who Makes the Transition Work?

The key factor to improved Webelos transition is the ongoing working relationship of the leaders of a Cub Scout Pack and a Boy Scout Troop. Ideally a church or community organization would charter both a Pack and a Troop with leaders who work together to help move Webelos Scouts into a Boy Scout Troop the same way schools move students from elementary school to middle school.

There are a number of ways a Pack and Troop can work together to enhance the Scouting experience of their boys. To help assure maximum transition requires cooperation between:

- The Cub Scout Pack
- The Boy Scout Troop (taking the boys camping as soon as possible)
- The assigned Unit Commissioner
- The District's Webelos Transition Chair
- And the Den Chief, who sets a great example for Cub Scouts each week and promotes his troop's challenging and fun adventures!

That First Summer as a Boy Scout

It is imperative that the new Scout attends Scout camp with his troop that first summer! This has been shown to be a critical step in the transition into Boy Scouting and tends to mean that a Scout will stick with Scouting for the next several years.

Webelos to Scout Transition Timetable

November

- Attend a Webelos Den meeting to teach the Webelos Scouts how the Boy Scout Troop works.

December

- Set a date for Webelos Scouts and their parents to visit a Boy Scout Troop meeting in January.
- Send a form of information or greeting, letting Webelos you look forward to them joining the Troop.

January

- Host Webelos Scouts and their parents at a Boy Scout Troop meeting.
- Plan a bridging ceremony for the blue and gold banquets in February to welcome graduating Webelos Scouts to their new Troop.
- Attend a meeting for first-year Webelos Scouts to introduce them to Boy Scouting.

February

- Hold the bridging ceremony at the blue and gold banquet.
- Get new Scouts actively involved with the Troop through troop activities.
- Recruit parents of new Scouts to become assistant Scoutmasters or troop committee members.

March

- Plan a troop activity for new Scouts to get them involved with their new Troop.
- Districts identify 2nd year Webelos who were dropped off charters and invite them to join a local troop.

April

- Conduct summer camp orientation to encourage troop involvement.
- Attend a meeting of Bear Cub Scouts to introduce them to Boy Scouting.
- Sponsor a Troop activity for new Scouts.

May

- Work closely with new Scouts and parents during their transition to the Boy Scout troop, ensuring their needs are met and that their move has been both natural and fun.
- Work on rank advancement with new Scouts.

June

- Ensure that all newly transitioned Scouts attend Scout Summer Camp.

July

- Work closely with new Scouts and parents during their transition to the Boy Scout troop, ensuring their needs are met and that their move has been natural and fun.
- Work on rank advancement with new Scouts.