

# Scouting for Girls Update

By Steven Davis  
Council VP for Membership

## *First Girl Den Registers in Mount Baker*

It's official. Congratulations to Pack 121, in Tillikum District, for forming and registering our first girl Den! On January 16, 2018, Grace was welcomed to the Pack, ushering in a new era of Scouting in the Mount Baker Council.

Scouting for Girls is now live and in a soft launch period. With the approval from their Chartered Organization and the Pack Committee, Cub Scout Packs may elect to serve all boys, all girls, or mixed family units. Dens will remain single gender. During this soft launch, girls from kindergarten (Lions) to fourth grade (Webelos 1) can register with participating packs until March 15. The goal is to have all initial rank advancements completed by the end of May.

There are a few additional steps needed for Packs to participate in Scouting for Girls. Contact your District Membership Chair or District Executive if you have any questions.

Girls, and any youth interested in joining Cub Scouts, may also participate in Cub Scout Day Camp this summer.

The full launch for Scouting for Girls at the Cub Scout level is August 1, 2018. The program expands in 2019 for girls in at the Webelos 2 – Boy Scout aged levels.



## **Mount Baker Council Welcomes Scouting for Girls during the BSA's "Soft Launch" Period**

Registration for girls is officially open in the Mount Baker Council during a soft launch period running from January 15 through March 15, for participating Packs. A full launch of the Scouting for Girls Cub Scout program will be available August 1, 2018. Girls participating in the soft launch will earn rank advancement by May 31, 2018.

Scouting for Girls is currently available for Cub Scout aged youth (kindergarten – 4<sup>th</sup> grade), and will expand to 5<sup>th</sup> grade and beyond in 2019.

There are no changes to the Cub Scout program or rank requirements; girls involved in Cub Scouts will learn the same skills and receive the same benefits as boys. Day camps, overnight camping, pinewood derby races, bb guns, archery, fishing, happy faces, and fun – they get it all!

There are some slight adjustments to Youth Protection Training and Two-Deep Leadership requirements that are already in place. Example: If Cub Scout girls are attending activities, a trained and current YPT adult female must be present as part of the leadership team.

Packs can choose to be all boy packs, all girl packs, or mixed family packs. Dens will remain single gender – all girl dens, all boy dens, but not mixed gender dens.

To find participating packs, check out [www.BeAScout.org](http://www.BeAScout.org).

If your pack is interested in participating in the soft launch, please contact council SVP of Membership, Steven Davis, at [MountBakerMembership@gmail.com](mailto:MountBakerMembership@gmail.com)