# "BACK TO THE PACK" Guide for Cub Scout Leaders



#### What is a "Back to the Pack" Event?

A "Back to the Pack" event is meant to be an event for your entire Cub Scout Pack...but not a regular Pack meeting. It is meant to be a fun activity that all the youth can participate in and an opportunity for your Pack to recruit additional youth.

#### When should it be held?

"Back to the Pack" events are usually held in late July or early August. It could serve as your first unit gathering for the school year.

#### Why should my unit hold one?

There are several reasons that your unit should have a "Back to the Pack" event...

- Gives your unit an opportunity to solidify adult leadership roles for the upcoming year
- Opportunity to recruit new leaders
- Opportunity to recruit new youth from your local school, church or charter organization
- Is a fun activity for the youth in your unit and serves as a "Kick-Off" to the Scouting year
- Use it as a sign-up night for returning scouts to make the rechartering process easier when it rolls around

#### How do we use it as a recruiting tool for our unit?

"Back to the Pack" events are great opportunities to recruit new members into your Cub Scout Pack. This event is all about fun for the youth so it a great first experience with Scouting! There are several ways to use this event as a recruiting tool...

- If your unit is chartered by a church or religious institution, invite all the boys ages 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade or ages 7-10 that attend the church or institution
- Pass out flyers at your local school
- Offer an incentive for the boys to bring a friend to the event and have the friend sign-up (Incentive ideas: patch, free pinewood derby car, a 'Recruiting' trophy, etc...)
- Have the event at a public park and advertise it in the local paper inviting anyone from the community to attend

#### "BACK to the Pack" Event Ideas: ALWAYS INCLUDE FOOD!!

- Skating Party with Pizza
- Fishing Party with a Cookout
- Pizza Party (could hold it at a Chucky Cheese or arcade)
- Cookout with a Bouncy House and other outdoor activities
- Belt Loop Party (teach a few sport belt loops and have a cookout)
- Have a Lock-in at your church with pizza (could even set up a "campsite" in the gym and practice pitching your tents)
- Pool Party w/Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest
- Bowling Party
- Cub Scout Carnival (Bouncy Houses and Carnival Games)
- Movie Night
- Race Day (Pinewood Derby, Space Derby, Rain Gutter Regatta)

#### How Do I plan a "Back to the Pack" Event?

- Hold a meeting with all of your unit's adult leaders in late May or early June
- Adult Leaders decide on the date of the event and the location
- Choose a theme for the event (you could take a skating party and make it a costume skating party with a prize going to the three best costumes, have a Cowboy Cookout and incorporate horse riding, etc...)
- Create and distribute a flyer promoting the event
- Have adult leaders call parents and remind them to attend with their son and remind them that you will be signing the youth up for the next Scouting year







### Join Pack 1 for a

## 'COWBOY COOKOUT'

When: August 4, 2010

Where: Nix Farm

Cost: FREE!!!!!!

Why attend:

- IT"S FUN!!!
- Horse Rides!!
- Cowboy Games and Contests!
- Signup for another exciting year of Cub Scouts
- IT"S FUN

