



BUILDING FAMILY SCOUTING SUCCESS FOR YOUR PACK



Go ALL IN!

Both boys and girls deserve the pack's full commitment and the full program designed for each age level in gender-specific dens. Don't invite girls unless you are ready to make Scouting a great experience for every boy and every girl who joins. Recruit enough girls to have strong dens. Recruit enough boys to have strong dens. Just "dipping your toe" into Family Scouting or "giving it a try" is a recipe for failure.



Be PREPARED

Have trained leaders in place before each den starts to meet. Use the wealth of information available on the BSA Family Scouting website. Be ready to follow BSA guidelines. Be sure that all youth and leaders have updated materials and resources.



Be sure that pack volunteers understand WHY dens are ALL-BOY or ALL-GIRL.

At some age levels (particularly at the start and end of elementary school), boys and girls have quite different typical maturity levels as well as differing interests, physical and verbal skills, and group behaviors. Instead of gaining members by inviting girls to join, countries who went "co-ed" (mixing the genders) saw significant decline in membership after a few years. Research analysts think the drop in numbers might be because a change in culture no longer gave youth the "roots and wings" Scouting has always provided so wonderfully: that is, neither gender felt the same sense of belonging and acceptance and neither gender felt as comfortable trying new things when groups were co-ed. The BSA wants youth to have the same great experience Scouting has always given them – maybe even better!



Use NEW MEMBER COORDINATORS in your pack.

New Member Coordinators can strengthen Family Scouting as they help you to recruit and retain new members. They can:

- reach young families who would otherwise not know about Scouting
- anticipate questions and help families understand your pack's activities and processes
- build a strong sense of belonging among the families in your pack
- encourage volunteerism and help each adult family member be a part of Scouting success.

They also make life easier and more fun for everyone. Visit scouting.org/nmc for more information.



Be ready for a strong OUTDOOR PROGRAM.

Remember that the most exciting part of the Scouting experience is the outdoor program. Make your pack's outdoor program stronger than ever.



COMMUNICATE.

Brainstorm and talk over plans with your pack's volunteer leaders, parents, chartering partner, and commissioner, as well as the district membership team. Share ideas, resources, and success stories within the pack and with other packs. Get the word out and promote Family Scouting! Update BeAScout.